

friend momentarily. I thank you very much for the opportunity to do so.

Mr. President, I see the presence of the former distinguished majority leader, a member of the Armed Services Committee. I think he desires to seek recognition.

So I yield the floor.

Mr. BYRD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER. I have some remarks, but they are not on the bill, and I will be happy to wait until others have had a chance to speak on the bill, if it is so desired. I wanted to address some remarks to West Virginia's birthday which is on the morrow and also to Father's Day, which is on Sunday. But I will be very happy to delay my remarks until a later hour, if I can just get some indication of when I might be able to have the floor. I yield to the distinguished Senator from Michigan, if he can enlighten me on this point.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wonder if I might just have the floor for a few moments to comment on the remarks of our friend from Arkansas. It won't take me more than 2 or 3 minutes, if he can yield the floor for that purpose. I ask unanimous consent that I be yielded 5 minutes at this time and then the floor return to the Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I so ask.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I will address our friend from Arkansas first. Let me add my comments to the Senator from Virginia. We were just informed last night that this bill was going to be brought back to the floor. We expected there would be the resolution of two appropriations bills before this bill came to the floor. We didn't know when the bill would come back until late last night.

As the Senator from Virginia has indicated, there was a "Dear Colleague" letter circulated indicating objections to any consideration of amendments relative to China, specifically those that might involve visas and other things in that letter, of which I am sure the Senator has a copy.

In addition, there is a specific objection which the chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, as indicated in his letter to the majority leader, to any setting aside, or to quote him: "I object to any unanimous consent request designed to come to a time agreement on or to bring up such an amendment." And the amendment that he is referring to is any amendment in this dealing with the People's Republic of China.

So as one of the managers of the bill here, the minority manager, I have the responsibility, as does the manager on the majority side, to protect Members when there are unanimous consent requests, knowing of objections to those requests.

I, too, join our good friend from Virginia in expressing regret to the Senator from Arkansas for his inconvenience, but we were just informed last night. We were never asked whether or not there would be agreement to setting aside amendments and so forth so that the amendment or amendments of the Senator from Arkansas can be brought up.

Having said all that, there is at least one of these amendments which I am hoping, perhaps, we might be able to get agreement on before this day is over; that is the fourth amendment, which has been dealt with by the Foreign Relations Committee. Unlike the first three amendments, which have not been, the fourth amendment, I understand, has been dealt with by the Foreign Relations Committee. Perhaps we could get that amendment cleared before the debate is over today. We would have to go back to the signers of these letters with these objections in order to accomplish that. But I surely would like to accommodate our friend from Arkansas, if we can, at least to that extent.

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. I thank my distinguished colleague. Momentarily, a telephone message or conversation will take place with the distinguished majority leader, and quite likely, the writers of that letter. So we may have further developments here shortly, I wish to advise my colleague, and the distinguished Senator from Arkansas. I know you have a pressing need to return home, and we are going to try and accommodate everybody as much as we can.

Mr. President, I see the presence of a distinguished member of the committee here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, for his kindness. And I also thank the distinguished Senator from Michigan, Mr. LEVIN, for his consideration and courtesy and kindness as well.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, WEST VIRGINIA

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on June 20, 1863, in the midst of the great Civil War, in which father fought against son and brother fought against brother, a new star in the constellation that we see on that flag was born. It was the 35th star. The great State of West Virginia became a separate government. Its motto, quite appropriate, considering the history of its birth, is "Montani semper liberi"—"Mountaineers are always free." And so I salute my State on its birthday, which will be on tomorrow, as I said; 1863–1998, 135 years, its 135th birthday. Happy Birthday, West Virginia!

Mr. President, I invite my friends in the Senate to visit West Virginia.

When I was in the State legislature, 52 years ago, we had only 4 miles of divided four-lane highways. Think of it—4 miles of divided four-lane highways in all of West Virginia, 52 years ago.

Then commenting on that fact was Raul Tunley, writing in the Saturday Evening Post of February 6, 1960, when he said, with reference to West Virginia's highway system, that it was not to be compared with the highway systems of its neighboring States. His exact words were "Its [highway system] is decades behind that of its neighbors." That was 1960. I was in the Senate at that time, and those words were seared on my memory. "Its highway system is decades behind that of its neighbors."

Well, Mr. President, come to West Virginia now. Many times I have stopped in hotels and motels in West Virginia. I have met travelers from other States, tourists who have come to West Virginia to see its majestic mountains, its viridescent hills and its iridescent sunsets, and they have commented to me, glowingly, upon our highways, the highways that we now have in West Virginia, the State which Raul Tunley disparagingly wrote about in 1960, saying that "Its highway system is decades"—not years—"decades behind that of its neighbors."

Well, Mr. President, we in West Virginia welcome visitors from other States. I trust that Senators at one time or another will have traveled in West Virginia, and that they will have met its fine citizens and tested their hospitality and seen the beauties of nature, all of God's creation, in those mountains.

I have visited over 800 of the 1,000 post offices in West Virginia. So I have had an opportunity to get up the hollows and visit up the creeks and over the hills and in the mountains. I have had an opportunity to see much of West Virginia by virtue of my travels.

And interestingly, Mr. President, West Virginia's post offices, the names of communities and places in West Virginia, tell many stories. If you travel through West Virginia, you can go from Acme to Zenith, from Pax to War. You can sample Justice, Independence and Liberty without leaving your car, and you can drive in Harmony or Confidence, or, if traffic is bad, in Shock. You may even choose to settle in New Era or perhaps in Paradise. Maybe Friendly or Hometown is where you want to sink your roots.

On the other hand, Odd may suit your fancy, if Looneyville, Pickle Street, Pinch, Droop, or Left Hand fail to meet your requirements. These are all place names in West Virginia—towns, cities, and small communities whose names still reflect the hopes and humors of those who settled my quirky but wonderful home state.

Some of these new inhabitants clearly had been elsewhere, or perhaps had missed the homes they left behind, for the map of West Virginia reads like a world atlas. You can tour the sights of

Athens, Belgium, Cairo, Turkey, Ireland, London, Rangoon, Shanghai, Waterloo, Medina, Vienna, Congo, Glasgow, Ghent, and Genoa without a passport—without crossing more than a county line! You could even Tango in Montecarlo. You can see much of the United States as well, including Auburn, Augusta, Bismark, Cleveland, Miami, Dallas, Newark, Denver, Washington, and Wyoming. And if these big cities overwhelm you, the lower key attractions of Minnie, Little, or Pee-wee might be soothing, but if your dreams and fantasies are truly wondrous, then Cinderella—Cinderella, Cinderella—is the place for you.

Some names are more evocative of the settlers' beautiful and wild new surroundings, such as Grassy Meadows, Green Valley, Clear Creek, Deepwater, Lake, Limestone, Shady Spring, Cold Stream, Coldwater, Three Forks, Falling Waters, and even Falling Rock. And speaking of Three Forks, West Virginia's schoolchildren are good in math. When I was a boy, we had the old spelling matches and the arithmetic matches on Friday afternoons. So we are good in math. So there is Onego, there is Two Run, there is Three Forks, there is Three Mile, Three Churches, there is Four Mile, Four States, Five Forks, and Six and even Hundred.

Speaking of falling rock, in fact, rocks figure rather prominently in my state of old mountains. West Virginia communities include, simply, Rock, as well as Rock Camp, Rock Castle, Rock Cave, Rock Creek, Rock Oak, Rockport, Rockcliff, Rockford, Rock Gap, Rock Lick, Rock Valley, and Rock View, in addition to the more flavorful Salt Rock. And of course the trees and animals are not to be overlooked, trees and animals discovered by the settlers are also recorded on the maps—Apple Grove, Birch River, Oak Hill, Paw Paw, Piney View, Willow Island, Beaver, Bob White, Pidgeon, Buffalo, Panther, Wildcat, Deerwalk, Trout, Pike, Wolfcreek—Wolfcreek Hollow is where I spent my boyhood years—Elk Garden, Crow, Duck, and of course, as was already mentioned, Turkey, West Virginia. I am proud to say that in West Virginia, sites as pristine and beautiful as those discovered over two centuries ago can still be savored by today's generations. I proudly offer the spectacular chasm of the New River Gorge, the monumental beauty of Seneca Rocks, the ecological rarity of Dolly Sods, the unique variety and interest of Canaan Valley, where, when I was minority leader, I took all of the democratic Senators there on a weekend for meetings. Sometimes these meetings are called retreats. I think I was the first Senate leader to take Members of the Senate to retreats and especially to the choice, unique retreat, *sui generis*, in Canaan Valley, WV.

There are the scenic and historic virtues of Harpers Ferry at the confluence of two famous rivers—the gentle Shenandoah and the mighty Potomac. The Potomac River rises where? In the

highlands of West Virginia. This is just a short list of West Virginia's many natural treasures.

Of course, West Virginia and King Coal were once nearly synonymous, and the importance that mining played in the life and economy of early West Virginia is also evident in her place names. Alloy, Coalburg, Coal City, Coalfield, Coal Fork, Coal Mountain, Coalton, Coalwood, Coketon, Colliers, Lead Mine, Montcoal, Nitro, Petroleum, and Vulcan, West Virginia, all clearly pay homage to the valuable natural treasure that underlies West Virginia's beauty.

Romance—Shakespeare—had he lived in a later time—may have been thinking of Romance, WV, when he wrote "Romeo and Juliet." Romance has its place as well, both as a community and in the affection of the early settlers for their lady loves, enshrined in countless communities named after them, from Alice and Rachel and Sarah to Minnie and Dollie and Naoma, West Virginia. But some of the most interesting place names relate to the concern that our forebears had to pay to the weather and atmospheric conditions in those days before electricity, central heating, and air conditioning. Ah, what a world it was! West Virginia has towns named Cyclone, Hurricane, Mt. Storm, Skygusty, Tornado, Sun, Twilight, Snowflake, Frost, Mud, and Windy. Clearly, El Nino is not the only weather phenomenon to etch a name for itself in people's memories.

If West Virginia had much to offer those who ventured into her steep mountains, followed her coursing streams in those early days, she has so, so much more to offer the world today. Instead of 4 miles of four-lane, divided highways, as in 1947, she today has 900 miles of four-lane, divided highways. In addition to her stunning good looks, this lady State of the mountains offers the brawn, the brain, and the talents of her hard-working and thoroughly modern populace.

In towns and cities dotted with institutions of higher learning, West Virginia produces the intellectual firepower to combine with the fabled brute strength of her coal miners, her "John Henrys" of old. The transportation system, including the interstate highways and connectors, rail, air, and even river routes, is increasingly interconnected and modern. For those who do not wish to transport goods or to commute in traffic, West Virginia offers an extensive fiberoptic telecommunications network that allows today's cyber workers to combine high-technology jobs with an uncrowded pastoral setting—imagine that, an uncrowded pastoral setting; how majestic, how beautiful West Virginia seems—a low crime rate, and great family life.

By this fall, West Virginia will even boast eight distance learning nodes, allowing her citizens to maintain and expand their high-technology edge. In West Virginia, you can surf a standing river wave in a brightly colored kayak

or surf the net through a computer modem.

Well, Mr. President, may I say to my good friend from Nebraska, Senator KERREY, I have spent my career in public service, and the underlying theme of that half-century of labor is one of nurturing the infrastructure that will allow the natural talents of West Virginia's people to flourish, providing the support and encouragement for West Virginians of all ages to come, come to West Virginia, come to seek a good education, and the necessary transportation links and other services to attract businesses to the State so that these skilled and devoted sons and daughters of the mountains might remain close to home.

While my work has required that I spend much of my time away from the hills and hollows of my youth, I cherish every report of new businesses choosing to establish themselves in West Virginia and West Virginia companies adding jobs and products to their operations in the State. These reports mean that my dreams for West Virginia are coming true, that the dream of so many West Virginians to remain in West Virginia and to raise new generations of mountaineers is becoming a reality. I see that energy and optimism throughout the State as new opportunities, new roads, and new buildings rise alongside the gentle reminders of the great and historic legacy of West Virginia's earlier settlers. It is, after all, proof that Confidence and Paradise can still be found in West Virginia, not far from Prosperity in Raleigh County, WV.

So, Saturday, June 20, is the 135th birthday of West Virginia's establishment as the 35th star in the constellation on our national flag. I know that God's blessings have shone down on her people, on her mountains, on her green hills, and on her green valleys, and that I have been blessed to be a part of securing for her a bright future.

Happy birthday, West Virginia, and best wishes to you always! Montani semper liberi—mountaineers are always free! Mr. President, take that message to China: Mountaineers are always free.

FATHER'S DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on Sunday, June 21, Americans will take time to honor the Nation's fathers. The Bible tells us to "honor thy father and thy mother." But at times, fathers have received less public attention and appreciation than mothers. Mother's Day, after all, has been recognized on a continuing basis since 1914, while Father's Day has only been an official holiday for a little over 25 years.

Mr. President, my State has a proud, though little noted, role in the history of Father's Day. According to the American Book of Days, Fairmont, WV, held a church service honoring fathers in July 1908. The idea did not begin to catch on, however, until a