seas, and we think that this approach, of course, might work with the businessmen or with the tourists abroad, but it can't very well apply where we are subject to our basic costs, our really fixed costs.

Our per diem, as I mentioned, is fixed by contract with the local of the American Federation of Musicians. However, when one travels as rapidly as we do from country to country and often in festival situations where hotels are already filled some time in advance, we have to take what we can get in the way of hotel accommodations.

Sometimes it is good. Sometimes it is medium good. Sometimes it is less than we would like to have it, but we are already forced by circumstance to take what is there, cost what it may.

However, we have a fixed $22 per diem in our case. The application, then, of the proposed taxes to the symphony tours could have the effect of substantially reducing the number of future good will, cultural tours, rather than merely reducing the level of expenditures as the Treasury Department intends.

If we are to undertake tours in the future and if the taxes are applied, it simply means that we have to turn to our present sources of income and of subsidy for additional moneys.

It means we have to turn either to our local citizenry, and in contributing more to us they obviously will deduct from income taxes those contributions, which in the long run has its effect on the amount which is taken by the U.S. Treasury, of if we are making a tour under State Department auspices we obviously would turn to that agency to try to gain additional subsidy to take care of the additional tax which would be imposed.

In either case the proposed tax would produce an increased burden on the general public and upon the Government. So it is for all of these reasons that we feel that tours abroad by nonprofit American symphony orchestras, undertaken as they are for good will and high artistic purposes, should be exempted from the proposed new travel and expenditure taxes.

We think this could be done very simply by treating such tours as nontaxable trips for both the proposed transportation tax and the expenditure tax on foreign travel.

Thank you.

Mr. LANDRUM. Mrs. Thompson, do you have a statement?

Mrs. THOMPSON. No, sir.

Mr. LANDRUM. Any questions?

Mr. SCHNEEBELI. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LANDRUM. Mr. Schneebeli.

Mr. SCHNEEBELI. Mr. Moseley, I doubt very much, whatever tax is finally agreed on, if any, that it will be applicable to organizations such as your own. That would seem to me to be very unfair——

Mr. MOSELEY. I am delighted to hear that.

Mr. SCHNEEBELI (continuing). And impractical and at least you have one vote in the committee in behalf of you and your organization. As I say, I would be very surprised if organizations such as your own were not exempt from whatever tax is enacted.

Mr. MOSELEY. Thank you very much.

Mr. SCHNEEBELI. I think you do a tremendous job for international good will and I think we should not tax your good efforts.