The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas [Mr. Johnson] has been recognized.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk, which I should like to have stated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Secretary will state the amendment.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, this amendment seeks to extend the provisions of section 501 of the House bill, denying tax-exempt status to not only those people who influence legislation but also to those who intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for any public office. I have discussed the matter with the minority ranking member of the committee, and several other members of the committee, and I understand that the amendment is acceptable to them. I hope the gentleman will take the reference, and that it will be included in the final bill which Congress passes.

Mr. MILLIKIN. Mr. President, I am willing to take the reference and to state the amendment. I understand from the minority leader that the distinguished Senator from Georgia [Mr. George] feels the same way about it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the amendment of the Senator from Texas [Mr. Johnson].

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. MILLIKIN. Mr. President—

Mr. DOUGLAS. Mr. President, I shall be very glad to yield to the Senator from Colorado, if he wishes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois has not been recognized.

EXTENSION ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS OF THE PERIOD OF FREE ENTRY OF PHILIPPINE ARTICLES INTO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MILLIKIN. Mr. President, I should like to take up one other matter not related to the pending business. I should like to dispose of it now, as the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. Enrív] has been waiting a long time. During the previous session, I asked the Department of Commerce to make an immediate consideration of H. R. 9315, which was unanimously reported by the Committee on Finance yesterday. The need for speed is that certain trade agreements must now be rewritten before the Philippines expire on July 4 of this year. I presented the matter this morning. Then the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. Enrív] stated he wanted to make some inquiry about it, and I said I would withhold the request until later in the day.

I now ask unanimous consent that the unfinished business be temporarily laid aside and the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. R. 9315.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will take the chair for the information of the Senate.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (H. R. 9315) to provide for the extension on a reciprocal basis of the period of the free entry of Philippine articles in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the third reading of the bill.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ERVIN. Mr. President, the economic welfare of my State rests in large measure upon the remaining estate of leaf tobacco. The present trade relations between the United States and the Philippines are governed by a trade agreement entered into in 1946. The Philippines afford a market for approximately 23 million pounds of such tobacco a year. The Philippines produce 9604 million pounds of such tobacco. In 1952 the Congress of the Philippines passed a statute which works on a progressive basis and the importation of leaf tobacco to the extent of 75 percent of their normal requirements. The result is that eventually, starting next year, under this act the total importation into the Philippines would be 25 percent of their normal requirements.

The growers of leaf tobacco in my State feel that this act of the Philippine Congress conflicts with the true measure of the long-standing state of leaf tobacco. The present trade relations between the United States and the Philippines, and with the true spirit of the trade agreement of 1946. The Philippines act, of course, has a rather disastrous effect upon the farmers in my State who grow leaf tobacco.

After the distinguished Senator from Colorado [Mr. Millikin] agreed to withhold the matter until I could investigate it, I have been assured by Representative Bonner and by General Romulo that the Philippines Government is eager to correct the situation. I also understand that the State Department was not engaged in negotiations looking toward rewriting the trade agreement between the Philippines and the United States.

I wish to urge the State Department to request the repeal of the act passed by the Philippine Congress and to attempt to get assurances that leaf tobacco will hereafter be on the free list as long as leaf tobacco is in excess trade between the United States and the Philippines.

I am very happy to say that General Romulo has assured us that the Philippine Government intends to do all in its power to adjust the matter satisfactorily, and he has given us other evidence of the fact that the brightest page in history is perhaps that which recounts the relationship which has always existed between the United States and the Philippines.

I withhold my objection.

Mr. MILLIKIN. I should like to add that the Committee on Finance agreed yesterday that early next year it will hold hearings on the pending negotiations, because there are a number of members of our committee who are very much interested in the question the Senator from North Carolina discussed. I am hopeful, toward a satisfactory solution of the matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the third reading and passing of the bill. The bill was ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

DENIAL OF A FEDERAL PENSION TO ALOGER HISS

Mr. DOUGLAS obtained the floor.

Mr. MUNDT. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. DOUGLAS. I yield on the time of the distinguished junior Senator from Colorado.

Mr. MUNDT. I am happy to say to the distinguished Senator from Colorado [Mr. Carlson], who is chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

My bill has been before that committee for a long time. I sincerely hope that before this session of Congress adjourns the Senate will take action to deny to Alger Hiss a pension at the cost of the taxpayers of America. It seems to me that we should have an unanimous opinion in high places that this should be done.

Mr. CARLSON. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. MILLIKIN. I yield.

Mr. CARLSON. I wish to advise the Senator from South Dakota that hearings have been held and that action has been taken in the House. As soon as the report of the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service will take immediate action.