

their representatives salient facts which have no relation to national defense and the public business, is placed, by the advice and consent of the Senate, at the head of the Department of Commerce, which has jurisdiction over all the commerce, industry, and business of America, domestic and international, we shall be jeopardizing all who are engaged in business, in commerce, and in industry, and causing a continuation of the programs and beliefs which he has asserted, and shall be enabling him to use his own judgment about keeping secret anything which it pleases him not to divulge.

Mr. MCGEE. That is the point we should not forget this afternoon. He has reiterated these elements of his philosophy as recently as last month. He has continued to say that he would stand above the Attorney General's opinion; that he would disregard the President's order to make information available; and that he still stands by a contract which the President himself ordered withdrawn. He is defying the other branches of the Government.

That is why I hope we remember that now—today—he stands condemned for his philosophy of government, not 4 years ago or at some other time in the dark past. I am glad the senior Senator from Wyoming has brought to the peak the basic reason why the Senate should reject the nomination of Lewis L. Strauss.

I am sorry there are those who seek now to delay a vote on the nomination of Mr. Strauss. That was made clear for us today on the other side of the aisle. They do not want to vote on Thursday. It is time, it seems to me, to bring this matter into sharp focus, and to let every Senator make up his mind and cast his vote accordingly.

Mr. CARROLL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I yield the floor.

Mr. CARROLL. The able Senator from Wyoming has performed a very signal service today. This is not really the issue of Admiral Strauss, personally. I have never met the man. I have looked into his record of public service. Many times I have had qualms about opposing him as I have considered his years of service. He is an intelligent man; he is a competent man. I think of his age. I think of his family. I could be swayed very easily toward him.

But there is an issue which, in my opinion, transcends Admiral Strauss. It is a simple issue. Admiral Strauss will be with us for a while; and then he will pass on. But if we approve him something will have happened to the legislative arm of the Government which will affect us for a great many years.

I speak as a junior Member of the Senate; but I have observed its operations for many years. I have had experience in the other body. We in Congress can ill afford to let our legislative powers slip through our fingers through the years. If we confirm the nomination of Mr. Strauss, we shall be delegating our power to the executive branch at a time when the people are demanding that we take hold of the reins and see where their money is being spent and what is being done with it. If we are not careful, we shall be delegating our power to the executive branch.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I am glad the Senator from Colorado has made this comment. I want to say for the Record, to those who sit in the galleries, and to the press corps: Never forget the fact that the United States has gone through two great world wars, and that during those