

this was unthinkable. It was always a pleasure when one of our books became a best-seller, but what counted more was a book that promised to become a permanent part of the culture. Random House published many books that became both.

The editor's job was different then from what it is now. Now layer upon layer of marketing specialists, sales executives, and business managers separate the editor from the bookseller. At the Villard mansion, we made these publishing decisions ourselves. For years, I would begin my day in the mailroom opening orders from booksellers, so that I had the feel of the marketplace literally at my fingertips.

That time was magical and we never expected it to end, even after Bennett and Donald took the company public, acquired Knopf, and, in 1966, sold out to RCA. By the mid-seventies the publishing industry had changed profoundly. The old downtown neighborhoods where booksellers had once rented inexpensive space and knew their customers by name had largely vanished. Readers now bought their books in mall chain stores. The bookseller in Pittsburgh or Portland whom Loomis or I might once have called to recommend a first novel had been out of business for years. Publishers now spoke to their customers through marketing specialists doing their best to fit the increasingly undifferentiated product supplied by the editors into the still less differentiated slots provided by the retail chains. Many worthy titles couldn't be fitted to these new circumstances at all and disappeared. In recent years the mall shops specializing in best-sellers have been largely replaced by so-called superstores, with much larger inventories of books. But the link between writer and marketplace which had once been the editor's function has all but vanished.

The Random House phone book is now the size of a small city directory. Loomis and I are still listed, but after forty years nearly everything else about book publishing has changed. What had been a craft is now an irrational accretion of improvisational adjustments to historic accidents, a largely fossilized organism that can no longer be deconstructed. Its future depends on how well its remaining energies can be directed toward new technological possibilities.

I am delighted to say that these possibilities already exist. The widespread distribution of printed books via the Internet is a reality a mere two and a half years after the appearance of Amazon.com. The eventual shape of Internet bookselling is not yet fully evident, but it is evident enough to foreshadow a much more direct—and economical—link between writer and reader than has existed in modern times. The choice of a career in book publishing may seem bleak at the moment, but if I were starting out today I might give it a try. To publish a book that may make the world a little more intelligible or decent can be almost as satisfying as writing one. And soon it might just be possible to carry on this work with even greater confidence than Loomis and I shared forty years ago.●

HONORING JOHN E. CORRIGAN

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a man who has worked tirelessly throughout his career to create economic opportunities in the northeastern region of this country: John E. Corrigan. Known by his friends as Jack, Mr. Corrigan has served for 23 years as Regional Director of the U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration. On Tues-

day, May 26, 1998, in my home state of Connecticut, friends, family and admirers of this remarkable man will gather to celebrate his retirement after nearly three decades of service to his country as a public official. This celebration, sponsored by the Connecticut chapter of the Northeastern Economic Development Association, will be a fitting tribute to an outstanding public servant.

Jack Corrigan makes things happen. Throughout his career with the EDA, he worked to make dreams a reality. His success is evident across the Northeast where he contributed to the creation of thousands of jobs and economic opportunities during his career. Indeed, Mr. Corrigan brought new meaning to the term economic development. He looked not only at specific applications, but enjoyed the foresight and vision to appreciate the domino effect which federal assistance could have on entire towns, cities, and regions.

As Regional Director of the EDA, Jack Corrigan administered a multi-million dollar grant program. These resources were allocated throughout the region under his watchful eye, always ensuring that the money would provide an economic stimulus for many individuals and businesses. Jack's gentle style, measured approach, and good judgement helped many people to turn their dreams into reality.

In addition to his service as Regional Director, Jack spent three years as Director of the Office of Civil Rights for the EDA. In this position, he distinguished himself as an effective advocate for civil rights and received the silver medal of the Department of Commerce for his outstanding performance in this field.

From 1982 to 1985, Mr. Corrigan took a temporary reprieve from his Regional Director post to serve as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations of the EDA. In this position, he was responsible for the agency's grant program and for coordinating the related activities of the agency's six regional offices.

Jack Corrigan will be deeply missed at the Economic Development Administration and throughout the northeast. His legacy, however, will continue as his exemplary public service is remembered and revered for years to come. I applaud the lifetime achievements of a special man and wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.●

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Calendar Nos. 602, 604, 607, 608, 609, 611, 613, 614 and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service. I further

ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Jeanne Hurley Simon, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science for a term expiring July 19, 2002. (Reappointment)

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

William James Ivey, of Tennessee, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts for a term of four years.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

Robert H. Beatty, Jr., of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring August 30, 2004. (Reappointment)

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thomas Ehrlich, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term of five years. (Reappointment)

Dorothy A. Johnson, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term of five years, vice Walter H. Shorestein, term expired.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Fred P. Hochberg, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

William Joseph Burns, of Pennsylvania, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Ryan Clark Crocker, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Syrian Arab Republic.

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

Foreign Service nominations beginning Alexander Almasov, and ending James Hammond Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 26, 1998

Foreign Service nominations beginning Joan E. La Rosa, and ending Morton J. Holbrook, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 26, 1998

Foreign Service nominations beginning Michael Farbman, and ending Mary C. Pendleton, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 22, 1998

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM J. IVEY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on May 13, 1998, the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee unanimously supported Bill Ivey's nomination to be the Chairman of the National Endowment