

IN COMMEMORATION OF

The Bicentennial

of

The United States Congress

1789–1989

Special Joint Meeting
of the
One Hundred First Congress
of the
United States

10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 2, 1989 Hall of the House of Representatives



Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Senate

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Chairman
The Honorable Bob Dole, Vice Chairman
The Honorable George Mitchell
The Honorable Strom Thurmond
The Honorable Wendell H. Ford
The Honorable Mark O. Hatfield
The Honorable Nancy Landon Kassebaum
The Honorable Paul Simon
The Honorable Terry Sanford

Commission on the Bicentenary of the U.S. House of Representatives

says nothing. Nobody Hale STABMAN then everybody

The Honorable Lindy (Mrs. Hale) Boggs, Chairperson, The Honorable Thomas M. Foglietta

The Honorable Phil Sharp

The Honorable Bud Shuster

The Honorable Newt Gingrich

The Honorable Paul B. Henry

FORMER MEMBERS

The Honorable Tom Vandergriff
The Honorable John J. Rhodes

THE THE LEMPS and BY EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS of Linds availand I'

The Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Majority Leader
The Honorable Robert H. Michel, Minority Leader

"SPEAKING OF CONGRESS..."

The Eyes of the World Are Upon You

"Congress is the great commanding theater of this nation."—Thomas Jefferson

"A trust of the greatest magnitude is committed to this Legislature—and the eyes of the world are upon you."

—John Adams

"The eyes and the hopes of the American people are anxiously turned to Congress."—Senator Henry Clay

"Sure Congress is an inefficient instrument of government. But the people are not stupid enough to abandon representative government for any other kind, including government by the guy who knows."—Bernard De Voto

"We cuss Congress, and we joke about 'em, but they are all good fellows at heart—and if they wasn't in Congress, why, they would be doing something else against us that might even be worse."—Will Rogers

"Congress is so strange. A man gets up to speak and says nothing. Nobody listens—and then everybody disagrees."—Boris Marshalov

A Senate of Equals

"This is a Senate of equals, of men of individual honor and personal character, and of absolute independence. We know no masters, we acknowledge no dictators."—Senator Daniel Webster

"I believe that every member ought to be equal in fact, no less than in theory."—Senator Mike Mansfield

"I believe if we introduced the Lord's Prayer here, senators would propose a large number of amendments to it."—Senator Henry Wilson

No Two House Members Alike

"No two members of the 435-member United States House of Representatives perform their jobs in exactly the same fashion. Each of us has a different piece of the geography of the United States to represent, and naturally each of us represents a different group of people."

—Representative Richard Bolling.

"It is the duty of every member of this House to act upon his conscience and his sense of duty. It is his business to stand up for what he believes to be right, careless of what may happen to him in consequence thereof."

—Speaker Thomas B. Reed.

"The great mass of legislation is a matter of expediency. Not once in a thousand times is it a matter of what is usually thought of as right and wrong. Only when right and wrong are at stake may the legislator refuse to concede, to compromise, or to yield."—Representative Robert Luce

The Other House

"It is a breach of order in debate to notice what has been said on the same subject in the other House... because the opinion of each House should be left to its own independency."—Jefferson's Manual.

"It is a maxim that 'the least numerous body is the fittest for deliberation; the most numerous, for decision." —James Wilson

"The boasted deliberation of the Senate has been purchased at the cost of efficiency, while the House, by becoming undeliberative, has suffered from too much efficiency."—Chester H. Rowell

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Program

Presiding Officer

The Speaker, Honorable Jim Wright

Prelude Concerts

The United States Army Band
Colonel Eugene W. Allen, Leader and Conductor
Major C. Benjamin DuBose, conducting

Presentation of the Colors Tanto and nogli

Third United States Infantry Fife and Drum Corps

The National Anthem

Mor once in a thousand times and matter of what is usually thought of us on the color when re-

Reverend James David Ford, D.D.

Chaplain of the House

Presentation of the Journals

Honorable Donnald K. Anderson Clerk of the House

Honorable Walter J. Stewart

Secretary of the Senate

Presentation of the Mace and the Gavel

Honorable Jack Russ

Sergeant at Arms of the House

Honorable Henry K. Giugni American Sergeant at Arms of the Senate

Welcoming Remarks

Honorable Lindy Boggs

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Honorable Robert C. Byrd

Address

Honorable Jim Wright

Address

Honorable George Mitchell

Address

Honorable Thomas S. Foley

Musical Interlude

America the Beautiful

A brilliant orator will sand an House debate

Honorable Robert H. Michel

Poem

To the Congress of the United States Entering Its Third Century

Mr. Howard Nemerov
Poet Laureate of the United States

Address

Honorable Bob Dole

Address

Time and History on the Hill Mr. David McCullough

Congress does abulant lands of what I think is

America
God Bless America
Sergeant First Class Will Shead
Sergeant First Class Evelyn Yount

Unveiling of House and Senate Postage Stamp Designs

Honorable Anthony M. Frank
Postmaster General

Unveiling of Commemorative Coin Designs

Honorable Dante B. Fascell
Honorable Frank Annunzio
Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Honorable Nicholas F. Brady
Secretary of the U.S. Treasury

Benediction

Reverend Richard C. Halverson, L.L.D., D.D. Chaplain of the Senate

Retiring of the Colors

Third United States Infantry Fife and Drum Corps

Recessional

Work Horses and Show Horses

"They say women talk too much. If you worked in Congress you know that the filibuster was invented by men."—Representative Clare Booth Luce

"A brilliant orator will be beaten in a House debate every time by a poor speaker who knows his subject better."—Speaker Sam Rayburn

"There are two kinds of Congressmen—show horses and work horses. If you want to get your name in the papers, be a show horse. If you want to gain the respect of your colleagues, keep quiet and be a work horse."—Senator Carl Hayden

A Sore Trial to Presidents

"Congress does from a third to a half of what I think is the minimum that it ought to do, and I am profoundly grateful that I get that much."—Theodore Roosevelt

"A member of long standing in the Senate feels that he is the professional, the President an amateur."—Woodrow Wilson

"The Congress has sometimes been a sore trial to Presidents."—Calvin Coolidge

"In moments of crisis, at least, the President and Congress cannot be adversaries; they must be allies who, together, must delineate the path to guide the nation's massive machinery of government in a fashion which serves the interests of the people and is acceptable to the people."—Senator Mike Mansfield

Knowing the Rules

"Far more than the rules, the precedents govern the Senate."—Senator George H. Moses.

"Under these century-old rules, for which there is often a fine disregard, the Senate still transacts its business, largely by unanimous consent, and with a consideration for the wishes and convenience of each Senator very agreeable to them, although not a little laughed at by an irreverent public."—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Sr.

"Knowledge of the rules isn't too important. What's important is getting the votes."— Senate Parliamentarian Charles Watkins.

Congress at Work

"It is not far from the truth to say that Congress in session is Congress on public exhibition, while Congress in its committee rooms is Congress at work."—Woodrow Wilson

"The career of a member of the House...is determined, except in rare cases, by his assignment to committees."—Representative George F. Hoar

"There are no insignificant Members of Congress, when it comes to votes in the committee rooms."—Representative Robert Luce

"Generals should never do anything that needs to be explained to a Senate committee—there is nothing one can explain to a Senate committee."—Harry S. Truman

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Power and Leadership

"To hear some men talk of government, you would suppose that Congress was the law of gravitation, and kept the planets in their places."—Wendell Phillips

"The only real power available to the leader is the power of persuasion."—Senator Lyndon B. Johnson

"We have the power to do any damn fool thing we want to do, and we seem to do it about every ten minutes."—Senator J. William Fulbright

Living with Criticism

"Too many critics mistake the deliberations of the Congress for its decisions."—Speaker Sam Rayburn

"I determined long ago that those who would best serve their country and their constituents to the best of their ability cannot afford the luxury of undue sensitivity to attacks.". but must content themselves with the knowledge that Father Time and the history books will be the best and ultimate judge of their motives and abilities."—Senator Everett Dirksen

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PROGRAM FOR JOINT MEETING IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESS

MARCH 2, 1989

10 AM HOUSE CHAMBER

The Chamber will be specially decorated with potted palms and red, white, and blue bunting.

9:30 AM

House convenes, approves journal, recites
Pledge of Allegiance, and handles routine
matters that may be brought before the House.

9:50

- House recesses to prepare for ceremony.
- Band and choral group assembled in Speaker's Lobby take their places in reserved section on House floor.
 - Invited floor guests previously assembled in Congresswomen's Suite (#5-235) are escorted to their seats on the floor.
 - Senate proceeds as a body to House Chamber.

10:00

- Speaker Jim Wright calls special session to order.
- House Doorkeeper announces arrival of the Senate. Senate enters chamber to accompaniment of band music. Stars + Stripe-Freve,

Smith Bushs

UZ. 28. 89 11:34AM *SENATE I. P. S.

10:10

- Presentation of the Colors by the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard, accompanied by U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps.
- Singing of the <u>National Anthem</u> by entire assembly.
- Colors are posted beneath the portrait of George Washington, along with the Fife and Drum Corps.
- Speaker calls on House Chaplain James D. Ford for opening prayer.
- Chaplain's prayer.
- Doorkeeper announces, "Mr. Speaker, the House and Senate Journals of the First Federal Congress," which are carried into the chamber by the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate. The Journals are placed on stands in the well of the House.
- Doorkeeper announces, "Mr. Speaker, the presentation of the Mace of the House and the Gavel of the Senate," which are brought forward to the well of the House by the House and Senate Sergeants at Arms. A stand for the Mace will be in place in the well. The Gavel of the Senate will be in a glass case and sit on the lower level of the Clerk's desk.

side side

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10:20	• The Speaker recognizes Rep. Lindy Boggs, # 1	
	chairman of the Commission on the Bicentenary	
	of the House of Representatives.	
	 Mrs. Boggs makes brief welcoming remarks, 	
	refers to symbols presented earlier.	
	• Mrs. Boggs introduces Senator Robert C. Byrd,	_
	President Pro Tempore of the Senate and	
	Chairman of the Senate Bicentennial	
	Commission.	
10:25	• Senator Robert C. Byrd makes address.	
10:30	The Speaker turns gavel over to the Vice	
	President and descends to podium. Vice The claim President recognizes Speaker Jim Wright 3 the State	
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	the Senate George Mitchell, who makes	
	address.	
10:40	The Speaker recognizes the Majority Leader of	
	the House Thomas S. Foley, who makes address.	

10:45	•	Band performs America the Beautiful.
10:50	٠	The Speaker recognizes Republican Leader Robert H. Michel, who makes remarks and then
	**	introduces the Poet Laureate of the United States Howard Nemerov. # 7
10:56	•	The Poet Laureate reads a poem prepared for the occasion.
11:00		Speaker recognizes Senate Minority Leader Bob
		Dole, who makes remarks and introduces David McCullough.
		# 7
11:06	•	David McCullough's address.
11:23	•	Soloists perform America and God Bless
		America.
11:29	•	The Speaker recognizes Mrs. Boggs and Senator Byrd who, accompanied by the Postmaster
	wall to	General Mr. Anthony Frank, unveil designs for special congressional postage stamps that
		will be issued later and make brief remarks on significance of symbols chosen for design.
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* 1-	U, /	Photographic enlargements of House and Senate

stamps are brought into chamber on easels.

- 11:34 Senate Chaplain Richard Halverson pronounces benediction.
- 11:36 Colors are retired to accompaniment of U.S.

 Army Fife and Drum Corps.
- 11:39 Band plays recessional while Senate exits chamber.
 - House recesses.

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REMARKS BY SENATOR BOB DOLE AT THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO COMMEMORATE THE CONGRESSIONAL BICENTENNIAL THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1989

MR. SPEAKER, MR. VICE PRESIDENT, SENATORS

AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 101ST CONGRESS. THIS

MORNING WE PAUSE FROM THE PRESS OF LEGISLATIVE

BUSINESS TO COMMEMORATE THE TWO-HUNDREDTH

ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS. THIS

IS A RARE AND SPECIAL OCCASION, BECAUSE IN AN INSTITUTION FOCUSED SO MUCH ON TODAY AND TOMORROW, IT'S DIFFICULT TO FIND TIME TO REFLECT UPON YESTERDAY. AND THAT'S A SHAME, BECAUSE AS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WE ARE SURROUNDED BY REMINDERS OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PRECEDED US. WE SIT AT THEIR DESKS. WE OCCUPY THEIR OFFICES. WE CARRY ON THEIR TRADITIONS. AND WE HAVE MUCH TO LEARN FROM THEM.



DURING THE PAST CONGRESS, I DELIVERED A SERIES OF "BICENTENNIAL MINUTES" OFFERING VIGNETTES ON IMPORTANT, OR COLORFUL, OR UNUSUAL EVENTS THAT HAPPENED IN THE SENATE'S HISTORY. WHILE PUTTING THESE TOGETHER, I WAS REPEATEDLY SURPRISED TO FIND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WRESTLING WITH ISSUES ONE HUNDRED, EVEN TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THAT WERE AS CURRENT AS THE HEADLINES IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS.

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WHETHER IT WAS CONFRONTING FEDERAL DEFICITS,

STRUGGLING WITH PAY RAISES, OR HELPING A

PRESIDENT GET HIS NOMINEES CONFIRMED, I FOUND

EXAMPLES DEMONSTRATING THAT WE'VE BEEN DOING IT

FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS.

TAKE TODAY'S JOINT GATHERING. IN A SENSE, IT

COMMEMORATES THE FIRST ABSENCE OF A QUORUM.

ALTHOUGH THE CONGRESS OFFICIALLY BEGAN ON

MARCH 4, 1789, NEITHER BODY COULD PUT TOGETHER A

QUORUM OF MEMBERS FOR ANOTHER MONTH.

BECAUSE OF THAT, THE FIRST JOINT MEETING OF

CONGRESS DID NOT ACTUALLY TAKE PLACE UNTIL APRIL

6, 1789.

ON THAT FIRST OCCASION, MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSE WALKED UPSTAIRS TO THE SENATE CHAMBER IN
NEW YORK'S FEDERAL HALL TO COUNT THE ELECTORAL
VOTES CONFIRMING GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ELECTION
AS PRESIDENT. THE LAST JOINT SESSION, PRIOR TO

TODAY'S JOINT MEETING, TOOK PLACE A MONTH AGO, WHEN MEMBERS OF THE SENATE WALKED THROUGH THE CAPITOL TO THE HOUSE CHAMBER, TO HEAR PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH. DURING THE TWO CENTURIES IN BETWEEN, JOINT MEETINGS HAVE HEARD PRESIDENTS, KINGS, PRIME MINISTERS, ADMIRALS, ATHLETES AND ASTRONAUTS. IN THE PAST, HERE STOOD WINSTON CHURCHILL, CHESTER NIMITZ, CARL SANDBURG, CHARLES DE GAULLE, NEIL ARMSTRONG,



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ANWAR SADAT, AND MARGARET THATCHER. HERE

GENERAL DOUGLAS MAC ARTHUR TOLD A JOINT

MEETING OF CONGRESS THAT "OLD SOLDIERS NEVER

DIE, THEY JUST FADE AWAY." THOSE WERE MEMORABLE

MOMENTS IN OUR HISTORY.

BEYOND SUCH OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY EVENTS AS

JOINT MEETINGS, 1989 WILL MARK THE

TWO-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF MANY OF

CONGRESS' EVERYDAY ROUTINES. IT WAS IN 1789 THAT

THE SENATE AND HOUSE APPOINTED THEIR FIRST COMMITTEES, CONVENED THEIR FIRST CONFERENCE COMMITTEES; ELECTED THEIR FIRST OFFICERS; ADOPTED THEIR FIRST RULES; WROTE AND TOOK THEIR FIRST OATHS OF OFFICE; ENACTED THEIR FIRST LEGISLATION, CONFIRMED THEIR FIRST NOMINATION, ESTABLISHED THE FIRST CABINET OFFICERS, THEREBY BEGINNING THEIR FIRST OVERSIGHT OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.

TODAY, IF YOU WONDER WHY THE CLERKS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE BOW WHEN THEY DELIVER BILLS AND MESSAGES BETWEEN EACH HOUSE, THAT WAS PRESCRIBED By THE FIRST CONGRESS. IF YOU EVER WONDERED WHY WE FORMALLY ADDRESS OUR CHIEF **FXECUTIVE AS THE "PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES** OF AMERICA", THE FIRST CONGRESS DECIDED THAT. THE FIRST CHOICE, BY THE WAY, OF A SPECIAL SENATE COMMITTEE ON TITLES, WAS "HIS HIGHNESS THE

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PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND PROTECTOR OF THE RIGHTS OF THE SAME." (THAT'S THE TITLE I WAS LEANING TOWARDS UNTIL NEW HAMPSHIRE GOT IN THE WAY.)

THE HOUSE CHAPLAIN WHO OPENED THIS SESSION
WITH A PRAYER, AND THE SENATE CHAPLAIN WHO WILL
CLOSE IT, ARE THE SUCCESSORS OF CHAPLAINS
CHOSEN BY THE FIRST CONGRESS. SO TOO ARE THE

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE WHO PRESENTED THE FIRST JOURNALS OF CONGRESS, JOURNALS WHICH ARE STILL BEING RECORDED BY OUR CLERKS TODAY. ABOUT THE ONLY JOB YOU WOULDN'T HAVE FOUND IN THAT FIRST CONGRESS WAS MINE, OR GEORGE MITCHELL'S, OR BOB MICHEL'S, OR TOM FOLEY'S. THERE WERE NO PARTY LEADERS IN THE FIRST CONGRESS, BECAUSE THERE WERE NO POLITICAL PARTIES.

WITH PARTIES, AND PARTY OFFICES, COMING LATER, IT REMINDS US THAT WE ARE CONSTANTLY ADDING TO THE HISTORY OF THIS INSTITUTION. WE BUILD ON FOUNDATIONS LAID BEFORE US, AS OTHERS WILL BUILD UPON WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND. PERHAPS THEN, THE BEST THAT CAN COME OUT OF OUR CELEBRATIONS OF CONGRESS' YESTERDAYS IS A GREATER AWARENESS OF HOW MUCH THE PAST HAS SHAPED US -- AND HOW MUCH WE CAN HELP SHAPE AMERICA'S TOMORROWS.

THANK YOU.

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SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER. DAVID MC CULLOUGH IS
WELL KNOWN TO THOSE OF US IN THE SENATE WHO
DEBATED THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES IN 1978. A
DOG-EARRED COPY OF HIS BOOK ON THE CREATION OF
THE PANAMA CANAL, THE PATH BETWEEN THE SEAS,
RESTED ON A TABLE IN THE WELL OF THE SENATE AND



WAS CONSULTED EXTENSIVELY BY THOSE ON BOTH SIDES OF THAT HEATED ISSUE. THAT BOOK WON THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR HISTORY. HIS MOST RECENT BOOK, A BIOGRAPHY OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT ENTITLED MORNINGS ON HORSEBACK, WON THE AMERICAN BOOK AWARD. HE IS THE NARRATOR OF THE FORTHCOMING PBS DOCUMENTARY, PRODUCED IN HONOR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BICENTENNIAL DAVID MC CULLOUGH.