

the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Privacy Under a Microscope: Balancing the Needs of Research and Confidentiality. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on Wednesday, February 24, 1999, in SR-328A at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the proposed FY2000 budget for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Subcommittee on Public Health, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Thursday, February 25, 1999, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Antimicrobial Resistance: Solutions to a Growing Public Health Threat. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 3, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on American Indian trust management practices in the Department of the Interior. The hearing will be held in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. Those wishing additional information should contact the Committee on Indian Affairs at 202/224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I wish to announce that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The purpose of this hearing is to review the President's FY2000 budget request for the Bureau of Reclamation and the Power Marketing Administrations.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, March 3, 1999, at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Those who wish to testify or submit a written statement should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please contact Ms. Julia McCaul, Howard Useem, (PMA's) or Colleen Deegan (BOR) at (202) 224-8115.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management. The hearing

will take place on Thursday, March 11, 1999, at 2 p.m., in SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the FY2000 proposed budget for the U.S. Forest Service. Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Amie Brown or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management. The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 16, 1999, at 2 p.m., in SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the FY2000 proposed budget for the U.S. Forest Service. Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Amie Brown or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be permitted to meet on February 22, 1999, at 1 p.m., in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

LORENZO DA PONTE, 1749-1838

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, among the paintings hanging in the Blue Room of New York's City Hall is a full-length portrait of General Lafayette by Samuel F. B. Morse. The father of the telegraph (and noted member of the anti-Catholic "Know-Nothings"), began his career as a portrait artist. For his commission, Morse received \$100 and earned a reputation as a gifted painter. Before turning to invention, he would paint the portraits of a galaxy of New York worthies.

The subject of one such portrait is known to opera lovers the world over—Lorenzo Da Ponte. He was, of course, the librettist of Mozart's masterpieces Don Giovanni, Nozze di Figaro, and *Così fan tutte*. What makes his life especially intriguing to an American is his career in New York. In a preface to a 1959 edition of his *Memoirs* (first published in 1830) THOMAS G. Bergin observes

By tradition, education, and experience, this European sophisticate would seem to be

far removed from the American Psyche; but his deeper nature—eager, adventurous and basically evangelical—was well-adapted to the New World.

Born March 10, 1749 in Ceneda, Italy, now Vittorio Veneto, Da Ponte arrived in New York in 1805 in his middle years and with what might seem to be his greatest work already behind him. Upon coming ashore, he was the self-proclaimed "poet of the Emperor Joseph II, for Salieri, for Storace, for Mozart!" He found work as a grocer on the Bowery, that great stretch of Manhattan teeming with all the varieties of 19th Century life. He soon fell in with the young Clement Clark Moore, founder of the General Theological Seminary and the (long anonymous) author of *The Night Before Christmas*. The two shared a love of language and books. Moore, amazed by Da Ponte's brilliance, introduced his friend to a literary group at Columbia College, of which he was a trustee. The group included the future Congressman Gulian Verplank. In time Da Ponte would become a major figure in New York society, dining with Livingstons, Hamiltons, Onderdoncks and the like. He became a professor of Italian, donated the first volume of Italian literature to the New York Public Library, and, with the help of his friends at Columbia, founded the Italian Opera. Don Giovanni was performed at the Park Theater in May 1826 and it may be said New York has never been the same.

The scholar Arthur Livingston observes, "There is no doubt all this was an important moment for the American mind. Da Ponte made Europe, poetry, painting, music, the artistic spirit, classical lore, a creative classical education, live for many important Americans as no one had done before."

In 1838, his last year on earth, he was given absolution by John MacCloskey, New York's second Archbishop and America's first Cardinal. He died on August 17. Three days later, at Old St. Patrick's Cathedral at Mott and Prince Streets, he was honored with a "hero's burial" before a large and distinguished funeral party. As one account has it:

Da Ponte was buried, probably in the tomb of a friend, to await reburial and a headstone at a later date. As far as is known, the reburial never took place, and the headstone was not installed. The overcrowded cemetery was closed in 1848, and all of its records (including Da Ponte's) were destroyed when Old St. Patrick's was gutted by fire eighteen years later. . . . Between 1909 and 1915, all the bodies were disinterred and moved, with or without identification, to Calvary Cemetery in Queens.

And so, like Mozart, Da Ponte came to rest in an unmarked grave.

This year provides an opportunity to rectify, at least in part, this sad and resonant ending. This seems a wondrous time to celebrate perhaps by some memorial in Old St. Patrick's, surely by performing Mozart's *Requiem*, K.626, composed in 1791.

After his death, the New York Daily Express recorded: