

Lorna Flores started AMCORE Bank's international services program six years ago. It now serves 28 companies.

The volume of transactions made through the program has more than tripled, she said.

One of the bank's most popular services helps companies obtain letters of credit that assure payment from foreign companies through a U.S. bank.

The letters are especially important in countries "where there is a lot of political risk," such as in Brazil or Mexico, she said.

Steven Morreim, president of QED Dryer Sales and Mfg., said he uses the bank's services "to keep us straight on paperwork."

The Rockford company is in the process of shipping a grain dryer worth more than \$100,000 to a company in Russia. QED has done business in Nigeria, Turkey and Colombia.

Exporting makes up about 10 percent of the company's sales. Morreim expects to at least double that in five years. The company employs eight full-time workers.

LEGISLATION, EDUCATION

Local legislators and educators are also looking at how local companies can increase their exports.

Rep. Don Manzullo, R-Egan, is trying to reorganize U.S. trade agencies within the Department of Commerce to save money without hurting business exports.

Manzullo has been holding hearings on trade promotion and the function of various programs. He is working on trying to reorganize trade promotion efforts and cut duplication.

"The future of trade promotion must be easily accessible to the entire U.S. business community," he said in a statement earlier this month before testifying to the House International Relations Committee on the future of the Department of Commerce.

Rock Valley College, with other economic development groups, hopes to help small businesses through an "export clinic" to be held at the college Thursday, Aug. 24. The college next month will begin a three-month-long, once-a-week class on how to sell overseas.

Small companies are "the ones that need (help) most," because of limited resources, said Thomas de Seve, coordinator of international programs.

Getting into the business of exporting is not as hard as it seems, according to those who have done it.

"It's not intimidating," said Larry Lewis, owner and president of National Metal Specialists Corp. "The first time you go through it, it might be, but after you start repeating it, it's not bad."

Exports at National Metal make up about \$300,000 of the company's \$4 million in annual sales. The company ships to countries in Central America and South America.

National Metal's 60 employees manufacture mops and parts for mops.

Lewis said the company made inroads in exporting by making contacts at international trade shows. So far, profit margins made on exports has eclipsed those made domestically.

"Overall, it's 20 to 30 percent better," he said.

"The people are so happy to find the product. You don't have the intense retail pressure."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3759, as amended.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINTOSH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL THOMAS F. HALL, U.S. NAVY, CHIEF OF NAVAL RESERVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. MONTGOMERY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication, public service, and patriotism of Rear Adm. Thomas F. Hall, U.S. Navy, Chief of Naval Reserve. Admiral Hall retires from the Navy on October 1, after a distinguished 37-year career of service to our Nation.

A native of Barnsdall, OK, Admiral Hall reported to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1959, graduated in 1963 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1964. After earning his wings of gold, Admiral Hall joined the maritime patrol forces flying the new P-3 Orion. During flight training, he was named the outstanding student, and graduated No. 1 in his class. Admiral Hall continued to distinguish himself throughout his flying career amassing almost 5,000 pilot hours.

His initial fleet assignment was with Patrol Squadron Eight, flying combat missions in Southeast Asia. Subsequent tours included the U.S. Naval Academy, as a company officer and executive assistant to the commandant of midshipmen, Patrol Squadron Twenty-Three, completion of the command and staff course at the Naval War College, graduating with distinction, and assignment to the Bureau of Naval Personnel, where his billets included aviation staffs placement officer, head of air combat assignment. Admiral Hall

returned to VP-8 as executive officer and then assumed duties as commanding officer. Admiral Hall also completed the course of instruction at the National War College, again graduating with distinction, and served on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations where he served as head of the program objective memorandum development section, as chief of staff to Commander Fleet Air Keflavik, and as a fellow to the CNO's strategic studies group. In addition to command of VP-8, Admiral Hall has also served in command of Naval Air Station Bermuda, the Icelandic defense forces, and most recently, command of the Naval Reserve.

Since September 1992, Admiral Hall has been the Chief of Naval Reserve, guiding the Naval Reserve force through its largest drawdown, while maintaining readiness and significantly increasing contributory support to the fleet. Under Admiral Hall's leadership, the total force policy was realized—Regular Navy and Navy Reservists working side-by-side, meeting forward presence requirements in operations worldwide.

In August 1989, Admiral Hall was promoted to rear admiral (lower half) and in July 1992 to his present rank of rear admiral (upper half). Admiral Hall wears the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, and various unit and campaign awards, holds a masters degree in management from George Washington University and attended Harvard University senior executive program. In July 1992, Admiral Hall was awarded the Icelandic Order of the Falcon, Commander's Cross with Star, by the President of Iceland.

Our Nation, his wife Barbara, and his son Tom, can be immensely proud of the admiral's long and distinguished career and his service to our country. I wish Admiral Hall and his family best wishes in his retirement.

AFL-CIO ATTACK ADS ON REPUBLICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to follow up on some remarks I made on the floor earlier today during the course of the debate on one of our suspension bills, and that is the reference that I made to the new round of attack ads, because I do not think you call them anything but, the new round of attack ads being aired on television stations around the country and paid for by the AFL-CIO. These are television ads orchestrated by the big labor bosses of the AFL-CIO in Washington, airing exclusively in the congressional districts of incumbent Republicans, and they are part and parcel of an orchestrated campaign by the AFL-CIO to help the National Democratic Party win back control of the House of Representatives.

These new ads follow on the heels of their MediScare ads, where they distorted our efforts to preserve and to strengthen Medicare and protect it from bankruptcy by increasing annual spending for the program at a rate of 7 percent as opposed to the 14-percent

annual growth rate of Medicare in recent years. That is to say, increasing spending for Medicare at twice the rate of inflation as opposed to three times the rate of inflation.

□ 1745

And of course those Medicare television ads nor the fact that President Clinton, after much procrastination and foot dragging, has finally submitted his own proposal for saving Medicare from bankruptcy. That would grow the program. That would increase annual spending for Medicare benefits at 7.8 percent annually as opposed to our 7-percent growth rate.

Now the AFL-CIO has come on the air with ads claiming, using the big lie technique, that the Republican Congress voted to cut student loans. Well, let us go back and take a look at the record. In fact, the Republican majority in Congress last year as part of our 7-year plan for balancing the budget in H.R. 2491 increased funding for student loans by \$12 billion, from \$24 billion today to \$36 billion in the year 2002. That is a 50-percent increase in Federal taxpayer benefits for student loans.

Under our proposal, which the President vetoed, a record 8.4 million student loans would be made in the year 2002 up from 6.7 million student loans in 1995. There simply are no cuts, yet the AFL-CIO insists on misrepresenting and deliberately distorting our record.

Second, Pell grants will increase this year to a maximum of \$2,500 per student, the highest level of Pell grants in our country's history. That is the highest maximum award of a Pell grant for a college student in the history of our country. So we are supporting better education, especially for those who need it most.

We have attempted to begin slowly but surely transferring power and control over education back to local school districts and parents across the country. It does not belong back here in Washington under the control of bureaucrats because, after all, decision-making in public education is by a longstanding American tradition a decentralized custom.

So we have been working hard, Mr. Speaker, and we continued that work today with the passage, actually, I guess the vote was postponed until tomorrow, but we did today introduce legislation which will pass by an overwhelming bipartisan margin when we take this recorded vote tomorrow to reduce loan fees for students. That is the Student Debt Reduction Act of 1996 that we had on the floor earlier today.

We are not decreasing student loans, we are in fact increasing the accessibility and affordability of student loans. This follows on the heels of a doubling, a 100-percent increase, in taxpayer funding for public education in this country between 1945 and 1965, another 100-percent increase from 1965 to 1985, and a 20-percent increase in taxpayer funding for public education since 1985.

We Republicans are committed to improving education for our Nation's youth and saving them from a failed education system run by bureaucrats, which has too often not given them the hope and the opportunity and promise for a better future that a public education, which is the cornerstone of equal opportunity in a Democratic society, should provide.

So I will be speaking on this, I am sure again, as we proceed to conclude our legislative business over the next few weeks, but I wanted to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to follow up on the debate we had today, particularly after the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. KILDEE] challenged my remarks and we were not able to debate it at that time. I would dearly like for one or more of my Democratic colleagues to come to the floor so that we could have a very legitimate, genuine, bipartisan debate on education funding and the right education policies for the future of our children.

JOB CREATION AND JOB LOSS IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House tonight to talk about issues that I think are important to me, not only as a Member of Congress but also as a father and a parent and someone who is concerned about the future for my children and the future for all children in America. It is good to get away from Congress and to go out and talk to people in the district, and it has been great to have a congressional work period where I have had a chance to talk to folks and hear their concerns.

I come from central Florida. It is basically a pretty prosperous area. We do not have some of the problems of the urban areas, but one of the concerns that I hear repeated and that I personally have been concerned about is job creation.

Now, we have heard the President lauding some of the economic figures and unemployment figures, and we have heard touted the creation in this administration of 10 million jobs. So I thought I would look into these 10 million jobs and see what has been created, what has been done and what the future is for our children.

One of the interesting statistics, although 10 million jobs have been created in this administration, the bulk of those jobs are part-time jobs, they are low-paying jobs, they are contract jobs, and they are service jobs. In fact, I was startled to find that during just a 2-year period, from 1993 to 1995, that in fact a startling 8.4 million Americans lost their jobs, and that is the concern that I heard out there, is people fear losing their jobs.

What is interesting about 8.4 million people, Americans, losing their jobs

during this 2-year period of the 4-year job expansion is the majority of those 8.4 million people who lost their jobs lost a good paying job, a high-technology job, or a job that was in a sophisticated area, and the majority of that 8.4 million had to take a job in a lower paying, a lower level, a less sophisticated job. And, really, that is the question that I heard asked of me and the question that I asked myself: What about the future? What about jobs for our children, when half of those jobs that are lost, that 8.4 million, we relegate our citizens to lower paying jobs?

Now, in 1989 there were 1 million more jobs in manufacturing than there were in Government. This is an alarming figure in what has happened since 1989. And listen to this: Last year there were 1.5 million jobs more in Government than there were in manufacturing in this country. So we are employing more people on the Government rolls.

And this story about ending big Government as we know it and the era the big Government is over, it just does not hold water because we have more people on public payrolls and less in manufacturing than we have ever had.

I had a conversation with a mother whose daughter was one of the few students in advanced physics, during the past weekend, and some time ago she told me about her daughter at the University of Florida, one of the few students in advanced physics. The next area after nuclear physics is the area she is in, advanced physics studies. Now she has transferred to Northwestern University and she is the only American student in her class in advanced physics. This is scary for the future. Her choices are going to be to work probably in Tokyo and Geneva when she finishes. What kinds of jobs are we creating?

And then we look at the job and education programs and they are a total failure. In my State we spent \$1 billion on job training in the State of Florida, and a State report recently released said that less than 20 percent of those students who entered the job training program completed the program. Of that, only 19 percent, 19 percent of the 20 percent, ever got a job. So we are paying much more and we are getting less. We are not giving good opportunity for the future. We are replacing good paying jobs with jobs that do not pay much.

And the debate in this chamber has been about whether we pay people \$5.15. That is not acceptable to me. That is not acceptable to the future. We can and we must do much better.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PETERSON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)