

MR. PRESIDENT:

I rise to oppose the amendment of the Senator from Oregon. The railroad retirement measure has been considered by the Railroad Retirement Subcommittee for the better part of two sessions. It is a broad and technical bill affecting the welfare of approximately one million railroad workers. The economic effects of this bill on the railroads of America will be more drastic than any legislative act heretofore passed by this Congress. There is also involved the question of the interests of the American public and even the defense potentialities of our country.

There was a rather wide divergency of opinion in the Committee which reported the railroad retirement bill. The vote for reporting the bill was 8 to 5, and on some of the provisions in the bill, there was only a one vote margin.

It was my intention, and, I am sure the intention of other members of the Committee, to debate this bill at length on its merits at the time the Senate considered the measure. It is much too broad in scope to consider in the form of an amendment. There are a number of individual issues in this bill which should be considered separately by the Senate in the form of amendments to the railroad retirement bill. To consider S.1313 in the form of an amendment would be an injustice to the retired and active railroad workers of this country, the American railroads, and the American public.

Mr. President, at this point in my remarks I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record my individual views and the minority

views of the Committee on S.1313. I sincerely hope that the Senate will not act on the railroad retirement bill in the form of an amendment.

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