

The business continued to flourish under the government's PIK (payment-in-kind) program and in 1985, two major equipment lines, J.I. Case and International Harvester, merged to become Case International. This merger eventually precipitated another partnership. On November 1, 1987, two Logan County farm equipment dealers joined forces, Schmidt Implement Company and Marcotte International, Inc. of Lincoln, Illinois. This merger became operational under the name of Schmidt-Marcotte, Inc., resulting in the closure of the Marcotte dealership on Woodlawn Road in Lincoln. With the merger came the construction of two more buildings and doubled the number of employees.

William (Bill) Marcotte brought to the business 21 years of association with International Harvester products. Bill graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1966 with a degree in agriculture. He worked for International Harvester as a sales representative out of their Peoria office. In 1973, he was transferred to Lincoln, Illinois as an assistant manager and purchased the dealership in 1974. He had been owner/operator until the merger in 1987.

In 1992 Schmidt-Marcotte further enhanced their central Illinois leadership in agriculture implement sales by merging with Evans Implement of Lawndale. David Evans closed his business in Lawndale, purchased stock in Schmidt-Marcotte, and joined the Schmidts and Bill Marcotte as a business partner. This merger provided the company with their second major farm equipment manufacturer—New Holland—as well as several short line companies including Kinze, an industry leader in planting equipment.

David Evans' family has been involved in the farm equipment business since 1953. That year his grandfather and uncle, John Cox and John R. Cox, started Cox Implement Company, an Allis-Chalmers dealership in Lincoln. Cox Implement flourished and in 1966 they moved their business to Lawndale to accommodate the business' growth and need for space. In 1979, David and his father, Tom, bought the dealership and operated it under the name of Evans Implement. As the years passed, the Allis-Chalmers dealership grew with the addition of Steiger, Kinze, New Holland, and a host of short line companies. Tom Evans retired in 1991. That same year Dave's son, Tim Evans, joined the business. Tim, currently the office manager of Schmidt-Marcotte, is a fourth generation family member involved in the farm equipment business.

Schmidt-Marcotte's merger with Evans resulted in greatly expanded customer services in areas including sales and parts.

Schmidt-Marcotte, Inc., currently operates with Steve Schmidt as president, Bill Marcotte as vice-president, and Dave Evans as treasurer, and currently employs 30 individuals. In December, 1998, Michael Schmidt will graduate with a degree in agriculture from Western Illinois University, and plans to join his father, Steve, in the business, marking five generations in the farm implement business.

In closing, a celebration marking their 100 years of service will be held in Atlanta, Illinois at the business on July 25, 1998.

#### TRIBUTE TO CADET SHIRER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JENKINS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. MASCARA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cadet Shirer, a lifelong Western Pennsylvanian, a very special person who is celebrating his 100th birthday.

Mr. Shirer was born and raised in Westmoreland County in the community of Alverton, Pennsylvania, on March 31, 1898. He still calls Alverton his home, a community which also is the residence of his two children, Thomas and Joyce, and their families.

I want to take this opportunity also to honor Mr. Shirer for his dedication to his country. At the age of 19, he joined the Army to defend his country during World War I. He served in the E Company of the 10th Pennsylvania Infantry, and later as a member of the medical troop that was shipped to France.

He is one of the few remaining World War I veterans in Western Pennsylvania, and the last surviving charter member of the Veterans of World War I and the VFW Post in Scottdale, Pennsylvania.

His commitment to the ailing troops did not end with the signing of the Armistice. For 20 years, beginning in 1961, Mr. Shirer took it upon himself to help veterans in Westmoreland County by providing them with the necessary transportation to the nearby Veterans Administration Hospital in Pittsburgh.

I have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Shirer at several events in my district. He is a distinguished man who still proudly wears the Army uniform when attending veterans events. What strikes me most about him is his ability to recite by memory John McCrae's great war poem, "In Flanders Fields," and the Gettysburg Address, remember, without the assistance of notes. He is truly a remarkable man.

In your honor, Mr. Shirer, we are having a flag flown over the Nation's Capitol building today. I join Mr. Shirer, his children, his grandchildren and his great grandchildren in wishing him a very happy 100th birthday. He stands as a symbol for all veterans who have fought to keep this country's freedom.

#### A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. NEUMANN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight for a very special reason. A lot of times we talk about having a vision for the future of this country, and we talk about a social vision for the future of this country and we get all confused about Washington's role in that social vision. This morning I was reading the Washington Times, and there is an article that I would just like to call everyone's attention to, because it says a lot about this vision.

We talk a lot, first, about education and how we can make education num-

ber one in the world. We talk here in Washington about how if we get out of the way and get control of education back into the hands of the parents and the community, and we get our parents back actively involved in making the decision on where their kids could go to school, and what should be taught in the schools. If we can get the parents involved actively in these kids' lives, then education will once again be number one in the world, and that is the best thing we could do here in Washington.

This article this morning that I was reading talks about a lot of the other implications of getting the parents back involved in the lives of the kids. This article was a national study of 12,000 teens, and they found the influences of family, school and personal character, and they found that these influences can either protect teens from all kinds of problems or result in teens having more problems.

Listen to some of these results, because these are the issues we talk about here in Washington, and we sometimes get hung up out here in Washington about how Washington can fix these problems.

How do we stop teenagers from cigarette use? Listen to what they found in this survey of 12,000 students. Cigarette use among teens: How do you slow it down? Number one, parent, family, connectedness. Parents and family doing things together.

Number two, parent at home before and after school, at dinner time, and at bedtime.

Number three, parents and teens do activities together regularly.

Notice what is missing from this list? There is no new Washington program to solve the problem, but rather parents involved with their teenagers.

Let's go on to another one. Alcohol use among teens. You see this idea of getting parents back involved in education of their kids is going to have a lot of side effects. Let's talk about alcohol use among teenagers.

Number one among these 12,000 students surveyed, number one to slow alcohol use among teenagers, parent-family connectedness.

Number two, parent at home before and after school, at dinner time, and at bedtime. And listen to this one: Teen religious identity. You want to slow down alcohol use amongst teenagers? Parents need to be involved with their kids once again.

Marijuana use, how do you stop marijuana use amongst teenagers? Again, no new Washington program, no new Washington spending, number one to stop marijuana use amongst kids, remember, this was 12,000 students surveyed: Parent-family connectedness. Parents doing things with their kids.

Number two, parents at home before and after school, at dinner time and bedtime. Notice the consistency here. When the parents are around for their kids, the abuse of whether it is alcohol or cigarettes or marijuana goes down dramatically.

How do you solve teen pregnancy in the United States of America? You are here in Washington. You would think the solution to teen pregnancy is handing out condoms in school. That is not how you solve it.

Listen to what 12,000 students told in answer to this survey: The best way, teens need to know that parents disapprove of teen use of birth control. The number one thing that resulted in fewer teenage pregnancies was when the teens know that parents disapprove of birth control activities.

What do we do here in Washington? We encourage additional birth control, and it is exactly the opposite outcome of what we should be doing.

Number two, parents and teens do activities together regularly. This is how you slow teen pregnancy in America. Number one and two are exactly the opposite of what we are recommending here in Washington.

Number three, teen use birth control properly at first and last act. Again, that is three, that is down the list with these students as opposed to parents being actively involved with their kids.

I pointed this out because there is a lot of discussion in this city about how Washington can solve these problems, and the reality is when you actually talk to the students, the right answer is parents being actively involved with their kids is the best thing that can happen.

Now, what could Washington do to help this situation? We have a tax rate that says \$37 out of every \$100 that a typical American family earns gets paid into taxes to the government in one shape or form or another, either State, Federal, local or property taxes.

So if we really want to help solve the problems of cigarette use in teens, alcohol use in teens, marijuana use in teens, if we want to slow the pregnancy rate amongst teenage girls, if we really want to help with these things, why don't we talk about reducing this tax burden on families so that one of the parents or both of the parents can be home more often and more actively involved with their kids?

#### TRIBUTE TO PAUL ROBESON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Paul Robeson, accomplished scholar, Phi Beta Kappa, Rutgers University valedictorian, twice All-American Football hero, graduated Columbia University Law School, practicing attorney, Shakespearian actor, and, for two decades, was considered one of the greatest baritones in the world.

Mr. Speaker, on April 9th, thousands of his fans and admirers throughout the world will celebrate the 100th birthday of one of America's most gifted and accomplished individuals, Paul Robeson.

For several years now, there have been efforts under way to try and have

a commemorative stamp in his honor and bearing his name. For some reason, the Postal Service has not seen fit to do so. Therefore, I take this opportunity to ask the question, why, and urge the Postal Service to correct this oversight.

Surely Paul Robeson fits the criteria. Dr. James Alsbrooks points out that various reference books refer to Mr. Robeson as an "American Treasure" and deserves respect. Among them are the World Book Encyclopedia, Britannica, Collier's Encyclopedia, and the Academic American Encyclopedia, which states that Paul Robeson was one of the most distinguished Americans of the 20th Century.

In addition to his brilliant stage career, Robeson learned several foreign languages. He played the title role in the 1943 Broadway production of "Othello," which ran a record 296 performances.

In 1944, he was awarded the Academy of Arts and Letters Gold Medal for best diction in American Theater and the Donaldson Award for Best Actor. In the 1930s, Robeson spent a great deal of time in Europe and was deeply impressed by the Soviet Union and its seeming lack of racial prejudice.

In 1939, he returned to the United States. He supported the American war effort during World War II and campaigned for the sale of war bonds.

After the war, Paul Robeson became increasingly disillusioned with the treatment and status of blacks in American society. He became a spokesman on civil rights issues. In 1950, as a result of some pro-Soviet Union statements, the State Department revoked his passport, charging him with pro-communist leanings. However, in 1958, the Supreme Court upheld his right to go abroad.

Paul Robeson was what we today would call an activist-artist-scholar, who had a profound impact on forcing America to look at racism, classism, militarism and a concept of mass struggle. He was attacked relentlessly, brought before the House un-American Activities Committee, and hounded continuously by ultra right wing conservatives. However, Robeson continued to stand, fight, speak out and perform. He was indeed a tall tree in the American forest.

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Given all of these accomplishments and all of these attributes, it is inconceivable that we could deny the placement of such an American on one of our postage stamps, especially given the fact that Bugs Bunny, Wolfman, Frankenstein, John Henry, Paul Bunyan and other symbols adorn these precious vehicles of communication.

As we proceed to the 100th birthday of Paul Robeson, I urge the U.S. Times Postal Service to move expeditiously to correct the gross injustice, to correct and recognize the enormous contribution of one of our most gifted, most talented, and most impactful citi-

zens. He stood for what America is destined to become: free, just and equal. Let us put him on a stamp.

#### REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Joint Economic Committee, sometime ago I began or the Joint Economic Committee began a review of a proposal which came to us from the International Monetary Fund through the Treasury of the United States. Secretary Rubin, in essence, passed along the request of the International Monetary Fund, the IMF, for an appropriation of \$18 billion to, in their words, permit the IMF to continue their work.

It is interesting, Mr. Speaker. The IMF, which was established in 1945, over the years since 1945 has had a total, a quota appropriated to it, of about 36 billion U.S. dollars. So one might ask why it would be that the IMF would come to us today and in one lump sum request the appropriation of \$18 billion, a 50 percent increase in 1 year over what they have had over the past 50-some odd years?

So we began to look at this as a very serious matter. This is \$18 billion of U.S. taxpayers' money that would be used for purposes around the world; for perhaps good purposes, in some instances, and perhaps for questionable purposes in other instances; but \$18 billion with a B, of U.S. taxpayers' funds.

So when we began to look at the operations of the IMF, we noticed that something was quite peculiar. That was that, after a great deal of study, we determined that the average amount of interest that the IMF obtains in making its loans to risky creditors in other countries is about 4.7 percent; that is right, 4.7 percent.

By today's standards, or by any standards in the modern world, 4.7 percent is a fairly low interest rate. Americans who buy homes pay in the neighborhood of 7 percent. Americans in this day and age who buy cars pay an interest of 9 or 9½ percent. Americans who use credit cards pay interest rates from 18 to 24 percent. So 4.7 percent interest is a relatively low interest rate.

After we determined that this was the case, we drafted some legislation to try to change the way the IMF does business. Mr. Speaker, we did not suggest that the \$18 billion of American taxpayers' money should be forwarded, appropriated and forwarded to the International Monetary Fund. We said, before we even consider sending them another dime, that we ought to change the rules as we see them, as we participate in the IMF, as to how it operates. They would be some fairly simple and straightforward changes.

The first change would involve our ability to find out what the IMF is