

Chapter 13a – Sayonara

Thirty-seven members of the Class of '46 would not return to the House after 1948.

Parke Banta sponsored no bills or resolutions in the House and moved no amendments on the floor. Among his thirteen contributions on the floor was persistent opposition to rent controls. His rated voting placed him at the most right end of the Class of '46. On 34 key votes he voted with his Republicans 27 times, with Democrats once, and contrarily six times – opposing aid to Greece and Turkey, foreign information programs, Interim Foreign Aid, the Marshall Plan, repealing the oleo tax, and the draft. These last votes in his short House career place him as the most contrary of the Class.¹

Willis Bradley hit the House running. He introduced 23 public bills, one of which, to amend the act integrating certain people into the Coast Guard, was enacted. He also was successful with a resolution to amend the navigation and shipping inspection laws. Four successful amendments were introduced involving merchant ships, a retiring admiral, and two with regard to Americans working for foreign governments. He was reported as speaking on the floor 115 times. A particular concern of his was the governance of Guam, as he had been its Naval governor for two years. His rated voting placed him more to the conservative side of the center of Class Republicans. On key votes he was with his Republicans 32 times, with the Democrats once, and opposed the draft, contrarily.

John Brophy introduced five private bills, a resolution, and four public bills, none enacted. His contribution on the floor concerned taxes and tariffs on beer, appropriate for a man from Milwaukee. He may have spoken for the Polish Day of Freedom or he may have just inserted his comments in the record. He moved no floor amendments. His rated voting in the House was in the center of the Republicans. On key votes he voted with Republicans 27 times, with Democrats 4 times (3 of them only with the Northern wing), and 3 times contrarily – against foreign information programs, repeal of the oleo tax, and the draft.

Raymond Burke's obituary reported that he would be "remembered as the composer of Miami university's alma mater." That could be taken as the summation of his one term in the House and also as an indication of the lack of enduring fame of many who go to Washington to represent their neighbors, including a number of the Class of '46. He spoke nine times on the floor and he was successful in sponsoring a law (from one of the four bills he introduced). This law enabled the War Assets Administration to transfer surplus land for wildlife conservation. His rated voting was on the liberal side of the Class Republican center. On key votes he was with Republicans 31 times and Democrats 3 times.

¹ Counts of floor participation or speaking are based on reports in the index of the *Congressional Record*. The counts are page-based; that is, if a member is indexed on pages 500 and 502, he speaks twice. If he is indexed on 500-502, he speaks once.

See Chapter 44 on rated voting.

Key votes were those roll calls identified by Congressional Quarterly or Americans for Democratic Action, the latter available at adaction.org. The counts include pairings. Republicans are counted as voting Republican if they vote with the majority of their party. Democrats are counted as voting Democratic if they vote with the majority of their party. A differentiation is made between Southern and Northern Democrats, if the member votes with the majority of one of these divisions and not the other. These categories are not mutually exclusive. A majority of the parties may vote the same way. In particular, Southern Democrats matched Republican majorities in 68% of key votes. Contrary votes are those not supported by most Republicans and most Democrats of either stripe.

Wallace Chadwick spoke 23 times, moved no floor amendments, and introduced five public and two private bills, none enacted. He was concerned with subversion. He voted with Republicans 28 times, Democrats 4 times, and missed two key votes. He was on the liberal side of the Republicans.

Howard Coffin's floor participation in the House was minimal – seven times, but he had a couple of accepted amendments to show for it. Both dealt with conversions to natural gas, which private business he was involved in. Of his one resolution and two private bills, one of the latter was enacted. He sponsored no public bill. Coffin's rated voting was right in the middle of his Republican Class on a right-left continuum. On key votes he was with Republicans 32 times, missed one vote, and contrarily once, opposing the draft. He cast none with Democrats.

William Crow immersed himself in the issues of past and future warriors. He introduced ten veterans bills, one resolution, and one private bill, none enacted. He was active in attempts to amend efforts to reinstitute conscription and was successful with two of his four efforts. His rated voting was on the conservative side of his Republican Class. On key votes he was with Republicans 32 times and contrary twice, on aid to Greece and Turkey and on foreign information services. None were with Democrats.

Edward Devitt was on the liberal side of Class Republicans in rated voting. He was active in the House on many topics, including portal-to-portal pay and the Employers Liability Act, speaking 48 times. One of his two floor amendments was accepted – changing the Marshall Plan to subsidize private relief shipments. He succeeded in sponsoring a law affecting the tariff on firewood, the only one of his nine public bills and one resolution to be enacted. One of his five private bills was, also. On key votes he voted with his party 29 times and with Democrats 5 times (once with only Northern Democrats).

Charles Fletcher was a savings and loan man, which meant a holder of mortgages, and housing was his focus in an 80th Congress that badly needed to focus on housing, its shortage and its rising cost. His solution was the free market; if housing costs increased there would be more incentive for the private sector to build housing. He strove to eliminate controls on rents but also to provide more Federal guarantees of mortgages. And he opposed public housing, which he called "political housing." He spoke 29 times and introduced 15 public bills, one resolution, and two private bills (one was enacted and the other vetoed). He failed on two floor amendments. His overall roll call voting behavior was to the conservative side of Class Republicans. On key votes Fletcher was with Republicans 33 times and with Democrats once.

Ellsworth Foote was a presence on the floor 21 times, largely on the consent calendar as an objector. He also introduced 10 public bills, nine private ones (one was enacted), and four resolutions. His rated voting was to the left of the center of Class Republicans. On key votes he was with his Republicans 31 times and with Democrats three (once only with Northern Democrats).

Abe Goff was on the conservative side of Republicans on rated voting. He was active in debate on many issues, speaking up 64 times, and introduced nine public bills and three private bills, none of which were enacted. Two of his four amendments succeeded, dealing with national forests and food preservation. On key votes he was 31 times with Republicans, 2 times with Democrats, and contrarily opposed repeal of the oleo tax.

Leo Isacson was a committed opponent of the Marshall Plan, seeing it as an attack on the Soviet Union as well as capitalist-promotion. He advocated for the Jews of Palestine and for a range of liberal or leftist issues, including rent control, equal rights, and civil liberties. His time in the House was short and he filled it with activity, speaking 32 times. He was eligible for only 13 key votes and cast 11 times with Democrats (7 of those only with Northern Democrats) and two contraries – against the Marshall Plan and against the draft. None of his seven public bills, four resolutions, and four amendments succeeded.

Mitchell Jenkins is best known for his protracted effort to site an anthracite research lab in his District, eventually testing the patience of the House to the point that the funding for the lab was eliminated. He was also concerned with admission of DPs, successfully addressing the matter with an amendment, one of his five attempts. None of his four public and three private bills was enacted. He spoke 23 times and voted with Republicans 24 times, Democrats four times (once only with Northerners), opposed the draft, and missed five votes. He was in the ideological center of Class Republicans.

Glen Johnson may have been the most xenophobic of the Class, worrying much about DPs and exchange students, but he was also an impassioned protector of due process for Americans. He spoke 43 times, but his legislative output was minimal, introducing three public bills and one resolution, unsuccessfully. He voted nineteen times with Democrats (six with Northerners only, once with Southerners), twice with Republicans, and opposed State Department information services, Interim Foreign Aid, and the Marshall Plan. He missed ten votes. Johnson had the largest proportion of missed votes of anyone in the Class. His voting was conservative for a Northern Democrat and liberal for a Southern one.

Homer Jones had two public bills of his 25 enacted, both dealing with civil servants. None of fourteen private bills and three resolutions were enacted. He spoke on the floor only six times. Four of his key votes were with Democrats (two with Northerners only), 26 were with Republicans, and one vote was contrary, in opposition to the draft. He missed three key votes. His rated voting was on the liberal side of the Class Republican center.

William Lewis was a place-holder and his record reflects that. He neither spoke on the floor (except to take the oath and vote) nor introduced bills or resolutions. He was eligible for only nine key votes, which he cast with his fellow Republicans. He has no rated voting.

Francis Love was most concerned with foreign aid, though he spoke only nine times on the floor. One of his two private bills was enacted, as well as one of his four public bills, dealing with the Panama Canal pension fund. He voted 30 times with Republicans, none with Democrats, missed one vote, and contrarily against Interim Foreign Aid, the Marshall Plan, and the draft. His rated voting was very conservative.

Georgia Lusk, as befits a long-time Superintendent of Public Instruction, was most concerned with educational legislation. She spoke 18 times and introduced one private and six public bills and one resolution, none enacted. On key votes, she was with Democrats 32 times (only Northerners seven, Southerners five) and Republicans once. She missed one vote. Conservative for a Northern Democrat, she was liberal for a Southern one.

Robert McGarvey had two major concerns, the Truman Administration and the oleo tax. He spoke ten times on the floor. None of his five public, three private, and two resolutions were enacted. He voted 30 times with his Republicans, none with Democrats, three contrarily against aid to Greece and Turkey, the State Department information service, and the draft. He missed one vote. He was quite conservative in his rated voting.

George Mackinnon was much heard on the floor, 142 times. He was concerned with commodity speculation, Taft-Hartley, Reconstruction Finance, employers' liability, educational aid, rent control, foreign aid, Mundt-Nixon, and displaced persons. He was on the liberal side of the Class Republican center. He voted five times with Democrats (once only with Northerners), 28 times with Republicans, and once contrarily against repeal of the oleo tax. Two of his nine amendments were accepted on rent control and railroad liability. None of his four resolutions or five private bills were enacted, but one of his 18 public bills was, addressing funding of unemployment insurance.

Gregory McMahon was concerned with National Service Life Insurance, but spoke only seven times on the floor. None of his ten public, four private, and two resolutions were enacted. He voted 28 times with Republicans, three with Democrats (once only with Northerners), and once contrarily against aid to Greece and Turkey. He missed two votes. His rated voting was right in the center of Class Republicans.

Franklin Maloney spoke seven times on the floor and introduced three public bills, none enacted. He was concerned with foreign aid. He voted with Republicans 29 times, Democrats once, and against aid to Greece and Turkey, the State Department information service, and the draft, missing one vote. His rated voting was conservative.

Howes Meade was concerned with veterans. He spoke twelve times, moved two amendments, and introduced thirteen public bills, one private, and one resolution, none successful. He voted with Republicans 24 times, Democrats three times (once with only Northerners), and missed seven votes. His rated voting was slightly to the left of the Class Republican center.

Hugh Meade disliked rent controls but liked the Merchant Marine. He amended the Interim Foreign Aid bill and all of his three private bills were enacted. None of his four public bills and three resolutions were. He voted 24 times with Democrats (ten with only Southerners) and seven times with Republicans and missed three votes. He was the most conservative Border Democrat in the Class, which placed him slightly to the left of the Southern Democratic center.

E.A. Mitchell was a defender of the oleo tax. He spoke a substantial 47 times and introduced three unsuccessful amendments. None of his three private and three resolutions were enacted, but three of his 17 public bills were, two concerning veterans benefits and one local to his District. He voted with Republicans 28 times, opposed the draft, and missed five votes. He cast no key votes with Democrats. He was among the center of Class Republicans on rated voting.

Frederick Muhlenberg spoke 49 times, moved three amendments, and introduced eleven public and four resolutions. One of the last was enacted and was local to his District. He hated Truman's balcony addition to the White House, speaking as an architect, and was also concerned with cerebral palsy, having an afflicted child. He voted 31 times with Republicans and three times with Democrats. He was slightly to the left of the center of Class Republicans.

Robert Nodar was successful with one of his twelve public bills, which dealt with the Merchant Marine Academy. None of his three private bills and two resolutions were enacted. He was largely absent from the floor, speaking only once. He voted 30 times with Republicans, twice with Democrats, and missed two votes. His rated voting was in the center of Class Republicans.

Thomas Owens was a questioner, as were much of his 136 floor appearances, to the point that he was occasionally rebuked. He was an isolationist and very much into Taft-Hartley. He successfully amended that bill, as well as Interim Foreign Aid, and Mundt-Nixon. Four other proposed amendments failed, as did his two public and three private bills. He voted 20 times with Republicans, thrice with Democrats, and opposed aid to Greece and Turkey, the State Department information services, Interim Foreign Aid, and the Marshall Plan. He missed one vote. His rated voting was very much to the right of Class Republicans.

Preston Peden introduced three unsuccessful public bills, two to settle veterans in Alaska. He was successful with his one floor amendment, which addressed Interim Foreign Aid. He spoke twelve times and voted with Democrats 28 times (only Northerners thrice and Southerners five times) and Republicans once. He missed five votes. He was conservative for a Northern Democrat and liberal for a Southern Democrat.

David Potts was an objector and had 80 floor appearances. He successfully moved eight amendments, all addressing private issues. None of his four resolutions and twelve private bills were enacted, though

one of his fourteen public bills, concerning the builders of the Panama Canal, was. His key votes were 27 Republican, five Democrat (one with only Northerners), and two misses. He was on the liberal side of the Class Republican center.

Albert Reeves was concerned with taxation, but his one successful amendment dealt with the DC probation system. He spoke on the floor 31 times and introduced 10 unsuccessful public and two private bills. He voted with Republicans 31 times and with Democrats once and opposed the State Department information system and interim foreign aid. He was on the conservative side of Class Republicans.

Charles Russell was successful with two of his thirteen public bills, both dealing with local issues and two of his five private bills, but his one resolution went begging. He spoke only eight times on the floor and was concerned with the development of the West. He voted 28 times with Republicans, three times with Democrats (once with Northerners only), and opposed aid to Greece and Turkey and State Department information programs. He missed one vote. He was a centrist Republican.

George Sarbacher, an ex-Marine, protected the Corps in the defense unification battle. His floor participation was, however, minimal, five times, and his seven public and two private bills went begging. He voted with Republicans 28 times, Democrats twice (once only with Northerners), and missed one vote. He opposed aid to Greece and Turkey, the State Department information service, and interim foreign aid. He was somewhat on the conservative side of the Republican center.

James Scoblick's seven public bills and three private bills failed. He spoke only once on the floor. He voted with Republicans 25 times, Democrats once (that with Northerners only), and opposed aid to Greece and Turkey and the draft. He missed six votes. He was a centrist Republican.

Melvin Snyder, having spent most of the War in Alaska, demonstrated a concern for the Territory in the House. He spoke 23 times, moved one amendment, and introduced seven public and one private bill and one resolution, none successful. He voted with Republicans 28 times, Democrats three times (once only with Northerners), opposed the draft, and missed two votes. He was one the liberal side of the Republican center.

Robert Twyman was an isolationist, but nevertheless very supportive of the Jews in Palestine. His five public bills were unsuccessful, but one of his three resolutions, to issue a stamp commemorating Swedish immigration, made it to a presidential veto. He spoke 33 times, voted 26 times with Republicans, twice with Democrats (both with only Northerners), opposed aid to Greece and Turkey, interim foreign aid, the Marshall Plan, the State Department information service, and the draft, and missed one vote. He was among the conservative wing of the Republicans.

Harold Youngblood was also an isolationist, as well as being concerned with subversion and the oleo tax. One of his fifteen public bills, dealing with postal trucking, was enacted as was one of his five resolutions, to issue a postal stamp. None of his four private bills succeeded. He spoke nineteen times, voted with Republicans 28 times and Democrats once. His contrary voting was the same as Twyman's. His rated voting was the second most conservative of the Republicans, and thus of the Class.