

TRIBUTE TO SISTER JANET A.
FITZGERALD

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute one of Long Island's most dedicated and accomplished educators, Sister Janet A. Fitzgerald, O.P., Ph.D. After serving as president of Molloy College in Rockville Centre, NY since 1972, Sister Janet has announced her resignation. Sister Janet's tenure of almost 24 years was longer than that of any other Molloy president. Nearly 85 percent of Molloy's 8,500 graduates earned their degrees during Sister Janet's term in office.

Coming to Molloy 27 years ago, Sister Janet taught in the philosophy department. She became president in 1972 and served in that capacity until this year. Following the completion of a well-deserved sabbatical, Sister Janet will return to Molloy to once again teach philosophy.

Under Sister Janet's leadership, Molloy College grew dramatically. Enrollment has more than doubled and the number of faculty has increased from 73 full-time and 27 part-time in 1972 to 136 full-time and 142 part-time for the 1995-96 academic year. As president, Sister Janet oversaw the construction of three new campus buildings: The Wilbur Arts Center, the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, and the William J. Casey Center. During her presidency, extensive renovation and modernization were done to both Kellenberg and Quealy Halls.

Molloy College also expanded its academic offerings during Sister Janet's administration. Twenty-one majors were created and in 1989, Molloy offered its first graduate program, the M.S. in Nursing. Molloy has also added three additional M.S. programs in nursing.

On a personal level Sister Janet and I both grew up in the Sunnyside/Woodside neighborhood in Queens, NY. Sister Janet certainly epitomizes the qualities which were prized in our neighborhood—courage and strength of purpose.

Sister Janet Fitzgerald is truly one of Long Island's greatest assets and one of our Nation's greatest educators. She compiled an outstanding record as president of Molloy College and deserves a debt of gratitude from all of us. I wish Sister Janet all the best and hope that she enjoys her sabbatical, but I know that she will be eager to get back to the classroom.

COLLEGE COSTS SKYROCKET

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, 122 years ago, the great English leader Benjamin Disraeli spoke to the British House of Commons proclaiming the virtues of education. His words, "Upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends", manifested his realization that a knowledgeable population represented a key to continued national success.

Today, with the cost of higher education skyrocketing out of control and threatening

soon to move beyond the reach of the average American family, Disraeli's statement is one that we should remember.

In the 14 years ending in 1993, colleges boosted tuitions over 200 percent. Private school tuitions rose an astonishing 220 percent and public school tuitions increased 218 percent during that same period. The rates of increase represent growth that has outstripped that of medical care by more than 40 percent and the Consumer Price Index [CPI] by over 150 percent, according to a 1993 Business Week magazine article.

Correspondingly, family median income rose only 54 percent during that same 14-year period. What the aforementioned figures indicate, simply, is that the current cost explosion of higher education is quickly threatening to make one of the major institutions that promotes American economic and social strength unaffordable for the average American family.

There are several apparent factors behind the rise in the cost of higher education at a 4-year university or college. Competition for students and faculty alike has jumped considerably, and schools have struggled to keep their campuses in top condition. To remain attractive, colleges and universities are forced to add "quality of life" services to their campuses, such as new athletic equipment or facilities. Colleges are often judged, unfairly or not, on whether there is new construction on campus.

This competition has not, as might have been expected, reduced prices all around, but actually served to sustain them, as universities spent millions trying to upgrade their facilities to be state of the art in order to attract the best.

Tuitions stayed high as the institutions expanded, yet in the opinion of many pundits, the value of the resulting educations declined. Perceptions about the decreased value of higher education are also relevant due to what Dean Breneman of the University of Virginia terms the "Chivas Regal effect". Breneman's theory asserts that many college applicants feel that a high price tag on an education reflects its quality. Consequently, families agreed to pay the exponentially increasing fees for what they believed to be a better education, and what truly amounted to one of decreasing quality.

While the universities were busy hiking prices, the Federal Government was reducing its financial aid to families. The number of Federal grants has been cut, in many cases replaced by loans.

Over half of the \$47 billion in financial aid made available by the Federal Government in 1994-1995 came in the form of loans. In 1994, our Government recorded over \$23 billion in loan and grant requests. Clearly this astronomical amount of requests represented a cry for help from an American people fearful that their chance at the American dream is passing them by.

Most students graduating from college in the latter years of the nineties expect to carry a personal debt burden of between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Such large amounts of debt hinders and discourages workers entering the workforce. Businesses have traditionally offered only nominal and insignificant support for such debt repayment, and thus have encouraged low employee commitment and high employee turnaround.

For example, Nellie Mae, a non-profit student loan organization, promotes cooperation

between businesses and students. The group has developed a Federal bill that seeks to expand so-called "cafeteria-type" benefits plans. Under the plan, students would be able to choose student-loan repayment as an option on their company benefits plan.

I strongly urge Congress to look at the daunting predicament in which America's higher education system now finds itself, realize its responsibility to preserve the education and status of the Nation, and recognize Disraeli's lasting reminder as an urgent call to action.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH S.
O'KEEFE

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Elizabeth S. O'Keefe of Whitfield School, one of the winners of the 1996 Toyota Tapestry program.

The Toyota Tapestry program, which is administered by the National Science Teachers Association, began 5 years ago and has awarded more than \$1.6 million in grants to teachers in the United States. Each year, 40 outstanding K-12 grade teachers are given grants of up to \$10,000 to implement innovative 1-year programs to enhance science education in their schools. The winning teachers have developed projects that demonstrate creativity, involve risk-taking, possesses visionary qualities, and model a unique way of presenting science.

Ms. O'Keefe's winning project was to develop a unique study on ground water in caves. Because caves are void of photosynthetic organisms and litter, the water contains dissolved nutrients as well as herbicides and pesticides that percolate through rock and soil layers into cave streams. Rivers and springs are tested for pollutants; however, there is no systematic evaluation of pollution in cave water. O'Keefe's seventh grade classes will collect and evaluate water samples from 10 cave sites that were tested over 20 years ago, and determine what environmental and geological changes have occurred over this period.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege for me to pay tribute to Elizabeth O'Keefe, and commend her upon her efforts in ensuring the next generation a quality foundation from where they can pursue their ambitions. I join the National Science Teachers's Association in honoring the excellent work that she has been able to accomplish.

IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF OUR
FEDERAL WORKERS

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern regarding the safety of our Nation's Government workers and urge the Congress to move forward in taking steps to protect these individuals as well as the integrity of our Federal facilities. Government workers, in our Nation's Capital and beyond, are

vulnerable to acts of terrorism, both domestic and international as was tragically illustrated by the bombings that occurred in Oklahoma City last year, and Saudi Arabia earlier this week.

On June 28, 1995, immediately following the Oklahoma City bombing, President Clinton issued a memorandum directing the General Services Administration [GSA] to upgrade all Federal facilities with minimum security standards outlined in a Department of Justice study entitled "Vulnerability Assessment of Federal Facilities." One of the minimum security standards highlighted in the study is the retrofitting of security window film in all Federal facilities. I remember all too well, as I am sure we all do, the horrible pictures and film clips on the evening news of the victims in the bombing bloodied by the shards of glass that were propelled like bullets toward them when the windows of the building were blown out by the blast. Even more devastating were the images of the babies and small children in the Federal day care facility who were severely injured and killed by the impact of the explosion.

This technology will help us to avoid additional injuries or deaths in the future. Almost all of our Embassies, both here and abroad utilize security window film. The White House has it, the Pentagon has it, FEMA has it, and many of the museums in the Smithsonian have it. I concur with the President that before another tragedy occurs, all Government buildings should have it.

It is my hope that we may move forward with improving the safety of our Federal workers who are disproportionately at risk of being victim to a terrorist act. I am aware that the GSA commissioned a study regarding the effectiveness of security window film and that the Department of Justice, Department of State and the Department of the Army have already conducted research that supported the use of window film for the purposes outlined in the President's memorandum. I urge GSA to promptly develop and implement a plan and budget for the upgrade of Federal facilities. The safety of our Government workers and their children hang in the balance.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity before my fellow Members of the House of Representatives to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Emmanuel Baptist Church as it celebrates its 100th anniversary on July 5 through July 7, 1996. This small but high-impact community institution deserves national recognition for its century of dedication to the simple but essential American values of faith, family and community.

Throughout the years as Johnstown has endured hardship and tragedy of various types, from floods to the Great Depression, the Nation's wars, as well as more recent economic hard times and crippling unemployment, the Emmanuel Baptist Church has been a source of support and sustenance, spiritually and otherwise, to generations.

Emmanuel Baptist was organized on July 15, 1896 in the Grand Army of the Republic Hall in downtown Johnstown, PA.

For 10 years, the congregation met in the Hall until a new church was built on Poplar Street. In 1959, the church relocated to its present site at 425 Luther Road in Richland Township. The congregation has been served by one pastor, the Reverend Ray Streets, Sr., for the past 42 years. His son, the Reverend Ray Streets, Jr., currently serves with him as associate pastor.

The church teaches 19 Sunday School classes, of which 5 are for adults. It also provides other educational programs for children. One is for kids ages 3 through 12, and another, Impact Ministry, is geared toward junior- and senior-high students and encompasses such activities as drama, music and gymnastics. I congratulate church members Chris Taylor, Pam and Jeff Weaver, and Bill Kagey for their dedication to these programs and to the children of their community.

Several members of the Emmanuel Baptist church also serve as full-time missionaries. Yet another vital community service provided by the church is its Elijah's Pantry. Run by members Rita and John Marsden, it ministers to needy families.

I am honored to know many of the members of this congregation, and to be able to congratulate Emmanuel Baptist Church on this day. May the church grow and prosper for another 100 years.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY DESERVES FEDERAL SUPPORT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about yesterday's decision during consideration of the VA-HUD independent agencies appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997 to remove funding for the National Center for Science Literacy, Education, and Technology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

With more than 200 professional scientists and unbeatable resources and capabilities, the museum is positioned to provide the highest level of return on our country's investment in NASA's mission to planet Earth, in translating and extending scientific findings to the general public. This project is not local but national in scope. The museum and its Hayden Planetarium interact with more than 3 million visitors annually from every State in the country. It already welcomes more than 500,000 children each year and its laudable goal is to reach schools and families throughout the Nation using the most advanced 21st century technology.

There is little doubt that we must do a better job to ensure that our children have the highest available level of scientific understanding as it relates to our own planet. This project will do precisely that.

Mr. Speaker, we will still have an opportunity to restore the funds in the House-Senate conference on this bill. And, I would urge the House conferees to support a \$13 million investment by the Federal Government in this

\$135 million center, which has already raised more than \$70 million from a number of host State, host city, and private sources.

CROATIA CELEBRATES ANTI-FASCIST STRUGGLE COMMEMORATION DAY

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, just last Saturday on June 22, Croatia celebrated its participation in the World War II antifascist movement. The Anti-Fascist Struggle Commemoration Day, a national holiday in Croatia, has been a tremendous success and courageous recognition of that ever-important victory over international tyranny some 50 years ago. I would like to formally recognize this event here in the United States House of Representatives, and commend Croatia for her gracious and dedicated efforts to securing and preserving world peace.

THE ANTI-FASCIST MOVEMENT IN CROATIA

Every June 22nd since independence, Croatia has celebrated its participation in the World War II anti-fascist movement. The national holiday, Anti-Fascist Struggle Commemoration Day, marks the day on which in 1941 Vlado Janic led forty Croatian anti-fascists from the town of Sisak to fight against fascism, marking the beginning of the anti-fascist struggle in Croatia.

The President of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, one of the few European statesmen who is a veteran of the World War II anti-fascist movement, has said on many occasions that the anti-fascist struggle greatly contributed to establishing the foundations of a modern, democratic Croatia.

The following factors should be considered when examining Croatia's role in the anti-fascist struggle:

The Croatian anti-fascist movement was among the strongest, not only in former Yugoslavia, but also Europe:

Croatian resistance forces, as part of the democratic coalition of anti-fascist powers, participated in the victory over fascism;

Croatians led the Croatian and South Slav-ic antifascist movement;

The resistance led to the creation of the Federal State of Croatia by ZAVNOH (Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Croatia), constitutional foundations of federalism, and the constitutional and legal basis for Croatians independence today; and

The guiding principles of the anti-fascist movement form an integral part of the preamble of the Croatian Constitution.

Croatia takes pride in the fact that one of the first organized resistance units occupied Europe was Croatian. The Sisak resistance unit engaged in several diversions on the Zagreb-Belgrade railway, and by mid-September of 1941 had grown to 77 fighters. By the end of 1941, 7,000 Croatian anti-fascists had joined the armed partisan movement, rising to 25,000 a year later, and to 100,000 following the capitulation of Italy. By the end of the Second World War the number reached 150,000. The overall number of Croatian citizens that participated in the anti-fascist struggle is estimated at 471,836, of which two-thirds were Croats.

Last year, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the victory of the anti-fascist coalition in Europe, the Croatian Parliament published a report that records the history of the anti-fascist movement in Croatia from the 1920s onwards.