

JOHNSTON than I have been, though I do not see how. I have traveled with him abroad. I have sat at his right hand in that committee, all these years. I have found him to be an ardent opponent on occasion. It took me forever to kill the super collider because he was on the other side. And I did not really kill it. The House of Representatives deserve the credit for killing the super collider. But I can tell you, as long as Senator JOHNSTON was in the Senate, it was not going to happen over here.

But in good times and bad, in battles together and battles against each other, I found him always to be brilliant and tenacious, but eminently fair. Last year, he took on another battle on the side of the angels that I had been fighting sort of a lonely battle for about 5 years, and that was reform of the mining laws of this country. Senator JOHNSTON got involved in that debate last year. He was tenacious. But I promise you some of his most ardent opponents, including the Senator from Alaska and the Senator from Idaho, will tell you they always found him to be eminently fair. He held hearing after hearing, private hearings with them to see if there was any accommodation that could be made that would satisfy them.

And on the California desert bill, another battle that I had been involved in for 6 years here, he took that battle on last year and won it and we passed the California desert bill. Some day the people of America will look back and say we owe BENNETT JOHNSTON a big one for that.

His announcement today follows the same announcement by two other fine men in this body, HANK BROWN and PAUL SIMON. And my guess is there are going to be others.

We could sit here and I guess make partisan speeches or philosophical speeches about whether or not the price of public service has become too high, and that would serve absolutely no useful purpose at this point.

BENNETT will have another career and he will have more time in that career. I do not know what it will be, but I promise you whatever he takes up, whether he decides to become a professor in some law school or maybe teach political science or some contemporary course on politics at LSU or someplace else, I do not care what it is, he will have more time for his family than he has had in the past 22 years.

So, Mr. President, today is a sad time for me. It is going to be a personal loss to me for BENNETT to leave the Senate, but more importantly it is a loss for America.

I have never favored term limits. It is not easy to go before an audience when you know 70 to 75 percent of that audience favors term limits, and say you do not favor it, but I do not; never have. One reason is because it would arbitrarily cause us to lose good men and women with good minds, but, above all, a wealth of experience which we cher-

ish in every single profession in America except here in politics.

Well, Mr. President, I will probably be here to say this a few more times over the next 2 years for good friends of mine who decide not to run, but I can tell you I will not say with any more fervor or conviction at any point in the next 2 years, no matter who leaves here, that this is truly a great loss to this Nation and especially to the State of Louisiana.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. MURKOWSKI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BENNETT JOHNSTON

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues acknowledging the remarks of the senior Senator from Louisiana earlier on the floor today.

You know, it has been said you really never know a person until you have walked in his footsteps. As the incoming chairman of the Energy Committee, I take my first steps, BENNETT JOHNSTON, with great humility.

I have observed, as a member of the minority, the manner in which you have conducted the affairs of the Energy Committee. You have always been an extraordinary legislator. You have been a consensus builder. You have had the capability to tackle the tough jobs and get the job done. You have always had the energy and the commitment to move ahead, yet somehow you genuinely accorded each member an opportunity to be heard and most of us an opportunity to exhaust our thoughts on the subject, and then you moved ahead with an agenda as you saw it. I know every Member who has worked with the Senator from Louisiana respects him. The Senator from Louisiana has tackled the national issues. As the Senator from Arkansas indicated, occasionally the Senator has been partisan, but the Senator has been partisan in a way that I think represented the reality that the Senator's party was in the majority. Yet the Senator from Louisiana was always willing to listen to the input from the minority.

The Senator was a fighter for the State of Louisiana. I do not think that anyone can observe the career of the Senator in the last 22 years and suggest that the Senator has not served the State of Louisiana well. The Senator has left an example for other Members to follow.

I came into the Senate 14 years ago. At that time, Senator "Scoop" Jackson of Washington was chairman of the committee. Jack McClure followed that tenure. I think one of the extraordinary things that we all wonder about during our careers in the Senate is knowing when it is time to go, when to have the wisdom and the honesty, because as we all know, in this business an awful lot of our everyday activities

are associated with our own individual egos.

The Senator from Louisiana has chosen to go out at the very top of his career. The Senator has ahead of him, obviously, some unknowns but some very exciting unknowns as the Senator looks to his future and the contribution that he will make to his State and America as a whole.

The Senator has given me the honor and the pleasure of working with him, but he has also given me the wisdom and an insight that I will respect and learn from. The Senator has always been very fair in accommodating the interest of the junior Senator from Alaska.

The Senator has gone up to Alaska on numerous occasions. The Senator has visited the North Slope, the Senator has visited ANWR, the Senator has listened to Alaskans, and the Senator has listened with a genuine interest to our problems and with a commitment to try to assist as we attempt to develop in our State what was done throughout the United States, perhaps 100 years ago. And that is a sound resource policy using science and technology available today that was not available, perhaps, 50 or 75 years ago.

We will miss you, BENNETT. I am looking forward to having the pleasure of working together these next 2 years. I look forward to assisting in completing the agenda of the Senator, as well as exploring new agendas. I look to the Senator for advice, consent, and counsel.

Finally, in conclusion, let me just comment on a reflection I had when the Senator and his wife, Mary, were kind enough to include us in the Christmas card list. I saw, this time, grandchildren. Not just one, but several. Somebody mentioned to me some years ago when we had our first grandchild that, truly, that was the ticket to eternity.

I do not know whether there is any reflection on this decision in the grandchildren, but I, personally, would not be surprised if the Senator has decided to try to spend a little more time with the grandchildren. Obviously, when you are around your grandchildren, you generate a reflection on perhaps some of the qualities of life rather than the quantity.

So let me commend the Senator for the service that the Senator has given to this body, the State of Louisiana, and my State of Alaska, and the friendship which I have enjoyed and that I am looking forward, as we spend the next 2 years together, to working on behalf of the many interests that are before our committee.

Again, my sincere best wishes on the Senator's new future. We look forward again, those Senators who are at least going to be around here for the balance of our term, to observing the patterns and the footsteps as the Senator from Louisiana moves out and pursues some of the exciting opportunities and challenges outside the U.S. Senate. It has

been a pleasure, my friend. I wish you well.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair advises the Senator from Utah there are 2 minutes remaining in morning business.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended for an additional 5 minutes beyond the 2 minutes already allocated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REFLECTIONS ON TENURE OF SENATOR JOHNSTON

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I was sitting in my office catching up on paperwork when I was literally caught by the announcement that the distinguished former chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee would not seek reelection.

I had to come over and add my voice to those that have already been raised in tribute to this fine man, this outstanding Senator and, for me, close friend.

As I came to the Chamber, I was reminded of his words to the former ranking member on that committee, Malcolm Wallop, who made a similar announcement. As Senator Wallop came into the committee, Senator JOHNSTON looked at him and said, "You did not ask my permission." I had the same feeling here. He did not ask my permission. Not that he would have or should have.

This is, obviously, a personal decision. I am sure from seeing how well he makes decisions, that it is the right decision. I wanted him to know, and the country to know, that I will feel a sense of personal loss. I am not saying goodbye as some have said, because I am looking forward to the next 2 years.

I was sorry that, in the reorganization of the committees, I missed going back on that committee by exactly one slot. If there had been one more slot, I would have been there as I have been there the last 2 years. And I look forward to going back there when the next 2 years are gone.

It will not be the same without BENNETT JOHNSTON. A year ago, just about this time, we were in China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Thailand together. I said to him, after one of the meetings we had had with the head of state on that trip, "Mr. Chairman, if you want to run for Secretary of State, I will be happy to handle your campaign." He is an outstanding diplomat, an outstanding servant of the citizens of the United States. He has 2 years left to go. We will not turn this into his funeral eulogy because I know he will spend the next 2 years in the same kind of service that he has rendered in the past 22.

I am one who believes in term limits. I think we need to open up the process to get new blood in. When people say to me "Yes, but won't you lose some people that are precious to the United States?" I always say, "Yes, we will. That is the down side of term limits." Then I go on to list, privately, of course, some people that I think term limits would be good for. BENNETT JOHNSTON is in the first group. That is, those who would be precious to the United States who would be lost, and for whom, if I could, I would waive the term-limit requirement.

He is a fine gentleman, a fine friend, a fine Senator. I look forward to 2 more years at his side and, indeed, at his feet, for he has taught this junior Senator a very great deal. I look forward to learning a very great deal more. Mr. President, this is a time of pride for the United States that we can look back on the career of one of our finest. I did not want to let the occasion pass without adding my voice to those that have been raised in tribute to this fine public servant. I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JOHNSTON

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Louisiana [BENNETT JOHNSTON], on his announced intention to retire from the Senate at the end of his current term. His departure will be a loss to this body.

Senator JOHNSTON has served here ably and well for over 20 years, most notably as chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and of the Appropriations subcommittee having jurisdiction in the same area. He has mastered the intricacies of much difficult legislation in this capacity, and the Nation has benefited from the perspective and wisdom which he brought to the task.

I am privileged to have had a long friendship with BENNETT JOHNSTON and I admire him for the manner in which he conducts himself as a Senator and as a person. And, particularly, as a tennis player. In the best sense of the word, he can be called a straight shooter.

I regret, honor, and sympathize with his decision to end his distinguished political career and I wish him and his lovely wife Mary all the best for the future after he leaves the Senate in 1997. In the meantime, we are fortunate to have the benefit of his talents for at least 2 more years.

TRIBUTE TO BENNETT JOHNSTON

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my good friend, BENNETT JOHNSTON, who announced his decision yesterday to retire from the Senate.

Senator JOHNSTON has been a terrific friend and ally for me on a myriad of issues during his service in the Senate. I have always found him fair in all his dealings as chairman and ranking member on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, where a public lands State like Utah is always tre-

mendously affected by the committee's activities.

For example, last year, Senator JOHNSTON's help was essential in getting a bill through the Senate that will allow Utah's public school system to receive from revenues generated from Federal lands and royalties. He recognized the importance of this piece of legislation to education in my State and did everything he could to help it through the committee. I am convinced the bill would not have been signed into law by President Clinton last year without his support, and Utah's school children will be indebted to him for many years.

He has a keen sense on issues related to the energy security of this Nation. It was his leadership that led to the development and passage of the Energy Security Act of 1992, which should allow us to meet the energy demands of our growing population for many years to come. His expertise in this area will be sorely missed by the Senate.

He also recognizes that many States are financially dependent on the appropriate development of their natural resources, especially when these resources are located on Federal lands. Of course, Louisiana is as rich in these resources as my own State of Utah. And, by recognizing this dependence, Senator JOHNSTON has been willing to work with Senators on resource issues that are unique to that particular State, whether the subject matter was precious metals, coal, petroleum, natural gas, or, in the case of Utah, tar sands and oil shale. He has provided tremendous leadership in showcasing and supporting our national parks, forests, and recreation areas. While we have not always agreed on every single issue, I will miss his manner of doing business.

In addition, he has been successful in focusing this body on the important issue of risk assessment related to environmental regulations. With the total cost for all 54 Federal environmental regulatory agencies totaling \$14.3 billion last year, it is critical that Congress determine the benefit associated with the cost of each and every environmental regulation we pass. Senator JOHNSTON has provided leadership on this matter, and I hope that this body will again pass his amendment during this session to require a risk assessment on new regulations.

Obviously, the Senator from Louisiana has been a leader in many areas during his tenure in the Senate. For this, I thank and applaud him. We are losing a true expert on these issues, and I am losing a true friend in every sense of the word. I understand why he has made this decision to leave the Senate; and, while 2 years remain for us to collaborate on important issues, I want to express my thanks to him and wish him well in all his future plans. He has been a great asset to his State and to the Senate.