

would have celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary this Thursday, June 13. Stan Browne, both with the help of this great country's GI bill and the hard work ethic installed upon him and embedded in his mind as a young child, went on to graduate from Drake University Law School in Des Moines, IA, while simultaneously juggling several part-time jobs to make ends meet. While at Drake he was president of the Delta Theta Phi law fraternity. Upon graduation, he practiced in the law firm of Wilson and Browne. He was active in Republican politics as both a candidate and campaign manager. After a victorious Senate campaign, Stan Browne became Senator Jack Miller's administrative assistant for 12 years. He served as president of the Administrative Assistants Association and was a member of St. Marks Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, MD. As current member and past chairman of the 116 Club, he was especially proud to have been responsible for admitting the very first woman to this formerly male dominated organization during his tenure. After his departure from the Hill, Stan Browne entered the private sector, joining the DuPont Corp., serving as its Washington counsel until his retirement in 1986. He served on the board of directors for the PUBCO and Bobbie Brooks Corp., based in Cleveland, OH. He was also a former member of the Iowa State Bar Association, Polk County Bar Association and the Jr. Bar Association, Worshipful Master of New Century Masonic Lodge, past president of the Central Iowa Multiple Sclerosis Society, and a member of the Landings Club in Savannah, GA. Both on and off "the Hill," Stan Browne was known for his modesty, humbleness, honesty and integrity. With his calm and cool demeanor, he was highly respected and well known for his effective low-key and behind-the-scenes accomplishments. In addition to his wife of nearly 48 years, Coral, he leaves behind two children; Laurel Bigelow and Neal Browne—currently in the Senate Document Room—14 years service—daughter-in-law Lisa Browne, three surviving siblings; Norma Egland, Barbara Fonder, and Miles Browne, seven grandchildren; Daniel Bigelow, Thomas, Scott, and Joshua Trickett, Adam and Rachel Browne, Skylar Hattrich; and one great grandson, Christopher Bigelow.

"IOWA SPIRIT" SALUTE TO EDUCATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, for those awaiting the floor, I will only be here for another 3 or 4 minutes. I started a week ago to speak about the 150th anniversary of the State of Iowa, which we are celebrating with a congressional reception on June 26 on The Mall outside the Smithsonian Institution. I hope all of my colleagues will come to that and see some of the exhibits over the next 2 weeks honoring our 150th anniversary of our State.

I had a chance earlier this week to speak about the only Iowan to become President, Herbert Hoover. I want to speak today about something that is really great about Iowa, our educational system.

Our country's Founding Fathers, of course, had a very clear vision about America's public schools and firmly believed that excellence in education is paramount to the growth and prosperity of America. Iowa benefited from a pattern that was set by the central government, even before we had a U.S. Constitution, when the Northwest Compact was adopted in 1786, when land was set aside for public education in the new territories. That tradition continued west of the Northwest Compact area to be included in the traditions of education throughout the upper Midwest.

Today, in honor of Iowa's sesquicentennial celebration, I am proud to be able to tell you that Iowa's educational system is a working example of what our Founders had in mind. Iowa's high standard of excellence in education began in one-room rural school houses on the prairie. That same standard can now be seen in advanced academic settings across our State, both in the urban areas as well as the rural areas and small towns of Iowa.

The one-room rural school environment ended in the 1950's, but there is still the foundation in today's educational system of the personal interest of teacher and student in each other that comes from that one-room rural tradition.

Today, though, I am proud to share with you accomplishments of Iowa's increasingly diverse student population. I commend the continued dedication to education not only of students and teachers, as I have already said, but of parents and the volunteer school board members as well as school administrators across the State. Their combined daily efforts are a key part in the continued success of the Iowa public school system and the Iowa private school system.

Iowans are proud of our commitment to quality education for all children. It is a commitment that has earned national and international respect. Iowa's excellence in education is a direct result of its local control of schools and community-level responsibility. For decades, Iowa students have received the highest quality education and performed well above national averages in academic assessment.

It is estimated that 88 percent of Iowa students graduate from high school. What's more, each year Iowa's rate of students pursuing post-secondary education and other post-high school training continues to grow.

Iowa's high literacy rate is a key component of the success of Iowa's students. We rank as No. 1 of the 50 States in literacy. And, individuals in Iowa read more books than those in any other State on a per capita basis. The

active involvement of some 525 public libraries, 7 regional libraries, and 62 academic libraries is testimony to Iowa's commitment to the advancement of knowledge.

Iowa's young scholars have ranked at the highest level in the Nation for a number of years in college testing assessments. In fact, for 6 of the last 7 years, Iowa has ranked first of all the 50 States in the SAT tests—and either first or second vis-a-vis Minnesota or Wisconsin, depending upon what year you are looking at, as tops in the ACT test.

In addition to Iowa's 390 public school districts and 235 non-public school districts, educators across the Nation rely on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and Iowa Tests of Educational Development to assess student achievement in grades 3 through 12. These two standardized achievement tests, developed by the Iowa Testing Program in Iowa City, where our university is located, provide teachers nationwide with unique supplementary information of the students that are in their organizations. This information bears on decisions about academic objectives, instructional materials, and learning environments for students in elementary and secondary schools.

I also want to acknowledge the proud tradition, although it is a relatively new tradition of about 30 years, of Iowa's 15 community colleges. Prior to the community college we had a student system of junior colleges throughout Iowa. But it was not statewide. The community college system developed 30 years ago is a statewide system of community colleges so that all students throughout the entire State of Iowa have access to a community college.

Each year, thousands of students in Iowa have successful academic experiences through one of Iowa's 15 community college districts. Last year, over 50 percent of the new freshmen in Iowa colleges and universities were enrolled at public community colleges. Year after year, these community colleges award thousands of high school equivalency GED diplomas for that 12 percent of our students who do not graduate from high school. Iowa's community colleges provide a myriad of curricula options for students whether they are seeking a degree or whether they want just a few courses. Our State's community colleges promote the concept that is a fact of life in our technological age—that education does not begin at kindergarten and stop with a college degree. Today, for people of all ages, education is a continuing process throughout life, including the formalized aspect of education that comes through an institution.

So access, quality, and responsiveness, are the three fundamental concepts upon which the community colleges' mission was developed and the principles which guide their growth and development that began 30 years

ago and is an expanding and more influential aspect of education in Iowa all the time.

Iowa's long history of academic excellence meets the high standards that our Founding Fathers set over 150 years ago when our State was established. With ongoing dedication from students, parents, teachers and school officials, I am confident that Iowa's education system will continue its path of growth and success as we continue our history and development as a leading State in the Nation.

I look forward to these new developments in education for today's leaders and future generations of American students.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I preface my comment by joining with my friend and colleague from Iowa, congratulating his great State on the sesquicentennial of admission to the Union. As he and I discussed before, I have a good many relatives who live in his State. I have had the privilege of spending a good bit of time over the years in Iowa. I enjoy the State, the people, and, again, I express my congratulations to them on the occasion of their celebration.

LEGAL GAMING ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I rise to discuss the issue about which much has been said recently, the so-called need for a Federal gaming study.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is advised that some time ago we were to have gone to certain Federal Reserve Board nominations.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we set aside the pending business and that I be able to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BRYAN. I thank the Chair for advising me of the parliamentary situation.

Mr. President, I was commenting, we have had much discussion in the media, on the floor and as part of the national dialog of the need for a so-called Federal study of gaming. The integrity of the legal, legitimate entertainment industry, one which is of primary importance to the economy of my State, has been repeatedly impugned.

One Member of the other body took the House floor to call those who work in the gaming entertainment industry a group of "roaches."

I want to cut through some of this rhetoric and set the record straight. Excessive rhetoric has been used to drown out a constructive dialog and a careful deliberation about a legitimate issue: the rapid growth of gaming across America.

Opponents of legalized gaming have resorted to character assassination, guilt by association, and distortion of

the views of those with whom they disagree.

The time, Mr. President, has come to say, "Enough is enough."

At the outset, it is imperative to step back from this emotional rhetoric by gaming critics and to observe that gaming entertainment in all forms would not be expanding without demand for this form of entertainment. Simply stated, the American consumer, not the Government, has decided to spend his or her precious recreational dollar in this fashion. For example, 30 percent, or 32 million households, made a total of 125 million visits to casinos across America in 1994. The total number of casino visits rose to 150 million in the following year of 1995. In many respects, this growth in casino visits is not surprising, given the changing nature of gaming entertainment in general and casino gaming in particular.

Since the late 1980's, casinos have become what the experts characterize as "destination resorts" which offer more than the various games of chance normally associated with the casino. These destination resorts now offer a range of additional entertainment experiences, including a variety of sporting events and recreational activities, theme dining experiences, unique shopping, Broadway-quality shows, and many other attractions.

If casino entertainment was not providing solid value for the dollar spent, consumers would not be patronizing these establishments. It is somewhat puzzling that those who are defenders of the free market and proponents of State regulation are quick to second-guess consumers and States on this policy question.

Advocates of legislation to create a Federal gaming study commission have stressed in their public statements and in testimony before various congressional committees that the limited purpose of this commission was to study the socioeconomic effects of all forms of gambling and to give policymakers at the local, State, and Federal level the data they need to make educated decisions.

I might just say parenthetically that there has been no request generated by local or State government, that I am aware of, of calling upon the Federal Government to conduct such a study. But that is ostensibly what they claim.

They have consistently emphasized that no one, least of all the legal gaming industry, should fear anything that is just a study.

Mr. President, the gaming entertainment industry in my own State has absolutely nothing to fear from a fair and unbiased study. Nevada's tough regulation has made this industry a model for other States, which have adopted gaming, to follow and, indeed, is an international or global model.

However, what is going on here is a crusade by those who want to destroy an activity that they do not like, and that, Mr. President, is dangerous. The

principal premise for the proposed commission advanced by its antigaming opponents is that States and local governments lack the ability to acquire and act on objective information in the face of well-financed attempts to put casinos in. This simply does not square with reality.

No State—and I repeat, Mr. President, no State—has approved new casino gaming for several years. For example, 7 of 10 gaming initiatives were defeated in 1994, and no new casino gaming was approved by a new jurisdiction in 1995.

Let me just comment parenthetically. From a parochial perspective, representing my State, I am not an advocate for the expansion of casino gaming in other jurisdictions. But the point needs to be made that that is a decision which States, local governments, free from Federal interference, ought to be able to make on its own.

Those who have an established agenda decided to elevate this commission from one to study the impact of gaming to one that is designed to investigate the operation of a legalized gaming industry.

While many of those who support a study have good intentions and prefer a reasonable approach, they are being drowned out by those extremists whose goal is the destruction of this industry. The loudest voices calling for a gaming study are those who want to shut down a legal industry in a State which has chosen to allow gaming. They believe they possess a superior moral barometer and should tell us what is right and what is wrong.

They feel the same way on other aspects of our society, and we know not what will be their next target. What I want to do today is to give you a more fair picture of the legal and highly regulated gaming industry in my own State.

In Nevada, the gaming entertainment industry provides 43 percent of the \$1.2 billion annual State general revenue. This is the source that finances the essential operations of State government; first and foremost, education.

The gaming entertainment industry accounts for more than 50 percent of Nevada's employment, either directly or indirectly. The gaming industry in Nevada has today extensive regulation and oversight, involving day-to-day on-site supervision by State gaming control authorities, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Treasury Department unit which handles currency transaction issues.

In fact, when the Treasury Department testified before the U.S. Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee recently, they had high praise for the regulation of currency transactions in the State of Nevada.

The regulation of gaming is not perfect. We have worked long and hard in Nevada to establish a tough regulatory system that is a model for how such a system should be run.