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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, March 6, 1995)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Acting President pro tempore [Mr. ASHCROFT].

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Dr. Richard C. Halverson, the beloved Chaplain of the Senate for the past 14 years, pastor to Senators and staff, and former pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Bethesda, MD, will lead us in the invocation.

Dr. Halverson.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Richard C. Halverson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.—Romans 8:28.

Eternal God, Ruler of history, Governor of the nations, we are unspeakably grateful for the political system inherited from those who founded this Nation. We thank Thee for their faith in a Creator God, the equality of all humans, and the conviction that the Creator endowed His creatures with inalienable rights which Government was to secure, receiving its authority from the consent of the governed.

In a day of instantaneous communication universally, the words and actions of national leadership are observed by the people as they are being said and done—instantly. Not uncommonly, they are misunderstood, or seen and heard out of context, which breeds misunderstanding, anger, and cynicism.

Mighty God, encourage Your servants to recover the vision of our founders, to seek wisdom from the Scriptures, and the guidance of God. May Thy blessing rest upon every person who labors so tirelessly in this vortex of rapid information through press, radio, and television. Cover their fami-

lies with Your grace and love and protection, and remind them as often as necessary that, though they sought their office, their position has been ordained of God.

Gracious Father, thank you for the privilege of serving Your servants for all these years.

In the name of Jesus, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

RECESS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess for 2 minutes.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:04 a.m., recessed until 10:08 a.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Acting President pro tempore.

RICHARD C. HALVERSON, SENATE CHAPLAIN

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, as the Acting President pro tempore noted, today marks the end of Dr. Richard Halverson's 14 years as Chaplain of the Senate.

Some people say that the Senate Chaplain has one of the best jobs in Washington. After all, whenever he speaks, all Senators are quiet. And that is a luxury we do not extend to anybody else.

I joined with many Senators in saluting Dr. Halverson when he announced his retirement last year. But I wish to take a minute this morning to once again thank Dr. Halverson for his service, his dedication, and his friendship. He should also be thanked for his pa-

tience and for agreeing to stay on for many months while we searched for someone to fill his shoes. And we look forward to Dr. Ogilvie's first official day as Chaplain on Monday.

I know that all Senators join me in wishing Dr. Halverson and his wife, Doris, many, many more years of health and happiness.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

CONGRATULATING DR. HALVERSON

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I join with the majority leader in congratulating Dr. Halverson for his 14-plus years of service to the U.S. Senate, not only to the Senate as a body but to each and every Member of this group of Senators, and also to each and every member of the entire Capitol complex. I have had the pleasure of watching, working with, and worshiping with Dr. Halverson, and in his presence he emanates love. He emanates love in his actions, in his words, and by his presence. He has been a mentor to me and countless others, but also to our staffs and to the elevator operators and to the interns and to the pages. He has shown his love by his actions, and we have really been blessed by his presence. For his years of service we are very grateful. Many of us are eternally grateful, and we thank him for that.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND RICHARD C. HALVERSON

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, our Senate Chaplain, Dr. Richard C. Halverson, our dear friend, is retiring today and has delivered his last official prayer. He has been a great Chaplain. During his tenure, Dr. Halverson has proved himself over and over again, not only to be a comforting spiritual guide but also a wonderful friend and adviser to

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



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the entire Senate family, which includes all of its workers: elevator operators, the police, the pages, the waitresses, the waiters, the electricians. Every conceivable worker has in some way or form felt his influence. His ministering support has been helpful to us immeasurably as we wrestled with difficult personal, political, and policy issues.

While he is not a Catholic and I am not a Catholic, it seems to me that the Catholic Church has a title that is befitting Dr. Halverson, and that is "Father." He is father of the entire Senate family and we want to wish him well.

The Chaplain of the Senate is one of its 5 officers, and probably its most visible. Many people around the country watch as he opens the Senate's day with a prayer, or introduces the guest Chaplain to conduct the prayer. Dr. Halverson has been superb at arranging for guest Chaplains, thereby giving wide representation to the many diverse religious denominations in our Nation. As Chaplain, he has provided pastoral services to Members and our staffs, most of whom are far away from their own churches and ministers as well as to the entire Senate family. His soothing countenance and understanding manner have made us feel more at home here in the Senate.

Beginning his service on February 2, 1981, the Reverend Dr. Richard Halverson is the 60th Senate Chaplain. A native of North Dakota, he is a graduate of Wheaton College and the Princeton Theological Seminary. He has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees by Wheaton and Gordon Colleges, and has served churches in Kansas City, MO; Coalinga and Hollywood, CA; and for 23 years at his last pastorate at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Halverson has been deeply involved as an associate in the International Prayer Breakfast movement in Washington, and I have had the personal pleasure of working with him since coming to the Senate. He has been active with this prayer breakfast for almost 40 years. He has served as chairman of the board of World Vision and president of Concern Ministries. He has authored several books, including "A Day at a Time," "Be Yourself . . . and God's," "Between Sundays," "No Greater Power," and "We the People."

He has traveled extensively through his associations with World Vision, the prayer breakfast movement, and pastors' and leaders' conferences in Asia, Australia, South America, Africa, and Europe.

Mr. President, Dick Halverson is an outstanding example of why the Senate has always had a Chaplain. He has been completely devoted to the Senate and we are grateful for his many years of service. We sincerely appreciate him, we will miss him, and we wish him and his wonderful wife, Doris, all the best as they move on to a well-deserved retirement. Dr. Halverson has left his mark on this body, and it will not be

the same without him. The Senate is better for having had his guidance and wisdom for 14 years.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Mexico.

THANK YOU, DICK HALVERSON, ON BEHALF OF
ALL OF US

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, the Book of Sirach, as I interpret it, tells us that from what comes out of our lips we will know what is in our hearts. Frankly, I want to say that there can be no doubt what is in Dick Halverson's heart. For he has the kindest, most loving words at his lips for everyone, all the time, of anybody I have ever known. He has been a personal spiritual influence on this Senator and many others. And that is not all. The people of this place were all part of his mission. I do not think it should go unnoticed that, instead of just Senators saying some kind remarks that he is entitled to, that there are many around the Senate who wish they could be here so they could say thank you.

I do not know how to do that, really, on behalf of all of them, but at least I will try, and say: Dick, we love you. We think you are one of the finest things that ever happened to this place. I hope that I speak for the thousands of non-Senators that you chose to help, of all religions, all creeds, all walks of life. Thank you very much.

I yield the floor.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Georgia.

THE EXAMPLE OF CHAPLAIN RICHARD C.
HALVERSON

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, echoing the remarks of my friend from New Mexico, I think it would truly be a unique hour in the history of the Senate if we could let the policemen and the maids and the janitors come up for an hour and talk about Dick Halverson.

None of us could express what this whole family of the Senate would say about this wonderful man who is a devoted follower of Jesus and who lives that example every day, more so than any person I have ever observed in my life; and whose religion is not only through the spoken word, but most of all through example.

Benjamin Franklin, who first suggested that sessions of the then-Continental Congress be opened with prayer, once said that true human happiness is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen, as by little advantages that occur every day.

The Members of the Senate have enjoyed such daily advantages—I would not really call them small—having been blessed over the past 14 years by the thoughtful opening prayers of the Chaplain of the Senate, Dr. Richard Halverson.

In all that time, Dr. Halverson has been a real pastor to the Senate as a whole, sharing our long sessions, ago-

nizing with us at times of difficult decisions, and helping us wrestle with the great moral concerns of our Nation. He has been there for each of us from the majority leader to the policemen to the waiters, conscious of the special pressures of our responsibilities, and of the pressures those responsibilities place on our families. He has brought to his duties a deep compassion and a deep concern for the moral climate of our Nation. He has shared his knowledge of the Scriptures and the thoughts of great spiritual leaders through the ages from many faiths, bringing to our attention passages from books and poems and his own meditations that he thought would be helpful to us as a body, through his prayers and pastoral letters, and as individuals in a variety of thoughtful ways.

Before he came to minister to the Senate, Dr. Halverson ministered to Presbyterian congregations from the Midwest to Hollywood to Maryland. We have benefited from his long experience and understanding of human frailty and human needs, and of the capacity of human beings to be compassionate, wise, and courageous as well. A committed follower of Jesus who lives his beliefs, he has never tried to impose his personal beliefs, but has worked hard to help us live up to ours, and to help us find the wellsprings of moral and ethical action as legislators and leaders.

I would like to think I speak on behalf, as the Senator from New Mexico has, of everyone here, the thousands of people in the Senate family, when we say to Dick Halverson, our friend, our colleague, our mentor, our adviser, and most of all our example: Thank you and God bless you and your family.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado.

DR. HALVERSON, CHAPLAIN WITH AN OPEN
HEART

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I do not have a formal statement but I add my best wishes to Dr. Halverson. I am reminded that when Jesus was on the cross, he forgave a prostitute and a thief. I think there are very few people in the world that have hearts as open and as forgiving as Dr. Halverson.

Three years ago, in a discussion about crime, Dr. Halverson and I decided to try to bring some gang members to Washington on the day of the National Prayer Breakfast. So the next year we did, and this year was the second time we did that. We brought, as I remember, about 35 gang members. These are some pretty tough youngsters, the hoods, they are called, Crips and Bloods and Inca Boys and so on. We tried, through Dr. Halverson's leadership, to take them to the National Cathedral on the day of the Prayer Breakfast, and tried to show them a little different way of conducting their lives.

I know Dr. Halverson has that same attitude as Jesus himself, that there

should be forgiveness in all of our hearts. No one is lost if you really to try to help them.

I certainly wish him good luck. I want him to know that program he started now will be in its third year. I intend, with the help of my colleagues, to carry that on.

My best wishes.

I yield the floor.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

DR. HALVERSON, A BROTHER

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, Dr. Halverson is a good example of why we should think twice about term limits. These past 14 years have gone by so quickly for those of us who have participated in the Senate Prayer Breakfast weekly. I know many are here who have done that, who have gone on Wednesday morning. The one thing that really drew us to that was not our participation with our colleagues, but it was the magnet of Dr. Halverson. We have developed the concept of calling each other brother, and I really and truly feel a sense of being a brother to Dr. Halverson.

Many of us have come through periods of great strain in our lives while still serving in the Senate. If there has been one steady hand in this Senate to all of us, it has been Dick Halverson. In terms of just the camaraderie that surrounds the breakfast table on Wednesday morning, he always has something to add to really bring a little sparkle into life before the breakfast starts. Particularly, I recall, as Senator NUNN did, the times when we would go around the table and ask if anyone knew of any person who was connected with the Senate who ought to be remembered in our prayers. And, invariably, Reverend Halverson would tell us of members of the staff or a member of the family of a member of the staff or a person who was formerly with the Senate, to bring back to us the reality of the world outside of the beltway, outside of, really, the formality of the Senate.

I cannot remember the number of times we have conferred about the Presidential Prayer Breakfast over the years. I really think one of the guiding forces that has kept that great institution going and made it so meaningful, as the Senator from Colorado said, to people beyond the scope of our lives, is Dick Halverson.

I suggested several years ago that we start inviting a representative from each of the State legislatures to come to the Presidential Prayer Breakfast and that has become meaningful, due to the work of Dr. Halverson and Doug Coe who, together, have brought so many people into the family of Christ, working together with us here in the Senate Prayer Breakfast.

We shall miss his leadership, not only here opening the Senate in the morning, but we shall miss his friendship as we pass one another in the hall and as

he comes by at the lunch table, or as he just takes time to visit with us here on the floor.

I have seen Members of the Senate retire, and we have expressed here on the floor our regret. But this is a retirement that will affect each of our lives, I think. We look forward to his successor and developing a relationship with his successor. But in my life, and particularly in terms of my approach to religion as I see it, I shall miss the steady hand of Richard Halverson. And I regret deeply that the time has passed so fast.

Mr. LIEBERMAN addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair.

THE REVEREND DR. RICHARD C. HALVERSON

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I am really honored to have the opportunity to join in an expression of gratitude and tribute and, really, thanks to Chaplain Halverson.

His presence has really enriched the 6 years that I have been privileged to be in the U.S. Senate—by the warmth and grace of his personality, by the strength of his faith, and by the profound depth of his humanity and kindness, the spirit of kindness which just emits from him all the time.

He also has reminded us, by his daily public words as Chaplain, of the words that are over the door to the Chamber, which are "In God We Trust." And he has reminded us, in the words of the Psalmist, that the honor that we have been given here comes from the Lord. With that recognition, I think he has helped us proceed with more of both a sense of humility and a sense of purpose than we would otherwise have had.

Chaplain Halverson is a true student of both the Old and the New Testament. He is a son of both the Old and the New Testament. And I think in his life he has been an exemplar of the values that are contained in the aspirations that are expressed for those of us here in his daily life.

So I cannot thank him enough. I cannot tell him how much I hope we have the opportunity to stay in touch. And I can benefit from his counsel and personal warmth and strength.

I wish him all of God's blessings with his family in the years ahead.

I thank the Chair.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

THE REVEREND DR. RICHARD C. HALVERSON

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I want to add to the accolades that are being given this morning to a wonderful leader in the U.S. Senate, and they are well deserved.

I have been here a short time compared to many of my compatriots who are talking today. But when I came the first day, I remember getting an invita-

tion from Reverend Halverson to come to the weekly prayer breakfast that the Senate holds. I must say, when I started going to those, I felt that was the one hour that we had together on a very bipartisan basis—Jewish Members, Catholic Members, Baptist Members, Episcopalian Members—all coming together to share a quiet moment in an otherwise sometimes stormy week.

It has made a difference in my service in the Senate, and I cannot imagine that we would have been so strong had we not had the leadership of Reverend Halverson telling us how very important it was for us to come together in this very bipartisan way to talk about the things that bring us together rather than the things that sometimes divide us on this floor.

I have heard Members who have been here for years talk about personal things that he has done for members of their staff who were in trouble. The personal testimonies are legion around here about this man.

We will all miss him. But we will all remember what a strong leader he has been and how much better off we are for having him among us.

So I know all of us wish him Godspeed, but not farewell, because we hope that he will be back many times in the future.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. BURNS addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Montana.

THE REVEREND DR. RICHARD C. HALVERSON

Mr. BURNS. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, it is a long way from Pingree, ND, to the Halls of the U.S. Senate. And I would like to just be a part of a book that could be written about this young man's life.

We sort of entered his life when we came here in 1989, and they say in every man's life or every person's life there has to be what we call in the West, in the corral, a snubbing post—something to latch onto, something that is permanent, that has value, and those values were drawn from the soils of the High Plains and Northern High Plains of this great country. I guess those sorts of personalities blend, and they grow together.

That is what happened when I met Dr. Halverson. Not only does he write the prayer and give the prayer for this body on a daily basis, but he is counselor to us all in the long hours, and to our staffs. All of us have experienced tragedies in our staffs' lives and in our personal lives, and he was there to be a minister.

That will not be forgotten by this family and by this man who stands among the peers in this body.

So we say "farewell," not "good-bye"—just farewell. We hope that he does not cut us out of his life. We hope he will come by and share some North Dakota stories with us.

And we wish him Godspeed.