

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE WILSONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JAMES H. (JIMMY) QUILLEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a cherished house of worship located in the beautiful Smoky Mountain foothills. On Sunday, September 17, 1995, the Wilsonville Baptist Church on Cave Church Road in Cocke County, TN, will celebrate 125 years of dedicated service to the people, to the Nation, and to God.

Since 1870, the tranquil valleys and mountain glens have echoed with mighty sermons and spirited hymns from this magnificent old church, and the messages they have instilled within the hearts of the few have been carried on to the hearts of many. With the guidance of Pastor Adam Sanders and scores of other church leaders throughout its past, Wilsonville Baptist has sent its members to honorable callings in many professions. It has sent its sons and daughters to serve with distinction in defense of America, and the church's legacy of love has made the community a better place for families to maintain the faith of tradition in living the words of the Scriptures.

Wilsonville Baptist Church is an excellent example of how good people in a free land can work and live to sow the seeds of Christian fellowship that have been the mainstay of our Nation's strength, and I only hope that more of our institutions can live up to this example.

It is with a great deal of enthusiasm and honor that I pay tribute to this symbol of community, the Wilsonville Baptist Church, and its outstanding Pastor, Adam Sanders, their members and friends.

TRIBUTE TO DR. E. CREDE HIESTAND ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen and good friend, Dr. E. Crede Hiestand. Dr. Hiestand, of my hometown of Old Fort, OH, is retiring after many dedicated years of service to this community.

Crede grew up in Old Fort and attended school there. After he completed medical school, he came back to Old Fort to set up his practice. Over the years, he has gone beyond the tasks expected of him, successfully striving for the highest level of excellence and professionalism. His reputation is that of a caring, thoughtful, and intelligent friend to all who know him.

Although his shoes will be difficult to fill, Dr. Hiestand can retire with the satisfaction of

knowing that his career will stand as a hallmark for others to emulate. In fact, his three sons, Daniel, Joseph, and Mathew, have all received their medical degrees.

Mr. Speaker, Crede Hiestand's distinguished career is a model of citizenship. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Crede, his wife, Dorothea, and their family well as the Hiestands begin this new chapter in their lives.

A SALUTE TO CLEMENT L. BUENGER: 1995 GREATER CIN- CINNATI BUSINESS HALL OF FAME LAUREATE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a friend and prominent Cincinnati, Clement L. Buenger, who will be inducted into the Greater Cincinnati Business Hall of Fame on September 20, 1995. We thank him for the vision and service that he has so generously given to the business community and the entire Greater Cincinnati area.

Mr. Buenger began his career in 1944 with the U.S. Navy stationed in Manila on a Navy destroyer. He served honorably in our Nation's Armed Forces for 2 years. He then attended Xavier University and graduated in 1950 with a bachelor of science in business administration.

Mr. Buenger started his financial career with Kroger in the late fifties before moving to Fifth Third Bank. Mr. Buenger then worked for about 20 years in different positions before becoming chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Fifth Third in 1989. Under his leadership, Fifth Third became a national banking force by offering innovative banking products and services. During his tenure at Fifth Third, the bank's assets grew from \$569 million in 1969 to \$8.8 billion when he retired in 1993. Mr. Buenger blended the unique combination of financial, technological, and people skills that were needed to move Fifth Third ahead of other banks in the latest technology.

Mr. Buenger has also brought his high caliber of leadership to many areas outside of Fifth Third. He headed the Cincinnati Business Committee's [CBC] study of the Cincinnati Public School System known as the Buenger Commission, which provided a long-term plan for revitalizing Cincinnati's public schools.

He has given his time and talent to the Cincinnati community by serving on the advisory council of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati, the advisory board of the Johnny Bench Scholarship Fund, as well as other civic groups too numerous to mention here.

All of us in Cincinnati congratulate Mr. Buenger for this well-deserved recognition of his many accomplishments. We are grateful for all he has given to Greater Cincinnati.

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the District is fortunate to have as one of its leading publications the 104-year-old Washington Afro-American. The Afro is older and more revered than many of our monuments. It is a community voice of great credibility. Were it not for the Afro, some of the most important matters in the black community would go entirely uncovered. A newspaper does not live as long as the Afro has served this city unless it is serving a unique and special purpose very well.

Every time the Afro publishes, it engages in an act of leadership. I would like to enter into the RECORD an example of that leadership. It is an editorial entitled "Meeting with Newt." Many of my largely liberal Democratic constituents were suspicious when Speaker GINGRICH asked to appear at a town meeting in the District. What did this unprecedented appearance by the Republican Speaker mean? How should he be received by residents and officials? Would he help us or hurt us?

The Afro editorial tried to help D.C. residents and officials answer these legitimate questions. I urge Members to read the editorial and I submit it now for the RECORD.

MEETING WITH NEWT

D.C. residents who have an eye on the future are well aware of how important it is to pay attention to the Party that is in power.

The Republicans now control both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. The Democrats only control the White House. Therefore, it would be political suicide for D.C. residents, who themselves are mostly members of a minority race, to pay attention to just one party.

It is therefore with understanding and good old-fashioned common sense that we welcome the town hall meetings now being held by the Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.).

We applaud Cong. Eleanor Holmes Norton and D.C. Mayor Marion Barry (both Democrats) and even the members of the City Council and the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Franklin Smith, who sat on the platform with Mr. Gingrich at Eastern High School last week.

To our knowledge, this is the first time a Speaker of the House of any party affiliation has taken the time to come out in 90 degree weather and listen to, not talk down to D.C. residents. And to his credit, Mr. Gingrich did just a little talking and a whole lot of listening. As more of these town meetings are held, we urge leaders of organizations, other ministers, and people who both live and work in this city, to come out and tell the Speaker not just our problems but some of our successes. He needs to know what is working; he needs to hear from families who for generations have had an interest in this city; he needs to know that there is a good side, as well as a bad side, to what the Republicans have planned for this city—and he needs to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

know D.C. residents are depending on him to turn his party around and treat D.C. residents the same way they treat their folks back home.

Now is not the time to be quiet. Now is the time to speak out. Speaker Newt Gingrich has opened the door. The next town hall meeting should be held at the air conditioned convention center so that the minds of speakers can concentrate on what they have to say and not the heat.

Congresswoman Norton and Mr. Gingrich have a good thing going here. Let's just hope it is not all talk.

THE LOWER EAST SIDE TENEMENT MUSEUM

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I rise before you today to announce the introduction of a bill that will grant the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, located at 97 Orchard Street in my District, affiliated status with the National Park Service. I have introduced this piece of legislation in conjunction with my colleague and fellow New Yorker, Congresswoman SUSAN MOLINARI, and I trust our efforts will lead to the prompt passage of this bill.

Located on the island of Manhattan, today's Lower East Side remains what it has been for over 150 years: a vibrant, ethnic, working-class enclave welcoming America's newest residents. The earlier European communities which gave distinctive flavors to the neighborhood have been replaced by Asian, Latin American, and Caribbean residents. The immigrant lifestyle, a rich weave of interlacing threads, plays out its daily drama in an environment largely unchanged in many ways from the Lower East Side of 100 years ago. In numerous places 19th century brick tenements still line the streets—housing businesses at the street level, and families in the floors above. The Lower East Side maintains a distinct identity, whose present character harkens back to a Big Apple of yesteryear.

As a nation, we take pride in commemorating important contributions to our culture. Monuments to illustrious leaders abound; icons such as the Statue of Liberty pay homage to our ideals; log cabins and farmhouses stand as symbols of our agrarian roots. Until recently, however, the urban, working-class immigrant element of our heritage remained a historically important, yet undercelebrated sector of the American experience. The Lower East Side Tenement Museum strives to fill that niche, and Congresswoman MOLINARI and I aim to help facilitate that task.

The museum is believed to be the Nation's first to be specifically devoted to the urban immigrant experience. It is housed in an actual historic tenement, and its board members and staff have pursued the museum's mission to interpret immigrant life in the Lower East Side—and its importance to U.S. history. The museum's work has extended into the present social fabric of the Lower East Side, and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum has quickly blossomed into a nationally renowned institution. Its promotion of: tolerance, ethnic diversity, cultural, and intergenerational interaction, and urban understanding have made the museum a valued part of my community,

of New York and of this country as a whole. In no other museum do the past, the present, and the future come together so perfectly, and in a few others can Americans learn so much about their past, while reflecting on the issues they must grapple daily.

The idea of a tenement museum grew out of the social history movement. The latter holds that the history of ordinary people is an important component of an accurate historical record. In the words of the museum's founder and president, Ruth J. Abram,

We've saved log cabins, farmhouses, and the living spaces of the rich and famous. These efforts have greatly enhanced our understanding of ourselves as a nation. But we've never saved an example of the 19th century urban tenement. Without it, our perception of America, and particularly her immigrant, working-class past, is skewed and incomplete.

It is this very vision that has earned the museum such praise, and that has prompted our legislative proposal.

In 1988, the newly formed museum determined to preserve a tenement and selected 97 Orchard Street. Scanning the continuous wall of brick tenements along Orchard Street, it would be difficult to differentiate the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. It looks like all its neighbors up and down Orchard and the surrounding streets. But number 97 is remarkable. While two lower floors continued to operate as commercial space, the top four floors were sealed for decades, until the discovery by the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Rooms, wall paper, plumbing, and lighting are preserved as they were left almost 60 years ago. Due in part, to its exceptional degree of integrity, the building conveys a vivid sense of the conditions experienced by its tenants—conditions shared by millions of tenement dwellers throughout the city.

The building also serves as an excellent material record of the results of early housing reform legislation in New York City, particularly the Tenement House Act of 1901. While living conditions on the Lower East Side declined continually throughout the 19th century, by 1900 they were so deplorable that the city passed its farthest reaching laws to regulate housing. Changes to 97 Orchard Street in 1905, which are a direct result of those laws, survive today and are still clearly chronicled in the tenement's historic fabric. The history of standards for tenement plumbing, lighting, and ventilation, and means of egress, are contained within its walls.

The legislation we have introduced today is a bipartisan effort at allowing this marvelous museum to expand its functions, and while granting it affiliated status with the National Park Service will not cause the latter to incur any costs, it will allow the museum to complement the historical trilogy of Castle Clinton, Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty.

The legislation has been introduced by Senators MOYNIHAN and D'AMATO in the Senate, and promises to clear that Chamber during the present session. The bill is supported by the New York State and city governments, as well as by civic leaders, small business owners, organized labor, the Wall Street community, and the National Park Service. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join Congresswoman MOLINARI and me in sponsoring this historic piece of legislation, and giving the Lower East Side Tenement Museum its right-

ful place in the annals of our great Nation's history.

"VETERANS" AND "AMERICA, THE BEST"

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 1995

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I commend these two poems to my colleagues. They were written by Ellen M. Fisher from Belleview, FL, a constituent of mine.

VETERANS

Our veterans have suffered through many struggles and strife,

To protect our American way of life.

Most of them volunteered to go in our place, Young and old, some from every race.

They've fought in places too numerous to name.

Some we never heard about, others gained heroic fame.

No matter what the assignment, whether a task great or small,

Each and every one of them can stand proud and tall.

They sacrificed so much for us, some limbs, some sight, some lives,

So we could enjoy liberty and freedom and all that freedom buys.

We can never say thank you long or loud enough,

To erase the pain and suffering that has been so very tough.

The things we take for granted, they fought so hard for.

Have you thanked our many veterans for going off to war?

There are those who never came home from war,

And some who have never been accounted for.

The answers to these questions are known somewhere,

They didn't just vanish into thin air.

The door should never be closed on our POW's and MIA's.

While the search continues, America prays.

We want to know without a shadow of a doubt,

Of our friends and loved ones whereabouts.

Our veterans deserve much more than we give.

It's only because of them that we can really live.

They may not be perfect, but neither are we. If it were not for their service, we wouldn't be free.

AMERICA, THE BEST

If you don't think America is the best place on earth,

If you don't want to claim it as the land of your birth,

If you can't look at the red, white, and blue, and say I love it so,

Then take a look around the world at places you might go.

Our world is made up of many countries,

Heartwarming people, beautiful terrain,

Many languages and ideals, but basically we're all the same.

There is no place on earth that enjoys the freedoms Americans have.

We can worship, work, or travel on any day of the week.

There's no one to stop us, when life's many pleasures we seek.