

sure were deserved laurels, but when he became United States Commissioner of Education, then headed the Carnegie Endowment for the Advancement of Teaching, he enriched the nation immensely. In those positions he lifted all of us in ways that never can be calculated fully.

Our friend attended Greenville College in Illinois, a small liberal arts college, for his undergraduate work. Greenville is sponsored by the Free Methodists. When he attended, female students could not wear lipstick, and all students had to take a pledge not to attend movies. The Free Methodists were not too free.

But Ernie always felt gratitude to that school for the opportunity it gave him. He learned to respect and understand that part of our culture. From there he grew and reached out across all the barriers of religion and race and ethnicity to live a life of concern. He wanted a quality opportunity to be the option for all in this nation and beyond this nation.

As we bid a formal farewell to the man, let us honor him by not bidding a formal farewell to his ideas and his ideals. He did not want a nation that has technically superb but useless B-2 bombers and inner-city schools with no books in the library and, too often, no hope in the classroom. He did not want a nation eager to invest in more and grander prisons but unwilling to invest in better schools. He did not want a nation with great sensitivity to the whims of those of us who are more fortunate economically but indifferent to the 24 percent of our children who live in poverty. He did not want a nation of scholars who can carry on great discussions but are unable to carry out great dreams.

Ernie Boyer: gentleman, scholar, dreamer, doer.

May we be the same.

REMARKS FROM ALICIA THOMAS

Dr. Ikenberry, Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation, members of Dr. Boyer's family, friends of Dr. Boyer, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is my very great honor and privilege today to speak on behalf of all the teachers, students and principals in the Basic School Network. This has been a time of great sadness for us all. We have lost a dear friend. In the two years that we have worked together this group has become very close, very united in our efforts to improve schooling on behalf of this Nation's children. And so for all of us there is a lot of affection, warm affection for Dr. Boyer, much respect for him, and consequently a deep sense of loss and a sense of absence that will always be with those of us who had the privilege to learn from him, and to engage in conversation and discussion. I think his voice and his presence will always be missed, and we will never be quite the same again.

But this is also a time of reflection on the richness of a life, and the richness of a legacy. Of all the people I've known, no one's life and legacy could have been richer than Ernest Boyer's. His family was a great source of pride; four wonderful children, grandchildren, a loyal and devoted wife. But beyond family, Ernie Boyer's life was one of service. Service to children, both in highly respected positions in our Nation's government, and as President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. His life was very rich. He gave of himself, and in doing so earned the respect and love of all, family, friends and colleagues, and most especially, teachers.

To Ernest Boyer there was no nobler profession than teaching. He spoke movingly of the great teachers in his life, including the famed first grade teacher, Miss Rice. And he

moved each of us to work with renewed purpose and inspiration, to commit our lives to practice in an exemplary way. Dr. Boyer wanted the best and the brightest in teaching; he wished for loving and supportive first teachers in order that all children succeed. Dr. Boyer felt teachers were part of the strength and solution for our Nation's schools; he knew that a truly great teacher changes lives forever. The teachers at Jackson-Keller said simply, "He stood up for schools; he stood up for us." Kindergarten teacher Kristen Dreyer said "I just loved it when he told me 'you are doing the Lord's work.'" And so we are.

I can't forget to mention Dr. Boyer's wonderful sense of humor. He so enjoyed the funny stories shared about teachers and children. He would dance the chicken dance with a group of second graders, listen intently as Kindergartners explained their drawings, chortle with laughter as Third grade teacher Suzann Westermann sang "Nothing could be sweller than to be at Jackson Keller." Ernie Boyer just loved people, and he believed the best in them. It was the people that linked him to schools. And at Jackson-Keller he was as beloved by the Head Custodian as he was by the children, parents, and teachers.

Danal Jimenez, J-K Fifth grader wrote "If I can quote Shakespeare, 'Alas, I knew him well.' Personally, I feel the loss. He came from Princeton and made me feel special when two years ago he gave me his firm handshake, special note on his business card and friendly words. He was like an instant quick friend and I will never forget him. Did you know he loved the arts?"

Danal's friend Michael Navarro said, "A few days ago, Jackson-Keller lost a great friend, mentor and thinker. He helped the Basic School exist. You say you don't know who Dr. Boyer was? You never got to know him? TOO BAD! You would have loved him." Michael continued, "The Asians had their Sensai, the Indians had their Shaman, and we had our Dr. Boyer. Though he passed away, he will continue to live in our commonalities, and through our community of learners, and definitely in the hearts of the children who knew him."

During their visit to Jackson-Keller last October, Dr. and Mrs. Boyer were serenaded by our third grade students. Our children sang:

I am a child,
I am the future of the world, and just like
every boy and girl
I have a dream.
And when I dream,
The only way it will come true is if I'm gently
led by you
And then set free.

In the Basic School Network, we have been gently led by the words and the actions of Ernest Boyer, and we do believe in this dream of the Basic School, a school committed to the success of every child. I heard Dr. Boyer say on many, many occasions "the tragedy is not death. The tragedy is to die with commitments undefined, convictions undeclared and with service unfulfilled."

Proverbs 29 tells us "A people without vision shall perish." But those with vision shall flourish. In the Basic School Network we have each been blessed to learn from the vision and commitment, the conviction and service, of this fine man. We accept the challenge of Dr. Boyer's legacy, The Basic School. It will live on because he taught us schools are not about buildings and budgets, but about building a better world for children. We learned from him that there must be a school of quality and excellence, a place of love and learning in every neighborhood, within the reach of every child. And that the meaning of life is to create a life as if it were a work of art.

We are thankful for the life of Ernest Boyer, and that each of us was allowed to touch it, and be touched by it.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, I strongly oppose any further reductions in funding the National Endowment for the Humanities. The agency has responded to a 36-percent budget cut for fiscal year 1996 with major restructuring of programs and staff. Using the House appropriations figures contained in the last two continuing resolutions, NEH is now operating at a 40-percent reduction—\$99.5 million instead of the anticipated \$110 million.

The agency has already eliminated 90 positions from its 260-person staff, streamlined its administrative structure, and cut programs. The suspended programs include: archaeology projects, summer stipends for teachers, dissertation grants, the NEH/National Science Foundation grants, the Kettering Foundation partnership, and, most disturbing to me, the National Conversation initiative. Further staff reductions are now probable.

The recent furlough and uncertainty over its budget is preventing the agency from planning, carrying out its mission, and ensuring that the taxpayers dollars are spent wisely. For example, NEH has had to cancel peer review panels. As NEH can fund only 18 percent of the more than 8,500 applications it receives each year, competition for funding is fierce. Ensuring that these funds are awarded to the best proposals is a responsibility that NEH takes seriously. The Humanities Endowment peer review system has been heralded as a model for adoption at other agencies. The forced cancellation of peer panels as a result of government shutdown has weakened that system and prevented the agency from meeting its high standards of rigorous review.

Should funding run out on March 15, NEH will have to cancel its March 25 round of grant awards. Applicants who have put thousands of hours and effort into their grant applications will be denied the opportunity for funding for an entire year.

Changing the Humanities Endowment appropriations means that: Work on the George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Jackson, Dwight Eisenhower, and First Federal Congress Papers will be terminated before completion. Summer seminar programs for teachers will be canceled entirely. One hundred fellowships will be eliminated. The widely-read Humanities Magazine, already forced to cancel its January issue, will have to cancel more. In July, all grants to film, libraries, and museums will have to be canceled. This includes a Utah Humanities Council exhibit scheduled to travel to 32 small, rural museums from West Virginia to Oregon, and a Buffalo Bill Historical Center exhibit slated for 10 Western sites. State Humanities Councils, in

addition to losing anticipated funding for this year, are facing enormous difficulties in planning for the next. Technical assistance and consultation to hundreds of small- and medium-sized cultural institutions will be suspended.

The drastic effects of government shutdown and budget impasse on American scholarship and the entire humanities field is not necessarily as obvious as it is in other areas of concentration. This is because NEH grants, with their heavy emphasis on research, rarely see results for several years. But continuity in support for research projects is critical, and NEH represents the single largest source of financial support for the humanities nationwide. The next largest, the Andrew Mellon Foundation, provides one-third of the amounts granted by NEH.

When we eliminate the staff and resources funded by NEH and needed to preserve brittle books, the destruction does not stop. We have lost volumes of important manuscripts forever. The same is true for NEH's important United States Newspaper Preservation project to preserve city and small town newspapers on communities in all 50 States.

Mr. President, I cannot underestimate the gravity of this situation. If allowed to continue, it will mean that future generations of Americans will be deprived of the knowledge of our Nation's rich history. We owe it to our people to maintain this legacy, and not to let it slip away. We simply cannot afford to lose artifacts, texts, wisdom, and insights that tell where we came from, who we are, and how we might make wise decisions for the generations ahead. I urge my colleagues to consider how very serious this situation is, to understand the long-term ramifications of cuts in the NEH budget, and to join in a bipartisan effort to enable this agency to continue its good, worthwhile, and extremely important endeavors.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT OF 1996

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1541) to extend, reform, and improve agricultural commodity, trade, conservation, and other programs and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Craig (for Leahy/Lugar) Amendment No. 3184, in the nature of a substitute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I yield myself 5 minutes.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3184

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, we will soon have a cloture vote on the Leahy substitute to Senate bill 1541, The Freedom To Farm Act, I introduced. We had a cloture vote on that legislation the other day, gaining 53 votes, a majority of the Senate but less than the 60 required to end debate on that occasion.

My colleague, Senator LEAHY, former chairman of the committee, a man with whom I have worked in the Senate from the time that I started on the Agriculture Committee, has made a number of constructive suggestions. The latest version we are about to vote on is the Freedom To Farm Act but with additional suggestions made by Senator LEAHY in the form of a substitute. And I support those additions, Mr. President.

I wish to simply recite a few of them for the benefit of Senators who are following this debate. Senator LEAHY has said, why not take this occasion to let producers bid for a permanent easement in the Wetlands Reserve Program as opposed to bidding for a shorter period of time. I think that is a very constructive suggestion. He has asked that we encourage innovative range management techniques to be developed in the Southwest under grazing lands authorization. He suggested to make it possible for farmers to serve on State technical committees. So that is incorporated in the legislation.

A very significant change, Mr. President, is the reauthorization of the Food Stamp Program and other nutrition programs that require authorization at this time in order to continue.

Senator LEAHY, furthermore, has made an important change by suggesting that we reauthorize the Conservation Reserve Program through the year 2002, allowing new signups and making water quality a high priority, that which we have considered at length in our committee with extensive hearings and many witnesses strongly in favor of continuation of the program and of the priority for high water quality, likewise for trying to save soils that are in a high erosion situation, and, of course, the preservation of wildlife, supported by conservationists and sportsmen throughout the country.

Senator LEAHY has asked that we create a nonprofit foundation to promote conservation, a conservation foundation. This idea has passed the Senate earlier in previous legislation.

An especially important program, Mr. President, which will now be a part of this legislation, is the EQIP program, \$100 million per year in additional mandatory funding for crop-oriented conservation cost sharing, similar to the Lugar-Leahy conservation bill, S. 854.

Let me simply say, these are suggestions that would have come forward in other titles of the farm bill. We all appreciate the situation in which the

farm bill was incorporated in the Balanced Budget Act. Regrettably, President Clinton vetoed that act and he, therefore, vetoed the farm bill.

As I explained to Members the other day, literally I picked up the farm bill from the side of the road and put it back into play, and we got 53 votes to stop debate on that situation. We are hopeful of getting 60 votes to end debate by incorporating these additional suggestions of the distinguished Democratic leader of the Agriculture Committee. I will add that many other Members on the other side of the aisle have shown strong support for Senator LEAHY's initiative.

Mr. President, other speakers today have mentioned the importance of certainty about farm legislation. Clearly, that is the reason we return today. We are attempting to provide that certainty so that farmers will know there is a program that has passed one body and have a fairly good idea how that meshes with the farm bill that is now about to be considered on the floor of the House of Representatives, a bill very similar in terms of all of its freedom to farm aspects.

I predict if we are successful today, we will be in a position to confer with the House very promptly upon their return, and farmers will have an idea, at least in framework, of what to anticipate as they try to order inputs prior to planting.

If we fail to act, two things will occur, one of which has been predicted by Secretary of Agriculture, Dan Glickman, and that is, he feels a mandate to begin thinking through the allotments for rice, and he will have to begin thinking about payments to certain wheat farmers—who were in the business in 1949—as the Texas wheat crop is harvest in the latter part of May. Those events are coming along the calendar.

The other thing that will clearly occur is that many farmers will simply adopt their own freedom to farm idea. They will plant for the market. They will abandon Government programs. I have suggested that may not be a totally bad idea. It might be, in fact, revolutionary if farmers simply took their fate in their own hands and say we are going to plant for the market and not wait around for games to be played on the Senate floor, for parliamentary procedural difficulties.

For those who want certainty and those who want a farm program, this is the day and this is the hour at 4:10. If we make progress, I predict we will have a sound program that has a safety net and certainty. If we do not have cloture today, I suggest to farmers all over America, you better begin thinking about taking your fate in your own hands because I do not predict success very soon along the trail.

I note on the floor, Mr. President, my distinguished colleague, the Senator from Vermont. Therefore, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.