

Another newspaper quotes a Democratic official as saying that in Kansas, "the only thing more popular than Nancy is wheat." Now that's saying something.

The last thing that I would like to say today on the floor is that I will miss Senator KASSEBAUM. I will miss talking with her on the floor. I will miss her contributions to legislative debate. And I will miss her great and moderate influence on this body as a whole.

We need more Senators like NANCY KASSEBAUM in the Senate. I think the Senate, the people of Kansas, and Americans all across this country are lucky to have had her service in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JIM EXON

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the distinguished service of my friend and colleague, Senator JIM EXON of Nebraska.

When I think of America's heartland—the great plains, the small towns, farmers in the field, hard work, helping your neighbor—I think of Senator EXON. No other Senator better embodies the image, the values, and the beliefs of rural America. He fights for fiscal responsibility. He fights for the family farm. He fights for a strong national defense. After 26 years of public service to Nebraska, and a stunning record of five winning statewide elections in a row, his departure from public service leaves in its wake a record of accomplishment that will be difficult to match.

During his tenure in the U.S. Senate, Senator EXON has worked tirelessly on behalf of issues important to Nebraskans. He has strengthened the farm economy by fighting to promote ethanol fuels and expanding foreign markets for farm commodities. He has fought to improve rural health care by fixing unfair Medicare rules. He preserved Federal funding for the reformed crop insurance program. And he has improved transportation access for rural communities with his authorship of the current Essential Air Service law and by fighting to strengthen and preserve Amtrak.

Senator EXON has also left his mark on issues important to our Nation. He coauthored legislation passed in 1992 requiring the moratorium on nuclear testing and an end to all testing by 1996. He has used his position as a senior Member of the Senate Budget Committee to help reign in Federal spending and reduce the Federal deficit. He has greatly increased safety in the inspection of trucking and railroad industries.

These accomplishments are his legacy. The retirement announcement of Senator EXON, widely recognized as the chief architect in the creating a strong Democratic party in Nebraska, will leave a void in Nebraskan leadership that will likely be felt for years. I know Nebraskans are proud of his

achievements. I wish Senator EXON the very best in his future endeavors.

THE RETIREMENT OF U.S. SENATOR HOWELL HEFLIN

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to make a few comments about a great U.S. Senator, Howell HEFLIN, or Judge HEFLIN as he is known to all of us who have had the privilege to work with him.

For over 24 years, HOWELL HEFLIN has fought for the interests of Alabama and America. He began his career in public service when he fought in the Pacific during World War II. There he was wounded twice and earned the Silver Star. After graduating from the University of Alabama Law School he began to practice law in Alabama. He went on to serve as President of the Alabama State Bar Association from 1965 to 1966.

In 1971 HOWELL HEFLIN became Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. He is credited with reforming Alabama's antiquated court system. His court reform package has earned him national recognition. His other accomplishments include serving as chairman of the National Conference of Chief Justices, vice president of the American Judicature Society, and being selected the American Association of Trial Lawyers "Most Outstanding Appellate Judge in the United States" in 1975.

I came to know Judge HEFLIN during his tenure in the Senate. He has provided constant leadership and has always had the time to listen. He has always had the time to take a junior Member under his wing and talk with them about issues, no matter how arcane.

When I first came to the Senate, I was assigned to the Judiciary Committee and was able to take advantage of Judge HEFLIN's incredible expertise as a member of that committee. It has been a pleasure working with him.

A man of integrity, HOWELL HEFLIN represents the new South. He has given rise to the kind of moral force that has lifted this body and indeed, this entire country. His integrity, his intelligence, his commitment to the Constitution, and his faith in what the American dream has always stood for and can be in the future, has led Judge HEFLIN in a direction of greatness that is without peer and without parallel in this body.

HOWELL HEFLIN is a man of courage. He stood on this floor about 2 years ago during the debate on the United Daughters of the Confederacy patent extension and made one of the most eloquent speeches I have ever heard. He made it from the heart and he made it with courage. It was that courage that the people of Alabama recognized when they elected him to serve in this body.

The Senate will not be the same place when HOWELL HEFLIN leaves. He has been a force for the good. He has been a force for the light. He has made a tremendous contribution. I will per-

sonally miss Judge HEFLIN and the people of his state will miss one of the best advocates for Alabama the Senate has ever seen. I wish Judge HEFLIN and his wife Mike well.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR HANK BROWN

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I am pleased to have the opportunity today to reflect on the career of a Senator who I have had the honor of serving with during the last 4 years, Colorado's Senior Senator, HANK BROWN.

Senator BROWN has served the people and interests of the State of Colorado with distinction and independence, first as a State Senator between 1972 and 1976, then as a United States Congressman from Colorado's 4th district for 10 years and finally as a U.S. Senator since 1990. Prior to his distinguished career in public service, Senator BROWN applied the same affability, hard work, and talent as a vice-president at a Colorado meat-packing firm. In addition to his contributions as a statesman and a businessman, Senator BROWN also contributed to the State of Colorado and to the Nation as a Navy Forward Air Controller in Vietnam, where he earned numerous decorations, including the Air Medal with two Gold Stars.

Senator BROWN will leave behind a clear record as a foe of the budget deficit. In October of 1990, he opposed the budget-summit agreement, going against his party and with his conscience. Senator BROWN also supported the 1995 Balanced Budget Amendment.

This body will certainly miss the voice of Senator HANK BROWN. Upon hearing of Senator BROWN's retirement, the Daily Camera wrote on December 22, 1994 that "we admire the consistency of HANK BROWN's convictions." I share the Daily Camera's opinion and I wish Senator HANK BROWN the best of luck and God speed as he begins a new life outside of the Senate.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR J. BENNETT JOHNSTON

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to say farewell to a colleague who is retiring from the Senate the end of this Congress—Senator J. BENNETT JOHNSTON of Louisiana. Senator JOHNSTON has been a good friend to Illinois, and his decision to retire will be a loss to Louisiana, a loss to this Chamber, and a loss to the United States.

Senator JOHNSTON was born in Shreveport, LA in 1932, attended Byrd High School and studied at the U.S. Military Academy and Washington and Lee University. He began his political career 32 years ago, serving eight years in the Louisiana Legislature and 24 years in the U.S. Senate.

Since his arrival to the Senate, Senator JOHNSTON has fought hard on behalf of the people of Louisiana. He has

used his seniority on the Senate Agriculture Committee to fight for the priorities of Louisiana farmers. He has worked to enhance navigation, flood control and hurricane protection in Louisiana, a State with many critical waterways. And he has fought to bring Federal dollars back to his home State, such as creating five national research centers at Louisiana universities and working to modernize Louisiana's military installations.

Today, Senator JOHNSTON is known nationally as a leader on energy issues. As a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Senator JOHNSTON has been one of the chief congressional architects in crafting national energy policy, including what is considered his crowning achievement, the National Energy Security Act, the most comprehensive energy bill ever to pass Congress.

I appreciate the assistance that Senator JOHNSTON has provided to the State of Illinois over the years. Illinois is home to two major Department of Energy laboratories, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and the Argonne National Laboratory. Senator JOHNSTON's support has been critical to ensuring that Federal funding for these institutions, and the programs under their jurisdiction, is preserved as much as possible during these times of tight budgets. During the debate on the Integral Fast Reactor, a major Illinois research program on next-generation nuclear technology, it again was Senator JOHNSTON whose assistance and support were crucial to our victory. And it was his support that ensured that the jobs, research and hundreds of millions of dollars invested in IFR research were not wasted once the IFR program was eventually phased out.

There are other Illinois programs and priorities that would not have been possible without the assistance of Senator JOHNSTON, including preserving Federal funding for such critical Illinois projects as the reconstruction of the Chicago shoreline, the ongoing development the Deep Tunnel Flood Control System, and the Upper Mississippi River Feasibility Study.

I have always admired the distinguished Senator's skilled advocacy in defending his State's interests. During the Senate debate on ethanol, I found him a formidable opponent, as was demonstrated by the fact that it took a tie-breaking vote from the Vice President to reach a final decision on that issue. That tight margin exemplifies the kind of excellence and thoroughness Senator JOHNSTON brings to his legislative efforts.

This institution will lose a great asset with the retirement of the distinguished Senator from Louisiana. I wish him, and his family, the very best in their future endeavors.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR SAM NUNN

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, the news today is filled with the sad stories of foreign lands—war in Bosnia, tyranny in Iraq, terrorism in the Middle East. Here, in 1996, on the edge of the 21st century, we live in a world still plagued with fear and war.

These are not, however, the stories of America. America instead is the place where foreign lands turn for hope. When war-torn nations plead for assistance, America answers. When war-like nations terrorize, America responds. And when war-weary nations seek peace, America mediates.

In its 220th year, America stands strong in national security, military might, and world leadership. This is in large part due to one of the chief architects of American strength, Senator SAM NUNN of Georgia.

As a longtime member and former Chairman of the Senate Armed Service Committee, SAM NUNN is internationally recognized as the preeminent American legislator in all aspects of defense policy. His expertise is expansive, from major weapons programs, to manpower, and from defense research, to military benefits. He has faced national crises such as United States citizens held as hostages in Iran, humanitarian relief in Somalia, and war in Kuwait. From disarmament talks, to the demise of the communist eastern bloc, and to the reduced threat of nuclear war, SAM NUNN has helped craft the defense policies that kept America secure during the Soviet years, and left America the sole superpower in the post-cold war era.

In these times of tight budgets, Senator NUNN has also kept a watchful eye on the Pentagon, working to strike the right balance between defense spending and maintaining defense readiness. He has worked to increase fiscal responsibility in defense programs, streamline bureaucracy, and stop wasteful and excessive spending—putting an end to such controversies as the infamous hundred-dollar hammers.

Defense issues are not simple issues; they are divisive, and often, heated. Some decisions are not popular. I have always respected Senator NUNN for making these tough choices. SAM NUNN today is considered a model of American statesmanship and leadership. And that is because his record demonstrates the kind of excellence and thoroughness he brings to his legislative efforts.

After announcing his retirement, one Georgia public official described Senator NUNN's career as "a career that has a beginning and an end, no compromises, no ethical lapses. . . a monument to public service to young people for generations to come." I agree. His departure from the United States Senate leaves a great void of expertise—but in its place, leaves security for our citizens, and leadership for the world. As the longtime watch of Senator NUNN draws to a close, America remains strong.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR BILL COHEN

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to say farewell to a colleague who is retiring from the Senate at the end of this Congress—Senator BILL COHEN of Maine. Senator COHEN's decision to retire will be a loss to Maine, a loss to this body, and a loss to the United States.

BILL COHEN began his career in public service over a quarter of a century ago, when he served a term on the Bangor City Council, and later as the Mayor of Bangor. In 1972 he was elected to the House of Representatives where he represented Maine for three terms. He was first elected to the United States Senate in 1978, and easily won two subsequent elections to that office.

Known for his independence and integrity, he first gained national prominence during his tenure on the House Judiciary Committee during the Watergate investigation. He was the first Republican to oppose President Nixon's attempt to provide edited rather than full transcripts of White House conversations to the committee. He later played an instrumental role in the Iran-Contra hearings.

In 1975 BILL COHEN began serving on the House Aging Committee, and later served as the Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, where I have had the pleasure of working with him. During his tenure on both the House and Senate committees he has tirelessly fought for issues affecting the elderly. During his tenure in the House he was the author of the Nursing Home Patients Bill of Rights. In 1995 he led the fight in the Senate for more stringent health and safety standards in nursing homes. And he also led a Senate investigation into questionable practices in the hearing aid industry. Due to these efforts, advocates of issues affecting the elderly have dubbed Senator COHEN "one of the most valuable and able and dedicated members" working on seniors issues.

BILL COHEN has also dedicated himself to making government work better. He wrote the Competition in Contracting Act which has saved the government billions of dollars through the use of competitive bidding for the vast majority of goods and services. He drafted comprehensive health care fraud reform legislation which passed the Senate in 1995 and which the Congressional Budget Office estimated would save billions of dollars. And he sponsored the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989, which provided greater protection for Federal workers who "blow the whistle" on fraud or mismanagement that they witness in their agencies. Mr. President, these are only a few of Senator COHEN's accomplishments during his tenure in Congress, but they demonstrate his commitment to serving the people of Maine and the citizens of our country.

He has provided invaluable leadership in the area of race relations, and demonstrates daily his commitment to