

standing bills with this money. Now they want their money back. . . . I really don't expect to see this resolved to my benefit, but it would be nice to see some kind of pro-rating system put into place for the rest of the people who are going to encounter this ghoul practice. These people have, at this time, no recourse what-so-ever in this matter.

I know that my colleagues have all received letters like this. For many of these people that Social Security check is the only financial resource available to deal with the costs incurred during their loved one's last days of life. Without it, they are left struggling to find the money to pay back the Social Security Administration.

I believe that pro-rating Social Security checks for the month of death provides a solution to what is an unfair situation and I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this bill.●

TRIBUTE TO HERMAN STAROBIN

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is a fortunate man who can know at the end of his life that he not only earned the respect of others, but that he dedicated himself to a cause in which he believed. Herman Starobin was certainly one of those men. He died recently at the age of 75, having led a full and inspirational life. Herman was a longtime friend of mine, whose compassion for and dedication to the American worker set an example for us all. A true renaissance man, he distinguished himself in many fields over the course of his lifetime.

During the Second World War, Herman covered the European theater as a freelance journalist. After the war, he took over the family business from his father, and manufactured steel doors. While running the business Herman studied economics at New York University, where he went on to earn a doctorate. In 1969, he joined Harman Industries as corporate economist, and eventually rose to the presidency. Along the way, he garnered the well-deserved reputation as an expert on international trade.

Herman's experience at Harman Industries left an indelible impression on him. It led him in 1984 to pursue his next career with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, where he fought valiantly for the future of American working men and women. At the time Herman had joined Harman Industries, the United States was the preeminent manufacturer of consumer electronics, but when he left 15 years later, the United States had lost its lead in manufacturing. Herman had witnessed the devastation of communities and tearing asunder of families that resulted from the deluge of imports, and that lit the fire under him. His firsthand experience and knowledge led him to devote the rest of his life to fighting to save our manufacturing base.

In his position as Director of Research for the I.L.G.W.U., Herman was

at the forefront of every major trade debate of the last decade. When Herman spoke, he spoke with authority. He did not live in the esoteric world of economic modeling; he possessed the conviction of one who understands how the real world operates in this era of global competition.

We will miss his vigor, his humor, his encyclopedic knowledge and his endearing charm. On behalf of Peatsy and my staff, I would like to express our deepest sympathies to his wife Carol and his daughter Christina. Herman was a true champion of the people, and it was an honor to have known him.●

NATIONAL ARBORETUM OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I was pleased this morning to honor the work of the Agricultural Research Service and the U.S. National Arboretum by planting a newly developed disease-resistant American elm on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol. Joining me was Dr. Floyd Horn, Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service; Larry Coughlin, President of the Friends of the National Arboretum and former Congressman from Pennsylvania; my good friend, fellow tree junkie, and liberally utilized advisor, Dr. Tom Elias, Director of the National Arboretum; and Dr. Denny Townsend, the scientist who has spent a lifetime studying and developing new trees for cities and towns and the person responsible for developing this new American elm.

I also want to thank the Architect of the Capitol, Mr. William Ensign and the Landscape Architect in his office, Mr. Matthew Evans for their professional assistance in facilitating this event.

The Dutch elm disease has ravaged our native American elms for over 65 years and has largely eliminated these magnificent trees from cities and towns throughout the eastern and Midwestern United States. But now, with the help of Dr. Townsend, and the National Arboretum, we stand a great chance of seeing a return of the stately and valuable American elm.

I am delighted to be the congressional sponsor of the tree planting ceremony to honor the many accomplishments of the National Arboretum and the ARS in their contributions to the city and town landscapes in the United States.

The purpose of the ceremony was to recognize the National Arboretum of the Agricultural Research Service. Over 645 new and improved varieties of ornamental and floral plants have been developed and released. Truly a remarkable record. The Arboretum has given us hundreds of Glen Dale hybrid azaleas, several flowering pear trees, the very popular and widely grown hybrids and selections of crape myrtles and viburnums, a disease resistant sycamore suitable for city streets, new red maples, numerous hollies and magno-

lias, and now a series of new elms including Valley Forge and New Harmony.

There is no question that the Arboretum has contributed greatly to the growth of the nursery and floral industries in the U.S. Their introductions, releases, and discoveries have helped to make the green industries the number one growth industry within Agriculture in America.

I am especially proud of the new cooperative agreement recently entered into between the Arboretum and the University of Missouri. On February 7, 1996, a memorandum of understanding was signed to establish a U.S. National Arboretum Midwest Plant Research and Education Site at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center in New Franklin, MO.

The new program will provide significant research and educational opportunities for all of us in our mission to discover, develop, and disseminate knowledge for the stewardship and sustainable use of human and natural resources. With this in mind, our planting at MU will be arranged to enable visitors, such as homeowners, and nurserymen to make easy comparisons between selections for their use. This relationship with the Arboretum will provide practical benefits to many ordinary Americans, while providing the research community at Missouri access to numerous vegetative types that can be used for scientific study and educational purposes. In Missouri, we are very excited about this new relationship with the Arboretum.

I offer a hearty congratulations to Dr. Horn, Dr. Elias, and Dr. Townsend. Our country is grateful for people like you and your work in developing new and better trees, shrubs and other flower plants for the benefit of our national landscape and our environment.●

BORDER DRUG PROSECUTIONS

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago the Senate agreed to an amendment to the budget resolution urging the Attorney General to ensure that drug prosecutions along the United States-Mexico border are vigorously prosecuted.

In the interest of time and cooperation in moving the budget forward, I did not oppose the amendment. However, I strongly disagreed with several findings which imply that the current U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California routinely failed to prosecute major drug cases. The source of information for those findings was an article in the Los Angeles Times that made several dubious claims about drug prosecutions in the Southern District.

After the Senate passed the amendment, the Los Angeles Times published a lengthy correction that retracted many of the charges made in the original article. Specifically, the correction

notes that the newspaper "misstated federal guidelines for prosecuting [drug] seizures." The article claimed—and those claims were repeated in the Senate amendment—that no prosecutions were made for the possession of less than 125 pounds of marijuana. The Times now acknowledges that several prosecutions have occurred in cases involving smaller quantities.

The correction states that examples used in the original article "contained incomplete or inaccurate information." Because this information was the basis of Senate amendment, it too should be considered incomplete and inaccurate.

I thank the Chair for the opportunity to correct the RECORD.

I ask that the correction be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

**TIMES ARTICLE MISSTATED GUIDELINES ON
BORDER DRUG CASES**

A Times article disclosing the release of hundreds of Mexicans detained at the border on suspicion of drug smuggling misstated federal guidelines for prosecuting seizures.

The May 12 article—which touched off partisan political fighting over the Clinton administration's drug policy—inaccurately described a program under which federal authorities since 1994 have sent more than 1,000 drug suspects back to Mexico.

The guidelines state that prosecutors may decide not to press charges if five criteria are met. The suspect must be a first-time offender and a Mexican national and be caught with less than 125 pounds of marijuana. There also must be insufficient evidence of criminal intent, and the suspect must have little or no information about organized smuggling. Those suspects who meet all five criteria could be sent back to Mexico, and their green cards or border crossing cards confiscated.

The article, which was based on interviews with federal officials, did not list all five criteria and incorrectly implied that marijuana cases involving less than 125 pounds were not prosecuted. When The Times later obtained a copy of the internal guidelines, they were reported, as were statistics showing that the U.S. attorney's office in San Diego and the local district attorney have prosecuted hundreds of cases involving less than 125 pounds of marijuana.

In discussing the weight guidelines, the article erroneously indicated that it applies to U.S. citizens, as well as Mexican nationals, and a number of cases involving U.S. citizens were cited to make various points.

The examples illustrating lack of prosecution contained incomplete or inaccurate information, because some records pertaining to those cases could not be found or were not publicly available. The U.S. attorney's office, citing privacy concerns, had declined to reveal specific reasons for rejecting prosecution.

In one misreported case, a U.S. citizen with arrests in January and February was charged in both instances, and prosecutors say he will be charged in a third case pending a competency hearing. A U.S. citizen with a prior smuggling conviction was charged following an arrest in March with 68 pounds of marijuana. In another case, in which charges were dismissed against a woman defendant in a 158-pound cocaine seizure, the article should have added that her codefendant said the woman had no knowledge of the drugs. He was subsequently sentenced to prison.

In all, federal officials say, four of the eight cases in the article resulted in felony charges. Of the other four, the district attorney in San Diego rejected one case for insufficient evidence, the U.S. attorney rejected two on the same grounds and the investigation continues in the other.

"We prosecute all border drug cases in which we believe charges are warranted and can be proved beyond all reasonable doubt," said U.S. Atty. Alan D. Bersin.●

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE R. GRUPE

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wayne R. Grupe, who is retiring from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Alexandria, VA, after 36 years of selfless public service to the Department of the Navy and the Nation.

Mr. Grupe began his Federal civil service as a civil engineer in 1960 with the Bureau of Yards and Docks. Throughout his career, Mr. Grupe has steadfastly and diligently applied his talents and efforts toward progressively more demanding challenges and service to the U.S. Navy. Rising through a multitude of critical management positions in the course of his distinguished career, he has advanced to become the program officer at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command with responsibility for policy and oversight of Navy and DOD programs in excess of \$7 billion annually.

Among his contemporaries, Mr. Grupe is considered to be the pre-eminent resource manager not only in terms of seniority but also professional reputation and exhibited accomplishments. He has served in his current critical management position since 1971, a period characterized by burgeoning world-wide facilities construction and fleet base operating support requirements. His numerous professional accomplishments and achievements and his exceptional contributions to the effectiveness of his Command will be enduring for many years to come.

Mr. Grupe is a dedicated mentor and role model who has inspired and enabled many others to achieve similar accomplishments in their Federal civil service career. It is with a certain amount of regret that I wish a fond farewell to such an able and respected civil servant. His selfless service and interest in the people he so ably served will long be remembered.

I join his family, many friends and colleagues in congratulating him on his well earned retirement and wish him future "Fair Winds and Following Seas."●

STAND FOR CHILDREN

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wanted to take a few moments today to speak about a wonderful and inspiring event, which took place on The Mall in Washington this past Saturday.

Mr. President on June 1, 200,000 Americans from across the country; blacks and whites, Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor, male and female, lib-

erals and conservatives came together to stand up for the rights of our nation's most vulnerable citizens—America's children.

I applaud the efforts of all those who came to Washington to make a principled stand for the rights of children. But as the Hartford Courant noted, "the world's most prosperous democracy shouldn't require a rally to focus on deprivation of its young."

Children don't vote. They don't have a political action committee. Instead, they must rely on the benevolence of adults to assure that they have the tools and opportunities to succeed.

Unfortunately, it seems we as adults are failing to hold up our part of the bargain.

Consider the enormous adversities facing our youngest Americans. One in five children in this country is mired in poverty. Every day, 2,600 American children are born into a life of poverty. And children remain this Nation's poorest group of Americans.

Every day, 15 kids are homicide victims. Every 90 minutes, a gunshot ends the life of one of America's children. When our nightly newscasts and newspapers focus on the most heinous violent crimes committed in our Nation it is children who seem to often be the perpetrators.

Additionally, more than 8,400 of America's young people are victims of abuse or neglect. Another 12 million lack health insurance, and child care workers toil at the bottom of U.S. wage scales.

The evidence is clear that children in our Nation face innumerable difficulties. But, events of the past weekend demonstrate that there exists in our Nation a groundswell of support for a political agenda that protects children.

Two hundred thousand Americans came to The Mall in Washington because they believe that everything we do in Congress should help, not hinder, the growth and development of children.

They came to Washington because they believe that America should never shirk its commitment to providing health care for children.

They came to Washington because they believe that children have a right to play in streets and on playgrounds free from the scourge of guns and drugs.

They came to Washington because in a time when education is essential to succeeding in the global economy of the 21st century, they believe that every child must have the opportunity of a good education.

These are not, and should not, be partisan issues. And, it's with great dismay that I see some on the right attacking the intentions and goals of the organizers of Stand for Children.

They claim that the event was simply an excuse to increase the size of Government. I couldn't disagree more. As Marian Wright Edelman, head of the Children's Defense Fund and organizer of the march said, "We do not stand