

and Broadway North Andover. She is a renowned dancer herself, winning the talent portion of the Miss New Hampshire pageant twice. She was chosen to tour the United States with Dance Caravan and was the Grand National Female Tap Soloist for Hootor's "Stars of Tomorrow" dance competition in 1992.

I am proud to represent Heidi Marie Noyes in the United States Senate, and wish her much success as Miss New Hampshire.●

IN MEMORY OF RABBI MOSHE SHERER

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise to share with the Senate the sorrowful news that Rabbi Moshe Sherer, one of American Jewry's leading communal leaders, passed away yesterday afternoon at the age of 76. Rabbi Sherer was the President of Agudath Israel of America for over 30 years and has served as a reasoned, wise voice whose counsel was widely respected in the Yeshivot of his beloved Brooklyn and the halls of government in lower Manhattan, Albany, Washington, and Jerusalem.

I first met Rabbi Sherer in the early days of the Kennedy Administration when he came to Washington on behalf of Agudath Israel. I quickly learned to admire his sagacity and rely on his insightful counsel and abiding integrity. For over thirty-five years he was a treasured mentor and a trusted friend.

World Jewry has lost one of its wisest statesmen. American Orthodoxy has lost a primary architect of its remarkable postwar resurgence. All New Yorkers have lost a man of rare spiritual gifts and exceptional creative vision.

While the Senate convenes today, tens of thousands of Jews are gathering in Brooklyn, New York to bid a reverential farewell to this exceptional teacher and rare leader. New York's Governor George Pataki, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and New York City Council Speaker Peter Vallone are among the distinguished public officials participating in the funeral.

Rabbi Sherer passed away only hours before the President of the Senate, Vice President AL GORE, addressed Agudath Israel's 76th anniversary dinner in New York. He spoke for the Senate and for all Americans when he eulogized the Rabbi as "a remarkable force for the understanding and respect and growth of Orthodox Jewry over the past fifty years", whose "contributions to spreading religious freedom and understanding have been truly indispensable in defending and expanding those same rights for all Americans in all faiths."

I know I speak for the entire Senate when I express my condolences to his widow Deborah, his loving children Mrs. Rachel Langer, Mrs. Elky Goldschmidt and Rabbi Shimshon Sherer, his bereaved colleagues at

Agudath Israel, and all who mourn the loss of this unusual man of conscience and conviction.

I ask that a brief obituary of Rabbi Sherer, as prepared by Agudath Israel, be printed in the RECORD.

The obituary follows:

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, 76, widely acknowledged as the elder statesman of the American Orthodox Jewish community, was a leader of Agudath Israel of America, a major national Jewish Orthodox organization, for over half a century, including more than thirty years as the organization's president. He also was appointed in 1980 as chairman of the Agudath Israel World Organization, an international confederation of Agudath Israel organizations in a host of countries around the globe.

A prime catalyst of the American Orthodox Jewish community's remarkable growth in size and strength since the Holocaust, the American-born Rabbi Sherer empowered the evolution of an organization that one member of the Jewish establishment in 1941 called "a sickly weed" into a major and effective force on the American political and communal scene. He took Agudath Israel from a small group of activists to a formidable movement—with tens of thousands of members and supporters; branches across the country; and a Washington office that advocates for a host of issues of concern to the American Orthodox Jewish community, from religious rights to moral matters, from non-public education to the welfare of Jews in lands of oppression. He also helped establish Agudath Israel's celebrated Jewish youth groups and summer camps, and pioneered the organization's current role as a leading force in the provision of social and educational services in the New York area.

Rabbi Sherer's earliest work on behalf of the Jewish community—the efforts that first evoked the larger non-Orthodox Jewish establishment's opprobrium—was the grassroots, and largely illegal, organization and transport of food shipments to starving Jews in Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe in 1941. His efforts also produced affidavits for European Jewish refugees that helped them immigrate to the United States.

After the end of World War II, he and Agudath Israel continued to assist European Jews—survivors interned in Displaced Person camps—with foodstuffs and religious items, and helped facilitate the immigration and resettlement of Jewish refugees on these shores. In ensuing decades, Rabbi Sherer spearheaded Agudath Israel's efforts on behalf of endangered Jews behind the Iron Curtain and in places like Syria and Iran. In 1991, years of clandestine activity on behalf of Soviet Jews culminated in his establishment of an office in Moscow to coordinate Agudath Israel's activities in Russia. Under his leadership, Agudath Israel also played an important role in providing social welfare and educational assistance to Israeli Jews, and in advocating for Israel's security needs.

Ignoring the pessimistic predictions about Orthodox Jewry made by sociologists and demographic experts in the 40s and 50s, Rabbi Sherer went on to help engineer a remarkable change in the scope, image and influence of the American Orthodox Jewish world. A staunch advocate of Jewish religious education as early as the 1960s, he helped establish the principle in numerous federal laws—like the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965—and state laws that, to the full extent constitutionally permissible, children in non-public schools were entitled to governmental benefits and services on an equitable basis with their public school counterparts. He thereby allied himself with Catholic school advocates and

again rankled the larger American Jewish establishment. In 1972, his efforts on behalf of education led to his being named national chairman of a multi-faith coalition of leaders representing the 5 million non-public school children in the United States.

Under his leadership, Agudath Israel helped foster the phenomenal growth of Jewish adult education as well. This past September, the Agudath Israel-sponsored celebration of the most recent completion of the "Daf Yomi" page-a-day Talmud study program drew over 70,000 Jews to central locations nationwide.●

RECOGNITION OF EARTH ANGELS

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Earth Angels in my home State of Missouri. Earth Angels received the Award for Environmental Sustainability from Renew America. They were among twenty-eight winners from more than 1,600 applicants who exemplify Earth Day.

Earth Angels is a branch of the Guardian Angel Settlement Association in St. Louis, Missouri. The group is made up of more than 150 inner city children and led by Neil Andre, Director of Earth Angels. Their projects range from recycling to planting trees in their Forest of Life to collecting money for other environmental groups. The group is supported by selling "Earth Angel stock." People who buy into the group get a quarterly newsletter with their latest project updates. Earth Angels gives "at risk" children a chance to be part of an important cause and organization.

Commending Neil Andre and the Earth Angels for their Award for Environmental Sustainability, I wish them continued success in the future. It is extremely gratifying to learn of a group of children doing so much to help our environment. Congratulations for a job well done.●

NAT BINGHAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish today to acknowledge the life and passing of a special man. Nat Bingham was many things: a fisherman, a conservationist, an advocate, an innovator, a husband, a father and a friend to anyone who cares about California's magnificent coastal environment and the lives it supports and sustains. By all accounts he was a person of great decency and conviction. He cared deeply for his profession and all those who heed its honorable call. He will be missed.

Nat and his wife Kathy made their home in Mendocino County on California's rugged North Coast. Tragically, Kathy died just two weeks before Nat. They are survived by their two children, Jolene and Eli. My heart goes out to them both.

Nat first became involved with fisheries management issues through his local Salmon Trollers Marketing Association. He served in a number of capacities with the Association before becoming its representative to the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's

Associations (PCFFA). On the PCFFA's board, and eventually as its president, he worked tirelessly on issues of habitat and species protection, preservation and restoration.

After stepping down from the PCFFA's board, Nat eventually sold his boat and went to work full-time on salmon restoration and fish habitat issues.

It is no exaggeration to say that Nat Bingham was involved with almost every major fisheries issue in California over the last 20 years. Over the course of his career, Nat achieved a near universal reputation for fairness, independence and results. Is he is not a legend already, it is certain he will become one.

I had great personal respect for Nat Bingham. Just before his death, I offered my strong support for his re-appointment to the federal government's Pacific Fishery Management Council. Nat was ideally suited for this important position. For his sake and the country's sake, I regret very much that he was denied the opportunity to continue his valuable service.

The people who knew him best describe Nat as a gentle, good and moral man. He was passionate about what he believed in, but regardless of the issues at stake he never failed to treat others with a genuine dignity and respect. In my opinion this is one of the true tests of a leader, and it is one of the principal reasons why he will be so dearly missed. Though his life's work should continue on in the efforts of his fellows, Nat Bingham's spirit and dedication can never be replaced.●

SEMITOOL RECEIVES SBA AWARD

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I am proud to announce that Semitool, Inc., of Kalispell, Montana, has been awarded the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 1998 Entrepreneurial Success Award.

The state of Montana has rapidly entered the high-tech field in recent years, and Semitool illustrates the best of what can be done in our state. I nominated Semitool, which designs and manufactures equipment used in the production of semiconductors and other electronic devices, for the award last December because of their great success in the high-tech industry.

As you may know, Mr. President, the SBA grants the Entrepreneurial Success Award to companies launched as "small" businesses that received SBA assistance and have since grown. The criteria include growth in the number of employees, increase in sales, comparisons between current and past financial reports, innovativeness of product or service offered, and evidence of contributions to the local community.

With good ideas, hard work, and an initial boost by the SBA, Semitool has become a major source for employment in Kalispell, employing roughly 1,100 people. It's this kind of entrepreneurial spirit that will keep Montana, and our nation, strong.

Again, I congratulate Semitool on their success, and I yield the floor.●

TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO SENATE RESOLUTION 208

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Senate resolution 231, submitted earlier today by Senator BENNETT; and, further, that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 231) was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 231) reads as follows:

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 208, agreed to April 2, 1998 (105th Congress), is amended—

(1) in section 3(a)(8), by inserting "reimbursable or" before "non-reimbursable"; and
(2) striking section 5 and inserting the following:

"SEC. 5. FUNDING.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be made available from the contingent fund of the Senate out of the Account for Expenses for Inquiries and Investigations, for use by the special committee to carry out this resolution—

"(1) not to exceed \$575,000 for the period beginning on April 2, 1998, through February 28, 1999, and \$575,000 for the period beginning on March 1, 1999, through February 29, 2000, of which not to exceed \$200,000 shall be available for each period for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946; and

"(2) such additional sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the special committee.

"(b) EXPENSES.—Payment of expenses of the special committee shall be disbursed upon vouchers approved by the chairman, except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries paid at an annual rate."

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT 105-45

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on May 18, 1998, by the President of the United States:

ILO Convention (No. 111) Concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (Treaty Document No. 105-45.)

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's messages be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith a certified copy of the Convention (No. 111) Concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation), adopted by the International Labor Conference at its 42nd Session in Geneva on June 25, 1958. Also transmitted is the report of the Department of State, with a letter dated January 6, 1997, from then Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, concerning the Convention.

This Convention obligates ratifying countries to declare and pursue a national policy aimed at eliminating discrimination with respect to employment and occupation. As explained more fully in the letter from Secretary Reich, U.S. law and practice fully comport with its provisions.

In the interest of clarifying the domestic application of the Convention, my Administration proposes that two understandings accompany U.S. ratification.

The proposed understandings are as follows:

The United States understands the meaning and scope of Convention No. 111 in light of the relevant conclusions and practice of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations which have been adopted prior to the date of U.S. ratification. The Committee's conclusions and practice are, in any event, not legally binding on the United States and have no force and effect on courts in the United States.

The United States understands that the federal nondiscrimination policy of equal pay for substantially equal work meets the requirements of Convention 111. The United States further understands that Convention 111 does not require or establish the doctrine of comparable worth with respect to compensation as that term is understood under United States law and practice.

These understandings would have no effect on our international obligations under Convention No. 111.

Ratification of this Convention would be consistent with our policy of seeking to adhere to additional international labor instruments as a means both of ensuring that our domestic labor standards meet international requirements, and of enhancing our ability to call other governments to account for failing to fulfill their obligations under International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions. I recommend that the Senate give its advice and consent to the ratification of ILO Convention No. 111.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 18, 1998.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1998

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19. I further ask that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the Senate then begin a period of morning