

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6829–S6862

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2972–2981, and S. Res. 446–447. **Page S6858**

Measures Passed:

Support for Veterans in Effective Apprenticeships Act: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. 760, to enable registered apprenticeship programs to better serve veterans, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6837–39**

Peters Amendment No. 1254, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6838**

Tributes in Honor of the Late Senator Hagan: Senate agreed to S. Res. 446, authorizing the printing of tributes and other related materials in honor of the late Senator Janet Kay Hagan. **Page S6861**

Government Publishing Office: Senate passed H.R. 5277, to amend section 442 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt certain interests in mutual funds, unit investment trusts, employee benefit plans, and retirement plans from conflict of interest limitations for the Government Publishing Office. **Page S6861**

Myers Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Richard Ernest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina. **Pages S6829–36**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 72 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 375), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6836**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, December 5, 2019. **Page S6862**

Lydon Nomination: By 79 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. EX. 376), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Sherri A. Lydon,

to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina. **Pages S6836–37**

Duncan Nomination: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service. **Page S6837**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 91 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 377), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6837**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 75 yeas to 18 nays (Vote No. EX. 378), John L. Sinatra, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York. **Pages S6841–42**

By 49 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 379), Sarah E. Pitlyk, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. **Page S6842**

By 64 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. EX. 380), Douglas Russell Cole, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Pages S6842–43**

By 89 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 381), R. Austin Huffaker, Jr., of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama. **Page S6843**

By 88 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 382), David B. Barlow, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah. **Page S6843**

Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office. **Page S6851**

Messages from the House: **Page S6855**

Measures Referred: **Pages S6855–56**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6856–58**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6858–60**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S6860**

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6860–61**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S6861

Record Votes: Eight record votes were taken today. (Total—382) Pages S6836–37, S6841–43

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:59 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6862.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NAVY SHIP AND SUBMARINE MAINTENANCE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support to examine Navy ship and submarine maintenance, after receiving testimony from James F. Geurts, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, and Vice Admiral Thomas J. Moore, USN, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, both of the Department of Defense; and Diana C. Maurer, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management, Government Accountability Office.

SUICIDES AND PREVENTION STRATEGIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine servicemember, family, and veteran suicides and prevention strategies, after receiving testimony from Captain Michael J. Colston, USN, Director for Mental Health Programs, Health Services Policy and Oversight Office, and Karin A. Orvis, Director, Defense Suicide Prevention Office, Office of the Secretary, both of the Department of Defense; Matthew A. Miller, Acting Director, Suicide Prevention Program, Department of Veterans Affairs; Richard McKeon, Suicide Prevention Branch Chief, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and Ronald C. Kessler, Harvard Medical School Department of Health Care Policy, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PROTECT CONSUMER DATA PRIVACY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine legislative proposals to protect consumer data privacy, after receiving testimony from Julie Brill, Microsoft Corporation, Maureen K. Ohlhausen, 21st Century Privacy Coalition, Laura Moy, Georgetown University Law Center, Nuala O'Connor, Walmart Inc., and Michelle Richardson, Center for Democracy and Technology, all of Washington, D.C.

FWS CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE TASK FORCE

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine an original bill to create a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force, after receiving testimony from Brian R. Nesvik, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and Whit Fosburgh, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, both of Washington, D.C.; and Kent A. Leonhardt, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, Charleston.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Millennium Challenge Corporation, after receiving testimony from Sean Cairncross, Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

LEBANON AND IRAQ PROTESTS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism concluded a hearing to examine Lebanon and Iraq protests, focusing on insights, implications, and objectives for United States policy, after receiving testimony from Joey R. Hood, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Blackburn, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Andrew Lynn Brasher, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Shelby, Fernando L. Aenlle-Rocha, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, John Charles Hinderaker, and Scott H. Rash, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, who were introduced by Senators McCally and Sinema, Joshua M. Kindred, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, who was introduced by Senator Sullivan, and Matthew Thomas Schelp, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, who was introduced by Senator Blunt, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 5294–5304 were introduced.

Pages H9255–56

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H9256–57

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 741, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4) to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 326) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution (H. Rept. 116–322).

Page H9255

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H9225

Recess: The House recessed at 10:34 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H9229

Insider Trading Prohibition Act and directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic that have not been authorized by Congress—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 739, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2534) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit certain securities trading and related communications by those who possess material, nonpublic information, and relating to consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 77) directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic that have not been authorized by Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 646, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 645.

Pages H9230–35, H9245–46

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act: S. 151, amended, to deter criminal robocall violations and improve enforcement of section 227(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 647.

Pages H9235–45, H9246–47

Consensus Calendar: Representative DeFazio presented to the clerk a motion to place on the Consensus Calendar the bill H.R. 2382, to amend title 5, United States Code, to repeal the requirement that the United States Postal Service prepay future retirement benefits, it having accumulated 290 co-sponsors.

Page H9255

Recess: The House recessed at 3:43 p.m. and reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

Page H9254

Senate Referral: S. 760 was held at the desk.

Page H9254

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H9254.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9245, H9246, and H9246–47. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Committee Meetings

GROWING UP IN FEAR: HOW THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S IMMIGRATION POLICIES ARE HARMING CHILDREN

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Growing Up in Fear: How the Trump Administration’s Immigration Policies Are Harming Children”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING CONSUMER CONFIDENCE BY EMPOWERING FDA TO IMPROVE COSMETIC SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Building Consumer Confidence by Empowering FDA to Improve Cosmetic Safety”. Testimony was heard from Susan Mayne, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

FLU SEASON: U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Flu Season: U.S. Public Health Preparedness and Response”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services officials: Nancy Messonnier, M.D., Director, National Center

for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health; Robert P. Kadlec, M.D., Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response; and Peter Marks, M.D., Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

OVERSIGHT OF PRUDENTIAL REGULATORS: ENSURING THE SAFETY, SOUNDNESS, DIVERSITY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS?

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of Prudential Regulators: Ensuring the Safety, Soundness, Diversity, and Accountability of Depository Institutions?”. Testimony was heard from Rodney Hood, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; Jelena McWilliams, Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and Randal Quarles, Vice Chairman of Supervision, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEW START TREATY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Importance of the New START Treaty”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY INTO PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP: CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS FOR PRESIDENTIAL IMPEACHMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Impeachment Inquiry into President Donald J. Trump: Constitutional Grounds for Presidential Impeachment”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 722, the “Miracle Mountain Designation Act”; H.R. 1702, the “Free Veterans from Fees Act”; H.R. 2317, the “Peter J. McGuire Labor Day Landmark Act”; H.R. 3094, to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806, and for other purposes; H.R. 3349, the “Republic of Texas Legation Memorial Act”; H.R. 3465, the “Fallen Journalists Memorial Act of 2019”; and H.R. 5068, the “Women Who Worked on the Home Front Commemorative Work Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Curtis, Soto, Napolitano, Norton,

and Doggett; R. David Vela, Deputy Director, Operations, Exercising the Authority of the Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Ty Ellis, Mayor, Elk Ridge City, Utah; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 1964, the “Lumbee Recognition Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BROKEN PROMISES: EXAMINING THE ADMINISTRATION’S RETREAT ON BANNING VAPING FLAVORS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy held a hearing entitled “Broken Promises: Examining the Administration’s Retreat on Banning Vaping Flavors”. Testimony was heard from Mitch Zeller, Director, Center for Tobacco Products, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT THROUGH A NEGOTIATED TWO-STATE SOLUTION; VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 2019

Committee on Rules: Full Committee continued a hearing on H. Res. 326, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution; and held a hearing on H.R. 4, the “Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4, the “Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019”, and H. Res. 326, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4, the “Voting Rights Advancement Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in

the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 326, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution. The rule provides that the amendments to the resolution and the preamble recommended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs now printed in the resolution, modified by the amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted and the resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representatives Cohen and Biggs.

CALM BEFORE THE STORM: REAUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION PROGRAM

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Environment held a joint hearing entitled “Calm Before the Storm: Reauthorizing the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program”. Testimony was heard from Scott Weaver, Director, National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Major General Lee Tafanelli, Adjutant General, Director of Kansas Division of Emergency Management and Kansas Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

EMBRACING CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: SMALL BUSINESS BEST PRACTICES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Embracing Corporate Social Responsibility: Small Business Best Practices”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine strategic threats, ongoing challenges, and National Defense Strategy implementation, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine financial regulators, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the evolution of next-generation technologies, focusing on implementing MOBILE NOW, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold hearings to examine illicit mining, focusing on threats to United States national security and international human rights, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Privatized Housing: Are Conditions Improving for Our Military Families?”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Military Health System Reform: A Cure for Efficiency and Readiness?”, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Accountability and Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for Economy-Wide Deep Decarbonization”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Promoting Financial Stability? Reviewing the Administration’s Deregulatory Approach to Financial Stability”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance, hearing entitled “An Examination of the Federal Housing Administration and Its Impact on Homeownership in America”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 537, the “Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act”; H.R. 722, the “Miracle Mountain Designation Act”; H.R. 877, the “Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow’s Needs Act”; H.R. 2642, the “Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act”; H.R. 3742, the “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act of 2019”; H.R. 3977, the “Justice for Native Survivors of Sexual Violence Act”; H.R. 4479, the “Disaster Recovery Workforce Act”; H.R. 4957, the “Native American Child Protection Act”; and

S. 209, the “PROGRESS for Indian Tribes Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Experts Needed: Options for Improved Science and Technology Advice for Congress”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit; and Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, joint hearing entitled “Where’s My Stuff? Examining the Economic, Environmental, and Societal Impacts of Freight Transportation”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, joint hearing entitled “The Status

of the Department of Veterans Affairs’ Financial Management Business Transformation”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4920, the “Department of Veterans Affairs Contracting Preference Consistency Act”; and H.R. 3495, the “Improve Well-Being for Veterans Act”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Rules and Procedures in the U.S. House of Representatives: A Look at Reform Efforts and State Best Practices”, 1:45 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine public diplomacy, democracy, and global leadership, 10 a.m., 1334, Longworth Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, December 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Richard Ernest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, post-cloture.

At 12 noon, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Richard Ernest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

At 1:45 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, December 5

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 2534—Insider Trading Prohibition Act. Consideration of H. Con. Res. 77—Directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic that have not been authorized by Congress.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Balderson, Troy, Ohio, E1538
Banks, Jim, Ind., E1531
Bass, Karen, Calif., E1539
Bost, Mike, Ill., E1534, E1537
Bucshon, Larry, Ind., E1532
Castor, Kathy, Fla., E1538
Cloud, Michael, Tex., E1532
Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1534
Davis, Danny K., Ill., E1533
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E1532

Fudge, Marcia L., Ohio, E1533
Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E1536
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E1538
Graves, Sam, Mo., E1531, E1531, E1532, E1533, E1534, E1535
Khanna, Ro, Calif., E1536
Lamb, Conor, Pa., E1537
Lewis, John, Ga., E1538
McAdams, Ben, Utah, E1535
McEachin, A. Donald, Va., E1532
Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E1531
Moulton, Seth, Mass., E1539

Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1537
Panetta, Jimmy, Calif., E1535, E1536
Reed, Tom, N.Y., E1531
Smith, Adam, Wash., E1536
Taylor, Van, Tex., E1531
Timmons, William R., IV, S.C., E1536
Tipton, Scott R., Colo., E1533
Tlaib, Rashida, Mich., E1535, E1537
Velázquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E1537



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