

entered the union at a rate of five new coins each year for 10 years. I am pleased to report that the Banking Committee fully considered the merits of this legislation. H.R. 3793 was the subject of a comprehensive hearing and was unanimously reported from the subcommittee.

Let me emphasize that the committee carefully weighed the merits of this bill since any changes to the Nation's circulating coins must have strong popular appeal. The testimony received in our committee hearing did support the view that this bill provides significant public benefit. In addition to the surplus funds this program will accrue to the Treasury, the principal benefit will be to highlight the history and the importance of each State's individual contribution to the union we know as the United States of America.

Again, I compliment my colleagues on the Banking Committee for bringing this bill to the floor and I urge an enthusiastic "aye" vote.

TRIBUTE TO A FLIER

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 5, 1996

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, bustling in the skies overhead—airplanes and helicopters, satellites and spaceships, dirigibles and sometimes even UFO's—orbit the Earth in voyages of commerce, missions of mercy, war, flights of fantasy, and excursions of adventure and leisure.

For centuries our ancestors had no paths through the clouds. Once, most thought man would never fly; that only birds might soar the kingdom of clouds and rainbows. Today pilots steer passengers through the clouds and across the starry skies because dreamers and thinkers and inventors held to a faith that someday man would navigate the heavens.

Those who keep faith in their missions open new worlds and inspire us all to reach new heights.

I would like to take this opportunity to share a little bit of the story of one of our Nation's first black commercial airline pilots. Perry Jones is one of those faithful whose hard work, spirit, and dedication chartered a new course to the future. He is a model for young people who are pursuing dreams of flying and he is a model for older people who are searching out new rainbows when they retire from their life's work. Mr. Speaker, Capt. M. Perry Jones is one of our Nation's high-flying heroes.

Enclosed is a copy of an article on Capt. M. Perry Jones which was recently published by Visions magazine and written by Mr. Ronald Johnson and Ms. Constance Gipson of the California Department of Education.

CAPTAIN M. PERRY JONES

PILOT, DELTA AIRLINES; PRESIDENT,
ORGANIZATION OF BLACK AIRLINE PILOTS

Birthplace: Cartersville, Virginia.

Raised: Montclair, New Jersey.

Resides: Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

Captain M. Perry Jones was born in Cartersville, Virginia, and lived with his grandparents on a small farm. His grandfather was his hero. "Wherever he went, I went. I was his shadow," he recalls fondly. "He, my grandmother, and my aunts played a major role in my life." Captain Jones

joined his parents and his brother in New Jersey when he was ten.

"I knew I wanted to be a pilot when I was five or six years old. I used to watch planes fly over my house and dream of becoming a pilot. Because I was poor, I didn't know how I was going to do it, but I knew what I wanted." Now, after overcoming numerous obstacles, Captain Perry Jones flies an A310, also known as an air bus, between New York and Europe, touching down in such cities as Bucharest, Warsaw, Hamburg, and Budapest, and many other exciting places.

An honor student and athlete in high school, Jones went on to earn two college degrees at the same time, one in aeronautical engineering and the other in mechanical engineering at the same time. Being focused was his key to success in high school and college. He was determined to be the best. In high school, he excelled in math, science, and physics, and his extraordinary efforts earned him several scholarship offers to some of the best colleges in the country. He chose the University of Pittsburgh because of its exemplary track program. He was on a world record relay team.

Although sports were important to Jones, academics came first. In college, Jones got up at three o'clock every morning to study. His dedication and self-discipline paid off when he was hired right out of college as an engineer by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

After one year at Lockheed, Jones joined the Air Force, and entered flight training. He ranked first in academics and first in flying ability, but he was sent to navigation school and became a navigator.

It was not until he had completed navigator training and was assigned to Travis Air Force Base in California that he got the opportunity to attend pilot training. A general recognized Jones's ability and mentored him, leading to his return to aviation school and pilot training. Next, he was sent to Vietnam, where he flew air tankers that refueled bombers in flight. After six years in the Air Force, during which he flew 126 missions in Vietnam, Jones left military life to become the first African American pilot to fly for Pan American Airlines.

Because of his rich experiences in aviation, Captain Jones strongly believes that young people should continue to pursue aeronautical careers: "Opportunities will be there for young people who want to be in aviation, even with the current trend toward scaling down the airlines."

As president of the Organization of Black Airline Pilots, Captain Jones testifies before Congress and makes television and radio appearances about blacks in aviation—there are approximately 660 black airline pilots in the United States today. The Organization of Black Airline Pilots holds seminars and flight schools, and provides support to aspiring pilots and persons already flying for the airlines.

Captain Jones believes that he owes a debt to the people who helped him, so he volunteers countless hours working with young African Americans, helping them pursue their career goals. He wants to see young African American men gain self-esteem through meaningful employment so that there can be a return to the sense of family that has traditionally been part of the black culture. "Young men need to learn how to get a good job so that they can raise their families with dignity. They can't respect others until they have learned to respect themselves." Captain M. Perry Jones lives and practices the philosophy, "I judge myself on how I have helped other people to reach their goals."

TRIBUTE TO THE PONAGANSET WIND ENSEMBLE

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 5, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superb performance of the Ponaganset Wind Ensemble at the 1996 International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria.

The Ponaganset Wind Ensemble, instructed by Mr. Nedo Pandolfi of Ponaganset High School in Rhode Island's Foster/Glocester Regional School District, met all expectations by taking first place in the festival's band competition—a feat never before achieved by an ensemble from the Ocean State.

Chosen as one of only three bands to represent the United States, Ponaganset, which placed third at the 1982 Vienna Festival, showed the world how countless hours of practice and dedication can produce brilliance. So impressive was Ponaganset's performance that the student's were awarded the Cup of Vienna, an accolade not given every year and awarded only when the festival panel recognizes exemplary musical performance.

The Ensemble's 46 young musicians, ages 14 to 18, not only successfully competed on an international stage, but also found boundless opportunities to receive a priceless musical education. The Wind Ensemble performed for numerous crowds at local fairs and open air arenas throughout Vienna's historical downtown area, and also visited the memorials to some of the world's most legendary composers such as Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss.

Mr. Pandolfi established the Ponaganset Wind Ensemble program in 1960, the same year that Ponaganset High School was founded. Thirty-six years later, both the instructor and the pupils should be praised for their momentous achievement, which is an experience whose memories will last a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the following members of the Ponaganset Wind Ensemble, who have clearly illustrated what we can achieve when we follow our dreams. Their accomplishments are indicative of the perseverance and effort necessary to achieve success:

Monique Barrett, Foster; Jesse Poulin, Foster; Josh Bedard, Foster; Katie Bedard, Foster; Andrew Fast, Foster; Aletha Holmes, Foster; Hilary McElroy, Foster; Richard Muldoon, Foster; Jennifer Sherblum, Foster; Diane Shippee, Foster; Dyani Tait, Foster; Diana Walden, Foster; Colin Walsh, Foster.

Melissa Alberg, Glocester; Tom Alberg, Glocester; Kim Angarella, Glocester; Roger Bissell, Glocester; Daniel Boucher, Glocester; Katie Broccoli, Glocester; Brooke Brown, Glocester; Courtney Brown, Glocester; Peter Carpenter, Glocester; Scott Carpenter, Glocester; Brendan Carroll, Glocester; Jesse Chace, Glocester; Nick Collins, Glocester; Sarah Colwell, Glocester; Stephanie Darigan, Glocester; Matthew Dube, Glocester; Christopher Fellow, Glocester; Tara Foley, Glocester; Beth Hammond, Glocester; Danielle Lavendier, Glocester; Bethany Lyford, Glocester; Megan Mason, Glocester; Nathan Mason, Glocester; Nicholas Pinder, Glocester; Jane Ragno, Glocester; Michael Roberto,

Glocester; Pamela Roberto, Glocester; Rebecca Ruge, Glocester; Sarah Stevenson, Glocester; James Teeter, Glocester; Adam Tillinghast, Glocester; Elizabeth Tucker, Glocester; Rachel Zanella, Glocester.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 1996

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Historically Black Colleges Historic Building Restoration and Preservation Act. From Civil War battles to civil rights marches, the campuses of historically black colleges and universities [HBCU's] have been the site of many significant events in America's history. Scattered throughout the Nation, many of these institutions of higher learning have fostered the academic development of African-Americans for over a century.

The rising price of historic preservation compounded by years of low funding and neglect have left many historic buildings on the campuses of HBCU's in poor condition. The \$29 million in grants this bill authorizes is desperately needed for the rehabilitation of these structures. By providing matching funds, HBCU's will be able to restore these prominent landmarks for the enjoyment of local communities and the benefit of future students.

Of the \$29 million in grants authorized to this bill, there are also several colleges that are earmarked to receive funds because of their important contributions to the education of African-Americans in their areas. This bill authorizes \$3 million for historic preservation at Tougaloo College and \$1 million for Rust College, both located in Mississippi. At Tougaloo these funds will be used to repair prominent buildings such as the Mansion, a 13-room home built in 1848. Rust College will use these funds to ensure the survival of many structures, including Oakview Hall which served as an office for the Holly Springs Slave market and as quarters of General Grant's troops during the Civil War.

Most Americans agree that education provides the best chance of preparing today's youth to lead the Nation in the next century. Although Thomas Jefferson's dream of educational opportunity for every American has not yet been reached, legislation like H.R. 1179 takes positive steps toward its fulfillment. The supporters of this bill should be commended for their commitment to providing the colleges and universities that serve African-Americans with the resources needed to provide an educational atmosphere that protects the past as a means of inspiring the future.

RECLAMATION RECYCLING AND WATER CONSERVATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 4, 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address provisions in H.R. 3660, the Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act.

I commend the gentleman from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, and the Resources Committee for their efforts. H.R. 3660, which is directed solely to the Department of the Interior, moves this country in the right direction environmentally—i.e., to recycle, reuse, and conserve our precious water resources.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance for various projects relating to water and wastewater reclamation and reuse and desalinization. Nothing in this bill affects the authorities of the Army Corps of Engineers or the Environmental Protection Agency relating to water reclamation and management, wastewater treatment and desalinization or authorities and requirements under water resource laws that apply to the Corps of Engineers or authorities and requirements under the Clean Water Act.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has jurisdiction over various Corps of Engineers' and EPA' authorities, which may include water and wastewater treatment and reclamation, as well as desalinization.

I congratulate the Resources Committee for its efforts to reclaim, recycle and conserve water resources throughout the Western States and look forward to working with them on water and wastewater reclamation and desalinization projects and programs in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGE KELTNER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 5, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a great citizen who has made a tremendous impact on educating children in the School City of Hammond, IN. Mrs. Marge Keltner, title I director for the School City of Hammond, retired at the end of the 1996 school year.

Mrs. Keltner began her career in education in 1955 as a fourth grade classroom teacher. She came to the School City of Hammond in 1959 in the same capacity. In 1965, Mrs. Keltner's teaching assignment changed when she became the title I reading teacher. Title I is a federally funded educational program that assists students who have reading problems. Mrs. Keltner's role with title I expanded through the years as she became a title I reading teacher coordinator, instructional supervisor, and, finally, program director. Mrs. Keltner also taught undergraduate and graduate level education at Indiana University Northwest and Purdue University Calumet.

In addition to her work with the title I program, Mrs. Keltner worked diligently to foster

literacy. She is currently a charter member of the Hammond Area Reading Council and has served on the board of directors for the Calumet Area Literary Council. In addition, Mrs. Keltner served two terms as president of the Indiana State Reading Council and was appointed by Governor Bayh to a statewide Literacy Coalition.

Marge Keltner can be very proud of the work she has done to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. She serves as a positive role model for teachers and students alike, and proves that with a little assistance from a caring teacher, a child can grow into and prosper as a productive adult.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM: FORMER SENATOR BOB DOLE SAID HE DID NOT READ IT—BUT IT SHOULD BE READ

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 5, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago the American people were treated to a confusing spectacle in San Diego. The platform adopted by the Republican Party 1 week before the Republican convention reflected the same extremist, Contract-With-America rhetoric that we in the Congress have witnessed for the past 20 months. This is the same extremist program that the majority of the American people have clearly and unequivocally rejected.

The following week, a tightly-scripted convention took place in San Diego which ignored the existence of this radical document. That same convention—for obvious reasons—also ignored the so-called Contract With America.

The Republican Presidential candidate, former Senator Robert Dole, told the press he had not read his party's platform. The Republican platform, however, does deserve to be read, Mr. Speaker, because it is important for the American people to know the views of those who are in the majority within the Republican Party. The Republican platform tells us the views of the people who will play leading roles if there should be a Dole administration—which, I hasten to add, I sincerely hope there will not be.

Mr. Speaker, an excellent analysis and summary of the Republican platform appeared as an editorial in the September 2 issue of *The New Republic*. I ask that this excellent editorial be placed in the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read it. This editorial gives an excellent summary of some of the most egregious and disturbing problems with that extremist document.

[From the *New Republic*, Sept. 2, 1996]

PLATFORM DIVING

Is the Republican platform worth reading? Not to Bob Dole, who still hasn't found the time, nor to the GOP's oh-so-moderate convention speakers, who appear chosen largely because they disagree with its plank on abortion (criminalize it, even when the mother's life is at stake). But although the platform is, predictably, a farrago of inoffensive pabulum ("We are the party of the American family, educating children, caring for the sick . . .") and unintended hilarity ("Prisons should not be places of rest and relaxation"), it still provides a useful glimpse into the contradictions of what remains the closest thing America has to a majority party.