

**(World War II) was anticipated as imminent, the Speaker arranged that Members of the House might remain in their seats in recess to hear the expected Presidential proclamation.**

On May 7, 1945,<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, requested permission for the House to hear the expected proclamation of the unconditional surrender of Germany in World War II.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order during the remainder of the day for the Speaker to declare such recess as he may desire, the reconvening of the House to be subject to the call of the Chair.

The SPEAKER.<sup>(2)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

Mr. [Joseph W.] MARTIN [Jr.], of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I do this for the purpose of making an inquiry as to the object of this request and ask for any detail that the gentleman might like to give us.

Mr. McCORMACK. In the event the hoped-for proclamation from an official angle of VE-day has arrived, I thought it might be that the Speaker would desire to have the House stand in recess. There are many rumors. The leadership, as far as I am able to ascertain, has nothing definite although it is

hoped that the official announcement may be made possibly some time during the afternoon, in which event the Speaker may desire to have the House stand in recess.

The SPEAKER. Permit the Chair to make this statement: The Chair has been in communication with the White House this morning. The Chair knows nothing more than any other Member of the House. But in case the President of the United States issues a proclamation this afternoon it will be on the air and the Chair has arranged that the Members may remain in their seats to hear this proclamation. The Chair thinks it would be wise, therefore, for the House to be in recess for this reason.

*Parliamentarian's Note:* The radio gallery connected their radio system to the House amplifiers. However, the proclamation did not come that day; it came at 9 a.m. the next day, before the House met.

## § 20. Presentation of Gifts and Awards

On occasion, the House (or the Congress) has received works of art or historic objects donated by private individuals, organizations or foundations, for preservation in the public trust.<sup>(1)</sup> These donations will generally have a patriotic significance and upon their

1. 91 CONG. REC. 4264, 79th Cong. 1st Sess.
2. Sam Rayburn (TX).

1. Acceptance of foreign gifts, emoluments, offices, or titles by House employees is subject to the limitations

receipt, an announcement of acceptance or dedication ceremony may be held.<sup>(2)</sup>

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***The John W. McCormack Annual Award of Excellence***

**§ 20.1 The Majority Leader announced to the House that the Speaker, at ceremonies in his honor, had been given a book signed by all House employees and that an annual award of excellence had been established in the Speaker's name to be presented to the employee performing the most valuable service to the House.**

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of Section 9, Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution; the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of 1966 (Pub L. No. 90-83, 81 Stat. 208, Sept. 11, 1967; codified at 5 USC § 7342) and by House ethics rules (See *House Ethics Manual*, Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, 110th Cong. 2d Sess., U.S. G.P.O. (Washington 2007)). See also 5 Hinds' Precedents §§ 7100–7106 and 8 Cannon's Precedents §§ 3558, 3559.

2. See §§ 20.2–20.4, *infra*. The Committee on House Administration has jurisdiction over statuary, pictures, and the acceptance or purchase of works of art for the Capitol. The Committee on Natural Resources is responsible for the erection of monuments to the memory of individuals. See Rule X clause 1, *House Rules and Manual* § 731 (2007).

On Dec. 17, 1970,<sup>(1)</sup> Majority Leader Carl Albert, of Oklahoma, announced that Speaker John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, had been presented with a book signed by all the employees of the House and that an award had been designated in his honor, as follows:

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, one of the most deserved and touching ceremonies I have ever witnessed took place in the caucus room of the Cannon House Office Building today. On this occasion, the employees of the House of Representatives honored the Speaker by giving him a book signed by all of them and presented in his name a plaque to be called "The John W. McCormack Annual Award of Excellence" on which each year the name of the House employee, who performs the most valuable service for the House, will be inscribed. This plaque will be hung in a conspicuous place on the House side of the Capitol and will be a permanent part of the House and its heritage.

The employees paid the Speaker a tribute which expressed both their high regard and deep affection. In responding, the Speaker made a remarkably beautiful spontaneous speech which brought tears to the eyes of many in attendance. It was evident that everyone present from the lowliest employee to the ranking officials of the House loved our great Speaker and were saddened that he will not be with them next year. They all appreciate his

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1. 116 CONG. REC. 42190, 42191, 91st Cong. 2d Sess.

decency, his humility, his consideration, and his kindness. He has certainly been a friend of the House employees.

***Presentation of Historic Chairs to the House***

**§ 20.2 Proceedings in connection with the presentation to the House of two antique chairs, used in the new House Chamber when it was first occupied in 1857, were inserted in the *Congressional Record*.**

On July 22, 1968,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings occurred in the House:

Mr. [Fred] SCHWENGEL [of Iowa]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks at this point in the RECORD and include extraneous matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Mr. Speaker, on July 18 in a brief ceremony in the Speaker's Lobby, Mrs. George J. Le Blanc, of Alexandria, Va., presented two chairs used by the House of Representatives over 100 years ago when they were still meeting in the old House Chamber, now known as Statuary Hall. Because of the special interest present Members of the House may

1. 114 CONG. REC. 22684, 22685, 90th Cong. 2d Sess.
2. Carl Albert (OK).

have in this and because it was a historic occasion, it should be properly recorded in the Journal. I am having the remarks made at the occasion placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

CONGRESSIONAL CHAIR  
PRESENTATION CEREMONY

REMARKS BY HON. FRED SCHWENGEL

Mr. Speaker, fellow Congressmen, friends and guests: We are gathered again today to make another presentation to the Capitol. I speak as President of the United States Capitol Historical Society to serve as a vehicle to present to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America, two antique chairs used by Congressmen in the House Chamber over one hundred years ago, to be here as daily reminders of our history and heritage. . . .

PRESENTATION BY MRS. GEORGE J. LE  
BLANC

I am very happy to attend this homecoming for it gives me the opportunity to see these two chairs returned to their rightful place, the Capitol of the United States, where they once had the honor of serving Congressmen of the House of Representatives. . . .

And so it is with great pleasure that I return these chairs to their rightful place, realizing by your acceptance of them they will be preserved for posterity as a part of our great American Heritage.

REMARKS OF THE SPEAKER OF THE  
HOUSE

Mr. Schwengel, I am glad to be here in this historic Speaker's Lobby for this important ceremony and accept these fine heirlooms for the House of Representatives. I am glad to have these chairs that were used by Congressmen over one hundred

years ago. They will be reminders of our early patriots and Representatives of the House who were statesmen in the very real and important sense. The memories of these men should be noted and called to our attention more often than they are and with the acceptance of these chairs placed here in this Lobby, we will have an interesting daily reminder of these men and women. . . .

In closing may I say again these two chairs are a reminder of history—the history of yesterday, and I want to assure Mrs. Le Blanc that these chairs will become an intricate part of the House of Representatives in its daily work to serve the people.

REMARKS OF HON. FRED SCHWENGEL

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for those eloquent words of appreciation and assurance. Once again, you have gone beyond the call of duty as you have done so often—especially for the Historical Society and for those projects and programs that have for their purpose the recalling of the magnificent story of our Capitol and the history of our country. You have been a great Speaker and you have been great in the support of those things that recall a great foundation based on freedom on which our nation was built. . . .

### *Donation of Marble Bust to Congress*

#### **§ 20.3 A marble bust was donated to Congress by an organization and placed in the rotunda of the Old House Office Building.**

On May 15, 1962,<sup>(1)</sup> a marble bust of former Speaker Joseph W.

1. 108 CONG. REC. 8453–57, 87th Cong. 2d Sess.

Martin, Jr. was presented to the Congress of the United States by the National Federation of Republican Women.<sup>(2)</sup> The following proceedings occurred:

Mr. [Don L.] SHORT [of North Dakota]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MORSE] may extend his remarks in the body of the RECORD and include extraneous matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(3)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Dakota?

There was no objection.

Mr. [F. Bradford] MORSE [of Massachusetts]. Mr. Speaker, hundreds, indeed thousands, of men have served in this great House, but none has inspired greater respect, devotion and affection than has our distinguished colleague from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the beloved former Speaker of this body, JOE MARTIN. The qualities that have earned Speaker MARTIN such a high place in the regard of his colleagues have endeared him to millions of Americans.

The honors that have been accorded this great yet humble man bear eloquent testimony to his stature. Honors, indeed, are not new to JOE MARTIN, but I believe that of all the tributes he has received none have had greater meaning than that which was accorded

2. The bust was placed in the “Old House Office Building,” which was subsequently renamed the Cannon House Office Building. See <http://www.aoc.gov/cc/cobs/chob.cfm> (last visited Jan. 5, 2010).
3. Carl Albert (OK).

him on Sunday, April 15, 1962, when the National Federation of Republican Women presented to the Congress of the United States a marble likeness of JOE MARTIN, executed by the noted sculptress, Mme. Suzanne Silvercruys, to be placed in the rotunda of the House Office Building.

Scores of JOE'S colleagues from both branches of the Congress joined with hundreds of Republican ladies from throughout our nation in the presentation ceremony. In order that our colleagues who were not able to attend the ceremonies may share the sentiments of those who paid tribute to JOE on this notable occasion, I am incorporating at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the program describing the ceremonies together with a record of the proceedings which was transcribed from a tape recording of the ceremonies contributed as a public service by Mr. Isaac Street, of Business and Social Recordings[.](<sup>4</sup>)

### *Donation of 49-Star Flag to House*

#### **§ 20.4 A 49-star flag, for use on the rostrum, was presented to the House of Representatives by the Daughters of the American Revolution.**

On July 16, 1959,<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Clifford G. McIntire, of Maine, gave a one-

4. The taped ceremonies were printed in the *Congressional Record* at 108 CONG. REC. 8453-57, 87th Cong. 2d Sess., May 15, 1962.

1. 105 CONG. REC. 13592, 13593, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.

minute speech announcing that a 49-star flag had been presented to the House by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The proceedings were as follows:

Mr. McINTIRE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to direct the attention of the House to the fact that as this session opens today the new 49-star flag of our beloved country is officially displayed over the Speaker's rostrum for the first time.

A flag of the United States was presented to the House of Representatives in 1901 by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and hung over the Speaker's rostrum for the first time.

On August 19, 1919, the House was presented with a new flag by this society to replace the flag displayed since 1901, which had become soiled and worn. This new flag was formally accepted by House resolution, September 18, 1919, and hung over the Speaker's rostrum, back of the Speaker's chair. By House Resolution of September 18, 1919, the old flag was returned to the society, to be displayed and carefully preserved in the archives of the society.

On December 28, 1950, a new flag was once again presented to the House by this society to replace the flag that had been displayed in the Chamber since 1919, and was hung over the Speaker's rostrum back of the Speaker's chair, on January 3, 1951, the day when the House met for the first time in the remodeled Chamber. The old flag was returned to the society for preservation, December 28, 1950.

In the office of the Speaker this morning, Mrs. Doris White, distinguished citizen of Maine and president-general of the Daughters of the

American Revolution, presented this beautiful 49-star flag to the House of Representatives.

This continues a project which began in 1901 as a project truly in keeping with the great traditions and high ideals of this distinguished organization of American women.

### *Memorial Bell Tower*

#### **§ 20.5 A resolution authorizing the printing of proceedings in connection with the dedication ceremonies of the Robert A. Taft Memorial.**

On Apr. 13, 1959,<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Clarence J. Brown, of Ohio, asked unanimous consent to address the House:

##### DEDICATION CEREMONY, TAFT MEMORIAL TOWER

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER.<sup>(2)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I have requested this time to announce that tomorrow morning the dedicatory exercises for the Taft Memorial Bell Tower on the Capitol Grounds, just across Constitution Avenue, will begin at 10 o'clock. All Members of Congress, of course, are invited, along with their

wives. Tickets have been sent to each Member of the House and each Member of the Senate, two tickets to each. Special reserved seats have been arranged and are being held for the use of Members of Congress.

If I may take just a second or two, I should like to tell you something of the program:

The Indian Hill High School Band, which comes from the little community where Senator Taft lived, will give a part of the musical program, which will start about 10 minutes of 10. Then the U.S. Marine Band will follow.

The presiding officer to open the meeting will be Representative B. CARROLL REECE of Tennessee, who is the president of the Robert A. Taft Memorial Foundation, Inc.

The invocation will be given by Rev. Frederick Brown Harris, Chaplain of the Senate.

The meaning of the tower will be explained in a short address by Representative REECE, who will present, in a body, the 100 trustees of the memorial foundation.

The meeting will then be turned over to me as the chairman of the Physical Memorial Subcommittee, and I in turn will introduce, first, Senator STYLES BRIDGES, who will speak for 4 or 5 minutes for the Senate, then Senator HARRY FLOOD BYRD, who will speak also for the Senate for about the same length of time, to be followed by William Howard Taft III, the eldest son of Senator Taft, former Ambassador to Ireland, as you recall. He will respond for a minute or so in behalf of the family.

Following I will present the former President of the United States, the

1. 105 CONG. REC. 5776, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.

2. Sam Rayburn (TX).

chairman of the board of trustees of the foundation, the Honorable Herbert Hoover, who will deliver a eulogy on Senator Taft.

Next, the President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, honorary chairman of the foundation, will be presented, and in turn he will dedicate the memorial by turning over symbolic keys to the Vice President of the United States and to Speaker RAYBURN, of the House, both of whom will respond on behalf of the Congress.

Following the address of Mr. Speaker RAYBURN, the benediction will be given by the Acting Chaplain of the House.

This memorial, as you know, which cost approximately 1 million is being presented to the Congress of the United States by the Taft Memorial Foundation, and the Congress will serve as its custodian for the benefit of the American people.

Following the speaking program there will be a 20-minute carillon concert so that those assembled may have the opportunity to hear these famous bells for the first time.

On Apr. 14, 1959,<sup>(3)</sup> the following resolution was offered.

Mr. REECE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 243) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That there be printed as a House document,<sup>(4)</sup> will [sic] illus-

trations, the proceedings in connection with the dedication ceremonies of the Robert A. Taft Memorial on April 14, 1959.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### ***Presentation of Gift to Speaker by Member***

#### **§ 20.6 The Speaker was presented an Irish shillelagh on St. Patrick's Day.**

On Mar. 17, 1952,<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Fred E. Busbey, of Illinois, presented Speaker Sam Rayburn, of Texas, with a shillelagh, as indicated below:

Mr. BUSBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. BUSBEY. Mr. Speaker, today Americans the length and breadth of the land are joining the Irish in honoring their patron saint and we pay our respects to the gallant people of Irish extraction on this St. Patrick's Day. . . .

I hold in my hand a genuine black-thorn shillelagh which came from the county of Tipperary, Ireland. By virtue of the esteem the Members of this body hold for the Speaker, I believe it very

3. See 105 CONG. REC. 5858, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.

4. H. Doc. No. 86-121.

1. 98 CONG. REC. 2403, 82d Cong. 2d Sess.

appropriate for him to use a shillelagh on St. Patrick's Day to preside over the House of Representatives. This shillelagh was presented to me during my visit in Ireland by Mr. Nicholas Lakas, one of our younger and most promising Foreign Service officers, who was in charge of the United States consulate at Cork, Ireland. I, in turn, present it to our Speaker with my compliments, a shillelagh from O'Busbey to Speaker O'Rayburn.

The SPEAKER. I appreciate the suggestion of the gentleman from Illinois.

## § 21. Statuary

The old Hall of the House of Representatives is today used for the reception and protection of statuary and has come to be known as National Statuary Hall. Statuary Hall was created under a July 2, 1864, law that authorized the President to "invite all the states to provide and furnish statues, in marble or bronze, not exceeding two in number for each state, of deceased citizens deemed worthy of this national commemoration."<sup>(1)</sup> In 1876, supervision and direction of the collection were assigned to the Architect of the Capitol.<sup>(2)</sup>

1. Act July 2, 1864, ch. 210, §§ 2, 13 Stat. 347, codified as 2 USC § 2131.
2. See R.S. § 1814; Aug. 15, 1876, ch. 287, 19 Stat. 147, codified as 2 USC § 2131.

Originally, all State statues were placed in National Statuary Hall. However, the Hall soon became overcrowded, and the aesthetic appearance of the Hall began to suffer as a result. In 1933, Congress adopted a concurrent resolution providing for the relocation of statues and to govern the future reception and location of statues by the Architect of the Capitol, upon the approval of the Joint Committee of the Library and with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts.<sup>(3)</sup> Under authority of this resolution, it was decided that only one statue from each State should be placed in Statuary Hall. The collection is now located in several areas of the Capitol: in National Statuary Hall, the Capitol Rotunda, the first and second floor House and Senate corridors, the Hall of Columns, the Crypt and the Capitol Visitor Center.<sup>(4)</sup> In 2000, legislation was passed that allowed for

*Parliamentarian's Note:* If the State legislature votes to replace one of its statues its request must be approved by the Joint Committee on the Library. State replacement statues for former Presidents Eisenhower, Reagan, and Ford have been approved.

3. H. Con. Res. 47, adopted Feb. 24, 1933, 47 Stat. Part 2, 1784.  
See 5 Hinds' Precedents §§ 7089–7099 and 8 Cannon's Precedents §§ 3545–3557.
4. See Ch. 4, § 6 *supra*.