Mr. Speaker, it is truly gratifying to praise the accomplishments of a selfless man. It doubles that satisfaction when the man who deserves and gets that praise is my friend. I join with many others when I give just recognition to the more than 35 years of understanding service rendered to the House of Representatives by Lew Deschler.

Before I speak for anyone else, I first speak for myself. When I was new here, Lew personally helped me to avoid legislative mistakes. He increases my efficiency as the representative of the people who send me here.

What Lew Deschler does for me, he does for every member of the House who seeks his counsel.

This same patience and sagacity lubricate the parliamentary wheels of the full legislative body. As the years accumulate, as the influence of legislation is acted upon around the world, as emerging nations struggle to form parliamentary systems of their own and emulate one already functioning, but with the probing historians of future years can fathom the impact this one quiet, knowledgeable man has had on the history of his fellow men.

To paraphrase a verse from a New Testament parable, "Well done, thou good and faithful public servant."

Mr. IRVIN: Mr. Speaker, it is a real privilege to join in this well-deserved tribute to our distinguished Parliamentarian, Lewis Deschler. His vast knowledge, unbelievable memory and alert mind have won him top recognition in his chosen field and every Member of the House is impartial in which he is outstanding capability is exercised. His ready smile is sincere and warm. His huge frame commands attention upon first meeting. His association and advice, connotes he possesses a heart and spirit of equal size.

Lew Deschler has seen history made during some of the most stirring periods of our Nation. His role, though great, has been little known to the public because of his quiet and unassuming manner, but those who have glimpsed him in action know how effective are his rapid fire responses as he counsels and advises. The tribute of the Speaker is one of special validity to this attribute. It is my hope that Lew Deschler will continue to discharge his important service to our Nation for years to come. We congratulate him on his birthday and extend every good wish.

Mr. JENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in their praise of our able Parliamentarian Lew Deschler. Lew was on the job when I came to Congress almost a quarter of a century ago, and I learned quickly to seek his counsel and advice, all of which proved to be sound. Lew Deschler possesses that sixth sense, to see the right, and to live right during every minute of the day.

I could go on for hours, Mr. Speaker, expounding my high esteem for Lew Deschler, but it is simply not possible in the time to do justice to the magnificent and great man, whom I greatly admire and deeply respect. Lew Deschler seeks his counsel, and at this point I wish to congratulate the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question on the resolution. The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken, and the Speaker announced that the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications and the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce be permitted to sit this afternoon during general debate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

TRUTH-IN-LENDING ACT

Mr. RYAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I have reintroduced the Truth-in-Lending Act. This bill, which is sponsored in the other body by Senator Prim, H. DOUGLAS and other Senators, requires simply that there shall be a full written disclosure of charges for credit when credit is extended to consumers.

Installment buying is a major part of our economy. Since the end of World War II consumer credit has increased more than eightfold from less than $6 billion in 1945 to more than $55 billion. Although credit buying is a large segment of consumer buying, it is often impossible for the consumer to know exactly the price he pays for an item bought on credit.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications and the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce be permitted to sit this afternoon during general debate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I have reintroduced the Truth-in-Lending Act. This bill, which is sponsored in the other body by Senator Prim, H. DOUGLAS and other Senators, requires simply that there shall be a full written disclosure of charges for credit when credit is extended to consumers.

Installment buying is a major part of our economy. Since the end of World War II consumer credit has increased more than eightfold from less than $6 billion in 1945 to more than $55 billion. Although credit buying is a large segment of consumer buying, it is often impossible for the consumer to know exactly the price he pays for an item bought on credit.
Fourth. Structural reforms need not be undertaken in this bill but should be treated in a separate measure. In any case, only true reforms that would improve the economy, reduce the deficit, and not revenue-raising measures such as the reduction of allowable deductions by 5 percent of gross income, the repeal of the dividend credit, and the proposed new levy on unrealized capital gains, levied at death or transfer by gift.

Fifth. For the long run, we should work toward a top rate on the individual income tax of 50 percent. Similarly, for the long run, a much lower level of tax rate, well below the existing 90 percent level.

To make this possible, the Congress should consider alternate business or transaction taxes in the future to provide substitute revenues and relieve the burden of taxation on profits.

The truth-in-lending proposal spells out the disclosures, including the total amount to be financed, the amounts to be as downpayment and/or trade-in, which are to be made by merchants and lenders when they extend consumer credit. This will enable the consumer to know how much is added by credit to the cost of things he buys. This legislation will aid almost every American.

Economists estimate that almost every family uses some form of consumer credit at some time, and on the whole Americans spend 13 cents out of every dollar they earn for repayment of installment loans.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this legislation will be acted upon favorably during this session.

TAX PROGRAM

Mr. ALGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

THE SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ALGER. Mr. Speaker, in order to keep the Members of the House informed on the facts in connection with the President's tax proposals upon which the Ways and Means Committee is presently holding hearings, I would like to include as a part of my remarks the testimony of some of the best informed witnesses to appear on the tax question. He is Mr. Roswell Macll, of New York City, and the statement he presented to the committee this morning will appear at the end of these remarks.

I would like to emphasize that President Kennedy's tax program is contradictory to its announced objectives in four basic ways. First, the investment capital incentive is penalized because corporations' administrative burden is stressed; second, the structural reforms defeat rate cuts; third, the timing is bad, there being no immediate stimulus as intended; and, fourth, the budget is further impaired through lack of expendi
ture control.

The testimony contained a six-point constructive tax recommendation with which I am in agreement.

First. Structural rate reductions should be made in the individual income tax. It would be a good idea to spread them over several years.

Second. To moderate the revenue loss in individual rate reductions, the opening rate on the new scale might be set at 16 percent instead of 14 percent. This one step would eliminate the need for revenue-raising reforms and keep the total tax reduction within the level set by the President.

Third. The corporate tax rate needs to be lowered quickly. If the reduction is to have the desired effects, the simplest way to do this is to permit the Korean rate increase on corporations from 47 to 52 percent to expire on June 30, as scheduled.

The reforms proposed in the special message are all income tax rate reductions, and they are devised to produce additional revenue from taxpayers in the middle and upper brackets. The Secretary of the Treasury has urged in substance that the two parts of the program should be adopted together; that the device of the reconstruction is the adoption of the reforms, that if some or all of them are not adopted, then the tax reduction program must be modified, at the expense of taxpayers in the middle and the upper brackets.

1. Will the administrations tax proposals achieve these objectives? It is unfortunate, however, that tax reform is not divided by the administration is not well designed in the judgment of many of us to accomplish the objectives of removing barriers to business growth. The tax reduction and tax reform proposals appear to be contradictory. They contain conflicts both in purpose and in substance and in method, and thus to cancel out the good effects we seek. May I refer specifically to four of these conflicts.

The first contradiction is in the economic thrust of the entire program. The tax reductions proposed by themselves would have a constructive reform in our present economic condition. The new suggested for individuals—14 to 65 percent—represents an across-the-board reduction ranging from 30 percent at the lowest bracket, up to something over 20 percent at the highest and averaging about 23 percent. Such a reduction in rates has long been advocated to believing a lower tax burden imperative.

Moreover, this proposal would be an excellent first step toward a long-range permanence of tax policy. At the time, the top rate of the individual income tax should be brought down to 50 percent on the principle of the taxpayer's interest in earning a dollar of additional income. It should at least equal the Government's.

The administration has coupled these rate reductions with a series of revenue-raising measures labeled "tax reform" which completely transform the proposed tax cuts. The tax liabilities are reduced by 40 percent at the lowest bracket, in the $3,000- to $5,000 income bracket, and by only 8 percent in the $600,000-and-over bracket. Minimizing tax reductions in the middle and upper brackets while creating the tax relief in the lower brackets, is justified by the proponents on the theory that the economic needs is more consumption spending. While the President and Mr. Heller recognize the need to expand investment opportunities, the tax relief proposed is overbalanced in favor of more consumption spending.

Similarly, the proposal to lower the corporate tax rate to 40 percent should be a most important long-range goal, namely to lower the level of business taxations. Profit margins would be increased and new capital could be used to stimulate and unleash venture capital. The income tax was described as a drag on the economy.

These statements, with one notable excep
tion, represent that the business community has said for years. The business community has emphasized that the weakness of the Federal tax structure lies primarily in the corporate income tax. The U.S. Treasury is almost wholly dependent on the corporate income tax; in the 1960 income tax, that an reduction in the steeply progressive income tax rates, coupled with the substitution of another form of tax to produce some of the revenue now produced by the income tax would be highly desirable.

The reforms proposed in the special message are all income tax rate reductions, and they are devised to produce additional revenue from taxpayers in the middle and upper brackets. The Secretary of the Treasury has urged in substance that the two parts of the program should be adopted together; that the device of the reconstruction is the adoption of the reforms, that if some or all of them are not adopted, then the tax reduction program must be modified, at the expense of taxpayers in the middle and the upper brackets.

Less than a year ago, Secretary Dillon, arguing for the investment credit before the