

This is a very solemn matter and this Senator will not be influenced by the hype. I shall do my very best if that time comes—and it may never come, it may never come—but if it were to, I would do my very best to render a fair judgment, not only to the person impeached but also to the Nation, to the people, always keeping in mind the solemnity of the occasion and the kinds of precedents and standards that we, ourselves, would be setting for all of the generations to come. It is not going to be a matter to be decided tomorrow or next week or the next 2 weeks or the next 3 weeks in this Chamber. The other House will act as it sees fit, based upon the evidence in the report. We would be sitting as jurors if and when articles of impeachment were ever sent to us by the other body.

It is a constitutional process. Let's keep that in mind. We must be true to the Constitution, and true to the Nation. We must be fair, and we must be seen as having been fair.

Let me, in closing, read the oath which each Senator would be required to take in the event—and I emphasize, in the event—that the Senate were ever faced with an impeachment trial. The public should know that this is the oath to which each Senator must subscribe.

Here is the oath. It is on page 61 of the document titled, "Procedure and Guidelines for Impeachment Trials in the United States Senate," revised edition, prepared pursuant to Senate Resolution 439, 99th Congress, 2d Session, submitted by Senator ROBERT C. BYRD and Senator Robert Dole, by Floyd M. Riddick, Parliamentarian Emeritus of the U.S. Senate and Robert B. Dove, Parliamentarian of the United States Senate, August 15, 1986.

The form of oath administered to each Senator, as set forth under Rule XXV, is as follows:

I solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that in all things appertaining to the trial of the impeachment of [blank], now pending, I will do impartial justice according to the Constitution and laws: So help me God.

How much time remains?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 39 seconds remaining.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I have some remarks concerning Grandparent's Day. I ask unanimous consent I may proceed for an additional 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD. I see no other Senators seeking recognition at the moment.

CELEBRATING GRANDPARENT'S DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, this Sunday is Grandparent's Day. Like Mother's Day, this holiday has its origins in the great State of West Virginia. The Presiding Officer at the moment is from Ohio, a distinguished Senator from Ohio. He is a neighbor. His State

is a neighbor of ours. This holiday began in West Virginia.

In 1956, a lifelong mountaineer and the wife of a coal miner, Mrs. Marian McQuade, was asked to assist in organizing a "Past 80 Party." I would qualify for that party if it were held today. Well, this group continues today to annually honor and celebrate octogenarians and other seniors in West Virginia. Mrs. McQuade began gathering participants to join in these festivities by contacting nursing homes. She learned of the chronic loneliness that many of the seniors in these homes experienced, and she was deeply saddened. Her heartfelt concern engendered the idea of a special day, a specific day to celebrate grandparents.

In May 1973, West Virginia became the first State with a specially designated Grandparent's Day. Five years later, Mrs. McQuade received a phone call from the White House. This call informed her that President Carter had signed a law that designated the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparent's Day. The holiday was shifted to the fall for symbolic reasons, as Grandparent's Day celebrates those in the autumn—ah, the autumn—of their lives. The first official national observance of this holiday occurred in September 1979—autumn, when the leaves are turning from green to gold to red and to brown.

The statute creating Grandparent's Day states that the purpose of Grandparent's Day is "to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children, and to help children become aware of [the] strength, information, and guidance [that] older people can offer." This is a day to celebrate sharing between the generations. It is a day for the older and younger generations to commune with one another. It is, above all, a day to celebrate the family.

All too often in our increasingly fast-paced world, we fail to reflect. Perhaps on this Grandparent's Day we can enjoy the leisure of reminiscing on earlier days and, in so doing, opening a dialog between the generations. Such a confabulation benefits all who participate.

Sharing time with grandchildren provides the grandparent not only with longed-for companionship, but also may inspire great personal joy and a renewed liveliness. The young are like a rejuvenating elixir, restoring a youthful spring in one's step. The young possess a certain charm, reminding us of what it feels like to be young again, and through them the spirit is enlivened. The aged may even see in the younger generation certain reminders of their own early ambitions, and foresee the potential that these sprouts have to take root and grow. And when these seedlings begin to bloom, finding their own success, there is no greater pride than that of the grandparent who encouraged, who listened, and who applauded along the way. And the major-

ity leader will see this one day, as he recently had a grandchild come into his family.

While grandparents' steps are enlivened by spending time with their grandchildren, the children learn upon which path these steps ought to be taken. Children, although they may, at times, view their elders as antediluvian and inveterate, will sit enraptured as they listen to stories recounted by their parents' parents. I remember how they used to sit around me when I played the fiddle. Oh, to live those days over again!

The young will often, perhaps strangely, volunteer to assist with otherwise tedious chores to be by the side of grandparents. From the tales told and the time spent tending to tasks together, youngsters learn family history, and they ought to listen to it and they ought to be interested in that family history. They learn family history, traditions, and glimpse a wiser perspective of their world. Also, that is what many of us older persons need today—a wiser perspective of our world. Narratives and demonstrations of the maxim "hard work works" have the power to convey and ingrain the principles of success that are eternal verities. It is hard to imagine or recall, with our cars, microwaves, cell phones, and laptops, just how hard our parents and grandparents labored to do things that seem so simple today. We turn up a thermostat instead of chopping wood. But if one wants to warm himself twice, he only needs to chop his own wood. We hit "spellcheck" rather than retyping term papers. When faced with future adversity, growing children may look back on such nostalgia to carry them through their own trying times.

I am lucky to share in my grandchildren's lives, I feel the pride of being a grandparent, and I recall Mrs. McQuade's story. I remember how she found that some seniors were neglected and forlorn, living lives of lonely destitution. Who knows, that may come to any one of us in time. Sadly, for some, this is still the case.

Although many of their loved ones may have passed on, other seniors, thanks to advances in medicine and to Federal programs that provide a safety net of social services, continue to carry on. Many find ways to remain active in their communities, organizing events or sharing their time with others. Some have even taken on the burden of raising their children's children or acting as surrogate grandparents to those children who have lost their natural grandparents or who never knew them. Our older Americans have sweated and labored to defend and fight for our Nation, educate our young, mine the fuel to keep our homes warm, and shelter the values which we treasure the most. A greater obligation to our venerable matriarchs and patriarchs who have served as such wonderful role models to not one, but two, generations is our duty.

This is why I am proud to add my name as a cosponsor of a bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. This Act helps to assess the needs of seniors and provide services to fill these needs. Funding through this Act provides nutrition, disease prevention, and in-home health service programs for the elderly. The Older Americans Act will also provide for community service employment for senior citizens with low income, so that they may continue to demonstrate the strength of their work ethic. Furthermore, the Act will allow state and local aging agencies to operate as advocates to promote the rights of older persons. As more and more Americans enter the older generation, it is critical that the mechanisms which have provided assistance continue to be able to lend support. We must not forget the lessons which these men and women have passed on to us and to our children. To do so would be to debase their contribution to the prosperity of our own posterity. The generous contributions our seniors have made will continue to propagate long after the grandchildren of today leave this world. Remembering our older Americans, and the importance of their influence on many young, fresh lives, is perhaps the most apt offering we can bestow as we celebrate Grandparents' Day.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. In doing so, may I thank my friend from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, for his patience, and all others on whose time I have transgressed.

I thank him also for his contributions to the work of the Nation, for his knowledge, for his clearheadedness, for his evenhandedness, and for the inspiration that he gives to me and all of my colleagues.

Mr. DORGAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized for 20 minutes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me thank the Senator from West Virginia for his kind words. He always contributes immensely to this Senate when he rises and speaks to the Senate and to the American people. I am enormously proud to serve with Senator BYRD, as I have indicated on previous occasions.

THE FARM CRISIS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk briefly about a couple of issues that are of critical importance to the country, and especially to that part of America that I come from—North Dakota, the farm belt. It is an important part of our country. Our country is made up of many parts—of cities, of country, of family farms, of main streets, and small businesses. But we are going through a very, very tough time in rural America.

I asked the majority leader some moments ago on the floor of the Senate about the ability to deal with this farm crisis through some action by this Con-

gress before we adjourn. I was impressed that he indicated that it is his intention for us to take up legislation to address this farm crisis once again as we did in the month of July. It is an urgent situation.

The future of many family farms and the future of many families living out in rural America depends on this Congress stepping up and making the kind of decisions that will give them the opportunity to make a decent living on the family farm.

When I talk about my part of the country, or our part of the country, I am reminded of something that Daniel Webster said. He was one of the giants of this institution. In fact, his portrait is on the wall out here in the reception room of the U.S. Senate. He is recognized as a giant in the history of this body. When THOMAS Jefferson made the Louisiana Purchase, which was fairly controversial at the time, let me read to you what Daniel Webster said. Remember; this a part of the country that I come from. About that Louisiana Purchase, Daniel Webster said:

What do we want with this vast, worthless area, this region of savages and wild beasts, of desert and shifting sands and whirlwinds, of dust, cactus, and prairie dogs? What can we ever hope to do with this western coast, a coast of 3,000 miles, rockbound, cheerless, uninviting, and not a harbor on it? What use do we have for this country?

Daniel Webster is not considered thoughtless because he made this statement. But it is quite clear, I suppose, to all of us now that he missed the mark some.

"What do we want with this vast, worthless area?"

Gosh. What a remarkable part of our country that Louisiana Purchase became.

Then a couple of years after Daniel Webster asked this question about that part of America, Thomas Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark to explore that area, and it was one of the great expeditions in the annals of American history.

Lewis and Clark, on May 14th, 1804, left St. Louis, MO, with 44 men and 120 gallons of whiskey, by the way, purchased with government vouchers. The President said, "Buy whatever you need." I have made jokes about the need to purchase 120 gallons of whiskey to get them through certain States. But I will not repeat those jokes here. I do that only because I think it is interesting to study the history of that Lewis and Clark Expedition. It was a remarkable expedition.

In April of 1805—April 7, to be exact—after Lewis and Clark had gone from St. Louis up to what is now near Washburn, ND, and spent the entire winter with the Mandan Indians, before they began the next portion of their journey to the West Coast, April 7, 1805, Captain Lewis wrote a letter to Thomas Jefferson. That letter—a six-page letter—was put on a keelboat with some soldiers and sent down the Missouri back to St. Louis, then down to New Orleans by boat, then to Washing-

ton, DC, to Thomas Jefferson. And then we never heard another word from Lewis and Clark for 17 months. Then we discovered on the conclusion of that remarkable expedition that they had been to the West Coast and back. And they told us what they found in this remarkable country of ours.

That letter, by the way, just for interest sake, was never viewed by the public until a couple of months ago. That letter, in a special effort by the Library of Congress, is now being viewed publicly at an Interpretation Center of Lewis and Clark near Washburn, ND, with all proper security, about a mile from where Captain Lewis wrote the letter in the year 1805 on April 7. He sent it by keelboat down the Missouri, all the way around to President Jefferson, and, of course, it came back in by jet airplane nearly 200 years later.

I tell you that just to say that this is a wonderful, remarkable country, and in our part of the country, which is called the farm belt, a rural area of the country, we are having an enormous amount of difficulty, one that requires this Congress' attention.

There are two things that are of great concern to us.

The collapse of grain prices means that we see the threatened loss of thousands and thousands and thousands of families who now live out on the family farm. Grain prices have flat out collapsed. Crop disease has come and visited our State—the worst crop disease of the century at the same time that grain prices have collapsed. And, on top of that, these farmers also fail because of unfair trade, unfair trade which helps cause the grain price collapse; an enormous amount of unfair trade, unfair trade that no one seems to be interested in doing anything about.

That brings me to the point I want to make today dealing with our trade problems, especially with our neighbors to the north—the Canadians—but these trade problems relate to Mexico, to France, to China, and to other countries as well.

Let me describe the problems just briefly, as I have before, and then tell you why I am especially interested today.

Trade agreements: There are those talking about this mantra of free trade saying let's do more free trade agreements, and the more we trade, the better off we are, and the better it is for our country. Trade statistics show that as we negotiate these agreements, agreement after agreement, whoever is negotiating these agreements must not be keeping their eye on the ball, because agreement after agreement we see deeper and deeper trade deficits for this country.

I ask those who negotiate our agreements: Is there any chance you might negotiate a trade agreement that is in our country's best interest just once; something that benefits our country instead of deepens our trade deficits?