

Today, agriculture is on the verge of a new era. I believe that 100 years from now, historians will look back and recognize this time as a turning point in the history of American agriculture. Both locally and globally, things are changing fast.

Agriculture is now a global industry—an industry where American farmers will play an increasingly important role. The Census Bureau estimates that the world population will increase by 50 percent in the next 20 years. Today, 1 American farmer can feed 129 people. Tomorrow that farmer must feed more. America's farmers have already started preparing to meet these demands. Less than 100 years ago, the first gasoline tractor was built. Now, farmers are using satellite technology to customize planting and fertilizer use. That increases yields, reduces costs, and benefits the environment. These are the types of innovative programs we should encourage in the 1995 farm bill.

Mr. President, there is a saying in Kansas: If you do not eat, then do not worry about the farmer. So this week, National Ag Week, we recognize that each of us has a vested interest in the vitality of American agriculture. I look forward to working with my colleagues during this pivotal year to ensure that American agriculture remains a world leader in this new era.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today, as America celebrates National Agriculture Week, I rise to pay tribute to our country's farmers and ranchers.

THE GROWING SEASON

This Tuesday was the first day of spring. The time of rebirth and renewal. All over the country, farmers are preparing to till the soil and plant the seeds that they hope will lead to a bountiful harvest. Ranchers see newborn calves and lambs. In Montana and across America, producers are getting ready for the future with hope and confidence.

They know only too well that lack of rain, too much rain, or other uncontrollable natural events can destroy their crop. They know they are in a risky business. And yet they continue to brave the risks and work long hours, because of the satisfaction that comes with working and living on your own land.

These are hard working folks. They are survivors who make up Montana's number one industry, creating nearly \$2 billion a year for our economy. And their work gives Americans the best, cheapest and safest food supply in the world.

BEFORE THE FARM PROGRAM

Today we take all that for granted. We think it is natural. But it is not. It is the result of careful policy, and cooperation between producers, consumers, and government.

As we begin to redraft our farm bill this year—and as some with short

memories call for eliminating farm programs completely—we should remember what happened before we had any farm programs.

In those days, producers lived through drastic cycles of boom and bust. A hard-working and prosperous family one year could be destitute the next.

As Mike Malone recalls in his book "Montana: A History of Two Centuries":

During 1929-1930, a new ordeal of drought and depression began in Montana . . . By midsummer of that terrible year, twenty-eight of Montana's fifty-six counties had filed for aid from the Red Cross. Most of those counties lay in the arc of dry-farming and stockgrowing lands that reached from the High Line north of the Missouri River to the southeast along the Dakota state line . . .

An amount of wheat worth \$100 in 1920 brought only \$19.23 in 1932. Beef cattle sold for \$9.10 per hundredweight in 1929; in 1934, the price was only \$3.34. Sheep brought \$8.14 per hundredweight in 1929 but only \$3.12 in 1934.

Daniels County, in the state's northeastern corner, typified the crisis. During the good years of the late 1920s, the country seat, Scobey, had advertised itself as the world's largest wheat shipping point. By the spring of 1933, 3,500 of the county's 5,000 people needed relief assistance.

SUCCESS OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

This disaster was only the worst in a series. The heartland suffered equally traumatic disasters in 1893, 1907 and 1920. But this time, Franklin Roosevelt responded by creating the first Federal farm support programs.

Since then, we have had good times and bad. But farm programs have prevented crises on that scale. And during this time, American farmers have created a productive revolution unmatched in history.

They have revolutionized agricultural productivity. They have used hard work and state-of-the-art research, to develop new sustainable farming techniques, thus protecting our natural resources. And they continue to be most productive agricultural producers in the world.

According to USDA's Economic Research Service, farm output per unit of input increased by 26 percent between 1982 and 1991.

As a result, Americans spend the lowest amount of their disposable income on food of any nation in the world. Just 9.3 percent, less than a dime in a dollar of income.

THE 1995 FARM BILL

Today, if the Congress goes too far in a thoughtless rush to eliminate farm programs simply for the sake of cutting, we could return to those days of boom and bust.

Less severe consequences could include lower soil and water quality. Loss of wildlife habitat.

Lower farm incomes, and thus higher rates of outmigration from rural America. From the consumer's point of view, if we are not careful, America could wind up depending on imports of food to give our citizens enough to eat each day.

We must help our producers make American agriculture more competitive and more profitable in the international market place. We must continue to develop new sustainable farming techniques. We must make sure the children and grandchildren of today's rural families can still live and work on their own land.

Mr. President, I look forward to the job. The FFA, the national youth organization for the improvement of agriculture, begins their creed with the statement, "I believe in the future of farming." I believe in that future, too.

Thank you, and I yield the floor.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in honor of Greek Independence Day, a national day of celebration marking 174 years of freedom for the modern Greek people. The achievements of ancient Greece in art, architecture, science, mathematics, philosophy, drama, literature, and most importantly—democracy—have become legacies for succeeding ages to emulate. Modern Greece, born of these same roots, also has given much to the present day world and especially to the United States.

Many Americans can trace their heritage back to the glory of Athens. Greek-American Dr. George Kotzias developed medicine to combat the scourge of Parkinson's disease. Maria Callas, the Brooklyn-born opera soprano, provided us a legacy of beautiful music. Young Pete Sampras reminds us of the important contribution the Greeks have made in the field of athletics as he continues his outstanding command of the game of tennis. Greek-Americans have also contributed to the might of America's business and industry showing true entrepreneurial spirit. In Operation Desert Storm, Lt. Gen. William "Gus" Pagonis, U.S. Army, retired, successfully commanded the most complex sea, land, and air mobilization executed by a military force since the Second World War. And, of course, in this body today are two of the most outstanding Greek-American citizens in this country, Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE and Senator PAUL SARBANES.

On Monday, I will be visiting with a number of other Greek-American leaders to commemorate Greek Independence Day. Foremost among them will be his His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, the spiritual leader of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America.

On this day, it is important to remember that American democracy would not exist today had the Greeks not believed in the power of the people to govern. As Pericles said some 2,000 years ago, "our constitution is called a democracy because power is in the hands not of the minority, but of the

whole people * * * everyone equal before the law."

So as we honor the modern Greeks and their sons and daughters in America today, let me paraphrase Thomas Jefferson—we Americans are all indebted to the ancient Greeks for the light of democracy which led us out of the darkness of tyranny.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES!

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, as of the close of business yesterday, Thursday, March 23, the Federal debt stood at \$4,845,959,175,160.98. On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,395.34 as his or her share of that debt.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, today I want to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the World War II battle for Iwo Jima.

Exactly 50 years ago today, the U.S. Marines successfully finished a fierce battle for a small dot in the Pacific that had been turned into one of the most heavily fortified islands in the world by a hard-as-nails Samurai warrior Japanese Lieutenant General Kurabayashi.

The battle for Iwo Jima had started on February 19, 1945. American military planners half-a-world away came up with only one way to make Iwo into the needed U.S. forward base: an attack right into the teeth of the Japanese defenses.

The ensuing 33-day battle was the basest form of struggle—individual against individual, inch by inch. Artillery, mortars, naval gunfire, and air—the traditional combined arms of the Marines—provided only marginal help to the attackers. The most powerful weapon was the individual marine who had to drive the enemy from gun emplacements, caves, tunnels, and spider holes.

There were 2,500 marines killed on that first day—February 19, 1945. The death toll tripled by the time the first marine fire team fought to the top of Mt. Suribachi 6 days later. Mt. Suribachi was the strategic high point from which the defenders were pinning the marines down on the beaches and was the dominating feature of the entire island.

Three reserve marines, two regular marines, and one Navy corpsman joined together in a moment that captured the soul of a service. They raised Old Glory atop that 550-foot extinct volcano. Those on the beach below saw the red, white, and blue flutter in the breeze. Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, there with the Marine Commander Major General "Howling Mad" Smith, turned and said: "The raising of the flag on Mt. Suribachi means a Marines Corps for the next five hundred years."

I certainly hope so.

Though organized resistance continued until mid-March, the flag raising, which produced perhaps the most famous and inspiring combat photograph of World War II, symbolized one of the hardest won victories of that war.

Military historian Allan Millet has written of Iwo Jima that, "Of all the unpleasant islands the marines saw, Iwo Jima was the nastiest—prepared by nature and the Japanese armed forces as a death trap for any attacker." And so it was.

There were 70,000 marines locked in combat on this tiny island in the Pacific; 5,931 died; 17,372 were wounded; Presidential and Navy Unit Citations were awarded and 22 marines earned the Medal of Honor.

The fighting was so brutal, and the determination and bravery of the marines so stunning, that Adm. Chester Nimitz, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, was moved to say that on Iwo Jima "uncommon valor was a common virtue."

They fought and died so that others might live in freedom. The purpose of wresting Iwo Jima from the Japanese was to establish a forward air base on the island which served, among other things, as an interim emergency landing base for United States bombers making the long run between the Marianas to targets in Japan. More than 25,000 airmen in the Army Air Force subsequently used Iwo Jima for emergency landings.

Mr. President, I know I speak for all in saying we honor both those who fell on Iwo Jima and those who fought but managed to survive. I know it must have been a very emotional ceremony last week on the black sands of Iwo Jima when thousands of the survivors joined Secretary of the Navy John Dalton and current Marine Commandant Gen. Carl Mundy in paying tribute to their bravery and sacrifice and to commemorate those who did not return.

I felt of that same emotion when I was fortunate to be on the Senate floor March 2, 1995, when Senator JOHN GLENN was making a very moving tribute about the marines who fought on Iwo Jima. This was part of a series of speeches about that battle by Senators who have served as marines. Each spoke about a different aspect of Iwo Jima.

We would all benefit from reading all these speeches and so I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the names of the Senators, the date of their speech, and the page in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD where their remarks can be found.

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

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SPEECHES—IWO JIMA

Senator	Date	Vol.	No.	Page(s)
Senator Robb	Feb. 10, 1995	141	27	S2455
Senator Thomas	Feb. 13, 1995	141	28	S2533-S2534
Senator Burns	Feb. 14, 1995	141	29	S2596-S2597
Senator Bumpers	Feb. 15, 1995	141	30	S2732-S2736

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SPEECHES—IWO JIMA— Continued

Senator	Date	Vol.	No.	Page(s)
Senator Heflin	Feb. 16, 1995	141	31	S2774-S2775
Senators Chafees and Warner	Feb. 23, 1995	141	34	S3034-S3036
Senator Glenn	Mar. 2, 1995	141	39	S3376-S3377

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). MORNING BUSINESS IS CLOSED.

SELF-EMPLOYED HEALTH INSURANCE DEDUCTIONS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 831, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 831) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the deduction for the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, to repeal the provision permitting nonrecognition of gain on sales and exchanges effectuating policies of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. PERMANENT EXTENSION AND INCREASE OF DEDUCTION FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS.

(a) PERMANENT EXTENSION.—Subsection (l) of section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to special rules for health insurance costs of self-employed individuals) is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(b) INCREASE IN DEDUCTION.—Paragraph (1) of section 162(l) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "25 percent" and inserting "30 percent".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) EXTENSION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1993.

(2) INCREASE.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1994.

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF NONRECOGNITION ON FCC CERTIFIED SALES AND EXCHANGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter O of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking part V (relating to changes to effectuate FCC policy).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Sections 1245(b)(5) and 1250(d)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are each amended—

(1) by striking "section 1071 (relating to gain from sale or exchange to effectuate policies of FCC) or", and

(2) by striking "1071 AND" in the heading thereof.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for such subchapter O is amended by striking the item relating to part V.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to—

(A) sales and exchanges on or after January 17, 1995, and

(B) sales and exchanges before such date if the FCC tax certificate with respect to such sale or exchange is issued on or after such date.

(2) BINDING CONTRACTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any sale or exchange pursuant to a written contract which