Interim organization and operating procedures for the group to follow.

The resulting organization is called the International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium—Intelsat for short. Comsat serves as its interim manager. The interim contracts were given 5 years to run, after which they are to be superseded by definitive arrangements which are today in preliminary negotiation.

Meanwhile, Intelsat has grown from its original membership of 11 nations to a total of 46, including more than 40 which qualify as among the less developed countries mentioned in our act.

This is remarkable growth. It represents primarily of the potential of Intelsat and the advantages to each of Intelsat membership. Where needed and desired, advice and consultation have been supplied in the planning, design, and construction of satellite earth stations, to enable use of the satellites.

Great impetus was given to this phase of Comsat’s campaign in April of 1965 with the success of Early Bird, placed in synchronous orbit over the Atlantic Ocean. The success of this pioneering satellite gave impetus to the world that the hopes for quality space communications were well founded.

Those countries with insufficient volume of international communications traffic to justify an earth station of their own have been encouraged to join Intelsat nonetheless, and to share in the use of an earth station in a neighbor country where that is appropriate.

Another phase of the campaign to build the global system has involved financing through governmental agencies for earth station construction in the lesser developed countries. Many feasibility studies have been made to determine the cases where proposed earth stations were likely to show a profit in the long run. Other problems—such as capital and operating costs and to expected traffic and tariffs.

At present, 16 earth stations are in operation in 11 countries. England, France, Italy, West Germany, and Spain are linked to the United States and Canada by two satellites over the Atlantic. Australia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Japan are linked to Hawaii and the U.S. west coast by two Pacific satellites.

New four times the capacity of present models are scheduled to be placed in orbit later this year. Additional earth stations under construction or in final design are expected to bring the number to 40 by the end of next year that satellite task assigned upon interim phase will be completed.

The commercial viability of space communications for the future when the Congress passed the Satellite Act—today a reality. In this six visit to this chamber, I ask unanimous consent to include as the bright hopes for the future of global communications. To the extent that this new ability to communicate can bring peace and understanding to this troubled world, we shall all have reason for gratification.

THE "LASSIE" PROGRAM

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, among the multitudes facing Americans today few are as effective in gravity to air and water pollution. It is imperative that we devote close and continued attention to the problem of pollution. The water in which we breathe. Magnifying the scale of the challenge is the ever-increasing urbanization of the United States. Dr. John W. Gardner, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, has pointed out that one-third of the nation’s population now lives on the land area and, by that three-fourths of the living on the same area, the prospect of 185 million Americans crowded together in our cities within the decade is a foreboding. The pollution motor vehicles alone into the air is staggering to effort to prevent environmental conditions or get completely out of hand will test our technological abilities to the fullest.

Congress last year enacted the Air Quality Act of 1967, a measure which of all our can be proud. This legislation, in my opinion, is an example of a proper response by Government to a problem meriting Federal attention due to its size and scope. For the Air Quality Act of 1967 was written to take into account the views of State and other local governmental officials. Senator Edmund Muskie, of Maine, sponsored this legislation and I was proud to have been a cosponsor.

Not the least of the tasks confronting us in reversing the rising curve of air pollution is getting Americans to the dangers they face. In this governmental agencies at every level are being supported by forward-looking industries, organizations, and individuals. I would like to mention today one individual, Mr. J. Howard Paine, for many years, he has assisted in the educational drive to impress upon Americans the importance of antipollution efforts.

Every Sunday night, on the national television network for the past 16 years, millions and millions of youngsters and adults have tuned in on the "Lassie" program. Woven into the program, along with the entertainment values responsible for its longevity and appeal, are messages of antipollution, conservation, and beautification of our natural resources. The method of presentation gives these messages an appeal that makes them readily understandable to the old and young alike.

Mr. President, the "Lassie" program and its sponsors are now focused on this field. It makes me proud that proof of the State of California is proving an influence in helping keep our natural resources safe. The problem of air pollution which the "Lassie" program in this field has brought the problems of air and water pollution to the entire Nation’s attention since the program is seen in more than 200 communities and has a viewing audience of approximately 50 million persons.

The owners and producers of the "Lassie" program, headed by California industrialist Jack Wrather, believe in the work of the Department of the Interior, the actor who portrays the role of U.S. Forest Ranger Cory Stuart in the "Lassie" series, goes beyond its role to give talk before the public and influence all over the Nation on the subject of antipollution and conservation. Rudd Weatherwax has continually made her available without recompense to community gatherings where the cause of antipollution and conservation can be promoted and enhanced.

Others associated with the program, including associate producers William Beaudine, Jr., and Bonita Granville Wrather—who is remembered by millions as an attractive and charming young actress—wrote Robert Schaefer and Eric Fritwell, directors William M. Moder, William Beaudine, Sr., and Jack Hively, have assisted in this educational endeavor.

Their efforts are dedicated to the welfare of the people who take pride in the beauty of our States, cities and neighborhoods and in the cleanliness of our air and water.

Mr. President, I commend, therefore, the "Lassie" program and all those involved in its production for their efforts in this field.

GROWING SUPPORT FOR TRUTH IN LENDING

Mr. PROXMIRE. Mr. President, the verdict is rapidly becoming unanimous that all creditors should be required to tell their customers the true annual rate they are charging for credit. Under the terms of the Senate bill passed last July, about 97 percent of the credit industry would be required to disclose the annual rate by September 1967. Now that the credit industry realizes that a truth-in-lending bill is a certainty, they have exerted substantial pressure on the House to apply the principles of annual rate disclosure fairly and uniformly to all segments of the industry.

Responsible editorial opinion also supports this elementary concept of fair play. Yesterday the New York Times published an editorial supporting Mrs. SULLIVAN’s attempts to amend the House bill to require that the annual rate be and disclosed on revolving credit plans. This morning the Washington Post entered the battle with an editorial advocating that the annual rate disclosure requirements be applied to revolving credit.

Following the Senate action, the 97 percent of the credit industry necessary to disclose the annual rate has mobilized a massive campaign to plug the loophole afforded revolving credit. Now that the credit industry realizes that a truth-in-lending bill is a certainty, it has exerted substantial pressure on the House to apply the principles of annual rate disclosure fairly and uniformly to all segments of the industry.

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There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be inserted in the Record as follows:

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to include in the Record the editorial from the Washington Post.
The object of the truth-in-lending legislation that should come to a vote in the House today concerns consumers' right to know. When a man borrows $500 from a credit company and contracts to repay $30 a month for twelve months, the true interest charge exceeds 10 percent. That information ought to be communicated by lenders so that borrowers know how much they are paying for credit and have an opportunity to compare the terms offered by competing lenders. The principle is the same with respect to installment credit extended by stores.

Opponents of truth-in-lending legislation aver that providing such information would compel retailers to make onerous numerical calculations. But in an age of computerized technology, it should be possible to turn out interest tables at low cost that cover virtually every set of credit arrangements. Therefore, we urge that the House reject the amendment that would exempt the revolving, retail store charge accounts and another that exempts transactions for which the interest charge is less than $10.

Nothing in this legislation should be construed to limit on the budget of interest that may be charged. Attempts to prohibit "usury" almost invariably fail, and Congress should not repeat its mistakes in attempting to enforce interest ceilings on Treasury bonds and insured mortgages. Merely requiring that borrowers be given information about the true interest charges is quite another matter. And it is expected that Congress will pass the stronger version of the truth-in-lending bill now urged by the Administration leadership in the House.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACT EXTENSION BENEFITS TEXAS

Mr. YARBOURGH. Mr. President, I regret that I was absent on official Senate business yesterday, holding a Labor Subcommittee hearing in Portland, Ore., when the Senate unanimously passed the extension of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937 and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

This action is of tremendous importance to my home State, since we have about 30,600 Texans on railroad retirement annuities, 12,900 receiving railroad survivor benefits and 2,900 receiving unemployment insurance. This means that about $1,600 Texans are directly affected by this action.

The railroad retirement system was the first industrially retirement system between employees and employers instituted in the Nation. It is administered by the Railroad Retirement Board which is an independent agency of the U.S. Government.

This system has been a model retirement system for the Nation and around the world. No other industry has a system like it and no other group of employees has for years enjoyed such extensive benefits under any other retirement system as have the railroad employees.

S. 2839, introduced by my distinguished colleagues, the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Pell) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Moss), increases the benefits in both the retirement system and the unemployment system of the Railroad Retirement Act.

Last year, we passed some amendments to the Social Security Act. These amendments have had several effects upon the railroad retirement system. First, the monthly limit on creditable and tax-exempt railroad earnings was raised to $6,500 on Jan. 1 of this year. Second, a new railroad retirement tax was established.

Along with these increases in the contributions to be made to the system, the Social Security Administration raised the retirement guarantee and most wives will receive increases in their railroad retirement benefits. More specifically, families being paid under the special guaranty are guaranteed that their benefits under the railroad retirement system will be 10 percent larger than their benefits would have been if they had been paid benefits under the social security system. Second, wives can receive higher benefits because the amendments had the effect of raising the maximum annuity that can be paid under the railroad retirement law.

The amendments passed yesterday to the present law would accomplish two basic purposes. First, they fill the gaps in the system of benefits that were not accomplished by the social security amendments. Second, they make some changes in the railroad unemployment benefits. Let me consider the effects this bill would have upon the annuity benefits.

The monthly increases, I am told, range from $10 to $21 for retired employees and from $5 to $17 for wives and surviving survivors. The beneficiary's increase will generally be a bit smaller if he is also receiving a social security benefit. But the minimum increase will be $10 for most retired employees and $5 for most wives and survivors. The amount of the increase in an annuity will be related to the average monthly earnings on which it was based.

There are two other sources of benefits under the proposed amendments. One is for a non-employee to provide for a disability annuitant. These will be substantially liberalized. Presently only $1,250 per year can be earned and the benefits can only be paid in those months when the annuitant earns less than $100. S. 2839 would raise the monthly limit to $2,000 and allow benefits to be paid in any month where the earnings were less than $200. The second benefit is for total disabled persons who are aged 50.

The bill enacted on yesterday also covers the railroad unemployment insurance program and provides for a higher benefit rate schedule, with a maximum daily benefit under present law.

This agreement with the Social Security Administration has been in effect since January 1 of this year. The Social Security Administration has agreed to raise the maximum benefit to $750 and $1,000. Also, the maximum will change so it will change along the same basis, and the maximum will be raised.

I want to restate that the major effect of this bill is to adjust the railroad retirement system so as to reflect the changes made in the social security system by the bill last year.

There are other changes which are of a housekeeping nature based upon the experience of those who have been working with the system over the many years of its existence.

Clearly, this is an agreed-upon bill. It is the result of negotiations between the rail brotherhoods and rail management, and it has the full support of the Railroad Retirement Board.

I urge the Senate to support the Senate's action yesterday.

ADDRESS BY LEONARD H. MARKS BEFORE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, recently Mr. Leonard H. Marks, Director of the U.S. Information Agency, delivered a speech before the National Association of Educational Broadcasters' 43d convention which was held in Denver, Colo.

Prior to becoming Director of USIA, Mr. Marks, a noted authority in the field of communications, had served as general manager for the School of Music, entitled "A Blueprint for a New Schoolhouse" issued a challenge that calls for action.

As Leonard Marks eloquently states, the technological means for the creation of a new school system is at hand but it is imminent. This Nation has an obligation to be prepared to utilize our technological gains in a manner which will guarantee the fullest humanitarian results.

Mr. President, I commend the thoughts of the man who, as Director of USIA, directs one of the world's largest communication operations, and ask unanimous consent that his address be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the address was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows: A BLUEPRINT FOR A NEW SCHOOLHOUSE

An address by Leonard H. Marks, Director, U.S. Information Agency, before the National Association of Educational Broadcasters' 43d Convention (Denver, Colo., Nov. 7-8, 1967).

I would rather dream of the future than reminisce about the past; but tonight after seeing friends with whom I have worked for 25 years in the educational broadcasting field, I am going to yield to nostalgia and dream first and dream later.

I attended my first NAEB Convention. The setting was a bit different than it is tonight—there were no great exhibit spaces, nor formal dinners or hundreds of delegates. There were about 30 of us in a small meeting room. We had a vision of great opportunity for educational television and the FCC had been reserved under the FCC Act for a January 1, 1946 I attended my first NAEB Convention. The setting was a bit different than it is tonight—there were no great exhibit spaces, nor formal dinners or hundreds of delegates. There were about 30 of us in a small meeting room. We had a vision of great opportunity for educational television and the FCC had been reserved under the FCC Act for a January 1, 1946.