

going to let real ignorance stand in the way of attacking environmental policy, policy which was supported by Republican Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. Therefore, it is very important that we continue to rally support from the scientific community, environmental groups, and our constituents in opposition to this type of real ignorance so that we may preserve our Nation's and the world's most precious commodity, the environment.

JAMES COLGATE CLEVELAND,
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James C. Cleveland, a long-time and invaluable member of the Public Works and Transportation Committee. Jim passed away on December 3, in his beloved State of New Hampshire.

Jim came to the House of Representatives in 1963 after more than a decade in the New Hampshire State Senate. His tenure in the Granite State legislature was marked by an intense and detailed interest in infrastructure and economic development issues. Indeed, he was the chief force behind creation of the New Hampshire Industrial Development Authority.

When Jim came to Congress in 1963, he immediately sought and gained a seat on the Public Works Committee, a position he would hold for the next 18 years. He was a recognized legislative expert in the fields of transportation, water resources, and economic development. His determined belief in the value of public works projects—projects which then and now add value to our Nation and to our everyday lives—helped drive the committee through the 1960's and 1970's.

In addition to his leadership in the House, he was also an inspiration to those of us new arrivals on the committee. I was one of those arrivals—in 1973—and I can say that Jim was a superb mentor and a good friend. His belief in infrastructure and his leadership style was not forgotten when I had the distinct honor to pick up the gavel as committee chairman in the 104th Congress.

There is another and equally compelling aspect to Jim's passing—we have lost yet another member of the "Command Generation." These were the men and women who were born during the Nation's resurgence in the 1920's, weathered with determination the Great Depression, served in World War II, and then helped create the international leviathan for prosperity and justice that was post-war America.

Jim Cleveland was a soldier, a statesman, and a committed private citizen who selflessly served his country with extraordinary distinction. The entire Nation is diminished by his passing.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY AND BOBBIE SHAFFNER; TWO EXCEPTIONAL COMPOSERS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking and congratulating Henry and Bobbie Shaffner who composed an evocative and hauntingly beautiful musical score dedicated to Swedish humanitarian and Holocaust hero, Raoul Wallenberg. Their composition of the song, "Wallenberg," together with the lyrics of Ms. Lillian Lewis, captivated an audience of over 650 people at the dedication of the bust of Wallenberg in the Great Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol on November 2, 1995.

The song, "Wallenberg," is a tribute to Raoul Wallenberg the Swedish diplomat credited with savings 100,000 Jewish lives in Budapest in 1944. Using false passports, diplomat safe houses, and extraordinary bravery, Wallenberg repeatedly deceived and evaded the Nazis in his heroic mission to prevent the deportation of Hungary's Jews in the death camps. Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet authorities after the war and disappeared into the Gulag. His ultimate fate remains a mystery.

The Shaffners' interest and concern about Wallenberg's fate grew after they read about him in a 1980 New York Times article. They joined the Wallenberg Committee of the United States decided to join those seeking to find him and honor his miraculous deeds.

In 1986, the committee commissioned the Shaffners to compose an inspiring piece that would embody Wallenberg's heroic spirit. In 1992, the song was performed with the lyrics of Lillian Lewis at the committee's annual meeting in New York.

Today's the Shaffners' inspirational music is part of a program titled: "Raoul Wallenberg: A Study in Heroes" which has been implemented in over 50 schools in New York, Massachusetts, and North Carolina, in kindergarten through the eighth grade. Plan call for the program to soon spread across the country.

At the dedication ceremony of the Wallenberg bust, the song was performed by the U.S. Army Band, Sergeant First Class Beverly Benda, soprano, and Staff Sergeant Mary Beth Mailand, harp.

A BETTER COUNTRY—
THANKSGIVING SERMON

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insert into the extension of remarks of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a sermon that my constituent, Dr. Randall Lee Saxon, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Peoria, IL, made to his congregation on November 19, 1995, in preparation for Thanksgiving.

Mr. Speaker, I read the sermon and was so moved by Dr. Saxon's words and insightful thought that I wanted to insert it in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the benefit of all my

colleagues. At a time when Congress, and the country, is wrestling with devolution of a Federal Government and personal responsibility, Dr. Saxon's words leapt from the pages as I read them.

A BETTER COUNTRY—A THANKSGIVING
SERMON

(By Rev. Dr. Randall Lee Saxon)

HEBREWS 11: 8, 12-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore".

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A BETTER COUNTRY

Christians are always in search of a better country. Those who take their faith seriously endeavor to move beyond a feel-good religion to a follow-Jesus faith. Such a faith demands that we continue on our journey of discovery, to build upon the good that was present before us, to bring down the walls that divide us, to bridge chasms—real or imagined—that separate us. Christians are always in search of a better country.

As with the people of the early Christian Church and as with the people who followed the patriarchs of early Judaism, the way of the Christian is the way of the Pilgrim.

Those who have the good fortune to visit the Old Town of Rotterdam, in The Netherlands, may visit still the Pilgrim Fathers' Church—as it is yet called—in which the Scrooby Pilgrims and the Leyden Pilgrims held their last service prior to entering on their incredible journey to discover a better country. Those staunch and visionary forebears of ours worshipped together, then made their way down to the water where they boarded the *Speedwell* to begin their westward journey. Written bold upon a plaque secured to a warehouse on that Rotterdam waterfront is a commemoration to the departure of the Pilgrims.

From The Netherlands, the little ship bearing the Pilgrim band sailed to Plymouth, England. In the English port, after a period of time, the pilgrims boarded a larger ship, the *Mayflower*, and set sail for the brave new world awaiting them across the dark and brooding Atlantic waters. As in Rotterdam, so in Plymouth one may today read of this bold departure of the Pilgrims, commemorating in words writ upon the grand Mayflower Monument the extraordinary event of the journey to discover a better country and thus a better life.

We can imagine that these pious people reflected on the words of Hebrews 11 in the Holy Scripture: People who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But, as it is, they desired a better country . . .

We know that many factors figured in the Pilgrims' decision to leave home and cross the great sea in search of a new land, a better country. As children in public and private schools across America, we are given

opportunity to re-examine the religious and political persecutions and deep yearning of the human spirit which emboldened the Pilgrims to set sail for America. They sought an opportunity to worship as they thought fitting, to engage themselves in self-determination and the utilization of individual gifts for the common purpose of building community. They yearned for a government which would be best described by an American president 243 years after they sailed from Plymouth, a government in which the common people were involved; a government of the people, for the people, and by the people.

Yet, strange-seeming upon first consideration, these same Pilgrims who were willing to leave hearth and homeland for a wild and distant country viewed themselves as strangers and foreigners on the earth. As people of God, they sought with great diligence to live as people of faith in an often faithless world. These Pilgrims held values which transcended the simple "be a good person, be nice to your neighbor" values in human relationships. These values demanded much more of the individual and of society than simply "being nice"; these values demanded one's life commitment to the upbuilding of the kingdom of God. It is no wonder historians who trace the Euro-American pilgrimage from its inception to the present day call the experiment of the Pilgrims by the name "Zion in the Wilderness". There was purpose and commitment in what the Pilgrims set out to accomplish. Their journey was to a better country!

The Church today is called to remember it is still on that same journey that set sail the Pilgrims so long ago.

The Church exists today as resident aliens, an adventurous colony in a society of unbelief. As a society of unbelief, Western culture is devoid of a sense of journey, of adventure, because it lacks belief in much more than the cultivation of an ever-shrinking horizon of self-preservation and self-expression.

The ancient Hebrew patriarchs, the disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, the Pilgrims of the seventeenth century, the visionaries who held "these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness", the founders of this visionary congregation—First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, IL—160 years ago, all were traveling the road to a better country. They had, as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King has said, "a dream."

To tell the truth, that dream, those visions, have taken on the fearful characteristics of a nightmare. The nation—the better country—the Pilgrim people sought to discover and build upon has drifted loose from its moral moorings into a sea of self-centeredness, a Devil's Triangle of you-do-your-thing-and-I'll-do-mine-and-that's-all-that-matters-anyway boorishness that shakes the very foundation of our society.

The home of the brave and land of the free in the 1990s—fifteen generations after the Pilgrims landed on the Massachusetts shore—has become the home of the fearful and the land of the imprisoned. America today has more citizens in prison, per capita, than any other nation in the free world. The experience of being "free" is what many do not experience!

We have winked at the discord in our nation. We have turned away from taking personal responsibility to become change agents involved in the creation of a better country. We have come to blame the three branches of our federal government for our troubles, making scapegoats of the very people we have elected to lead us. It is hard to hear and harder again to admit, but many of us do not

experience freedom as the Pilgrims sought to create to. We are fearful instead. Our everyday lives point to this truth.

Consider our overstocked medicine cabinets, burglar alarms, vast ghettos, and drug culture. Eighteen-hundred New Yorkers are murdered every year by their fellow citizens in a city whose police department is larger than the standing army of many nations.

We have become fearful of one another. We seem to have lost our way on that journey to a better country. Where is the vision of the Pilgrim people? Why do we cower in fear and confusion, choosing to attempt to outrun the darkness rather than turn and say with conviction, "Enough!". Those people of varied races and religious tradition and ages who have taken such a stand against corruption in their individual communities have made a difference, they have shined a light into the darkness and recaptured a vision of a better country. May God bless them, and our native land!

The time has come again for the people of God to become a Pilgrim people! The time has come again for the people of God to say what they believe, and to set sail on a journey that will lead us all to a better country. What am I saying? Leave America for another place?

Not at all! Despite her flaws, America is yet the greatest nation on earth, for people still risk their lives to make this land their home. Hear me now! I am calling us to recapture the vision of a better country. And to lift up that vision. I am calling us to work together, beginning right here in our own community, to shape a better country so that the little children around us can grow up in a better world. I am calling us to be done with the idiocy of self-centered pettiness that only desecrates, divides, and denigrates the World of God. I am calling us to catch the vision of a better country, and to lift it high in the name of our blessed Lord, Jesus Christ, who has already journeyed ahead of us, calling, "Follow me!"

How do we do this? How do we answer this call? We begin by doing away with the habit of blaming others for our troubles. We become more proactive and less reactive. I say this to you in response to the challenge before us:

1. Pray without ceasing that God will use you and this congregation to build a better country. Every great change in the nation began in the minds and hearts and spirits of the people who helped make this country great. Change may be facilitated "out there", but it must begin in here, in the mind and heart and spirit of the individual. And in the home towns of America.

2. Pray to forgive those who divide and deride; counsel them to repent and turn to the Lord, so their vision may be outward and upward rather than inward and downward. Remember John Kennedy's words: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country!". Then do it.

3. Open your eyes and your mind to see where your unique, personal gifts can be used to help make life better. For example, offer to ring a bell at a Salvation Army kettle, join hands with others at work in one of our city soup kitchens or other missions, assist as a hospital volunteer, give blood: one pint of that vital fluid may save a life, sign on the line on the back of your driver's license and commit yourself to becoming an organ donor (hundred of thousands of lives could be saved annually if more of us would do this), visit the hospitalized, run an errand for one who is ill, comfort the afflicted, challenge the comfortable, teach in our Sunday School. You get the idea. The need is great; open your eyes and minds and respond.

4. Contact our elected representatives and urge them to remember and act on the words

of our sixteenth president, that our government may be of, by and for the people. Rather than deride the people you elected to represent you, work with them to shape a brighter, better future for all who call America home.

5. Live each day as if it were your last, devoting energy to those profoundly simple acts of discipleship we discover by lifting up faith, hope and love. And, in that instant, make a difference for good and to God's glory in the life of someone else. Do you begin to realize what a radical difference you can initiate simply by lifting up the values and mores which helped build this country, those aspects of national character which begin on our hearths and in our hearts as we teach our children about God and goodness and grace?

Yes, Christians are always in search of a better country. Those who take their faith seriously endeavor to move beyond a feel-good religion to a follow-Jesus faith. The choice, really, is up to you. You can sit morosely by, captured by a culture of complaint and complacency, or you can let the living God fill your sails with the wind of His Spirit, empowering you to move forward on that journey to a better country.

The America of tomorrow awaits your decision to act. Decide wisely, pilgrim, for you touch the trembling, fragile future with your individual hands and hearts. May God bless America. May God bless you. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF LIBERATION OF SURVIVORS STAMP

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this morning I joined with Senator CARL LEVIN, Postmaster General Runyan, and Postal Governor David Fineman to present a framed enlargement of the liberation of survivors stamp to the U.S. Holocaust Museum.

It is appropriate that we are presenting this stamp this year, as we observe the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps by U.S. Armed Forces. This Holocaust stamp pays tribute to the many thousands of American soldiers whose considerable self-sacrifice and heroism as liberators of the death camps led to the disclosure of the truth, and to the enormity of such crimes against the Jewish people and humanity. The liberators' selfless dedication will never be forgotten, just as those who perished will never be forgotten.

Year after year there are fewer witnesses remaining among us. The efforts of institutions like the U.S. Holocaust Museum and the U.S. Postal Service in commemorating this historical event will help ensure that the future generations will not forget the Holocaust. We must remember that we must fight every day in the war against ignorance and bigotry. It is our responsibility to remain forever vigilant, as we pursue justice for ourselves and for others throughout the world who face oppression.

A TRIBUTE TO HARDY L. BROWN

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring to your attention today the fine