

Everett stepped up to fill the role, a move that launched his talent and professionalism into the spotlight.

In 1945, Everett served as the music director of “On the Town,” a groundbreaking show for having an integrated cast. Still, despite his success, Everett faced adversity and was once advised against auditioning for a seat in the New York Philharmonic. Many thought the South would not yet embrace him either. His response was to aim even higher and pursue an even more challenging career path as a conductor. In 1947, he founded the Cosmopolitan Symphony, which became famous for its inclusion of all ethnicities and backgrounds.

In time, Everett was invited by national and international symphonies to conduct, including the Louisville Symphony, which in 1953 made Everett the first African-American to lead a major symphony orchestra in the U.S. South. He went on to break even more barriers and rise above any challenge that came his way. Conducting an acclaimed New York City Opera production of “La Traviata” in 1955 made him the first African-American to conduct a professional grand opera in the United States.

Deciding that he would find better opportunities outside of America, Everett and his family moved to Germany in 1957. He held the position as chief conductor of the Norrkoping Symphony Orchestra in Sweden for a decade. In 1976, he conducted the New York Philharmonic for the first time. It was a concert in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which was particularly fitting; both men held the ideal that they could embody the change they wanted to see in the world and created opportunities for those who wanted to follow in their footsteps.

Time and time again, sheer talent and strength of character have transcended societal obstacles. It is because of individuals such as Everett Lee that countless musicians, regardless of their background or ethnicity, have pursued their dreams.

On his 100th birthday, the Mayor of Wheeling designated August 31 as “Everett Lee Day” so we could all celebrate his extraordinary talent and strength of character. We are truly blessed to have such an international treasure as a part of our West Virginia family. Again, it is a great honor and privilege to recognize his many accomplishments, and I wish him and his family the very best.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:16 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 831. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 West Pike Street in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, as the “Police Officer Scott Bashioum Post Office Building”.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1209. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 901 N. Francisco Avenue, Mission, Texas, as the “Mission Veterans Post Office Building”.

H.R. 2673. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the “Lance Corporal Jordan S. Basteen Post Office”.

H.R. 3183. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the “U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office”.

H.R. 4406. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the “Tuskegee Airmen Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4646. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in Birmingham, Alabama, as the “Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4685. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the “First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office”.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3656. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of Department of Veterans Affairs memorial headstones and markers for eligible spouses and dependent children of veterans whose remains are unavailable.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1209. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 901 N. Francisco Avenue, Mission, Texas, as the “Mission Veterans Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2673. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the “Lance Corporal Jordan S. Basteen Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3183. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the “U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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H.R. 4646. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in Birmingham, Alabama, as the “Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4685. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the “First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4485. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Sean B. MacFarland, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4486. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in executive order 13288 on March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe’s democratic processes or institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4487. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in Executive Order 13692 on March 8, 2015, with respect to Venezuela; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4488. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in Executive Order 13660 on March 6, 2014, with respect to Ukraine; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4489. A communication from the Program Specialist (Paperwork Reduction Act), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Annual Stress Test—Technical and Conforming Changes” (RIN1557-AE28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4490. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch,