

next 20 years and \$2.5 billion a year thereafter.

The bill raises social-security tax rates beginning next January 1, when employees and employer will have to pay, together, 6 percent of every pay check into the social security fund. Further increases are provided for 1960, 1965, 1970, and 1975, by which time the social-security tax collector will be making 9 percent of the Nation's payroll.

Experience shows, however, that when the time comes to increase these taxes, Congress will back down. It has done so already more frequently than it has enacted scheduled increases. All that does is shift more of the burden to future generations.

The man who related to a plan to think of posterity with the question: "What did posterity ever do for me?" How has his answer, posterity is going to pay his old-age pension. Or will it?

Posterity can vote, too, and the increasing burdens of social security are going to make it less popular politically as the taxes necessary to keep the system solvent mount higher and higher. That, of course, is of no consequence to the something-for-nothing Democrats in the House. They aren't looking for posterity's vote—only those of the 1,300,000 whose benefits, if the Senate concurs, will be increased a few months before the polls open next year.

Third Anniversary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

HON. CLAIR ENGLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 1955

Mr. ENGLE. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, 1953, this Chamber unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 149 which rebuffed colonialism as a denial of the inalienable rights of man and supported as a policy of the United States the policy of championing the people of the world in their efforts to achieve self-government or independence so as to permit them to assume an equal station amongst the free nations of the world. This action by the House which was later followed by the Senate served notice that the United States will not be identified with colonialistic policies.

Three years ago today there was created as a result of similar action by the House and Senate the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The terms of the enabling act which made this possible served similar notice at that time that the United States scorned colonialistic policies and believed in and promoted the principles of self-government and all of the attributes thereof. It was thus that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was created. It was thus that the United States showed it did not merely talk freedom and self-government, but practiced freedom and self-government for those under the Stars and Stripes.

The people of Puerto Rico through their Resident Commissioner petitioned Congress for authority to organize themselves into a commonwealth government,

associated with the United States under an arrangement of specified relationships agreed to in the nature of a compact. This political development was certainly something new to the United States, and for that matter to the world. Political scientists were interested in its characteristics, ultimate development, and workability.

That the commonwealth idea has been successful comes as no surprise to the Puerto Rican leaders who conceived it and the Puerto Rican people who gave it enthusiastic support. As to those who studied its emergence, it has proved almost flawless. It is indeed significant to note that whereas in recent years and months and even weeks, both the strident and violent unrest of the remaining colonial peoples has been continually manifest, whereas in Puerto Rico, energies have been devoted not to violence and protest, but to continual attention to what must still be done to perfect details pertaining to political relationships with the United States and economic development in the island.

Many of the Members here have been to Puerto Rico. Some have recently followed up earlier visits. All are impressed with the almost unbelievable speed and degree of progress which is being made and the tremendous activity toward development and improvement. Especially those who are making second and third visits are struck by the changes which have occurred since their earlier visit.

This is what happens when a free and happy people are unhampered to devote themselves to their own self-improvement. In Puerto Rico they call it Operation Bootstrap—the upliftings through self-effort.

The action which the Congress took to make possible the creation of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has proved to be a wise move in more ways than one. Not only are these 2½ million American citizens working together for economic progress, but the commonwealth has proved itself to be one of the weapons in the United States arsenal against communism. It is significant that there is no problem with Communists in Puerto Rico. It is significant, also, that Puerto Rico is continually host to great numbers of visitors from South American and from all the undeveloped countries of the world to view this indisputable example of what is possible where there is given understanding and recognition of the freedom-drawing heart that beats in every man, where there is cooperation, and where a helping hand is offered when it is needed.

Students throughout the free world are studying the commonwealth concept as exemplified by the case of Puerto Rico. Admittedly, it was a political experiment. Conspicuously, it has proved successful.

So, today, on the third anniversary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, just 53 years after the landing of the American troops in the island during the Spanish American war, it is appropriate to give proper recognition here and to extend best wishes to the Puerto Rican people in their work that lies ahead to complete the task for the welfare of the Puerto Rican people.

Separate Minority Views, H. R. 7474

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

HON. BRUCE ALGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 1955

Mr. ALGER. Mr. Speaker, with our expectation of the highway bill coming up for consideration in the House this week, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to the Davis-Bacon provision which has been incorporated in this bill. I intend to offer an amendment to strike out section 11. There is even a question in my mind whether the Davis-Bacon provision can be considered germane to the bill. If it is, there remains the other strong objections which I have summarized in the separate views of Report No. 1336 accompanying H. R. 7474:

SEPARATE MINORITY VIEWS, H. R. 7474

We are all aware of the danger of over-centralized Federal Government with its vast bureaucracy. Our Founding Fathers propounded and we too have accepted a belief in the basic rights of the several States. This belief is embodied in our Constitution. The course of events in our national life and growth has greatly centralized and emphasized the Federal functions but has not deplored the wisdom, need, and reaffirmation of the original basic concept of our Government, nor have we changed the letter of the law.

Now we have a choice again—whether we will hold fast against further centralization and imposition of Federal will upon the States to the loss of their rights, or whether we will permit the States to continue to manage their affairs.

The Davis-Bacon Act provision in this bill is not just an expression of concern for the workman's wage, but is a bold frontal assault on the God-given rights recognized by our forefathers and embodied in the limited form of Government set up in the balance between Federal and State authority.

This provision endeavors through the Secretary of Labor to recognize and prescribe the prevailing local wage. Behind this simple statement of intent moves in the Federal bureaucracy to duplicate and take over the work already being done by the State to the extent which local conditions require the State to take part. Obviously, the local prevailing wage must be paid in the past, now, and in the future, or men will not take the work.

What do the workers want? They do not want wages set by a Federal mandate. What the Government bestows it can take away. Are not supply and demand and free negotiation a better basis for wages than a decision from Washington, far removed from the local scene and whose decisions can upset the local economy?

When government is necessary, that government is best that is closest to the people, and if wages must be set let the State exercise this function through the fine highway departments that are now in operation. State officials know more about their own local rates and economic conditions than do Federal officials.

Further, a labor matter, if such this provision is should be properly considered in the time-honored legislative way by the Labor Committee of Congress and not tied onto this legislation to be rattosided through on the merits of other legislative needs.

How about the cost? Here's a matter which we worksheds of the public purse must always consider. We agreed in committee that

may recognize no barrier to civilized activities.

The people of Puerto Rico have shown a remarkable capacity to adjust themselves to changing conditions and circumstances; for making a practical appraisal of, and for taking appropriate action to meet, these circumstances and conditions. Because of the small size of their island and because of its very limited natural resources, they realized that isolation and separation from the United States was not in their best interest. On the other hand, because of their geographical position, 1,000 miles from Miami and 1,500 miles from New York, because of their cultural background, because they are a fully developed people by themselves, inclusion into the United States Union was not considered the most favorable way to maintain bonds of union with the United States. They brought to the formula proposed in the principles of freedom, democracy, and self-government unique in the annals of our political system. In accordance with this formula, their bond with the United States does not mean incorporation into the Union, but rather an association with the Union by solemn compact. Of course, it is not separation. Under the terms of a common citizenship, they maintain a voluntary association with the United States. Thus, they have created their Commonwealth, their free state, with a constitution of their own adoption. They exercise the right of decision in all matters of their everyday life, while the United States, with their consent, performs effective in Puerto Rico, the same functions as it does in the States of the Union.

In a little over a decade, Puerto Rico's gross national product has climbed more than 300 percent, while wages and salaries have risen some 400 percent. Much to such progress has been the utilization of outside capital and the modernizing of ancient agricultural methods. Four hundred new factories and a large number of irrigation programs have been put into operation since the epochal year 1947, when the entire economy of the island began to be revitalized and energized with the institution of the Commonwealth constitution.

This veritable industrial revolution, with its attendant beneficial effects on housing, education, and other social factors, has transformed Puerto Rico from the poorest of the Western World to a showcase of democracy. It is tremendously significant that thousands of visitors from some forty-four foreign lands have studied the Puerto Rican way to a better life under the United States technical assistance program. It is safe to assume that these observers will give credit to Communist propaganda.

Four years ago the flag of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was raised to the top of the mast in Puerto Rico by alongside the Stars and Stripes. Both flags flying together are a symbol of a noble association.

We are proud of the Puerto Rican people and their efforts to reach a higher station in life. We should continue to help them as much as we can by their

unemployment problem, hysteresis experience, and appalling. They are trying to create every opportunity so that they will not have to leave their homeland to make a living. They are developing industrially.

The greater the interest and encouragement on the part of the people of the United States in pointing the way for Puerto Rico to achieve higher standards of living, the greater an asset Puerto Rico will be to its associates—both politically and economically. That the greater would be the prestige of the United States before the world, especially before our good neighbors, takes the honor who are enemies of Puerto Rico's people.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I should like to take this opportunity to extend to the people of Puerto Rico my heartfelt congratulations for having made such an excellent selection in choosing their official representatives. Resident Commissioner A. FRANCIS LIGAS, their representative in the Congress since 1947, has done an outstanding and effective job in presenting to the Congress the many problems affecting Puerto Rico. His sincerity of purpose and sterling character have been indelibly imprinted upon every Member of Congress, without exception. Though he has no vote, he has frequently stated to me that he has the votes of 135 Members of the House of Representatives and 96 votes in the Senate of the United States. His activities on behalf of the Puerto Rican people have on more than one occasion, amply demonstrated the respectness of this statement. As many of us here in the Congress will recall, it was he who was chairman of the constitutional convention which drafted the constitution of Puerto Rico. It was he who was chosen as a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations when the President of the United States endorsed the United Nations of Puerto Rico's self-governing status. In his official capacity, as a representative of the people of Puerto Rico, he has justly earned the admiration and respect of every Member in both Houses of the Congress. His warm personality has endeared him to all of us, and I, for one, hope that the people of Puerto Rico will see fit to retain such a worthy representative in the public service for many long years to come. His great contribution to our cause and the cause of the Puerto Rican people is inestimable.

In Gov. Luis Muñoz Marín, Puerto Rico has an equally outstanding citizen. As chief executive, he has unquestionably performed outstanding public services to their behalf. He is, in fact, a great leader. It was during his administration that successful efforts were made in industrializing Puerto Rico so that more people could obtain more jobs, which in turn provided them with an increased standard of living. The people of Puerto Rico and the people of the United States owe to him an everlasting debt of gratitude for the great public service which he has, and is, rendering. The record of progress which already has been made under his administration is one in which we can all take just pride.

It was through the leadership of these men that Puerto Rico has advanced, and is continuing to advance, under a truly self-governing associated status with the United States.

On this the fourth anniversary of its self-governing status, I am confident that the Congress and the people of the United States join with me in extending to the people of Puerto Rico best wishes for continued success and Godspeed.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record at this point an article entitled "The Puerto Rican" which was written by Bill Baggs, one of our State's most humorous, and, at the same time, most effective and excellent reporters. This serious column about Puerto Rico is most informative, and deserves the attention of all Members of the Senate.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

THE PUERTO RICAN (By Bill Baggs)

(There are 600,000 people from Puerto Rico in the United States, but only about 100,000 live in this country. Each one is a citizen of the United States. Probably the Puerto Rican is the poorest uneducated citizen in his country. These facts are made on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the island becoming a full and free partner in the United States.)

Perhaps no people on earth have taken such giant steps toward democracy and its economic blessings in the past 10 years as the Puerto Ricans.

For 400 years the island was ruled by Spain and for 50 years by the United States.

Ten years ago the lack of sanitary and educational facilities would have shocked the most backward section of the continental United States. Today, you can almost see civilization climbing into the spectacular, green limestone hills and the mountain beyond.

INDUSTRY COMES

Essentially, the problem of Puerto Rico is over-population. It is one of the most densely populated places in the world. In Florida, our average is 51 people per square mile. In Puerto Rico the statistic is 343 per square mile.

The land is fertile. Testimony of the rich soil is given by the two tobacco crops, sugar, coffee, a number of vegetables. Irrigation is needed. Modern agricultural techniques is needed. To balance the economy, industry is needed.

In recent years industry has rolled into Puerto Rico like a high, continuing tide. One may observe the strong hand it places on the economy. A great discovery has come with industry: The Puerto Rican is a magnificent industrial worker. This is especially so when industry in industry is required. The Puerto Rican has long, thin fingers with a grand dexterity.

STAYS OVER

Overpopulation pushes the Puerto Rican into the continental United States, mostly in areas in New York and Miami, and there have mushroomed anti-Puerto Rican feelings among people in this country. Vain possibly was inevitable.

Many are the Puerto Ricans who come with little education and no money to support in the cities of the United States. They are preyed upon by the politicians in many instances. Among them are people who take great economic advantage of the Puerto Rican. It is not difficult to do.

One must travel to the island back into the country, where the Puerto Rican countryman,