

# House of Representatives

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1959

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

Rabbi Isadore Gruen, Haym Salomon Synagogue and Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., offered the following prayer:

Our Father, sovereign of the universe, as we gather here this day to perform the sacred tasks of government, we humbly invoke Thy blessing. Grant Thy guidance and inspiration unto those who are charged with the great responsibility of directing the affairs of our Nation. May Thy holy spirit dwell richly within them, as they work for freedom, justice, and peace. Continue to imbue them with wisdom, courage, and strength, so that their deliberations, when translated into action, reflect well upon our country and help achieve the noble principles upon which this Nation is founded.

Almighty God, bless all the inhabitants of our land. Unite them for goodness and peace, so that by virtue of their working together in brotherhood, the United States of America will remain a great citadel of freedom from which light and hope shall be sent forth to those living in darkness and despair.

Gracious God, may the biblical ideals of liberty, justice, and equality, enshrined in the American Constitution, become the heritage of all the peoples of the earth. May this be Thy will. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

## COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules may have until midnight tonight to file certain privileged resolutions.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

## JOINT MEETING TO RECEIVE THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, March 11, 1959, for the Speaker to declare a recess for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting the President of the Republic of El Salvador.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY NEXT

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the

House adjourns today it adjourn to meet on Monday next.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

## DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Calendar on Wednesday next be dispensed with.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

## VACATING SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. DAVIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the special order granted me for today be vacated.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

## UNWARRANTED ATTACK

(Mr. DAVIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I noticed an attack upon me in today's Washington Post.

Mr. Speaker, it is almost as great a compliment to be attacked by the notoriously radical Washington Post as it is to be attacked by the Daily Worker.

## THE NEED FOR A FOREIGN SERVICE ACADEMY

(Mr. RODINO asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD.)

Mr. RODINO. Mr. Speaker, I recently have introduced a bill (H.R. 417) to provide for the establishment of a United States Foreign Service Academy similar to the academies operated by the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. I believe that this bill incorporates a built-in solution to a two-fold current problem. The establishment of a Foreign Service Academy would both provide the Foreign Service with an especially excellent source of qualified candidates and also insure the effective training and education of the prospective officers in the languages and cultures of the areas of assignment as well as in the necessary functional skills.

My bill provides for the establishment of a Foreign Service Academy in or near the District of Columbia under the supervision of the Department of State. The Secretary of State would prescribe a course of instruction and training for

diplomatic cadets equivalent to the curriculum prescribed by accredited colleges and universities as a prerequisite to the granting of the degree of bachelor of arts. Special emphasis would, of course, be placed on the study of the history, culture, customs, folklore, and language or languages of the nations in which diplomatic cadets may elect to serve. H.R. 417 would also provide for field studies in such nations.

Competitive entrance examinations would determine the selection and admission of cadets to the Academy, and those in attendance would be entitled to quarters and subsistence. There also would be appointed each year a Board of Visitors consisting of five members from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and five members from the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. And, perhaps most important of all, preference would be given to the Foreign Service Academy graduates in the appointment of permanent officers to the Foreign Service Corps.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced this bill because, in my opinion, the increasingly crucial role and growing training needs of this career professional Foreign Service Officer Corps require immediate attention and legislative action. There are about 3,400 of these officers, both men and women, currently serving the interests of their country in some 200 posts in approximately 80 foreign countries. America's expanding interests and responsibilities in world affairs since World War II have necessitated increasing demands on the Foreign Service Officer Corps, and the response in most cases has been commendable. The dedication of our diplomatic corps, even under the most difficult circumstances, has been essentially unquestioned.

There are, nevertheless, a large number of Foreign Service personnel who are being called upon to assume responsibilities for which they are not fully prepared. Through the press and perhaps most recently through the discussions prompted by the growing popularity of "The Ugly American," the American public is becoming more aware of the deficiency of qualified overseas personnel in many critical areas.

We need more specialists, for example, in the cultures and languages of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East as well as of Europe and Latin America. We need, in short, a better trained and more highly skilled diplomatic corps to translate the foreign policy of our Nation into action in the many day-to-day diplomatic relations with the peoples and officials of other governments. Indeed, the very preservation of the free world hinges on the effective activity of such a corps.

I am convinced that the establishment of a Foreign Service Academy would

mark an important step forward in the development and improvement of the caliber and effectiveness of our diplomatic corps. Such an Academy would help to provide the service with the number of qualified area specialists which our increasing overseas commitments require. Because of its specially designed curriculum, the Academy would be able to provide the prospective officers with the combined advantages of, first, the highest level of formal academic instruction in the study of international relations and other closely allied fields; second, an extensive and intensive foreign language training program; third, the knowledge and understanding which can be acquired best through the field work program; and fourth, the benefit of the instruction of and discussions with experienced Foreign Service officers.

Also the provision of quarters and subsistence might well encourage many of our capable young men and women, who might otherwise be unable to afford such specialized education, to obtain a high level of education beyond the high school and to use this background in representing their country abroad. Finally, the establishment of a Foreign Service Academy would contribute to a greater recognition of the diplomat as an individual performing services of vital importance to his fellow citizens and as one well qualified in all respects to represent the interests of his Nation abroad.

It has been said that "at the root of the work of the Foreign Service is diplomacy, which is the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations." In addition to his role as negotiator, of course, the Foreign Service officer also serves as an on-the-spot observer and reporter for our Government. He is also called upon, in many instances, to perform various consular functions for American businessmen and other American residents of the area. Favorable interpretation and representation of the democratic way of life and the building of good will with the people of the other nation are also among an officer's most vital and demanding responsibilities.

It is clear that such tasks require not only many people with many skills operating at various levels of generalization and specialization but also that often they may depend on a single person who combines the abilities of both the generalist and the specialist. The demands of an increasingly complex international scene, in other words, call for persons who not only know a little bit about many things but who also know a good deal about a particular geographic area, language, or people. This broad knowledge also should encompass an understanding of the political, military, scientific, and economic interests of the host nation as well as of its cultural affairs and certain other policies. Such knowledge and understanding are necessary for the kind of on-the-spot reports which often are designed to assist the Secretary of State in the preparation of recommendations to the President.

One current deficiency in the Foreign Service which has received considerable attention recently is that of foreign lan-

guage ability. According to one study, that is, of ambassadorial appointments, both noncareer and career Foreign Service, deficiency in foreign languages is "the major flaw in the U.S. Embassies and Legations overseas." A survey made in 1957, moreover, showed that less than half of the then approximately 4,000 Regular and Reserve Officers and Staff Corps had a "useful knowledge" of French, German, or Spanish. The number of those trained in eastern European, Asiatic, or African languages did not even meet at that time the "minimum basic requirements of the Department." It has also been estimated that about 70 percent of the new officers admitted to the corps do not have a practical knowledge of any modern foreign language.

A more recent survey—completed in October 1958—of the language skills of Foreign Service Officers also indicates that about 40 percent of all Foreign Service officers do not have what the Department considers "the necessary foreign language proficiency in both speaking and reading one or more foreign languages to meet representation and professional work requirements." More than 15 percent of all Foreign Service officers were estimated in this survey as not having even the basic knowledge of one or more foreign languages sufficient for routine social and office requirements.

In recognition of the need for more and better language training, the Department of State has progressively been improving and expanding its training facilities. This is typical, I might add, of the Foreign Service's continuous history of progress and development in step with America's expanding role in international affairs. Language needs are being given considerable attention and a long-range program of expanded training is currently in operation. All Foreign Service officers are also required to have a language check-up approximately every 2 years as part of the Department's mandatory language testing program. This periodic inventory of language proficiency is considered an additional incentive for language training.

The fact still remains, however, that many attempts at Foreign Service training improvement are still in the experimental stages or, even where in actual operation, include only a relatively small number of officers. The Foreign Service Institute simply does not provide an in-service training program comparable to those offered by the armed services.

The fine area study programs in American colleges and universities, of course, offer a wide variety of high level academic training. Such programs, however, are not always adequate in number, in geographic accessibility, and in curricular content to provide the level and extent of formal instruction and field work desirable and even necessary to fill our Foreign Service needs.

Lack of knowledge about the peoples and cultures of other countries is another unfortunate area of deficiency among Americans abroad. It was reported, for example, that in 1957 Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, of India,

made a few eye-opening observations before a group of several hundred U.S. point 4 technicians which may well be applicable to many such situations.

After thanking the U.S. representatives for the help they had given to India, he reportedly told the American Ambassador, who was also present, that the United States did not have to send so many technicians, but that it might send fewer but better ones. The Prime Minister mentioned condescension in dealing with nationals and an apparent lack of respect for the old way of doing things as possible areas of improvement.

Not long ago Dean Harlan Cleveland, of Syracuse University, who has been conducting a study for the Carnegie Foundation on the training of Americans for working abroad, said he hoped that before long a 1- or 2-year immersion in a foreign culture abroad, perhaps during the college years, would be a requirement for all persons planning to work overseas. Such an experience, it is believed, would increase greatly the number of Americans building good will with foreign nationals. Effective American activity abroad clearly depends upon this so-called cultural entity, or, as one Brazilian is reported to have expressed it:

To teach American baseball to Brazilians you first have to learn how Brazilians play soccer.

This skill for cultural entity was rated by Dean Cleveland even above language skills. There are already too many Americans abroad who are considered "fluently arrogant," he observed.

In December 1958 the State Department announced the reestablishment of its overseas science officer program. Seven distinguished scientists were appointed to serve in this capacity. It is significant to note that these men were selected not only for their experience and reputation as educators, research scientists, and administrators but also for their knowledge of the status of science and their acquaintance with scientists in the country of assignment. And last, but not least, each also had a facility in the language of the country of assignment.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the Members of this House are well aware of the importance of a qualified and effective diplomatic corps to serve and represent this Nation abroad. A Communist strategy of frightening proportions is threatening the free peoples of the world. A well-fought battle on the diplomatic field could easily be the decisive factor in determining whether the strategic forces of democracy or communism will ultimately succeed.

For this reason, I call on the Members of the House to support the program outlined in H.R. 417. There are, surprisingly enough, no specific formal education or job experience requirements for Foreign Service officers. Successful candidates, of course, usually have at least the equivalent of the bachelor's degree, and many also hold advanced degrees.

The fact remains, however, that we are sending too many of our representatives abroad without the specialized

preparation necessary for the unique demands that will be made on them.

Broad general knowledge is no longer enough to "wage the peace," nor do short training and indoctrination periods at the Foreign Service Institute always provide an adequate background for the men and women who play such a strategic role in the work of the Service. A program combining a uniformly high level of academic instruction with the distinct advantages of on-the-job training is urgently needed.

My bill provides for such a program through the establishment of a Foreign Service Academy. I call the immediate attention of the Congress to this matter and urge the early consideration of H.R. 417.

#### WIDOWS' BENEFITS, SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

(Mr. SANTANGELO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANTANGELO. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced today a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to reduce the eligibility age for widows' benefits from 62 to 50. I stress the word "widow."

This bill would carry out the original purpose of the social security law and eliminate a hardship which has developed in its application. The cost would not be great, and the benefits would be many.

In the years since the passage of the Social Security Act, Congress has consistently and determinedly made efforts to improve and expand the social security program. In this process, however, we have learned that these efforts must continue to be made if we are to maintain the program on an equitable basis. Our social security problems are far from being solved.

We made a start in alleviating the problems of the widow in 1956, when Congress abandoned the arbitrary age 65 requirement for widows by lowering it to 62. It is already apparent, however, that this action was not sufficient.

One of the most pressing problems which faces us today, and one which I believe this Congress must solve, is the unjust and difficult position of the widow under present provisions of the law. While a wife enjoys the income which a retired husband receives at age 65, she loses it upon his death if she has not reached the age of 62. Under my bill, if she has reached the age of 50 years, she will still receive social security benefits notwithstanding the death of her husband.

The arguments in favor of my amendment are sound ones, and ones which I believe far outweigh in importance any consideration of the limited amount which this liberalization would cost. Primarily, however, I believe we must view the amendment in the light of the terrible hardship which a widow in this country often faces.

More than a dozen widows in my district between the ages of 50 and 62 have asked my assistance because they found

themselves suddenly cut off from social security benefits upon the death of their husband. It is simple enough to close our minds to the entire question, and urge our older women to leave their homes to find employment. This is, indeed, the solution that some widows have necessarily found for themselves. But, for too many of them, this is frequently impossible.

Studies have clearly shown that once a woman passes her 35th or 40th birthday, her job opportunities are severely diminished. At an older age, it may well be impossible for her to find employment, especially when there are so many younger people unemployed and willing and qualified to work. This inability to find employment is especially true for the woman who has spent most of her life in the vital and creative task of caring for her home and family. It is also true for women who have had professional or technical training and experience.

Unable to depend on employment wages for sustenance, these widows generally lack an adequate income from any other outside sources. Difficult though their situation may be, they must wait until they reach age 62 before they are eligible for any payments through the social security program. For many, this may mean long years of virtual impoverishment and hardship.

Considerable injustice in the present age requirement also exists in that a woman who has qualified for social security benefits as a widowed mother with small children may suddenly have all benefits stopped when the youngest child reaches 18. No longer able to qualify for a mother's benefit, she still may not have reached that vital 62d birthday when she would begin to draw benefits as an aged widow. She is, thus, denied benefits at a time when she most needs them and frequently when her children are attending school. As a consequence, children are compelled to withdraw from their educational process to work to support a mother who is too young to receive benefits and too old to obtain employment.

I sincerely believe that the hardship and injustice which exist under our present legislation must be corrected. The amendment which I propose today, I believe, goes far in furthering this end, and I urge favorable consideration of this legislation.

#### MEMBER BANK RESERVE REQUIREMENTS

(Mr. BROWN of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I introduced yesterday a bill (H.R. 5237) to eliminate a long-standing inequity in the law relating to reserve requirements for banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System. Under the Federal Reserve Act, member banks are required to maintain reserves amounting to certain percentages of their net demand deposits; currently, the requirements are 18 percent for central reserve city banks, 16½ percent for reserve city banks, and 11 percent for all

other banks—commonly referred to as "country banks." Today, each member bank must maintain its required reserve balance on deposit with its Federal Reserve Bank; it cannot count cash in its vaults toward meeting its reserve requirement. This is inequitable because operating conditions force some banks, particularly country banks, to keep larger amounts of cash on hand than other banks do. All banks should be permitted to count their vault cash toward meeting their reserve requirements because, as the Federal Reserve Board has stated:

Vault cash holdings and reserve balances at the Reserve Banks are interchangeable and both serve the same purpose in influencing the volume of bank credit.

Accordingly, my bill would allow the Federal Reserve Board to permit member banks to count all or part of their currency and coin as reserves. It is necessary to give the Board some flexibility in putting this change into effect, because if it were immediately put into effect in full for all banks it would inflate the money supply too drastically.

The Federal Reserve Act does not specify the exact reserve requirements for member banks, but rather authorizes the Federal Reserve Board to establish reserve requirements from time to time with maximum and minimum limits prescribed in the act. Today the act fixes a floor of 13 percent and a ceiling of 26 percent for central reserve city banks; my bill would change these limits to 10 percent and 20 percent, the same as apply for reserve city banks. Finally, the bill would give the Board wider discretion in allowing banks in central reserve cities or reserve cities to maintain the lower reserves in effect for reserve city banks or country banks, where the character of the bank's business warrants such an adjustment.

I am convinced that the bill's provisions as to vault cash are sound and necessary to give fair treatment to all banks. While I realize that there may be differences of opinion as to whether the other provisions of the bill go too far or not far enough in permitting the Federal Reserve Board to eliminate distinctions in reserve requirements as between banks, I feel that this compromise proposal worked out by the Board deserves serious consideration by the Banking and Currency Committee. I have been assured by the chairman of the committee, the Honorable BRENT SPENCE, that he will refer the bill to the subcommittee of which I am chairman, so that early hearings may be scheduled. Persons interested in testifying on the bill should write to me, in care of the House Banking and Currency Committee, room 1301 House Office Building, by March 20, so that I may arrange a schedule of witnesses on the bill.

#### NATIONAL PEANUT WEEK

(Mr. FLOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, for many years I have been appealing to you in