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FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMONWEALTH STATUS FOR PUERTO RICO

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, one of the big problems facing many of the large powers throughout the world has been the granting of democracy and the right of self-government to colonies, dependencies, and territories.

Today Puerto Rico celebrates her fifth anniversary of commonwealth status, which was voted by Congress. Thus one of the most satisfying and successful experiments in granting a large degree of autonomy and totality of self-government to a dependency has proved itself and has demonstrated the wisdom of keeping it integrated within the general economy and protection of a large-power nation.

I take this occasion to congratulate President Luis Muñoz-Marin and the people of Puerto Rico who have made this great experiment in democracy actually work in the Caribbean. To me, Puerto Rico is the showcase of the Caribbean and proves what true democracy, properly administered by faithful and honest men, and given an assist by a larger power, can actually do to provide better living standards and to secure a maximum degree of freedom for the Caribbean.

I am unanimous consent to have printed at this point in the Record an editorial entitled "Puerto Rico Celebrates," published in the New York Times of today.

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

PUERTO RICO CELEBRATES

The first 5 years of Puerto Rico's status as a Commonwealth, or "free associated state," is being celebrated today with pride and satisfaction both in the island and in the United States. As an experiment in the political status of a former colony and its relationship to the Nation to which it belonged, it has thus far certainly been a success.

There is nothing quite like this arrangement anywhere else. Puerto Ricans are American citizens and they have a high degree of autonomy in internal affairs. In fact, they come close to independence on that score. They share some American institutions such as the National Labor Relations Board, the Federal Civil Service Commission, the Social Security Administration, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service, but these can be considered part of the process of common citizenship.

What does cut into a strict definition of independence is United States control of defense and foreign affairs. On the whole, Puerto Rico is getting the best of both worlds. She has the protection and advantages of American citizenship without having to pay American income taxes or to maintain costly services such as large defense forces.

The aspect of Puerto Rican affairs that has drawn worldwide attention and admiration is the so-called Operation Bootstrap. It is lifting 2½ million Puerto Ricans from the miseries of widespread illiteracy, poverty, disease and unbalanced economy into a standard of life that already exceeds that of any other nation in Latin America except the Venezuelans in terms of per capita income. Moreover, the increased income is being much better and more widely distributed than in Venezuela.

Puerto Rico is one of the best customers of the United States anywhere. She is buying American goods at the rate of \$600 million a year. Her remarkable record in transforming herself from one of the most densely populated underdeveloped countries in the world to a viable state is attracting officials and students from every continent.

The island has been fortunate since 1948 in having as Governor a man who is both popular and efficient—Luis Muñoz-Marin. Best of all, he is a liberal and a Democrat.

This is an occasion for congratulations all around. May the future of Puerto Rico be a fulfillment of the promises of this first quinquennium.

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

Mr. MONRONEY. I yield.

Mr. HUMPHREY. I join with the Senator from Oklahoma in this well-deserved tribute to the people of Puerto Rico and their Governor. I believe the action which has been taken with reference to Puerto Rico is a milestone in the establishment and the development of free institutions of government.

Puerto Rico has made remarkable progress. It is reassuring to people all over the world to see the achievements, both political and economic, which have been made in that country.

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

Mr. MONRONEY. I yield.

Mr. MANSFIELD. I join with the Senator from Oklahoma and the Senator from Minnesota in extending best wishes to the people of Puerto Rico on its

anniversary day. I think the Senator from Oklahoma made a very apt comment when he said that Puerto Rico is the showcase of the Caribbean. It is that; and it is that because of the fact that the Commonwealth has a very able Governor in the person of the Honorable Luis Muñoz-Marin, one of America's great statesmen, who has done so much under Operation Bootstrap to bring about a revival of the island's economy.

I point out that the United States Government also recognizes the importance of Puerto Rico, because there it has a most important training center for the point 4 program. There we have a meeting of the Latin, African, and Anglo-Saxon cultures. It is there, also, that the Atomic Energy Commission is establishing a training program which will have great effect in all of Latin America.

So this is a proud day for Puerto Rico and the United States, when Puerto Rico celebrates its fifth anniversary of commonwealth status.

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CARIBBEAN TRAINING PROGRAM IN PUERTO RICO
1956-57--INTRODUCTION

Puerto Rico's Caribbean training program, designed to strengthen and supplement training facilities in the Caribbean area, is sponsored jointly by the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the United States International Cooperation Administration.

The program encourages the use, by countries in the Caribbean area, of training facilities in Puerto Rico. These include the University of Puerto Rico and affiliated institutions, selected vocational schools of the Department of Education, Agencies of the Commonwealth Government, and selected industrial plants for on-the-job training.

The program comprises the following fields: Trades and industrial education, vocational teacher training in agriculture, training in extension practices for community education, home economics, cooperatives, social work, community education, public health.

In the matter of contact with the various countries, close liaison is maintained with the Caribbean Commission.

The Governments of the British Countries, French Departments, and of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles are invited to develop appropriate selection procedures and to sponsor qualified applicants of this training.