

NATION'S LAW MAKERS SEEN AS HARD WORKERS

Banker Tells of Labor Put in
by Members of Congress on
Mass of Technical Measures

OUTLINING legislative procedure, Robert V. Fleming, President Riggs National Bank, Washington D. C., gave the recent convention of the American Bankers Association a description of the difficulties and problems confronting the law-makers. Mr. Fleming said in part:

"The most important part of organization of the two branches of congress is election of standing committees. There are 34 standing committees in the Senate and 46 in the House. These are the workshops of Congress and the real work of lawmaking is done in Committee Rooms.

"The task of legislating for 124,000,000 people is a tremendous one. Of recent years approximately 20,000 bills are introduced annually in the two Houses. Only a small percentage become law, but they must be weighed in committee, accepted or rejected, perhaps amended, reported out, and then considered on the floor.

"Lawmaking involves about 99% of hard and unspectacular work and about 1% of oratory. Few tasks appear so easy and are so difficult as enactment of sound and satisfactory legislation. Few individuals in any line of activity work harder or longer hours than the chairmen of the important committees during a session. I have great sympathy for the members of Congress whose constituents expect undivided attention to every piece of legislation in which they may be interested. From my personal observation, they earnestly and conscientiously endeavor to do all that is humanly possible.

Public Hearings
"When a bill is introduced, referred to committee and printed, the next step, if it is a measure of considerable importance, is to conduct a public hearing. The committee makes an effort to listen to anyone who cares to be heard either for or against a measure, although witnesses are frequently limited as to time. Members of the Cabinet and other officials of the administrative departments of the Government usually testify on measures in which they are interested and furnish the committee information in executive session or otherwise. In this way the Administration takes a prominent part in shaping legislation.

"Due to pressure of work and the fact that it is impossible for members

of Congress to be technical experts on every subject of legislation, the committees are inclined to give consideration to the merits of arguments presented in testimony and the recommendations of the Cabinet and other officials. It is therefore highly desirable, both from the standpoint of Congress as well as those affected by proposed legislation, that the latter have an opportunity to discuss frankly the effects of such legislation.

"We sometimes complain about the technicalities of legislation, but when we observe organized minorities endeavoring to force class legislation through one House it is a comfort to know such measures may be caught in the meshes of technical procedure on the other and those suffer who are termed automatic sequestrations."

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8:00		*7:15	*7:20	
9:00		*7:45	*7:55	
10:00	*8:10	8:15	8:20	
11:00	*9:10	*9:15	*9:20	
12:00	1:10	10:15	10:20	
1:00	12:10	12:15	12:20	
2:00	2:10	2:15	2:20	
3:00	4:10	4:15	4:20	
*4:00	*5:10	*5:15	*5:20	
5:00		6:15	6:20	
*6:00	6:10	11:15	11:20	
7:00				
10:00				
11:00				
12:00				

Tualatin Division				
Lv.	Lv.	Lv.	Lv.	Lv.
Port.	Tualatin	Durham	Trace	Metzger
*7:00				
8:00	*6:05	*6:10	*6:15	*6:20
10:00	*7:35	*7:40	*7:45	*7:55
12:00	*8:05	*8:10	*8:15	*8:20
2:00	9:05	9:10	9:15	9:20
4:00	11:05	11:10	11:15	11:20
5:00	1:05	1:10	1:15	1:20
6:00	3:05	3:10	3:15	3:20
*7:00	5:05	5:10	5:15	5:20
8:00	*6:05	*6:10	*6:15	*6:20
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