

77TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ DOCUMENT
No. 654 }

WILLIAM TYLER PAGE

PROCEEDINGS
IN THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
IN
COMMEMORATION OF
THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SERVICES OF WILLIAM TYLER PAGE
TOGETHER WITH
THE BROADCAST CEREMONY IN THE STUDIO
OF RADIO STATION WWDC IN
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECEMBER 19, 1941



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1942

House Resolution No. 448

[Submitted by Mr. Stefan]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

February 27, 1942.

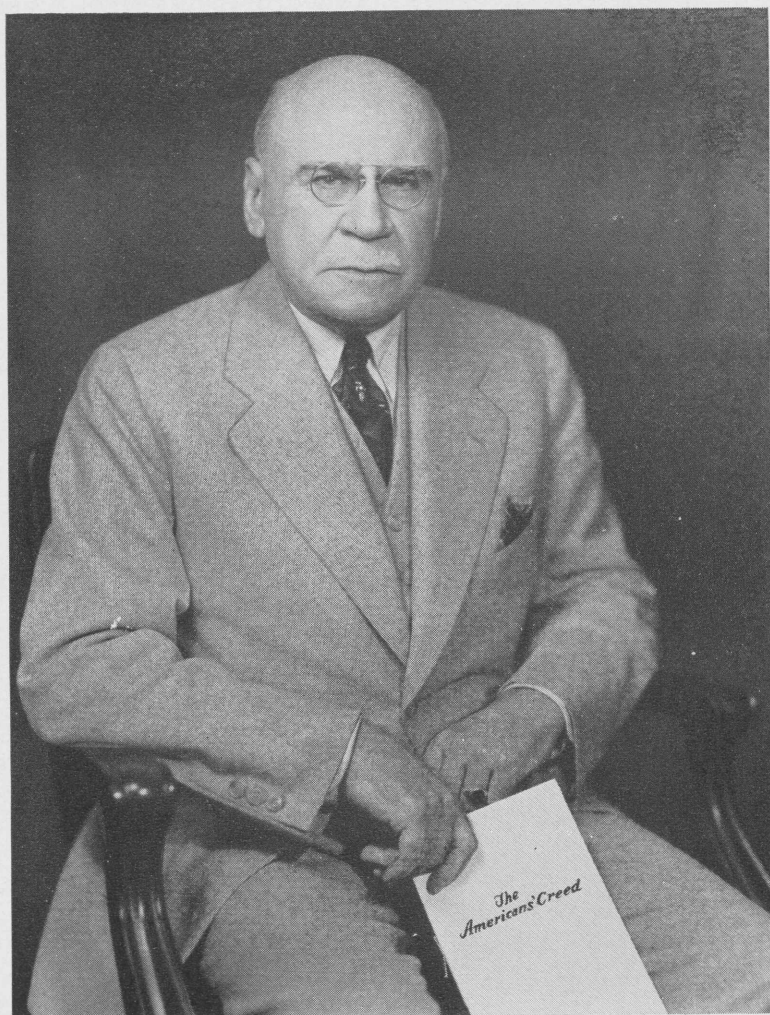
Resolved, That the proceedings held in the House of Representatives on December 19, 1941, in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the service of William Tyler Page in various capacities in the House of Representatives, together with the proceedings attendant upon the ceremony in the studio of the broadcasting station of WWDC, in Washington, District of Columbia, on the evening of October 19, 1941, commemorating his birthday anniversary, be printed, with illustrations, as a House document.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE, *Clerk*.
By H. NEWLIN MEGILL.

Contents

Biography	5
Sixtieth Anniversary Services in the House:	
Mr. Martin of Massachusetts	9
Mr. McCormack	11
Mr. Canfield	12
Mr. Stefan	13
Mr. Chipperfield	13
Broadcast Ceremony in the Studio of Radio Station WWDC, Washington, D. C.:	
Mr. Reed	19
Mr. Burton	19
Reverend Dr. Warner	20
Billy Carlson	20
Mr. Stefan	21
Mr. Hill	25
Col. Frank Haley	25
Mr. Tinkham	26
Mr. Englebright	27
Mr. Camp	28
Miss Rankin	29
Mr. Hall	29
Mr. Stratton	30
Mr. Dondero	31
Mrs. Dreisonstok	31
Mr. Page	33



WILLIAM TYLER PAGE

Biography

WILLIAM TYLER PAGE was born in Frederick, Md., October 19, 1868; son of Walker Yates and Nannie (Tyler) Page; lineal descendant of Carter Braxton, signer of the Declaration of Independence; both collateral and lineal descendant of President John Tyler; attended the Frederick Academy and the public schools of Baltimore, Md.; married Mary Anna Weigandt, of Baltimore, Md., July 25, 1895 (now deceased); children—Nannie Tyler (wife of H. W. Pierce, formerly a lieutenant, U. S. Navy), John Caspar, Eleanor L'Hommedieu, Mary Addison (wife of J. H. Cronin, lieutenant commander, U. S. Navy), Catherine L'Hommedieu (deceased), and William Tyler, Jr. (lieutenant, Aviation Corps, U. S. Army); was appointed a page in the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives on December 19, 1881, by Hon. Edward McPherson, and has since been continuously in the service of the House of Representatives in many capacities; Republican nominee for Congress from the second Maryland district in 1902; author of "The American's Creed" and "Page's Congressional Handbook"; executive secretary and disbursing officer of the United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington; honorary member of Gamma Eta Gamma fraternity; honorary LLD George Washington University, 1942; President General, United States Flag Association; elected Clerk of the House of Representatives in the Sixty-sixth, Sixty-seventh, Sixty-eighth, Sixty-ninth, Seventieth, and Seventy-first Congresses; chosen by resolution of the House of Representatives, December 19, 1931, the fiftieth anniversary of his service, as special clerk of the minority, which position he now holds after 60 years' continuous service in the House.

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Proceedings in the
House of Representatives

Seventy-seventh Congress
Second Session



UNITED STATES CAPITOL

William Tyler Page

Sixtieth Anniversary Services

FRIDAY, *December 19, 1941.*

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today marks the sixtieth anniversary of continuous service in this House by our distinguished friend, William Tyler Page, the senior minority clerk.

On December 19, 1881, Mr. Page entered the service of the House as a page boy. Advancing steadily through diligent application, faithful service, and abiding loyalty, he has served under 14 Speakers and through the terms of 11 Presidents—a record of service and achievement without a parallel in the history of our beloved Nation. From 1919 to 1931 Mr. Page served 6 terms with distinction as Clerk of the House.

A native of Maryland, where he still resides in Montgomery County, adjoining the District of Columbia, Mr. Page is a descendant of Carter Braxton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, from Virginia. He is likewise a collateral descendant of John Tyler, the tenth President of the United States. His first ancestor on this continent was John Page, who

settled in Williamsburg, Va., in 1650. Col. Matthew Page, the son of John Page, was one of the founders of the College of William and Mary. Another John Page was Governor of Virginia, and later was elected to the First and Second Congresses under the Constitution. From such deep root stems William Tyler Page's fine patriotism and unflagging zeal in defense of the fundamentals of American constitutional government. He is in a very real sense the personification of the America we all love and strive to preserve and defend.

When, as a lad barely 13 years of age, William Tyler Page left his employment as a printer's assistant in a small shop in Frederick, Md., to begin his service in the House of Representatives, Chester A. Arthur was President; Queen Victoria ruled the British Empire with the aid and guidance of Gladstone and Disraeli; and Bismarck was triumphant on the Continent of Europe.

From that day Tyler Page has seen the great panorama of world history unrolled—and in much of that history he has been a participant as well as an observer and recorder.

He began serving a Union of only 38 States—almost a whole generation before the first telephone was installed in this Capitol. He lived and breathed American history; and as his devotion to our national traditions matured, it fell to him at length to write for a Nation of 48 States the one great document which faithfully epitomizes the living spirit of America since its founding—the American's Creed.

That great work, which most Members of this House during the last quarter century recite from memory, was composed by Tyler Page during the World War 23 years ago. Woven from the classic utterances of every generation of Americans, it will

serve as an inspiration to patriots so long as this Nation shall prevail as the land of the free and the home of the brave.

On this happy occasion, I need not remind this House of the noble qualities of character and warm attributes of loyalty and friendship which have made Tyler Page an institution among us. You all have known his cordial greeting and friendly guidance. You have known his quick wit and lively humor. He has, on occasion, presided briefly in the Speaker's chair, and at other times he has been called upon to open our sessions with prayer. For 60 years nothing about the House of Representatives has been above or beneath or beyond the earnest and conscientious attention of our good friend and wise counsellor, William Tyler Page.

I know that today I voice the sentiments of every Member of this House on both sides of the aisle when I wish for William Tyler Page continued happiness and prosperity which, as a great American, he justly merits.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, speaking for myself and also for my Democratic colleagues of the House, I join with the distinguished minority leader, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Martin], in the fitting remarks he has made with reference to our distinguished friend, William Tyler Page.

To us of the House he is an institution. To the country he is a great American and an example to all. I know I speak the sentiments of my Democratic colleagues as well as all of my colleagues when I make the statement that I join with the dis-

tinguished gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Martin] in the appropriate remarks he has made on this occasion with reference to William Tyler Page, and to add one additional thought, that there are few men in the life of our Nation who have made a more profound and constructive impression upon the Americans of any generation than has William Tyler Page in his great lifetime.

Mr. CANFIELD. Mr. Speaker, the late Speaker Champ Clark one day approached Tyler Page and, placing a hand upon his shoulder, said:

"Is it true, Tyler, you were born right here in the Capitol?"

"Not exactly, Mr. Speaker," replied Page. "Not exactly, but, like our old friend, John Quincy Adams, I hope to die here."

Seventeen years before I first saw the light of day and 25 years before the dean of the House, the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Sabath] first came to Congress, Tyler Page was here. Coming as a page boy at the age of 13 and later holding various key positions as an employee of the House, he has been with the legislative branch for almost 40 percent of the full period our country has enjoyed the blessings of constitutional government. He has witnessed the evolution, yes, the revolution, of House procedure, observing the transformation from a so-called do-nothing body to a business body and today a defense institution unanimously determined to preserve our Republic and defeat the forces of aggression and oppression.

Tyler Page has been exceedingly kind to me during my years on Capitol Hill. He has been like a father. I love him for what he has done for our country.

He is the author of *The American's Creed*, which literally breathes the soul of America. Today it hangs in practically

every schoolroom, lodge, veterans' home; it can be seen on the mastheads of many of our leading dailies, and I learned yesterday that it has a place of honor on every major vessel in the American Navy.

A salute for Tyler Page. Sixty years he has labored in this structure.

Some allude to him as the Patriarch of Pages. To me he is the helping hand in the House. And to America he must be inspiration itself.

Mr. STEFAN. Mr. Speaker, in making this unanimous-consent request to extend my remarks, I join all Members on this day in paying tribute to William Tyler Page who today is celebrating the sixtieth year of his service in our Nation's Capitol.

Recently Members of this House and other distinguished people joined together in a radio program complimentary to this great American, and at the request of many of those who participated in that William Tyler Page birthday ceremony, I ask unanimous consent to extend my own remarks and include therein the entire proceedings of that radio program, and additional letters, regardless of the space it shall take in the Congressional Record.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

Mr. CHIPERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, one Sunday evening not long ago, I was listening to a radio program in tribute to a great American upon reaching his seventy-third birthday—the Honorable William Tyler Page, eminent author of the American's Creed, and at the present time clerk of the minority of the House of Representatives.

He began his life work at the age of 13 as a page boy, and since that time has held numerous offices in the House of Representatives. Today he has completed 60 years of service—the longest any individual has ever worked on Capitol Hill. He has served under 14 Speakers of the House. Every office that he has ever held he has filled with simple dignity and distinction. His personal charm and superior mental ability are known to all.

William Tyler Page carries in his veins the blood of many great Americans, and his philosophy of life and of Government has upheld the finest traditions and ideals of his ancestors.

It is a rare occasion to be able to eulogize a man, even though he is respected and loved, and at the same time pay tribute to a symbol of pure Americanism.

There is no need of my telling you how Mr. Page has helped me and other Members of Congress with his kindly counsel on numerous occasions. But in these times our thoughts are turned toward love of country and patriotism, and while you are undoubtedly familiar with the story of how he came to write the American's Creed, I think it is well worth repeating as I believe it is the pattern by which he lives.

This is what he told me. He was born 73 years ago in Frederick, Md., and early in life formed a friendship with a boy named Schley. Later on Schley went to Annapolis while Tyler Page went to the Capitol. This warm friendship between these two boys continued for many years. Finally, in the Spanish-American War, Schley, who had risen to the rank of commodore of the Navy, and who was temporarily in charge of the American Fleet, won a glorious American victory on July 3, 1898. The marvelous news of the victory of his old friend

Schley thrilled Tyler Page and filled him with patriotism. He made the resolve that instead of celebrating the next day, the Fourth of July, in the usual way, he would shut himself up in his library and read the great and fundamental documents of the beginning of our country, such as the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and the Farewell Address of Washington. That evening, after reflection on what he had read during the day, he made the further resolve that he would continue this practice of reading the great historical writings upon which our Nation was founded each Fourth of July thereafter, and he has kept that promise for forty-odd years.

In the war of 1917 a contest was held to write an American creed. Page submitted his manuscript and won the contest, and the Congress officially recognized it as the American's Creed of our country. It would have been strange indeed if William Tyler Page had not eventually written this creed, for unconsciously, from the reading of these great works, he had been formulating in his mind such a creed for many years. It was the welling up from the soul of this man all of the devotion to liberty, all the ideals of his love of country.

Knowing the Apostle's Creed to have been a compilation expressing their doctrine and principles, which they practiced long before the creed was formulated, and the sources of its articles were the books of the Bible, he resolved that his American creed must also come from recognized authoritative and historical writings. He did not want to use his own words, and every word of the American's Creed is taken from such documents as the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Washington's Farewell Address, the National Anthem, and other similar references.

I could do no better in paying tribute to William Tyler Page than to quote the American's Creed of exactly 100 words:

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

Mr. Speaker, in these times of great emergency and war, if all of us would but devote ourselves to the carrying out—with our lives if necessary—these simple and elementary truths, these principles upon which our Government was founded and which have made it great, we would have the satisfaction of knowing we were doing our part in fulfilling the God-given destiny of our country.

Broadcast Ceremony in the
Studio of Radio Station WABC
Washington, D. C.

Sunday, October 19, 1941

Broadcast Ceremony
In the Studio of Radio Station WWDC
Washington, D. C.

SUNDAY, October 19, 1941.

The ceremony began with the National Anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner.

Mr. Norman Reed, manager of station WWDC, made the following announcement:

Mr. REED. Ladies and gentlemen, our station considers it a high privilege to be able to broadcast, and to share with our radio listeners, the program that is about to be presented.

It is a program arranged in tribute to a great American—the Honorable William Tyler Page, eminent author of the American's Creed and for 60 years a functionary in the House of Representatives in many capacities and at present a special clerk of the minority.

Tonight's broadcast, which has been arranged under the auspices of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, finds our studio crowded to capacity with a number of distinguished Senators, Congressmen, and Government officials. As master of ceremonies to introduce the various speakers is a gentleman who is a close personal friend of Mr. Page and who has been active in military organizations, Mr. E. R. Burton.

Mr. BURTON. Thank you, Mr. Reed.

Mount Vernon Chapter, No. 22, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, is very proud indeed to be able to sponsor a program paying tribute to a great statesman, Christian, and American patriot, the Honorable William Tyler Page. I personally consider it the greatest honor of my life to have had the privilege of arranging this program and also to be privileged to act as master of ceremonies. We will have our program opened tonight by one of Mr. Page's friends of many years, the Reverend Charles T. Warner, D. D., rector of St. Alban's Parish, who will tell something of Mr. Page's religious background.

Ladies and gentlemen, Dr. Warner.

(The Reverend Dr. Warner recounted his long and warm friendship for Mr. Page as one of his parishioners and as senior warden of St. Columba Church. His friendship with Mr. Page began when both were laymen and had continued and ripened throughout many years of pleasant contact. Dr. Warner concluded his eloquent tribute to Mr. Page with an earnest prayer to Divine Providence that he be spared for many more years in health and usefulness to his friends, to his church, and to the Nation.)

Mr. BURTON. Thank you very much, Dr. Warner.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is indeed a beautiful expression. Little Billy Carlson, 12 years of age, the youngest page boy in the House of Representatives, has just come into the studio with a large bouquet of red and white carnations, wishing Mr. Page a happy birthday from the page boys in the House of Representatives.

BILLY CARLSON. As the youngest page in the House of Representatives, I take pleasure in behalf of all the page boys in the

House, in presenting to you, Mr. Page, the oldest of the pages, these flowers as a token of our esteem.

Mr. PAGE. I am very greatly touched by this tribute. Please convey to your fellow pages my deep appreciation. My first job in the House was as a page in the Clerk's office. I was just 13. Nearly 40 years ago I ran for Congress. My opponent said I would always be a page. He was right. I was licked, but I am proud of the title "Patriarch of Pages." Thank you, my dear boy.

Mr. BURTON. It is now my pleasure to introduce the principal speaker for this great event, the Honorable Karl Stefan, Member of the House of Representatives from the State of Nebraska, one of Mr. Page's best friends. Mr. Stefan.

Mr. STEFAN. Fellow Americans, it is very rarely an occasion arises where we can at the same time eulogize a man whom we respect and love, and pay tribute to a symbol of pure Americanism, and to an institution of the legislative branch of the Government.

William Tyler Page carries in his veins the blood of many great Americans. He carries in his philosophy of life and of government the finest traditions and ideals of his progenitors.

William Tyler Page has served his country longer than any living man, in functions both humble and distinguished, in the House of Representatives. For threescore years he has served as earnestly in his humble capacities when they were humble as he has in his distinguished capacities, which were many. He has endowed every office and every function he has ever filled or performed with dignity and distinction because he has given to every office, and has put into every duty, the best of a brilliant mind, a tremendous capacity, and an earnest soul. He

has achieved a universal respect and friendship among the members of a great parliamentary body.

William Tyler Page's influence on the House of Representatives has been benign and uplifting because he gives it honest, unflagging energy, untiring devotion, and great capacity.

It would have been strange if William Tyler Page had not written *The American's Creed*. That creed was the welling up from the soul of this man of all the devotion to liberty, all of the ideals, all the love of country that caused his progenitors to be who they were and what they were, when they were.

The first ancestor of his family on this continent was John Page, who settled in Williamsburg, Va., in 1650. His son, Col. Matthew Page, was one of the founders of that great and honorable institution, the College of William and Mary. Mann Page and Mann Page, Jr., were members of the Continental Congress. A son of Mann Page, named John, was Governor of Virginia, and served in the First and Second Congresses under the Constitution.

Carter Braxton, William Tyler Page's great-great-great grandfather, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was a member of the House of Burgesses of Virginia which adopted the resolutions of Patrick Henry. Our distinguished friend is both a lineal and collateral descendant of President John Tyler. He is also a grandson of Dr. William Tyler, of Frederick, Md., for whom he was named, and who was renowned for his professional and humanitarian activities.

William Tyler Page stands today in a changing world as an unchanged descendant of the cavaliers of Virginia.

It is remarkable, yet natural, that the mixed strains of the early colonists should have produced such a man as he. The

ideals, those early American pioneers cherished, all conspired to produce a great American such as the author of The American's Creed.

From every country in the world have come men and women seeking the loveliness, the joy, the peace, the opportunity of free government, and personal liberty. From every country in the world have come men and women who were willing to dare the perils of uncharted seas, to land on the strange shores of an unexplored continent, and to carve out from the trackless forests and the arid plains for their posterity the great legacy of the rich, free, enlightened Nation which is ours today.

From that blend of blood, that coalescence of courage, that fusing of hardship and struggle, the synthesis of ideals, came the man to whom we pay this tribute today.

William Tyler Page has been the valued friend of many of the greatest men of his time. He has been, too, the valued friend of many of the humblest workers in the corridors of the Capitol under whose dome he has so long served his country. He is a great man because he has always been a simple and kindly man. Great men are always simple and kindly.

The time will be—and God grant that it may still be far off—when William Tyler Page will join his fathers. The time will never come when the history of his country will cease to bear the stamp of his fine, strong, rugged, honest, American personality.

So, then, William Tyler Page, descendant of those who helped to establish the foundations of this free Republic, your associates in the House of Representatives, voicing the sentiments of those millions who know of you through your American's Creed, and your long services to your Nation, all pay you tribute on this,

the seventy-third anniversary of your birth. May you, for many, many years, be spared in vigor and activity to continue to serve your country.

May you, for many more years, be the friend, the confidant, and the counsellor of legislators trying to serve their country well in these days when human liberty trembles in the balance, and when the finest impulses of which humanity is capable seem to be trampled under the heel of brutality.

May you live, good friend, good citizen, good American, to see the reign of peace again, and your country once more embarked upon the highway of her destiny—a permanent spiritual, cultural, and material security.

William Tyler Page, your country salutes you!

Mr. BURTON. I desire now to read a letter from the Reverend Dr. ZeBarney Phillips, Chaplain of the United States Senate.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY,
Washington, October 14, 1941.

Mr. E. R. BURTON,
Falls Church, Va.

MY DEAR MR. BURTON: * * * I want to say just one or two things about this most splendid man, and yet no words of mine can adequately appraise his character. Mr. William Tyler Page, whom I have known for many years, is one of the greatest assets on Capitol Hill. His knowledge and understanding of legislative affairs are quite astounding and his deserved popularity, evidenced by the devotion of men of both political parties, is a great tribute to his integrity. Then, too, he is a man of exemplary Christian character, never content to be a mere follower but always a leader in and a protagonist for every righteous cause, a devoted churchman, and a consecrated patriot.

I salute him on this, his seventy-third birthday, as a man whose example it would be well for all young men to emulate. May God bless him and spare him to his great usefulness, to his country, to his church, and to his fellow men.

Thank you for the privilege of sharing thus in this broadcast.

Very sincerely yours,

Z. B. PHILLIPS.

Mr. BURTON. The following letter was received from the Honorable Joseph W. Martin, Jr., minority leader of the House of Representatives:

OFFICES OF MINORITY LEADER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., October 18, 1941.

Mr. E. R. BURTON,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. BURTON: I regret very much it is impossible for me to be present at this birthday testimonial to William Tyler Page.

He is a great American, whose rugged patriotism has inspired his countrymen.

I join with all of you in extending my warmest felicitations to Mr. Page and in expressing the hope he may have many years of service ahead.

Sincerely yours,

JOS. W. MARTIN, Jr.

Mr. BURTON. I deem it proper at this time, before calling on other distinguished speakers, to ask two officers of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to say a few words.

Mr. HILL. As commander, Mount Vernon Chapter, No. 22, Military Order of the Purple Heart, an organization composed entirely of men who were wounded in action in actual combat with an enemy of the United States, I wish on behalf of my chapter to congratulate you, Mr. William Tyler Page, on your seventy-third birthday, and wish you many, many more birthdays. Congratulations, Mr. Page.

Col. FRANK HALEY (national service officer). The objects of our organization, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which I have the honor of representing are patriotic and historical and we are indeed pleased and proud of the opportunity of participating in this testimonial to such a distinguished citizen and American as Mr. William Tyler Page.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable George Holden Tinkham, Representative from Massachusetts.

Mr. TINKHAM. Fidelity to the best traditions of the Republic, loyalty to the service of the State and to the Congress, patriotism of the highest order, master of the spoken word, my distinguished friend, William Tyler Page, we greet you.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable Daniel A. Reed, Representative from New York.

Mr. REED. My fellow countrymen, I rejoice that I can join with so many persons, irrespective of party or creed, who desire to do honor to a great American. There is one man who throughout a distinguished public career has never wavered in his steadfast devotion to those fundamental principles upon which this Republic was founded. That man is Hon. William Tyler Page, author of the American's Creed. Crystallized within this patriotic creed is the very spirit of a free people. It breathes freedom in every word. This great document has entered the sacred archives of our Republic as a worthy companion to the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution.

It has been said that no man is worth more than he contributes to the social, civic, and spiritual strength of the nation to which he owes allegiance. Measured by this standard, Hon. William Tyler Page has long been recognized by a grateful people as one of the most worthy and patriotic citizens of our Republic.

I know of no man in public life who is more highly esteemed because of his kindness of heart, his purity of character, his lively sense of humor, and his sympathetic attention to the interests of those with whom he comes in daily contact than

Hon. William Tyler Page. I am delighted and highly honored tonight to have this opportunity to unite with patriotic men, women, and children throughout this broad land in celebrating the seventy-third birthday of this great and good man.

It is my earnest hope and prayer that each succeeding year will bring to Hon. William Tyler Page all the blessings which his unselfish and useful service to his fellow men and his country richly deserves.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable Harry L. Englebright, Representative from California.

Mr. ENGLEBRIGHT. My fellow countrymen, it is a privilege to pay a tribute of affection, honor, and respect to my good friend, William Tyler Page, on this the occasion of the celebration of his seventy-third birthday; a gentleman of great modesty, rare personal charm, superior mental culture, well read in political economy, an eloquent orator, and a brilliant conversationalist. He is learned in the lore of his country, true to her finest traditions, zealous in her interest, and untiring in her behalf.

I dare say, every American school boy and girl knows of his long and honorable career as an official of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States.

It has been said that the glory and philosophy of a nation may arise from the pen of one man. Then truly it can be said that every tenet of religious faith, every tenet of logic, every tenet of human hope, every tenet of Americanism, is expressed in that collection of quotations of fundamental American ideals set out by the pen of William Tyler Page in his American's Creed.

The benefits of this inspiring creed of Americanism will live on and on down through the ages.

Tyler Page will continue to contribute much to his Nation, for we do not count a man's years until he has nothing else to count. To be 73 years young is something far more cheerful and hopeful than to be 40 years old.

If the world could be blessed throughout with men of his mold and character the terrible cloud that now hangs over the world would not exist.

There is no need to extol the virtues of this distinguished and patriotic American. There is no reward which can be given for those labors, and there is no medal of merit which can ever grace his life which will equal the works which he has done and the service which he is continuing to render to his country.

Having had the pleasure of knowing him for a long time, I am happier because of that acquaintance and have gained much from his example and influence.

William Tyler Page, let me wish you good luck, long life, and happiness.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable A. Sidney Camp, Representative from Georgia.

Mr. CAMP. It is particularly pleasing to me to be present on this occasion to honor and felicitate a great and patriotic American. A lineal descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a collateral descendant of an early President of the United States, he has during the 73 years of his life followed the noble example set for him by his ancestors and by his devotion to duty and his fine public service he is himself a shining example of true Americanism.

William Tyler Page began his public career in 1881 when, as a 13-year-old boy, he became a page in the House of Representa-

tives. From that time until the present, a continuous and unbroken service of over 60 years, he has given his best efforts and untiring energy to our Government.

Author of *The American's Creed*, it is simply the pattern he set for his own citizenship—he loves his country, supports its Constitution, obeys its laws, respects its flag, and defends it against all enemies. May he have many more happy birthdays.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable Jeannette Rankin, Representative from Montana.

Miss RANKIN. Mr. Page, you are one of my happy remembrances of the Sixty-fifth Congress—the war Congress. You seem the same, Mr. Page, today as you did then. To a young person, middle age is 10 years older than one happens to be. To me, you will always be middle-aged.

You, our honored guest, greet each new Congressman with sincere kindness, patient understanding, and real helpfulness. You graciously point out the unwritten rules, explain the justice and tradition back of the procedure, and you are always willing to help smooth the road for those of us who are trying to adjust to new habits.

Your unfailing kindness in giving from your great fund of ability and experience to the Members of Congress makes you one of the happy traditions of the House.

I am glad to have this opportunity to express my deep affection and appreciation for your friendship.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable Edwin Arthur Hall, Representative from New York.

Mr. HALL. I, for one, welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to a great American and a good friend, Mr. William Tyler Page.

It was said of Grover Cleveland by a close associate, "I love him for the enemies he has made." Tonight, however, as we pay our respects to Mr. Page, we say rather of him, "We love him for the many, many friends he has made." I can honestly say that I know of no man who has more friends, and they are richly deserved.

As a younger Member of the House, serving my second term, I have had many things to learn. Mr. Page has stood ready with patience and congeniality to help me over the rough spots. I have learned much by listening to him, particularly regarding legislative procedure. His counsel, his advice, and his careful approach to every question serve as immeasurable aid to me.

Mr. Page, we are gathered here tonight to salute you upon your seventy-third birthday and during your sixtieth year in service to the American Congress. You have all the reasons in the world to be proud of this occasion and of the years behind you.

Mr. Page, as I behold you here growing older as the days and years go by, but looking younger, I am reminded of the lines from Rabbi Ben Ezra when he said:

Grow old along with me,
The best is yet to be;
The last, for which the first was made.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable William G. Stratton, Representative from Illinois.

Mr. STRATTON. William Tyler Page, through devotion to duty and scholarly attainment, has earned the esteem of every Member of Congress. More than that, he has made a friend of all who know him. It is with a deep sense of pleasure that I

pay tribute tonight to this fine gentleman and great American, William Tyler Page.

Mr. BURTON. The Honorable George A. Dondero, Representative from Michigan.

Mr. DONDERO. William Tyler Page, you stand upon the summit of your years, a symbol of culture and refinement. Possessed of quiet dignity and kindliness. A treasure house of knowledge and history. A willing friend who fulfills the needs of others. A man of letters, a Christian gentleman, and a statesman.

May life's richest blessings be yours, and an unfaltering faith sustain you as you walk in the evening of life.

Mr. Page, the American people greet you and congratulate you on your seventy-third birthday.

Mr. BURTON. I would like to describe for you the best I can a gift we have for Mr. Page. Bound in a red leather book, 9 by 10 inches, by 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick, are 79 personally autographed photographs expressing different sentiments of respect to Mr. Page. The front of the book is trimmed in gold and has Mr. Page's name and the year in gold. The fly leaf is beautifully hand engraved with the following inscription: "To Hon. William Tyler Page on his Seventy-third birthday. Broadcast over Station WWDC, Sunday, October 19, 1941. Sponsored by Military Order of the Purple Heart." The book is a present of Mr. Lewis Dreisenstok. The book will now be presented to Mr. Page by Mrs. Dreisenstok.

Mrs. DREISENSTOK. Mr. Page, it is a great pleasure for me to present to you on your seventy-third birthday this leather-bound volume of photographs of Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives and some of your other friends on

Capitol Hill, who have personally autographed them to you on this occasion.

Mr. PAGE. This is indeed a rare and beautiful gift, one which I will treasure and hand down to my progeny. I am profoundly grateful to you and to your good husband for this precious gift, which is a work of art, and to those distinguished Senators and Representatives whose autographed photographs it embraces. I acknowledge their generous kindness with a thankful heart.

Mr. BURTON. It is now my privilege and pleasure to introduce the man we are honoring this evening. Dr. Warner, Mr. Stefan, and the other speakers have used all the descriptive adjectives in paying tribute to Mr. Page; so I will give you a little of his history of the past 60 years of his service in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Page entered the service as a page boy on December 19, 1881, in the Clerk's office of the House. President Garfield had just been assassinated. The period of his service, in which he occupied many positions, including that of Clerk of the House for 6 terms, covered 31 Congresses, from the Forty-seventh to the Seventy-seventh, inclusive. Mr. Page witnessed the convening of 74 sessions of Congress, regular and extraordinary. He served under 14 Speakers. The population of the United States was 51,000,000 when he came here. It is now 132,000,000. The membership of the House was 293. It is now 435. Ten States were added to the Union. Hawaii was acquired and made a Territory. The Philippines, Puerto Rico, Guam, Tutuila, the Virgin Islands, and the Panama Canal Zone became possessions. The Panama Canal was constructed; 2 wars were fought, the Spanish-American and the World War. Mr.

Page also witnessed 8 general revisions of the tariff and 15 Presidential inaugurations. In 1881, the year of his advent here, \$250,000,000 ran the Government. The ordinary receipts were \$300,000,000. Now both run into billions. About five to six thousand Senators and Congressmen came and went. When "Uncle Joe" Cannon left Congress, about 16 years ago, he was the last man to go who was in the House in Mr. Page's boyhood days.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I present a fine Christian gentleman and a real American, the Honorable William Tyler Page.

Mr. PAGE. The great debt of gratitude I owe the House of Representatives and each of its individual Members, not only now, but throughout the 60 years of my service in humble capacities in that great and honorable parliamentary body goes deeper than ordinary human emotion. It goes beyond what we so often term the depths of the heart. Both the gratitude and the friendships born of those years have their roots deep in my soul. Today, on this seventy-third anniversary of my birth, a new tendril, strong yet delicate, further binds me to this debt of gratitude because of this happy evidence manifested in the more than kindly remarks, of these, my good and distinguished friends. You must know—you do know—that I could find no words adequately to express my appreciation of the generous and kindly attitude of the House of Representatives toward me as expressed by you.

I would that these tributes might be well-deserved; I would that my own sense of my efforts to serve the House of Representatives in threescore years and my efforts to implement my love for my country and my people through that service, could in my own heart be regarded as worthy of these handsome

tributes which you, speaking for the House, are pleased to accord me.

Instead of any sense of pride of accomplishment, I have a heart full of thankfulness, of humble gratitude, that I have been permitted the opportunity to serve in various capacities in the greatest parliamentary body, representing the greatest people in the greatest Nation ever known in the history of mankind. Pride could have no place here; any man sensible of such a privilege of serving his country and his people could feel only humble gratitude for such a chance. So, then, it is my soul which speaks when I say to you that the courtesy and the consideration, the kindness and the friendships of which I have been the recipient for threescore years are to me as apples of silver in pictures of gold. It is my soul that speaks when I say that these 60 years of association and service have represented to me the highest and the finest one could expect of life. The way for me points upward and onward. Never the end of the road shall be, and never, I pray, shall the memory of these past years fade throughout eternity.

It is but a weak expression of what is in my soul today; it is but a faint echo of what is in the ground of my heart when I attempt in words to assure you of my esteem, of my gratitude to the Members of the House of Representatives for this new expression of your friendship.

This great body in which we are serving, you in your distinguished capacity and I in my humble one, is the embodiment of the great plan of representative government which stands today, the finest civic accomplishment of man. May it please the God who is the Ruler of men and of nations to preserve and to perpetuate our American Government and our American way

of life. Let us, then, with one heart and one mind, united in a deep and undying love of our common country, say, in these words:

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

Mr. BURTON. I want to thank everyone who has cooperated with me in arranging this program, especially Mr. Edwin M. Spence, manager, and Mr. Norman Reed, program director, of radio station WWDC for allowing us to present this program on the air, so that you people listening in could have the pleasure of hearing the friends of an outstanding American pay their tribute to him on this, his seventy-third birthday. To one and all may I say, sincerely, thank you.

Mr. REED. It has been our pleasure to broadcast a special program, arranged in honor of the seventy-third birthday of William Tyler Page, and as a tribute to him for his service to the Government and as an American citizen whose intense love of country marks him as a true patriot. Mr. Page is author of *The American's Creed*, which you heard him read as a part of this special broadcast.

Speakers heard included the Reverend Dr. Charles T. Warner, rector of St. Albans Church; Congressmen Karl Stefan, of

Nebraska; George Holden Tinkham, of Massachusetts; Daniel A. Reed, of New York; A. Sidney Camp, of Georgia; Harry Englebright, of California; Jeannette Rankin, of Montana; Arthur Edwin Hall, of New York; George Dondero, of Michigan; and William G. Stratton, of Illinois.

Mr. E. R. Burton presided as master of ceremonies, and the program was arranged by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. This has been a public-service presentation of station WWDC, Washington.

Mr. Speaker, following the ceremony, Mr. Page received the following letter from his long-time friend, the Honorable Clarence Cannon, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations:

HON. WILLIAM TYLER PAGE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. PAGE: Much regretted that I was in Missouri on the occasion of the celebration of your seventy-third birthday under the auspices of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

It was a most felicitous occasion and a matter of deep interest to all of us here. As a matter of fact, there is not a man at the Capitol who is so well known and whose name is so often mentioned and whose words are so often quoted throughout the Nation—and certainly no one who has such a warm place in the hearts of all of us as yourself. Every meeting of school children, every meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution, every patriotic gathering which I attend in my district opens with your American Creed. In writing it you have rendered a service the influence of which will grow and gather impetus down through generations to come. And when any matter of history or procedure is under consideration here in Washington you are cited as the first and last and determining authority.

But there must be some mistake about that seventy-three. I demand a recount. Your long and distinguished service warrants an estimate of many more years than that, but your generous human sympathy, your unfailing interest, and your youthful reaction to the questions of

the day belie the date. Anyway, here's hoping there may be many more of them and each one happier than the one before.

With heartiest congratulations and best wishes for continued health, happiness, and prosperity.

Your friend,

CLARENCE CANNON.

Mr. Speaker, the following letter from the distinguished Speaker of the House, the Honorable Sam Rayburn, was addressed to Mr. Page on the sixtieth anniversary of his service in the House:

THE SPEAKER'S ROOMS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., December 19, 1941.

Mr. WILLIAM TYLER PAGE,
United States Capitol.

DEAR MR. PAGE: Please allow me to join with your many friends in congratulating you on the splendid work you have done during your 60 years of service here.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

SAM RAYBURN.

