

nearly a billion dollars, a substantial percentage of farm income.

In addition, the Department "lost" 5 million turkeys. This situation had a price-inflating effect on the 1966 turkey market, and these inflated prices contributed to overproduction and depressed prices in 1967.

In March of this year, we were informed that the figures published by the Department of Agriculture underestimated cattle population by 2,305,000. Upward revision of the statistics depressed prices received by farmers.

The need to improve the estimating process is well illustrated by the fluctuations which have occurred in the 1967 corn crop estimates which were published in July, August, September, and October of this year. In the State of Iowa, the per-acre estimate has dropped from 89 to 83, or 6 bushels per acre, representing 65.7 million bushels; in Illinois the estimate in this same period has risen 13 bushels per acre, or 144 million bushels; and Nebraska estimates, which in July were 55 bushels per acre, had gone to 72 by October—a difference of 17 bushels—with a total production change of nearly 73 million bushels between those two dates.

The effect of such variations is obvious. A record production forecast results in depressed prices. Any portion of that yield which does not materialize represents a loss to the farmer in the form of lower prices during the entire period involved. The initial 1967 corn crop estimates released on July 10 of this year caused an immediate drop of from 20 to 25 cents a bushel in the corn price.

The cost of the crop and livestock estimating portions of this program have risen from \$7,470,000 in 1961 to \$12,658,000 in fiscal 1967. If we are going to spend that kind of money, we deserve a better product.

Crop-production estimates are important to agriculture. While periodic errors in these statistics produce demands for elimination of Government estimating altogether, it seems clear that in this day and age an improved system is better than none at all.

Crop reports of one kind or another are helpful in many respects. They help curb price fluctuations by eliminating uncertainty of supply; they place farmers and organized dealers on equal footing—assist in making store-or-sell decisions, and those regarding future expansion or curtailment of acres; they anticipate deficit and surplus production areas—thus helping distribution pattern; they provide a key to agricultural income, enabling others to anticipate demand for manufactured products; they give financial institutions guidance on lending policies; they are essential to enactment of proper agricultural legislation; they provide the Nation with the necessary information on the availability of food; and so on.

#### CHANGE IN EXISTING LAW PROPOSED

The basic authority for the procedure presently used by the Crop Reporting Board through its Statistical Reporting Service to collect and evaluate statistical data is found in paragraph 329, section 1, chapter 6, of title I of the official regu-

lations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The applicable regulation follows:

Collection of Information—For use in preparing the official estimates of the Department, information relating to agriculture shall be gathered through the Washington and field offices of the Service, as far as practicable, from practical farmers, as provided in 7 U.S.C. 411a; . . .

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issues crop estimates on the 10th of each month during the growing season. The estimates are based on information from about 90,000 farmers. The typical State mailing list includes about 2,500 participants. Farmers file reports with State crop reporting boards, where they are tabulated, summarized, and mailed to the Crop Reporting Board in Washington. Here, the information from each State is evaluated and the results are published.

This system needs oversight at the county level, to help avoid the effects of irregular responses from the farmer participants. With this in mind, we are proposing to write into the procedure a requirement that the opinions of county extension agents be considered in the evaluation of the figures collected within their respective counties. Who would know a county better than the extension director?

This change would be accomplished by the enactment of H.R. 14251, set forth below:

H.R. 14251

A bill to amend the act of March 4, 1909, as amended, to obtain information for agricultural estimates from county extension agents

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of March 4, 1909 (35 Stat. 1053) is amended by deleting the comma immediately after the words "which shall be gathered as far as practicable from practical farmers" and inserting "and from county extension agents engaged in cooperative agricultural extension work."

### Success in Samoa

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

### HON. GEORGE HANSEN

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1967

Mr. HANSEN of Idaho. Mr. Speaker, Congressman FRANK T. BOW, ranking minority member of the House Committee on Appropriations, recently commented on the activities of H. Rex Lee, a native of Idaho and a former resident of my congressional district.

The tribute made by Congressman BOW is well deserved, and I join with Mr. BOW and others in recognizing the outstanding achievements attained and the devoted services provided by Rex Lee. I respectfully include Mr. BOW's comments, as follows:

WASHINGTON.—Downstairs the House was debating the foreign aid appropriations bill, with member after member denouncing and

criticizing what must be the least popular government activity. In my Capitol office on the floor above I was visiting with a man who may be able to change all of that, if anyone can.

H. Rex Lee went to American Samoa as its governor in 1961 with instructions to make ready for the first meeting on American soil of the Southern Pacific Commission. He thought he would be in Pago Pago one year. His job was to build an auditorium, a hotel and generally clean up what the Reader's Digest six weeks before had called "America's Shame of the South Seas."

He stayed six years and before he left there was another Digest article entitled "America's Showplace of the South Seas."

I had known Rex Lee as the able Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and had confidence in him, as did other members of our Appropriations Committee, when he came to us six years ago for emergency appropriations to tackle not only the preparation for the conference but the educational and other problems of the islands.

He outlined for us an educational television system he had designed which would permit a few highly skilled teachers to give instruction in every classroom via TV, to be followed by study under the native teachers, most of whom were eighth graders. We gave him the money. Textbooks and study plans were developed. The system is a tremendous success today. Most of the islanders now speak English. Every family benefits from the TV system.

Lee built a 9,000-foot air strip and the finest hotel in the South Seas. He insisted that the Samoans participate. They formed a development corporation, including virtually every family. They own and operate the hotel, a new canning plant, a public works compound, all sharing in the profit. A second hotel is planned as tourism develops.

Under Lee's guidance the powers of the governor have been gradually transferred to an elected legislature. Electricity has been extended throughout the territory, new roads constructed and a medical facility built that is among the most modern in the world.

Through it all he insisted that we keep Samoa for the Samoans, preserving the best of their culture while they developed new ideas.

Lee has now been appointed assistant administrator of AID, our foreign aid agency. It seems almost impossible to correct all of the deficiencies of that program, but if anyone can do it, I think it may be H. Rex Lee.

### B'nai B'rith Women Oppose the Two Weakening Committee Amendments to the Truth-in-Lending Legislation

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

### HON. LEONOR K. SULLIVAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1967

Mrs. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to have the support of the executive board of B'nai B'rith Women for H.R. 11601, the Consumer Credit Protection Act, and particularly for my efforts to keep out of the final legislation two very serious committee amendments which would conceal, rather than force disclosure of, the comparative costs of certain types of credit.

These loophole amendments are:

First. The revolving credit exemption.

under which the big retailers and others using computerized open-end credit systems could express the percentage rate of their finance charges on a monthly or other periodic basis, rather than on the annual rate basis required for all other types of consumer credit; and

Second. The \$10 exemption, under which all firms offering consumer credit would not have to give any percentage rate whatsoever on a transaction in which the credit charge—not the total amount of the transaction, but the credit charge only—is not more than \$10. This would exempt loans or purchases up to about \$110, which would cover the bulk of consumer credit transactions.

OBJECTIVES ARE THE CONCEALMENT OF HIGH CREDIT RATES

The hearings of the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs on H.R. 11601 are replete with self-serving arguments from firms in the credit business that these special exemptions are dictated by all sorts of unique or persuasive reasons, but the fact of the matter is that they both have as their true objectives the concealment of the actual rates charged for credit.

Thus, the department stores and others using revolving credit are determined not to have to admit to their customers that the 1½ percent a month most of them charge on bills which run longer than a specified grace period comes out to an annual rate of 18 percent, which sounds to most consumers to be monstrously high. Yet the same rate, expressed as a monthly rate of 1½ percent, sounds very low to most purchasers.

And on the \$10 exemption, we were told that this was intended to help small business avoid some additional book-keeping or paperwork, but neither the Small Business Administration nor the Department of Commerce thought such an exemption was necessary to help small business, and the main and most enthusiastic support for the exemption came not from small business but from very big businesses. In fact, the bankers freely acknowledged that without this exemption, they would have to admit to their customers that on certain very short term loans, the annual interest or finance rate ran to 120 percent, compared to a credit union's 12 percent.

RESOLUTION OF B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mr. Speaker, under unanimous consent, I submit as part of my remarks the resolution on truth in lending adopted by the executive board of B'nei Brith Women last month, and sent to me by Mrs. Arthur G. Rosenbluth, president, pointing out that with these weakening amendments adopted in the Committee on Banking and Currency, H.R. 11601 "loses its major thrust and thereby becomes inadequate."

The resolution referred to is as follows:

RESOLUTION: TRUTH IN LENDING

B'nei Brith Women reaffirms its support for H.R. 11601—The Truth in Lending Act. We further call upon the House to restore the important provisions on revolving credit removed by the House Banking and Currency Committee and to delete the Senate exemptions for credit transactions on which the finance charge is less than \$10.00. Without these important changes, the bill loses its

major thrust and thereby becomes inadequate.

B'nei Brith Women's Executive Board authorizes its International President to communicate to the leaders of the House and the Chairman and members of the House Banking and Currency Committee its deep interest in and approval of this bill minus the weakening amendments.

Senator Kennedy's Speech Praising President Johnson Should Delight All Democrats

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. DONALD J. IRWIN

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1967

Mr. IRWIN, Mr. Speaker, I have been somewhat tardy in my reading lately, but I have managed to catch up with a speech by Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, of New York, in which he stanchly praises President Johnson.

The speech was given by the Senator last June 3 at the Democratic State Committee dinner at the Americana Hotel in New York City.

I subscribe wholeheartedly to the New York Senator's lavish comments about the President and I am sure all Democrats will be equally delighted to learn that Mr. KENNEDY has such high regard for our Chief Executive.

Senator KENNEDY rightly says in his speech that President Johnson "is the head of our Nation and of our party, our Commander in Chief and our chief diplomat, our Chief Executive and our chief spokesman, and the chief repository of our hopes and our fears, our advice and our consent, our complaints, and, yes, our prayers."

Under unanimous consent, I place Senator KENNEDY's speech in the RECORD:

REMARKS OF HON. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK, AT DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE DINNER, AT THE AMERICANA HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY, JUNE 3, 1967

Senator KENNEDY. Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Vice President, Miss Johnson—Lynda Bird, ladies and gentlemen: I have just returned from England. I had hoped to have the opportunity to introduce President Johnson to you, my fellow New Yorkers. As you remember, just three years ago he was kind enough to come up and introduce me to you, so I wanted to return the favor, and I looked forward to doing so.

If I may take a few minutes of your time, I would like to say some of the things that I had hoped to say prior to the time that he spoke.

Webster defines greatness as largeness in size, being much above the average in magnitude, intensity and importance. That definition could have been written for the man who just spoke to you, and which I had hoped to have the honor to introduce.

The height of his aim, the breadth of his achievements, the record of his past, and the promises of his future—all these bespeak the largeness of size, that magnitude of effort, that intensity of devotion, and that importance of accomplishment. He came to lead this nation at a time of uncertainty and danger, pouring out his own strength to renew

the strength and the purpose of all of the people of this nation, and of the nation itself.

Since that day he has borne the burdens few other men have ever borne in the history of the world, without hope or desire or thought to escape them. He has sought consensus, but he has never shrunk from controversy. He has gained huge popularity, but he has never failed to spend it in the pursuit of his beliefs or the interest of his country. He has led us to build schools and clinics and homes and hospitals, to clean the water, and to clear the air, to rebuild the city and to recapture the beauty of the countryside, to educate children and to heal the sick and comfort the oppressed on a scale unmatched in our history. This is what this country has done under the leadership of President Johnson.

In 1964 he won the greatest popular victory in modern times, and with our help he will do so again in 1968. With our help, he will have by his side the best Vice President since his predecessor, Hubert Humphrey.

He is the head of our nation and of our party, our Commander-in-Chief and our chief diplomat, our Chief Executive and our chief spokesman, and the chief repository of our hopes and our fears, our advice and our consent, our complaints, and, yes, our prayers. I am very proud that we have in our midst President Lyndon Johnson, President of the United States.

Federal Aid for Law Enforcement Agencies

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. JAMES KEE

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1967

Mr. KEE, Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include next week's public service radio and television newscast, "The Kee Report." The subject discussed in this report is Federal aid to law enforcement agencies. The report follows:

This is Jim Kee—bringing you the Kee Report.

Several months ago, the House of Representatives, by an overwhelming vote, passed a bill providing substantial Federal aid for local law enforcement agencies.

The primary purpose of this measure was to help local police in their struggle against the current crime wave, which has now become a national scandal. The deadly toll of serious crime moves upward, year after year, and the latest increase reported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation is a frightening 20 percent.

The measure passed by the House authorized 50 millions of dollars to train police officers in the latest methods of crime prevention, crime detection, and crime suppression. To this, the House added another 25 millions of dollars to improve riot control in our larger cities.

This program is urgently needed and I wish I could report to you that it was promptly enacted into law. Unfortunately, the bill is still pending in the United States Senate.

The most serious domestic problem in our country is the breakdown of the normal processes of law and order. This situation is both alarming and humiliating to the vast majority of American citizens who respect the law and take pride in their country.

There are two aspects of this problem which are especially disturbing. One is the