

point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for my colleagues' review, and urge all Members of the House of Representatives to express their support for the work of the Holocaust Memorial Museum by cosponsoring this legislation, House Resolution 316.

H. RES. 316

Deploring individuals who deny the historical reality of the Holocaust and commending the vital, ongoing work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Whereas the Holocaust is a basic fact of history, the denial of which is no less absurd than the denial of the occurrence of the Second World War;

Whereas the Holocaust—the systematic, state-sponsored mass murders by Nazi Germany of 6,000,000 Jews, alongside millions of others, in the name of a perverse racial theory—stands as one of the most ferociously heinous state acts the world has ever known; and

Whereas those who promote the denial of the Holocaust do so out of profound ignorance or for the purpose of furthering anti-Semitism and racism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) deplores the persistent, ongoing and malicious efforts by some persons in this country and abroad to deny the historical reality of the Holocaust; and

(2) commends the vital, ongoing work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which memorializes the victims of the Holocaust and teaches all who are willing to learn profoundly compelling and universally resonant moral lessons.

H.R. 1804, THE JUDGE ISAAC PARKER FEDERAL BUILDING

HON. Y. TIM HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, recently the House passed H.R. 1804, which would name the Federal building in Fort Smith, AR, after Judge Isaac Parker.

While this legislation was overwhelmingly supported by 373 Members of the House, there were 40 Members who voted against H.R. 1804. It was subsequently reported that a number of Members who voted against the bill did so because they believed Judge Parker was a racist and one was even quoted as saying Parker "Hung blacks because they were black."

This past year our country faced the issue of race in ways it never had before. It is a sad and unfortunate fact that racism is alive and well in our society today. It is also a fact that racism knows no color or ethnic boundaries. People of all races are subject to their own prejudices. We must all fight to overcome our own personal prejudices and biases.

That is why I cannot allow the statements about Judge Parker to go unanswered. I think it is important for people to know the real Judge Parker and the man that he was. He was a man who was ahead of his time. He was a man who freely gave of himself to his community. He was a man who had a deep respect for the law and a deep concern for those who came before his court. His reputation is so respected that 100 years after his death the citizens of Fort Smith, AR still want to honor him and his legacy.

I would, therefore, bring to your attention letters which were sent to me from the Department of the Interior the day after the vote on H.R. 1804. One is from the superintendent of the Fort Smith National Historic Site and the other is a letter to the editor by the park historian. I hope this information is helpful to Members' understanding of the real Judge Parker.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,

Fort Smith, AR, December 6, 1995.

Hon. TIM HUTCHINSON,

U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HUTCHINSON: We have been following your efforts over the last few months to rename the Fort Smith federal building in honor of Judge Isaac C. Parker with great interest and support. I read the news article in this morning's paper and was surprised and disappointed to read the statements calling Judge Parker a racist and the unsubstantiated remarks that he hanged blacks "just because they were black". There is no historical record supporting these statements. In fact the record proves just the opposite. Our historian has written the attached letter to the editor to hopefully clarify the issue. She also received a call today from the AP service in Little Rock about this and she provided the same information to them. We are forwarding similar letters to Senators Bumpers and Pryor in the hopes that they will also support your efforts.

I am sorry that we did not offer you more substantial support earlier in the process. I was frankly surprised that there would be much protest. If we can provide you any further details or information please call on us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM N. BLACK,
Superintendent.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,

Fort Smith, AR, December 6, 1995.

EDITOR,

Southwest Times Record,
Fort Smith, AR.

TO THE EDITOR: In response to criticism of Isaac C. Parker leveled by lawmakers opposing the House bill to name the federal courthouse in Fort Smith after the judge, I would like to make the following comments. The statement that Parker hanged African Americans "just because they were black" is simply not true. Of the 87 men who were executed on the Fort Smith gallows (79 of those while Parker was on the bench), 33 (38%) were white, 36 (41%) were Indian and 18 (21%) were black. Of those 18 African Americans, 17 were convicted of murder and one of rape in jury trials. Federal statute at that time ordered that anyone convicted of rape or murder was to receive the death penalty. Parker had no choice except to sentence these people to death.

Furthermore, Parker provided opportunities for African Americans that otherwise would not have been available. He appointed Bass Reeves the first African American deputy U.S. marshal west of the Mississippi in 1875. Other blacks served prominently on the deputy force throughout Parker's years in Fort Smith, including Grant Johnson, Zeke Miller, Robert Fortune, John Garrett and Bynum Colbert. Parker's personal bailiff while he was in Fort Smith was a former slave named George Winston. Other African Americans served on the staff of the federal jail at Fort Smith.

Nothing in the historical record supports the idea that Parker was a racist. The Ohio native, Union Civil War veteran and Congressman from Missouri used his position as

a federal judge to empower African Americans. Yes, there were black men hanged on the gallows, but these were convicted criminals guilty of severe crimes. By the time they reach Parker's courtroom, there was little he could do but provide them a fair trial and then, if necessary, sentence them as the law provided.

Sincerely,

JULIET L. GALONKA,
Park Historian.

AWARD-WINNING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important issues for the future of our Nation is the application of responsible environmental policy. Our natural resources are most precious, and cannot be replaced. Our policy decisions must be based upon careful deliberations sounded in credible, objective, and thorough information. I am proud to say that the Bay City Times has been tremendously successful in meeting this test with its award-winning series, "Cleaning our Troubled Waters".

Over an 8-day period last year, the Bay City Times carefully examined the facts surrounding the condition of the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River. The State of Michigan had dedicated this waterway as the most contaminated body of water in the State. The people who live around the Saginaw Bay and River, and who depend upon it as a source of water, recreation, and commerce, deserved and needed accurate information, and they got it.

Nearly half of the editorial staff of the Times worked on this series over a 10-month period, carefully checking and rechecking information to provide as accurate a view of the situation as possible. Their hard work resulted in four major awards: the 1994 Associated Press Division 2 News Sweepstakes Award; 1st place in the 1994 AP Division 2 Public Service for News; Michigan United Conservation Club's Ben East Award; and 2d place for Local News Reporting from the Michigan Press Association.

Following an exhaustive review of environmental records, numerous site visits, extensive interviews, this series has enlightened many of us who truly care about how we preserve the Saginaw Water Basin, how we keep funding alive for the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative, and what each of us can do to be more aware of the impact that we have on our environment.

I want to offer my heartiest congratulations to the dedicated staff who worked on this series: Reporters Eric English, Kelly Adrian Frick, Tom Gilchrist, Greta Guest, Lydia Hodges, John Herbst, Jenni Laidman, and Amy Reyes; photographers Wes Stafford and Dick Van Nostrand; graphic artist Tammie Stimpfel; and editors Elizabeth Gunther, Pam Panchak and David Vizard. These people contributed to the work of a lifetime, and their efforts should have a major impact on public policy designed to safeguard the Saginaw Bay and River. I also want to compliment Bay City Times publisher Kevin Dykema and editor Paul Keep for having the foresight to devote this level of skilled resources to a project that

could be very unpopular, but was, nonetheless, vital for the long-term environmental health of our area.

Mr. Speaker, in this instance a marvelous case was made to justify action to preserve a vital resource. All communities should be so lucky to have such a thorough and professional review of a vital resource. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in complimenting the Bay City Times and its award-winning staff for truly trying to help clean our troubled waters.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, I ask all Members to support H.R. 2579.

Embodied in this bill are some of the bold-est new ideas to ever come out of the private sector.

H.R. 2579 will strengthen U.S. tourism promotion efforts in an expanding and highly-competitive international market.

Our bill builds on the strength of the travel and tourism industry, rather putting another item on the Federal Government's tab.

The 1700 delegates to the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism have already endorsed our public-private partnership plan that does just that.

Some in Congress may ask why it is so critical that we focus on tourism, particularly tourism from abroad.

I can tell you in very clear terms—this is a \$535 billion business.

But this year, we will have 2 million fewer visitors from abroad than 2 years ago.

What is 2 million visitors here or there?

That drop has cost us 177,000 jobs which should have gone to American workers.

H.R. 2579, the Travel and Tourism Partnership Act would change this.

Through partnering government with the resources and creative talents of the American tourism industry, we can recapture our share of the world market.

For future jobs and economic growth in your district, join me in supporting this ground breaking legislation.

COMMUNITY OF IMLAY CITY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the citizens of Imlay City, MI, as they celebrate the official opening of their new city office building.

In 1850 the Township of Imlay first was recognized by an act of the Michigan Legislature. As the area developed, it became apparent to the city officials that they must plan for the future, and therefore on April 14, 1872, Imlay City was incorporated. Since that time the population has grown from less than 500 to approximately 3,000 residents.

The first city office building was finished in 1904, the second was opened in 1975; this third facility is to be dedicated today, December 20, 1995. Planning for this facility has been long in the works with the many and growing needs of the community taken into account in order that this new building will serve for many years to come. As planning began, the city commission and city manager were particularly concerned and committed to making sure that the building would be accessible to all their residents and be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I stand before my colleagues today to compliment all the citizens of Imlay City on the opening of their new city office building that is dedicated to serving the needs of all the residents.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL ON THE 40TH ANNIVER- SARY OF HIS ELECTION TO CON- GRESS

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the dean of this House and a very good friend, Congressman JOHN D. DINGELL.

JOHN DINGELL is, without question, one of the most respected Members of this institution. And so it is highly appropriate that we gather to recognize his remarkable 40-year record of service and achievement.

When you look at that record, you have to marvel at Congressman DINGELL's sphere of influence, for it is far reaching.

Most Members of Congress, either through conscious choice or subconscious tendency, choose a level at which to focus their energies. For some, it is on national policies. For others, it is on local issue. It is rare to find a legislator who has the energy, the intellect, and the political savvy to do both.

JOHN DINGELL is just such a legislator, one who shapes national policies and works with great diligence for Michigan's 16th District.

I would invite you to first look at the national policy arena, where JOHN DINGELL has worked to better the lives of the American people through his powerful committee position.

He has been—and remains—an effective advocate of consumers and taxpayers, whose interests he vigilantly defends. He also has worked to help disabled Americans gain access that the rest of us sometimes take for granted. And his service has benefited all who value a healthy environment and the protection of rare lands and species.

Closer to home, well, the citizens of the 16th are hardworking people; people who understand and appreciate the value of a hardworking Representative. That's why, 20 times and by overwhelming margins, they've chosen JOHN DINGELL as their voice here in the Nation's Capital.

And he's a powerful voice for them. Congressman DINGELL works hard here to protect Michigan jobs and create new ones. He fights for working families, for veterans, for seniors, for students. He also has developed important environmental initiatives on local waterways.

Finally, I would like to point out that this House, too, benefits greatly from Mr. DIN-

GELL's service. He is a man of integrity. Of course, he is also a tremendous source of institutional knowledge. And he is a master of House rules and procedures. I am honored to serve with him and count him as a personal friend.

Let me note again, Mr. Speaker, that it is a true pleasure to recognize the gentleman from Michigan and commemorate his four decades of distinguished service.

THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT FROM PETER NICHOLAS TO DUKE UNI- VERSITY

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, my district is proud to be the home of Duke University, one of our Nation's finest institutions of higher education. On December 7, that university happily announced a gift of \$20 million from the family of Peter M. Nicholas, a Massachusetts business executive and trustee of the university as well as the founder and president of Boston Scientific, a leading manufacturer of medical devices. His family's gift will support Duke University's School of the Environment, which the university has renamed in honor of the Nicholas family.

The Nicholas School of the Environment is unique among university programs dedicated to environmental research and education, in that it bases its approach to complex environmental problems in an interdisciplinary perspective. As a former academic myself, I know that a broad focus grounded in the insight and understanding of different scientific disciplines provides a powerful way of unraveling the most complicated problems. Other institutions tend to approach problems of the environment from either a scientific or public policy perspective, and advances in understanding our environment have certainly come from this traditional approach. But my constituents at Duke are excited about the potential that is offered by looking at environmental problems from an interdisciplinary perspective including natural sciences, public policy, economics, and management. I too share their optimism, and look forward to hearing of significant advances made at the Nicholas School of the Environment.

At the university's news conference announcing the gift, there were many comments made about the importance of the school's programs of research and education, and about the importance to all life on earth of understanding our environment better. However, when asked the reasons why his family had chosen to make this generous gift to support environmental research and education at Duke, Peter Nicholas stressed an important theme that echoes something many of us in public service have been saying.

"Government * * * can't do everything. What the government is trying to do is come to terms with what its role is with respect to the priorities of the country," Mr. Nicholas said.

Mr. Nicholas went on to note his belief that educational institutions have a responsibility to help understand issues, set priorities, "and then galvanize the resource that exists