

# TRIBUTE TO DR. LESLIE S. WRIGHT

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, the Rotary Club of Birmingham, AL honored Dr. Leslie S. Wright on Wednesday, January 25 for his outstanding leadership during the 1985-88 term as Rotary International's PolioPlus campaign chairman. During his 3-year tenure as leader of this worldwide fundraising effort, Dr. Wright inspired and motivated Rotarians around the globe to more than double their original goal of \$120 million. To date, Rotarians, companies, and individuals have donated over \$247 million to rid the world of polio by the year 2005.

Not only has the money been raised, but thousands of Rotarians have volunteered countless hours toward 1 billion children being immunized. Our own hemisphere has been declared free of polio and we are well on our way to seeing an end to this dreaded disease before the target date of 2005. Altogether, 141 countries are now polio free. It is a grand understatement to say that the response to Dr. Wright's dynamic leadership was overwhelming.

A native of Birmingham, Leslie S. Wright earned two degrees from the University of Louisville. He has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees by Auburn University, the University of Alabama, Troy State University, Samford University, and the University of Louisville. In 1983, he retired as president of Samford University, having served there since 1958. He remains the university's chancellor.

A Rotarian since 1947, Dr. Wright is a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Birmingham. He has served Rotary International as district governor, International assembly instructor, committee member and chairman, and director. He has received the Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award from the Rotary foundation for his support of its international humanitarian and educational programs. He was appointed a charter member of the Alabama State Ethics Commission in 1973, serving a total of 6 years. He was twice chairman of the commission.

Perhaps more than anyone else, Dr. Wright led the way in the drive to eradicate polio. I can think of no one more deserving of this honor and praise that was recently bestowed by his fellow Rotarians in Birmingham.

I applaud his vision and congratulate him on his many achievements.

## THE UAB COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER VACCINE TRIALS

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, as we know, a vaccine against cancer is one of the most eagerly sought objectives of medical science. Preclinical studies and patient trials of several potential vaccines are under way in the United States and Europe.

At the University of Alabama at Birmingham's [UAB] Comprehensive Can-

cer Center, at least four cancer vaccine strategies are being developed. Two of these approaches are now in clinical trials open to patients. The other two are in development in preclinical animal studies.

In 1993, the National Cancer Institute [NCI] and the UAB Cancer Center entered into a cooperative agreement which provided the center with \$1.5 million in support over 5 years to conduct a series of cancer vaccine trials.

The UAB Cancer Center is one of 27 such centers in the Nation that meets the high standards for comprehensive designation by the NCI, and it was one of the first eight so designated in 1973. Now in its 23d year of core grant support by the NCI, the UAB center was renewed this year for core funding over the next 5 years in the range of \$27 million. After meticulous review, the NCI also gave the center its highest priority rating based on program excellence.

The trials currently under way at UAB include those for breast cancer, colon cancer, and melanoma. The traditional concept of vaccination is to protect against future exposure to disease. Through work such as that being done at UAB, this concept is now being extended to include therapeutic applications to stimulate the immune system to kill tumor cells or infections like AIDS that already are established in the body.

I want to commend and congratulate the outstanding physicians and scientists at UAB who are working so hard to make the hope of a cancer vaccine a reality. I ask unanimous consent that an article detailing the colon cancer vaccine trials from the Birmingham Post-Herald be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

### NEW VACCINE USED TO FIGHT COLON CANCER (By John Staed)

Birmingham scientists successfully used a vaccine to get the body's immune system to fight colon cancer cells, marking the first time in the world the therapy has worked on human patients.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham researchers also reported plans to test a genetic vaccine for breast cancer in women. The vaccine causes the immune system to recognize and attack breast cancer tumor cells.

Until now, vaccines have normally been used to prevent diseases such as polio or mumps. This new approach by scientists enhances the body's immune system responses to existing diseases, said Dr. Albert LoBuglio, director of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. LoBuglio spoke yesterday during a briefing on developments at the center and UAB's new Vaccine Center.

Among its projects, the vaccine center is examining ways to develop immunizations for bugs that cause pneumonia, to introduce vaccine doses in foods to lower immunization costs, and to find new vaccines for infectious diseases that are increasingly resistant to modern antibiotics.

In the colon cancer research, four patients who had colon cancer tumors surgically removed but who had a 60 percent chance of recurrence were treated over 16 weeks with the new vaccine.

"Two of the four have developed substantial immune responses," LoBuglio said.

"We're hoping it translates into an anti-tumor effect."

Colon cancer, or cancer of the large bowel and rectum, is expected to be diagnosed in 149,000 people this year in the United States. Together, the cancers of the colon and rectum are second only to lung cancer as a cause of cancer deaths.

About half of the colon cancers are cured by traditional treatments. The genetic treatments came after patients had gone through surgery alone or chemotherapy and surgery.

Dr. Robert Conry, co-investigator with LoBuglio, said if the vaccine proved successful through expanded studies, it might be available for clinical use after five years. But, he said, many more safety and reliability studies are needed.

Scientists' expanding knowledge of the body's immune system has been critical in development of the new treatments, Conry said. This information "is allowing us to, in a more informed way, develop vaccines for infectious disease as well as tumors," he said.

The vaccines could help doctors "harness the potential of the immune system" to treat cancers, Conry said. "Since these vaccines have little or no side effects, it will provide a welcome alternative to chemotherapy, which has significant side effects."

Cancer develops from the uncontrolled growth of cells within the body. Normally, the body's immune system would destroy disease, but cancer, because it developed from the body's own cells, goes undetected.

To trick the immune system into attacking the colon cancer cells, scientists enlisted the help of the virus used to eliminate smallpox, the vaccinia virus, and a protein called carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA).

Scientists found a way to use insect cells to safely produce the CEA protein.

The smallpox vaccine with the CEA protein genetically added to it triggers an immune response to malignant cells. The scientists' goal is to prevent recurrence of colon cancer by destroying remaining cancer cell "floaters" that are left circulating in the body after surgery.

In the breast cancer research, scientists will be using a genetically engineered vaccine to both produce an immune response to breast cancer cells and eradicate cancer cells.

One woman has been selected to soon begin the anti-tumor vaccine pilot study, and cancer center officials hope to include 30 women in the trial.

The women must have breast cancer that has spread, but that is responding to hormonal treatments, said Janis Zeanah, a spokeswoman for the cancer center.

Women will be injected with a vaccine containing the CEA protein. Scientists hope that it will cause the immune system to respond the same way as it has in the colon cancer test and destroy the cancerous cells.

## MEXICAN LOAN GUARANTEE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the New York Times report this morning about the American job losses that may result from Mexico's currency crisis is sobering.

The loss of jobs as the economy of Mexico responds to the peso devaluation is a price that will be paid by American workers and their families. The past 2 years of strong export sales to Mexico have helped create about 770,000 American jobs directly tied to that export market. When that market

collapses, those jobs are placed in jeopardy.

That is why we should recognize that the proposed loan guarantee to address Mexico's economic situation is in our national interest. The loan guarantee has been called a bailout and worse, but those who like to throw such terms around don't take into account that real working people's jobs are also at stake.

The loan guarantee is not a foreign aid package.

It is structured to avoid placing Government funds at risk. Mexico would be required to pay loan guarantee fees up front—before the guarantee took effect and before loans would be extended. Those fees would indemnify American taxpayers in exchange for Mexico's right to use our guarantee.

In addition, Mexico would provide security in the form of proceeds from the state-owned petroleum company, guaranteeing that America would be repaid if the loan guarantees were ever activated.

As a result, the extension of loan guarantees would not implicate any Treasury costs in taxpayer dollars. And the risk of exposing tax dollars to possible future loss would be protected by our access to Mexico's export oil earnings.

Even today, the Mexican economy is fundamentally sound. It will rebound and grow. The question for Americans to consider is how long the rebound will take and what potential depths of turmoil the country is likely to encounter in the meantime.

Both those questions matter to Americans because turmoil and joblessness in Mexico will inevitably lead to even greater pressures on our southern border, as people search for a way to earn a living and feed their families.

How long it will take for a Mexican economic recovery matters very much to workers whose products are sold in the Mexican market. They are the Americans whose jobs are at risk today, particularly in the southern border States.

Not only are States like Texas, Arizona, and California the ones to which illegal entrants are first drawn, these are also the States with some of the highest export sales to Mexico.

California sells \$5 billion worth of products to Mexico each year. Nearly 20 percent of Arizona's export sales are made in Mexico. Texas relies on the Mexican market for more than one-third of all its overseas sales—\$13 billion per year.

So, while the jobs of American workers will be placed at risk because of the collapse of the Mexican market for their goods, those border States will also face the pressures of increased illegal entrants.

But the job and income losses will not be limited to the southern border States. States all over the country sell products to Mexico, and residents of practically every State are employed in the process. Even South Dakota,

which is one of the Nation's smaller States in terms of population, had sales of \$4 million per year to the Mexican market.

I know \$4 million doesn't sound like much compared to \$13 billion from Texas, but, in a small State, we take our millions very seriously.

Changes in traditional export relationships are occurring very quickly in today's new global marketplace. Our premier trading partners are Canada and Japan. However, last year our sales to Mexico practically equalled our sales to Japan.

More American exports mean more American jobs. Export-related jobs are relatively high-wage jobs, typically paying between 10 and 20 percent more than the average American job. So, export jobs are among the most desirable in the economy. When they're placed at risk, more income is jeopardized, and a replacement job at a similar income is harder to find.

The growth of our Mexican exports to a total of \$41 billion in 1993 is estimated to have reached more than 10 percent in 1994. In all, since 1987, American sales to Mexico have almost doubled. It's not surprising that private economic forecasters are predicting the potential for significantly large American job losses if this market is allowed to crumble.

We cannot change what has already happened. The peso devaluation that caused the temporary economic reaction in Mexico is a fact of history. But we can help determine how severe its fallout will be for Americans by the speed and firmness with which we act now.

This should not be an opportunity for partisan posturing. We are not talking about the loss of Republican jobs or Democratic jobs. We are talking about the loss of American jobs. Those workers ought to be able to rely on their Congress to set partisanship aside when their livelihood is at stake.

The former President of the United States, President Bush, on January 19, agreed that it is vital for Congress to move promptly on the loan guarantee package.

President Bush stated,

The plan is not a giveaway. \* \* \* In my view, the guarantees will never have to be called.

On January 18, President Clinton said,

The guarantees we will provide are not foreign aid. They are not a gift. They are not a bailout. They are not U.S. Government loans. And they will not affect our current budget deficit. \* \* \* no guarantees will be issued unless we are satisfied that Mexico can provide assured means of repayment.

Both Presidents are right. The plan is not a giveaway. It is the loan of a hose to a neighbor whose house is on fire. We're not proposing to build a fire station and equip it. We're just passing the hose across the fence.

I hope the Congress can agree to set aside partisan bickering and do the right thing now. It's never easy to stand up and vote for something when

the polls indicate that people may not understand it, or might draw the wrong conclusions.

But it is the task of leaders to lead. This is the right thing to do—not just for our neighbor and trading partner to the south, but for America. I hope my colleagues in the Senate—on both sides of the aisle—will work with the administration to approve the proposed loan guarantee legislation as quickly as possible.

#### THE PATH TO A BUDGET PACKAGE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, there will be much discussion about what will be in the budget package this year. The President will present his list of program terminations, reforms, and money saving proposals. The Congress working with Governors, State and local officials, and many others will start work on a fiscal blueprint for the country's future. And newspapers every day for the next few weeks will be filled with stories about various money saving ideas that are under consideration.

I want to describe the decision-making process that will be going on over the next few months. I also want to tell you why these budget proposals are under consideration in the first place, and how they fit into the bigger picture—the future prosperity of our country. Most important, keep in mind that these are only preliminary proposals and final decisions won't be made until a great deal of fact finding has been done.

The United States currently has \$4.8 trillion in outstanding debt. Just paying the interest on the debt takes 14 cents out of every dollar Americans are paying in Federal income taxes. Every man, woman, and child's share of the national debt is more than \$18,000. Current estimates show our annual deficit increasing every year, growing from \$175 billion this year to over \$250 billion in the year 2000. We are mortgaging our children's and grandchildren's future.

This premise was eloquently stated by Laurence Tribe of Harvard Law School:

Given the centrality in our revolutionary origins of the precept that there should be no taxation without representation, it seems especially fitting in principle that we cannot spend our children's legacy.

Deficit spending and adding to the national debt cannot go on. Governments are no different than families. We all know friends who have let their personal finances get out of hand. Some of us have experienced it ourselves. At some point the out-of-control spending catches up and the credit cards have to be cut up or the family goes bankrupt.

When governments let their deficit spending get out of control, citizens suffer. The economy produces fewer and lower paying jobs. This relationship between our Nation's spending