

Congherty

BILL LONGBERRY

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I walked up from the station with Bill. About the vote that went 51-49 yesterday on education for the handicapped and the later situation that got so bad Baker had to recess for fear of losing some votes.

"The Budget Committee problem is that they didn't sit down and negotiate with the southern democrats. They could have gotten something. We had to vote against retarded children for the first time last night." (Because AS feels he has to support the Committee?) "Yes. And he was one of 4 Senators who told the leadership that they didn't feel bound to vote with the committee on everything. They didn't cut any deals with him."

He mentioned that today's session would be affected by the fact that the Democrats have a retreat this weekend and want to get going. I said I was going to have a chapter that made point that things only happen when deadlines of one sort or another. He agreed. "If you didn't have a deadline of some sort these people would go on and on and on--even on the smallest bill. A good example was our summit resolution. It dragged on until we had to have a defense authorization bill, and we had to have that bill because we had to have a budget resolution."

He also talked about second degree amendments for which there was no time under unanimous consent agreements.