

PRESIDENT'S 1967 TAX PROPOSALS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to notice, in the committee room, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Wilbur D. Mills (chairman of the committee) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will please be in order.

Our first witness this morning is Mr. Clarence M. Tarr. Mr. Tarr, please come forward. You have been before the committee on occasions in the past, but for this record will you again identify yourself by giving us your name and capacity in which you appear.

STATEMENT OF CLARENCE M. TARR, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CIVIL EMPLOYEES; ACCOMPANIED BY LUTHER MILLER, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT; AND JOHN A. OVERHOLT, GENERAL COUNSEL

Mr. TARR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Clarence M. Tarr and I am president of the National Association of Retired Civil Employees. I am accompanied by Mr. Luther Miller on my right, first vice president of the association and Mr. John A. Overholt, general counsel.

The CHAIRMAN. We appreciate having you, Mr. Tarr, and you other gentlemen, before the committee this morning.

Mr. TARR. Our association has more than 133,000 members, principally retired civil employees of the United States but including also some of their dependents and survivors, and widows of employees who died in the service.

We have more than 1,000 chapters throughout the United States. We speak for more than 500,000 retired Federal employees and more than 250,000 dependents and survivors of former Federal employees.

We are also concerned with the welfare of millions of other elderly retired citizens who must eke out a precarious existence with incomes only a fraction of those received by persons in their productive years. We speak in favor of the objectives of the President's proposals but urge amendments necessary to the welfare of retired citizens.

INFLATION

We note that one of the primary purposes of the President's plan is to restrain inflation which is the greatest problem of our older people trying to get by on meager pensions and annuities. By official records,