

Sheldon received his bachelor's and a master's degrees from Auburn University. He also graduated from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University in New Jersey. His thesis was selected for placement in the libraries of the American Bankers Association and the Harvard business school.

In addition to being an outstanding manager and banker, Sheldon Morgan has served his community through a wide variety of civic and professional organizations, including his service as president of the advisory board of the Providence Hospital School of Nursing; the Mobile Azalea Trail Festival; the Mobile Kiwanis Club; Senior Citizens Service; and the Industrial Developers Association of Alabama, which he founded. He has also served as a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the American Cancer Society, and the Mobile Economic Development Council.

I congratulate Sheldon for his illustrious career and for his many contributions to his community and state. I wish him all the best for a happy, healthy, and long retirement.

IN TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JOHN C. STENNIS

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues today in remembering a man who embodied the U.S. Senate perhaps better than anyone, Senator John C. Stennis. Known as a Senator's Senator and the conscience of the institution, his presence for 41 years in the Senate was formidable, yet comforting and reassuring.

While his departure represents the passing of an era and is cause for our grief, it is also certainly cause to rejoice, for our friend is no doubt experiencing the rewards of a faithful heart and humble service. The legacy he leaves is one defined by his strength, integrity, and compassion.

Growing up in rural Mississippi, John Cornelius Stennis learned the lessons that would last him a lifetime. Such lessons molded a man whose southern courtesy would become a mark of dignity and distinction. After receiving a law degree from the University of Virginia in 1927, young John Stennis spent 19 full years serving first as a State representative, then district prosecuting attorney and finally a circuit judge before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 1947.

Much in the same manner Senator Stennis took so many of us under his wing, upon his arrival in the Senate, it was Senator Richard B. Russell who mentored the like-minded Mississippian. Soon, Senator Stennis' sharp mind and unmatched work ethic earned him seats on the powerful Armed Services and Appropriations Committees. As chairman of the new Armed Services Preparedness Subcommittee, Senator Stennis became a watchdog for the Department of Defense and the armed services. His fair investigations

and scrutiny of these organizations quickly secured him a reputation which would never be tarnished: He was analytical, critical, and he held unwavering convictions.

The impact John Stennis had over his 41 years in the U.S. Senate surpasses description. Early in his Senate career he courageously spoke against McCarthyism. While assuring America would have the strongest and most capable military on the planet, he demanded accountability for each defense dollar spent. While always standing by his commitment to a strong military, he also began to see the growing danger of our Federal deficit and supported necessary defense budget cutbacks. A consummate professional, Chairman Stennis commented more than once that his work was his play. Indeed, the joy with which he carried out our Nation's business was contagious—our Senator's Senator was humorous and likeable, a role model to Members on both sides of the aisle.

The trials Senator Stennis experienced during his sunset years in the U.S. Senate are almost unthinkable. He was shot twice by a burglar in 1973, but he returned to the work of the Senate; he lost his wife of 50 years in 1983, but he returned to the work of the Senate; and he lost a leg to cancer in 1984, but again he returned to the work of the Senate. Through all this, Senator Stennis remained a commanding presence. As the distinguished senior Senator from Virginia once put it, Senator Stennis "... had a great spiritual reservoir that came to his rescue and served as a solid, strong, foundation for him." Well, the spiritual reservoir overflowed and served as a solid and strong foundation for the rest of us as well.

To more than one Senator, John C. Stennis was more than a colleague, even more than a mentor. Indeed, I am not the only Senator still in this body who would call Senator Stennis a father figure—a figure worthy of our respect and deserving of our love. As long as he was in the Senate, I was his student—especially on the Appropriations Committee. Even when serving as chairman it was his counsel and leadership, his spirit and presence which guided me through the many hours of committee sessions and floor deliberations. To Senator John C. Stennis I owe a debt of gratitude that is both professional and personal. Seeing his patient and humble years presiding as chairman and as President pro tempore brought me peace of mind as I struggled through the difficult periods of my own service. And what would Senator Stennis' response to this tribute be? Well, about 7 years ago, upon his retirement, he remarked that he "... was just trying to do what looked like to be the duty and keep it up the best he could." He certainly did, and much, much more.

In the Book of Ezekiel, the third chapter, God declares the Prophet to be a watchman over the house of Israel.

Ezekiel is commanded to warn the rebellious Israelites of God's impending judgment. Well, for the past several decades, John Cornelius Stennis has been our watchman. He has always cared for, and often admonished, a dignified yet sometimes unruly body of U.S. Senators. He has and will continue to represent the history of this body, to represent the integrity of this body and to represent the stature of this body. For his years of service, leadership, and friendship, I am eternally grateful.

TRIBUTE TO JEFFERY ALLEN BREAUX

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, today I would like to honor Jeffery Allen Breaux. Jeff was a native of my hometown of Crowley, LA, and he passed away on April 15, 1995. It is with extreme sorrow that I pay tribute to him on behalf of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Broussard, Sr.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, more than a hundred years ago, Sitting Bull, chief of the Lakota Sioux Indians, implored Americans: "Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."

I thought of that plea again on Saturday, April 22, the 25th anniversary of Earth Day.

Much has changed since the first Earth Day.

More and more, Americans recognize that conserving our natural resources and safeguarding a clean environment is in everyone's best interests. It is, as Theodore Roosevelt said, the patriotic duty of every American.

Congress has attempted to fulfill that responsibility by passing laws such as the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Federal Land Policy Management Act. As a result of these and other protections, the water Americans drink and the air we breathe is cleaner than it was 25 years ago.

We also understand much more about how the delicate Earth system works and about the effects of human actions on the environment. For example, earth scientists have come to recognize that the Earth's climate is changing because of human actions that alter the composition of the atmosphere. Geologists tell us that global climate change could increase the frequency of droughts and floods.

We now appreciate that these events can have direct socioeconomic consequences for individuals and communities.

We need to build on this knowledge and our successes, not undo them.

Clearly, we cannot and will not tolerate laws and rules that frustrate businesses and justify redtape. We must be willing to heed the lessons of the last 25 years and adjust our environmental

laws to be more efficient and less burdensome.

But, we must not exploit the current frustration with Government to gut all laws protecting our environment.

Those who claim we must eviscerate environmental rules in order to sustain our economy are at best disingenuous. They know—we all know—that we cannot strengthen our economy if we destroy our environment. In fact, establishing policies for a sustainable environment is an economic necessity. We must develop policies using balance, reason, and good science.

We will debate many important environmental issues in this Congress. Let us hold ourselves to those standards: balance, reason, and good science.

Pollution does not respect ideological boundaries. So our efforts to prevent pollution, to clean up mistakes from our past, and to plan thoughtfully for the future on this delicate planet must transcend those boundaries.

In my lifetime, the world population has doubled, and the U.S. population has soared from 150 million to 260 million people. At current growth rates, it's projected that the U.S. population will double—to 522 million people—just 60 years from now.

The cold, hard truth is that the Earth cannot supply the resources to sustain such a large human population unless we change our consumption and conservation practices now.

Earth Day reminds us that the Earth is not an infinitely bountiful cornucopia. Rather, it is a planet of finite resources from which comes the materials for our food, clothing, and shelter. We must learn to live within its geological and biological limits.

Environmental issues are often expressed in by scientists in complicated, technical terms. But the essential issue is really quite simple and critical for all of us to embrace. President Theodore Roosevelt put it best early in this century when he said: "A nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased—not impaired—in value."

We have an obligation to our children and our children's children to safeguard their future, to preserve the water, soil, air, minerals, rivers, and oceans that are the resource base of this diverse planet and the many life forms that inhabit it.

Last week, students at the Grandview Elementary School in Rapid City spoke with me about pressing environmental problems and possible solutions.

Let us not disappoint our children. Let us, Democrats and Republicans alike, heed Sitting Bull's plea to "put our heads together," to work together, "to see what life we can make for our children."

SAFE WORKPLACES FOR AMERICAN WORKERS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, our Nation's history includes too many

tragic and avoidable workplace accidents that have maimed and killed workers.

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire early in this century, in which women died because the owner had locked the fire doors to prevent them taking an unauthorized work break, remains one of the most horrifying examples.

Twenty-five years ago last Friday, Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act. With that legislation, we made a commitment to all American workers that the places where they earned their living would not themselves pose a hazard to life or health.

Yet it has been just a couple of years since the Hamlet chicken processing plant fire had a result all too similar to the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory disaster, and for the same cause—a locked fire escape door. Twenty-five working people in North Carolina died in that fire.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act was intended to prevent such tragedies, but despite the passage of a quarter century, its work is not yet done.

Every year, more than 6,000 workers are killed by workplace injuries; more than 50,000 die each year from occupational diseases.

We have made great strides in cleaning up the chemicals and other contaminants that pose a hazard to health in many workplaces. Most American employers are anxious to create workplaces that will not cause injury to their own employees.

But the number of deaths each year, whether from immediate injury or from the long-range effects of exposure to hazardous substances, means we cannot say that the work of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration is finished. It is not.

It is inconceivable that, with this heavy toll of premature worker death, there is today a concerted effort to roll back and eviscerate workplace safety provisions that protect workers today.

This is a misguided and mistaken approach. We are seeing improvements in the rate of workplace safety, with reduced injuries and accidents. Clearly, the work done by Federal and State inspectors is having an effect. It is counterproductive to take an effective enforcement approach and seek to weaken it.

American workers deserve better. American workers should not have to fear that the Congress, which promised to protect their health a quarter of a century ago, will today renege on that promise.

There are undoubtedly improvements to be made in the enforcement field, but proposals to eliminate the tools of enforcement itself are not improvements. They will do nothing but undermine the ability of inspectors to do their job.

There are fewer than 2,000 Federal workplace safety inspectors. They are already overwhelmed by the scope of their responsibilities. If they don't

have the tools with which to enforce safety requirements, the promise of a safe workplace will become an empty one.

A week after the ultimate workplace tragedy, the bombing in Oklahoma City that took the lives of so many Federal employees as they worked at their desks, it is worthwhile to remember the tragic and wasteful loss of life that goes unremarked in the workplace every day.

I commend the AFL-CIO and its affiliates for the continued effort they make, through Workers Memorial Day, to recall to the national memory the lives needlessly lost to preventable injuries and hazards on the job.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, this week we commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide—the death of over 1.5 million Armenians and their exile from their homeland.

This terrible tragedy marked the beginning of an ugly period in human history where there have been attempts to systematically liquidate certain ethnic groups. The Nazi Holocaust, the extermination of the Kulaks by Stalin, and the ruthless murders of innocent Cambodians by the Khmer Rouge are all further examples of brutality against fellow human beings. Today, people are being killed in the Balkans, Rwanda, and Burundi once again because they are members of a different ethnic group.

What can we learn from all these tragedies and especially the one we commemorate today? The first and foremost lesson is to acknowledge that a tragedy occurred and admit that it is a crime against all of humanity. Then we must never allow the world to forget what happened here and the fate of these people. This is why we mark this date in history—and why we must continue to do so.

In 1915, the Ottoman Empire was in a state of collapse. The Empire was exhausting its last strength in fighting World War I. The economy was in tatters and the Government was in a state of confusion. The victims of this time of upheaval were the Armenian people who were either killed or forced to flee their homelands.

The Armenian people kept their culture and beliefs, and with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Nation of Armenia was born. This birth has been a troubled one.

The tragic 7-year conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan has cost thousands of lives and displaced over a million people. I am very encouraged, however, by the cease-fire which has been in place in Nagorno-Karabakh for 1 year this month.