

Some South Dakota small businesses have grown to become regional and national success stories. A prime example of entrepreneurial spirit in action is Gateway 2000, a mail order personal computer (PC) corporation started 10 years ago in a farmhouse. Because of South Dakota's excellent business climate and a solid work ethic, Gateway 2000 has become the tri-state metropolitan area's second largest employer and the largest mail-order PC vendor in the United States. Gateway 2000 is a testimonial to what can be achieved with a vision and a strong work ethic.

When I travel home to South Dakota, I always marvel at the continued development my home State has undergone. Entrepreneurial South Dakotans have helped South Dakota evolve into a diverse industrial breadbasket. Now, with the designation of Sioux Falls, SD, as an international port-of-entry, the success of South Dakota will extend to new markets around the world. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a recent article from the Sioux Falls Argus Leader which details South Dakota's economic boom. I am sure all who read it will be impressed with South Dakota's recent surge of economic development.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT CITED IN CITY'S
HIGH RATING

(By Brenda Wade Schmidt)

Sioux Falls' ranking as the sixth best hot spot for entrepreneurs shows that programs to help business people get started are working, two economic development experts said Wednesday.

The city moved up 26 spots among small metropolitan areas over last year's ranking done by Cognetics Inc. of Cambridge, Mass.

Las Vegas, Nev., was in the top spot of the 134 areas for the second year in a row.

"It could be an indication that the entrepreneurial-type programs are starting to take effect a little bit," said Dan Scott, president of the Sioux Falls Development Foundation. "That spirit still exists here."

There are so many entrepreneurs that agencies aren't able to help them all, Scott said. Many people come with business ideas but lack the planning and finances to implement their dream.

The Small Business Development Center, with offices across the state, assists many businesses.

"We see the entrepreneurial spirit as being alive and well because of the number of people that come to us for assistance," said Bob Ashley, state director. "Starting a business is hard work. Hard work is not a stranger to the people of South Dakota."

Scott said the increase probably is the result of two improvements.

"The entrepreneurs are getting more help, and financing has become more readily available," he said. "What keeps most entrepreneurs out of business is the inability to attract financing."

Among rural areas, South Dakota ranked 61st out of 89 places, up five spots from last year.

TRIBUTE TO REV. RICHARD C.
HALVERSON

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today the Senate is holding a memorial service

to remember Rev. Richard C. Halverson, our friend and our Chaplain from 1981 to March of this year, who passed away two weeks ago after a long illness. To each of us, whatever our individual religious beliefs, Reverend Halverson was someone special. To some of us, he was a confidant; to others, a counselor; and to still others, a pastor in the more traditional sense of the word. To each of us, he was a friend.

The Senate is, in many ways, a small community with many of the same dynamics inherent in small communities across our Nation. We work in close quarters and all know each other very well. Each of us have forged great friendships here, and each of us has seen great rivalries develop among colleagues. We are all public figures whose lives are all too often an open book. We come from widely different backgrounds, and each of us brings to the Senate a different set of values we hold dearly and ideals to which we are firmly and determinedly committed. And out of all of that, out of all the differing backgrounds and competing philosophies, out of the individual strengths and weaknesses, and out of the personal friendships and political rivalries, this community of one hundred men and women must produce public policy that ensures the well-being of more than two hundred and fifty million of our fellow Americans. That is an awesome responsibility.

As much as any of us, Reverend Halverson understood both the sense of community and the awesome responsibility of the Senate. Each morning, in his opening prayer, he would try to remind us that the sense of community, collegiality, and comity that has always been the trademark of this body is vitally important to carrying out the tasks that are demanded of us. He would remind us that the Senator on the other side of a heated debate is just as committed a public servant as we are. That no political party has a monopoly on compassion, or patriotism, or integrity. That the American Dream is neither conservative nor liberal. And that at the end of the day that sense of community, as Senators and as Americans, must prevail if we are to meet the responsibilities that have been entrusted to us.

Reverend Halverson understood that as Senators, our lives—official and often personal—are open to more scrutiny than most Americans would tolerate. He understood that not only our votes and our speeches, but our families and our lifestyles are often open to public review. As public officials we have accepted that. Nonetheless, Reverend Halverson understood that that scrutiny does take a human toll, reminding us that as we would like to be treated with understanding, so we must be understanding ourselves. And reminding us that for all of the public scrutiny of our lives and our conduct, for all of the public criticism that we sometimes receive for our votes and our political and philosophical beliefs,

for all of the questioning of our motives that we must sometimes endure, the work that we do is so important to so many people that we must persevere.

Reverend Halverson always understood that election to public office does not take away the pressures that face every other American man and woman; work-related stress, family concerns, health concerns, or the self-questioning that every individual faces from time to time throughout their lives. Similarly, he understood that election to public office does not bestow skills or talents that we did not possess before; nor does it eradicate any personal weaknesses we possessed before our election. But Reverend Halverson was always there to remind us that deep within each of us is the ability to meet every challenge that our careers and our lives present.

A few years ago, I was quite ill. I left here one February night with a headache and did not return until late in the summer. During those months, as he was during all of his 14 years here, Reverend Halverson was there for me. I have never forgotten that, and my family has never forgotten that.

Throughout his 14 years as the Senate Chaplain Rev. Richard C. Halverson was a committed public servant and a friend to each of us. We shall miss him.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, almost 4 years ago I commenced these daily reports to the Senate to make a matter of record the exact Federal debt as of close of business the previous day.

In that report (February 27, 1992) the federal debt stood at \$3,825,891,293,066.80, as of close of business the previous day. The point is, the federal debt has increased by \$1,162,547,561,447.99 since February 26, 1992.

As of the close of business Tuesday, December 12, the Federal debt stood at exactly \$4,988,438,854,514.79. On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,936.20 as his or her share of the Federal debt.

THE PHOENIX PROPOSAL

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the Federal Communications Commission will soon rule on Sprint's partnership with Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom, or its more common name, the Phoenix Proposal. I ask unanimous consent that my letter to FCC Chairman Reed Hundt regarding this issue be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, December 12, 1995.

Hon. REED HUNDT,
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I wrote you almost one year ago concerning the proposed Global

Partnership between Sprint Corporation, Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom. At that time, I asked that you rule fairly and promptly on this matter.

It is my understanding the Commission may consider a proposal that appears to have little to do with traditional foreign ownership concerns having to do with the acquisition of undue leverage over domestic companies. Specifically, the FCC would artificially "freeze" Sprint's communications capacity between the United States and Germany and France, while placing no such restrictions on any of its major competitors.

Given that the Justice Department has already signed off on the partnership, many believe there is no legitimate foreign investment concern. Even if excessive leverage could be obtained under this partnership, an arbitrary limitation on communications capacity would not alleviate it. In short, it appears the Commission will answer the wrong question with an equally wrong solution. If this were to occur, Sprint would be at a competitive disadvantage with other international competitors.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

BOB DOLE.

LIMITED PROVISIONS IN THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, one of the most serious defects of the current stopgap funding for the Federal Government is its treatment of LIHEAP, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, that helps needy families pay their winter fuel bills. Under that program, States receive most of their full-year LIHEAP allocation in the 2 months of October and November so that they can prepare for the winter, set benefit levels, and deal with emergencies.

It is bad enough that the current stopgap bill cuts these needed funds by 25 percent from last year—25 percent from last year. Even worse, it pays out those funds on a basis that is prorated on a full year, so that the States are receiving far less than the usual share in October and November. By this time last year, Massachusetts had received \$32 million of its \$54 million allocation. This year, however, Massachusetts has only been allowed to draw down \$9.5 million.

In fact, all States had received \$800 million of last year's \$1.3 billion LIHEAP appropriation by December of last year. Under the stopgap bill, there is a 71-percent cut, although the bill is only supposed to impose a 25 percent cut at most.

This chart demonstrates very clearly what the problem is. First of all, I think everyone across this country understands the extraordinary drops in the temperature in the most recent days. This is playing havoc in many families in Massachusetts, up in Boston, the North Shore, all over Massachusetts and the Berkshires and otherwise. By December 15 of 1994, some \$800 million had been distributed. By December 15, 1995, only \$230 million under the continuing resolution.

Mr. President, this has to be addressed in the continuing resolution.

Unless it is, there will be hundreds of Americans whose very health and risk of freezing will be very, very real. This was a nonintended result of the fact of these continuing resolutions, and it is an emergency. It cries out for action.

We hope that the House of Representatives will take action. Otherwise, I know, under the leadership of Senator WELLSTONE and others, an amendment will be offered to try and reach this emergency situation.

Massachusetts energy agencies have said that they will respond only to cases where a utility terminates services, or where homes have less than one-eighth of a tank of fuel oil. The State has cut annual LIHEAP benefits from \$430 to \$150 per household to ensure that they have enough funds for emergencies throughout the winter.

In Gloucester, the agencies have been faced with a choice of spending nonauthorized LIHEAP funds or letting some families freeze to death.

In Salem, the local government has dipped into its own scarce funds to provide needed assistance.

In Springfield, Patricia Nelligan, the fuel assistance director for the New England Farm Workers' Council, said that unless more LIHEAP funds are made available soon, their program will have to shut down by the end of next week.

It may not officially be winter yet, but winter has already arrived with a vengeance in many parts of the country. For the 6 million recipients of LIHEAP assistance across the Nation, it will be a desperate Christmas unless more aid is available.

Some 95 percent of the households receiving LIHEAP assistance have annual incomes below \$18,000. They spend an extremely burdensome 18 percent of their income on energy, compared to the average middle-class family, which spends only 4 percent.

Researchers at Boston City Hospital have documented the heat or eat effect, where higher utility bills during the coldest months force low-income families to spend less money on food. The result is increased malnutrition among children.

The study also found almost twice as many low-weight and undernourished children were admitted to Boston City Hospital's emergency room immediately following the coldest month of the winter. No family should have to choose between heating and eating.

But it is the poor elderly that will be at the greatest risk if more LIHEAP funds are not made available, because they are the most vulnerable to hypothermia. In fact, older Americans accounted for more than half of all hypothermia deaths in 1991.

In addition, the elderly are much more likely to live in homes built before 1940 which are less energy efficient and put them at greater risk.

Low-income elderly who have trouble paying their fuel bills are often driven to rely on room heaters, fireplaces, ovens, and wood-burning stoves to save

money. Between 1986 and 1990, such heating sources were the second leading cause of fire deaths among the elderly. In fact, elderly citizens were up to 12 times more likely to die in heating-related fires than adults under 65.

Over 50 Senators have signed a letter urging the budget negotiators to allow States to draw down LIHEAP funds at the up-front rate if a further stop-gap funding bill is enacted. I urge the Senate to support this provision, so that families can receive the urgent assistance they need.

Christmas is approaching, and in many parts of the country, temperatures have dropped to levels close to those at the North Pole. But Santa Claus does not release LIHEAP funds to the States—Congress does, and we must act quickly to avoid tragedy.

THE DEATH OF THE FORMER CHAPLAIN OF THE SENATE, THE REVEREND DR. RICHARD C. HALVERSON

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, with sadness, tempered by gratitude, I rise today to mourn the passing of the late Chaplain of the Senate, the Rev. Richard C. Halverson. Recently he left this Chamber and this world, but the impression he left is all around us.

Mr. President, we all know that national politics is often wracked by deep disagreement. The task of steering history's most civilized Nation on a wise course through democratic means arouses strong passions. Only spiritual guidance and divine grace could steady this Chamber during the tempests of every age, and we are fortunate to debate in soft tones, and to determine great questions as a civilized community. For the last 14 years, America herself was blessed to have Dr. Halverson, the Senate's Christian humanist, to keep our civilization decent.

Whenever a member of our little civilization lost a loved one—or gained one—the Chaplain's office was a proven source of consolation and hope.

I took the oath here not too long ago, and I remember, among a flood of invitations, one from the good Chaplain asked to come to the weekly Senate prayer breakfast. There are many bipartisan meetings in the Capitol, but the calm communion of Catholics, Jews, and Protestants was tripartisan as well as profoundly contemplative. I treasure those Wednesday morning gatherings as occasions to make deep and abiding friendships with my colleagues.

Mr. President, John Stuart Mill wrote that "one person with a belief is a social power equal to ninety-nine who have only interests." Here in this Chamber, one Chaplain with unshakeable belief was a social power equal to all 100 of us, each with a host of interests and beliefs. He calmed our fears, he kept us together, and every morning he called us to prayer.

Now, as he taught us, I join my colleagues in praying for his soul.