

would suggest that the clerk read the Journal of yesterday as our colleagues gather into the Chamber.

I thank the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I am sure the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. GORE], with whom I have served in Congress for nigh onto 24 years—he has served longer than I—knows how highly I think of him and how much I appreciate his friendship and understanding, as I have down through the years, in this instance as in all the others.

It is true there were various proposals made yesterday by both the distinguished Senator from Tennessee [Mr. GORE] and the distinguished Senator from Delaware [Mr. WILLIAMS]. Those proposals were given every possible consideration. I was in touch with the chairman of the Finance Committee, on several occasions, to try to see if something could be worked out on the only matter which could be worked out, which the Senator from Louisiana has mentioned. That proposal was to drop the campaign contribution provision from the conference report and to have it accepted in the other body. On the other proposal made to drop H.R. 10, it was an impossibility. On the other suggestions there was no chance, because we would have too many roadblocks.

If there is a corporal's guard at the other end of the building I would be surprised, but I can say this: There will be no more conferences. We have received that word from the Speaker.

So we have a conference report before us. We have two choices, and we are going to make them. We will either adopt that conference report or defeat it, and I hope those who are opposing it will not be unduly harsh on those in this body. I hope they will avail themselves of every opportunity to express their viewpoints, and I am sure they will; but I hope, in good conscience, they, too, will recognize that there is such a thing as coming to the point of no return and will let Senators have a chance to vote their convictions. If the conference report is defeated, that is the end. If it is carried, that is the end. But it is going to be defeated or carried just as it is before this body at this moment.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Delaware. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. MANSFIELD. I yield.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Delaware. Mr. President, I took part in those conferences yesterday. I want to say I have never worked with a man who was more gracious or who worked harder to reach an agreement than the majority leader. I want to join with other Senators in paying respects to him.

As Members of the Senate know, when the bill was before the Senate, I opposed the so-called grab-bag amendments in

titles II, III, and IV and tried to have them deleted in the Senate. I was supported in my opposition to many of them by the majority leader as well as by other Members of the Senate, but not by enough, and so the bill was passed.

Recognizing that I had opposed the amendments that had been adopted by the Senate I stepped aside as a conferee because I did not think it would be proper to go to conference on the bill when I did not support the position of the Senate.

When the conference report was agreed upon earlier this week, I mentioned to the majority leader that when the report was brought before the Senate I wanted an opportunity to state my opposition before it was acted upon. He most graciously said he would not take it up until I was notified and had that opportunity. I appreciated very much his cooperation.

At the same time, while I told the majority leader that I wanted to express my opposition to the conference report when it came up I told him I was always able to express my opposition in a rather brief time, and that it would probably not take over 30 minutes. I repeated again yesterday that it was my intention to express my opposition to the conference report that I wanted a chance to express my opposition to it, that I did not care to have an extended debate and that I could express my opposition in a reasonable time.

Right or wrong, I have reasons why I believe this conference report should not be adopted, and I wanted an opportunity to express those reasons. That is all that I am asking for today.

In all fairness, I think it will be recognized that Members of the Senate have a right to express their views and exercise their rights under the rules of the Senate and take advantage of parliamentary situations. I suggest that we would proceed much more harmoniously if we could proceed without threats of a long session.

Why is there so much interest in laying aside an important bill dealing with financing the war in the interest of approving certain proposals that will benefit a handful of corporations in a special interest bill passed in the closing days of the Senate?

If the Senate, by a majority vote, wants to pass such a bill I shall go home and sleep as well as the rest of them, but I want a chance to outline what is in the bill and why I object to its enactment.

I shall not go into details at this time, but one particular point I want to bring out is, why, in the closing days of the session, does Congress propose to pass retroactively tax legislation benefiting one corporation by giving it a \$2 million retroactive tax reduction? I refer to the special provision in this bill benefiting the Harvey Aluminum. I want an answer to that.