

phenomena such as fires, climate change, damage to the ozone layer, etcetera.

4. Change U.S. trade policies to discourage actions abroad that contribute to desertification.

5. Support coordination between scientists, government agencies, NGOs and localities to develop useful technologies and methodologies to prevent and combat desertification.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JESSE HOLMAN JONES

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the efforts of Houston Endowment Inc. to highlight the life of Jesse Holman Jones, who during his lifetime was widely known as one of the most powerful leaders in the nation, and because of his vast contributions to the growth of the City of Houston, became known as "Mr. Houston."

On November 10, 1998, Houston Endowment Inc. will host a Centennial Celebration of the remarkable contributions of Jesse Holman Jones, beginning with a champagne reception followed by the world premiere of the documentary, "Brother, Can You Spare a Billion? The Story of Jesse H. Jones."

Jesse H. Jones was born in Tennessee but moved to Texas at the age of seventeen, first working in a lumberyard for his uncle, then later establishing his own 60 lumberyards across the Southwest. As an extension of the lumberyards, he began building small houses south of downtown Houston, which he financed for working class families by offering 20-year mortgages, a new concept at the time. He eventually progressed to commercial structures, and in 1907 he announced that he would build the city's three tallest buildings. The nine-story Bristol Hotel, Houston's first "skyscraper", elevated Houston's stature; the 10-story Houston Chronicle Building brought Mr. Jones half interest in a thriving newspaper; and the 10-story Texas Company Building helped make Texaco and the petroleum industry a permanent part of the city's business community. Within 25 years, he had transformed Houston's Main Street and downtown into the region's most prominent business district, filled with office buildings, movie theaters, hotels, apartment buildings, department stores, and parking garages.

Mr. Jones' role in developing Houston's economy was as important as his role in building its skyline. He invested in local banks and became Chairman of the National Bank of Commerce, later to become Texas Commerce Bank and today's Chase Bank of Texas. His portrait still hangs in the majestic lobby of the bank's flagship office. Through his banking interests, Mr. Jones helped industrialize and internationalize Houston. He supported other growing industries, such as the radio and television industry, while convincing the federal government to enter into a public-private partnership to build the Houston Ship Channel, which today includes the Port of Houston, the nation's second busiest port. Such public-private partnerships were unheard of at the time.

Mr. Jones attracted the attention of President Woodrow Wilson and accepted the position of Director General of Military Relief for

the American Red Cross. After the war, Mr. Jones helped reorganize the Red Cross from a loose-knit group of local societies into the permanent international relief agency it is today. In addition, in 1928 as Finance Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he brought the party's national convention to Houston, the first major political convention to be held in the South since before the Civil War.

When the stock market crashed and the nation plunged into the Great Depression, Mr. Jones called the city's business leaders together and worked out a plan that prevented any bank failures in Houston during the Great Depression. Mr. Jones' business and financial insight were called upon when President Herbert Hoover asked him to serve on the board of the newly created Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC); President Franklin Roosevelt expanded the RFC's powers and made Mr. Jones its chairman. The Federal Housing Administration (FHA), the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), and the Export-Import Bank are only a few of the many enduring agencies created by Mr. Jones and the RFC.

Mr. Jones would go on to be Secretary of Commerce during the "New Deal" and today scholars give Jesse Jones credit for saving the American capitalist economy, for mobilizing industry in time to fight and win World War II, and for radically changing the relationship between government, business and citizens.

After 14 years of public service in Washington, DC, Jesse Jones had won the respect of Democrats and Republicans alike, as he exercised his authority with diplomacy, patience, and equity. He and his wife, Mary Gibbs Jones, returned to Houston in 1946 and began to focus on philanthropy. By the time Jesse Holman Jones passed away on June 1, 1956, Houston Endowment Inc., the foundation he created in partnership with his wife, Mary, had helped more than 4,000 students through scholarship programs in 57 colleges and universities. Just months before he passed away, the town of 40,000 he came to in 1898 had obtained its one millionth citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Houston Endowment Inc. for reminding Houstonians of the life of Jesse H. Jones, one of our most prominent citizens.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4101, AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my extreme disappointment in the President's threats to veto the FY 99 Agriculture Appropriations bill. This is legislation which will provide much needed aid for cashed-strapped farmers this fall.

American farmers are by far the most productive in the world. These hard working men and women epitomize every value that makes America great. They run their business on a dream and hard work with a constant concern

over the weather conditions, hoping for a good crop. During a bad season, some pray daily to be able to put food on the table for their families. Now, after a season of low commodity prices and bad weather, the Democrats are looking to eliminate the emergency aid to those who grow our nation's food supply by urging the President to veto the FY 99 Agriculture Appropriations Act. This is unacceptable.

The fact is, the House more than doubled the only request received from the President, from \$1.8 billion to \$4.2 billion for emergency aid to help farmers. It is irresponsible for the President to play partisan politics with people's lives.

Mr. Speaker this is no time to play politics. I urge the President to rise above the temptation to exploit this issue for his political advantage and sign the FY 99 Agriculture Appropriations Act into law.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JERRY SOLOMON

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I've been pleased to call JERRY SOLOMON of New York my friend for 20 years.

JERRY SOLOMON was the guy you always wanted on your side in a legislative battle. You always knew where he stood. You always knew his word was his bond.

It was as if he never left the Marine Corps, and in his mind he probably never did. JERRY SOLOMON wore an American flag pin on his lapel and his love of country on his sleeve. Few members could match his tenacity and his sense of loyalty. Never were those qualities more on display than when the House acted on national defense and veterans matters.

More recently we've seen another side of JERRY SOLOMON. It was his sense of fair play. His chairmanship of the Rules Committee made him the legislative traffic cop in the House. He took his role seriously, and his integrity earned him the respect of majority and minority alike.

His idol was Ronald Reagan, whose determination to rebuild our military found its staunchest House advocate in JERRY SOLOMON. Our sons and daughters in the military have always been very special to him. He wanted nothing but the best for them both during and after their service.

Veterans have no greater friend than JERRY SOLOMON. He enjoyed a close relationship with that other giant of veterans' legislation, our former colleague and committee chairman Sonny Montgomery of Mississippi. Their collaboration was a golden period for America's veterans and an inspiration for those of us who followed them.

JERRY SOLOMON's proudest moment was that brisk October day at Fort McNair in 1988 when President Reagan signed into law his bill elevating the Veterans Administration to a full, cabinet-level department. That will be his lasting legacy and monument.

We will miss his passion, his perseverance, and his patriotism. "Semper Fi" was never just

a slogan for JERRY SOLOMON. It was his attitude towards his fellow Marines, his fellow veterans, his family, his friends, his district, his country, and this House.

We are coming to the end of an era, and this House just won't be the same without him.

Well done, JERRY. There's life after Congress. May yours be full and rewarding.

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I insert for the RECORD a proclamation designating September 18, 1998 as POW/MIA Recognition Day in the State of Nevada. The full accounting of all of our servicemen and women abroad must remain of paramount importance to the Nation.

Whereas, today there are 2,118 Americans still missing and unaccounted for from Southeast Asia, including 3 from the State of Nevada, and their families, friends and fellow veterans still endure uncertainty concerning their fate; and

Whereas, we as Americans believe that freedom is precious because it has been won and preserved for all at a very great cost; and

Whereas, few Americans can more fully appreciate the value of liberty and self-government than those Americans who were interned in enemy prison camps as POWs and those who remain missing in action; and

Whereas, the courage, commitment and devotion to duty demonstrated by those servicemen and women who risked their lives for our sake has moved the hearts of all Nevadans; and

Whereas, their dignity, faith and valor reminds us of the allegiance we owe to our nation and its defenders as well as the compassion we owe to those families of the MIAs who daily demonstrate heroic courage and fortitude in the face of uncertainty; now, therefore, I, Bob Miller, Governor of the State of Nevada, do hereby proclaim September 19, 1997, as POW/MIA Recognition Day.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. SANFORD GILBERT KAHN

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special man and one of my constituents on his 75th birthday: Sanford Gilbert Kahn. Mr. Kahn is a veteran of World War II and is truly one of the unsung heroes of that conflict. A 20th Air Force bombardier and weatherman, Mr. Kahn flew thirteen successful missions and was awarded with two medals. Those sorties played an important role in bringing the war to an end. At a time when the movie "Saving Private Ryan" reminds us of the sacrifices of WWII veterans, it is most appropriate to recognize the real-life bravery of men like Sanford Kahn.

I would like to join Sanford Kahn's family and friends in celebrating his 75th birthday and in sending my best wishes for his continuing health and happiness.

PITTSTON KNIGHTS HAILED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the President John F. Kennedy Council 372 of the Knights of Columbus in Pittston, Pennsylvania on the momentous occasion of their 100th anniversary. I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate in this historic event.

The early years of the Council are not well documented, but it is known that the Council made its home for many years on William Street in Pittston. Activities of the Council were curtailed during World War II due to the low membership as the members went off to war. Around 1947, the Council became more active under the leadership of the newly-elected Grand Knight, John Moran. The Home Association and Fourth Degree Assembly became active in 1948 and membership in the Council expanded to 400. When membership reached 600 in 1955, the members purchased a building, giving the Council its first real home.

The Council's 65th anniversary was noted with a parade; the following year, the Council's name was changed to honor the recently-assassinated John F. Kennedy. An oil portrait of Council's new namesake still hangs on the main floor of the Council's building.

The Knights of Columbus in Pittston have been integral in the social and civic life in the area through the years. It maintains a choir and honor guard and sponsors a Little League baseball team and many other youth-oriented activities. By 1988, official membership in the Council reached 844.

Mr. Speaker, I send my very best wishes to the dedicated community members who donate their time and energy to the Knights of Columbus activities in the Pittston area. Northeastern Pennsylvania is blessed with a commitment to community service and the long history of the Knights of Columbus. Council 372 is a great example of that proud tradition and heritage.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOSEPH M. MCDADE, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague, JOE MCDADE.

JOE MCDADE arrived here 10 years before I did. As he retires this year, the entire country will be the worse for the loss of his service.

In their wisdom, the people of the 10th district of Pennsylvania first elected JOE MCDADE to Congress in 1963 and every other year thereafter. After 35 years, JOE will be leaving the 10th district with a proud legacy of accomplishment and service for which he, and his staff, should be very proud.

JOE MCDADE is currently the longest serving Republican on the Appropriations Committee and among the longest serving Representa-

tives in Pennsylvania's history. Since 1965, he has been on the House Appropriations Committee. But, JOE's service merits distinction for its quality as well as its longevity.

When JOE served on the Appropriations Subcommittee for Housing and Urban Development, he created the Rural Housing Guaranteed Loan Program to help people in rural areas buy homes. It was passed into law in 1990 and has grown to become one of the most important ways our government helps rural Americans buy homes. It was passed into law in 1990 and has grown to become one of the most important ways our government helps rural Americans buy homes. This year, JOE MCDADE's law will help more than 50,000 low and moderate income Americans buy homes.

When JOE was the ranking member of the Small Business Committee from 1978 to 1991, he created a small business development center and an applied technology center at the University of Scranton to provide training and technical assistance to small business owners.

JOE has been a distinguished, hard working, kind member of the Appropriations Committee and a Member deserving of the title Cardinal. He has been easy to approach and willing to listen to just about any requests for funding. During his 35 years in Congress, JOE certainly left his mark.

Whoever is elected in his seat will have a very hard time filling his shoes. The 10th congressional district of Pennsylvania is lucky to have had him as its representative and we are lucky to have had him as our colleague.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a great honor serving with JOE MCDADE and I join the entire Congress in wishing him well in his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit a House Concurrent Resolution recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. An identical resolution is being introduced in the Senate by my distinguished colleague, Senator MACK.

As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee with jurisdiction over the National Institutes of Health, I have a great interest in biomedical research and efforts to improve the quality of our public health. In this century, much has been accomplished, including the eradication of smallpox and the near-eradication of polio, the control of other infectious diseases such as whooping cough and diphtheria, and improved treatments for diseases of the immune system. We continue to benefit from the development of new diagnostic tools, medicines, and vaccines that have improved the health of citizens in this country and abroad.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has been responsible for many of our most important advances. NIAID began as the National Microbiological Institute, formed through the union of the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, the Biologics Control Laboratory, the Division of Infectious Diseases, and