

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. EVANS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who has dedicated his life and career to public service.

Robert S. Evans will retire this month after devoting 50 years of dedicated service to South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC. Mr. Evans began working at the university in 1947 as a temporary worker. In 1961, he was hired by the college as a stockroom clerk and supervisor of waiters. He was later promoted to assistant director of food services and subsequently appointed director of food services at the university.

In addition to his service to the university, Mr. Evans is an active member of his community. He is a member of the Masons, the NAACP, the Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Elk Lodge, and Alpha Psi Omega Drama Fraternity. This remarkable individual also participates in the Orangeburg Neighborhood Youth Commission, the South Carolina State Booster Club, and the Mental Health Board. Mr. Evans is an active member of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church in Orangeburg, SC, where he serves as deacon, secretary of the church board, and liaison to the trustee board.

Robert Evans has touched the lives of many people of Orangeburg and across South Carolina through hard work and tireless dedication to others. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mr. Evans on the occasion of his retirement after 50 illustrious years of service to South Carolina State University.

**MICHIGAN IS GETTING
SHORTCHANGED**

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as we approach decisions on appropriations bills and Federal spending that goes to individual States, I am very concerned about a recent study indicating that my home State of Michigan is getting shortchanged.

Michigan ranks in the top 10 in the amount of taxes we pay into the Federal Government and at the bottom in terms of the benefits we receive in return.

According to this study by the Northeast-Midwest Institute, Michigan ranks 47th in total funds it gets from the Federal Government and dead last in the amount it gets per person to repair its roads. Michigan citizens have the most to gain if we allow them to keep their tax dollars at home rather than sending taxes to Washington.

Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD I would like to submit an article written by Lisa Zagaroli in this morning's Detroit News on this very issue.

(By Lisa Zagaroli)

Pothole-plagued Michigan ranked dead last in the amount of money per person that the U.S. Transportation Department doled out among states last year, a new report shows.

"We've been complaining for a long time about getting ripped off by the federal government and this just confirms that," said John Truscott, a spokesman for Gov. John Engler.

"We knew we were near the bottom, I didn't know we were at the bottom."

The transportation department spent \$77 per Michigan resident in the 1996 fiscal year, for a total of \$743 million, according to the study by the Northeast Midwest Institute, a non-profit policy organization. Engler wants the federal government to give Michigan an additional \$200 million.

Michigan's per-capita share of U.S. transportation dollars compares to \$879 per capita in sprawling Alaska, \$296 in Wyoming and \$252 in Montana.

But the higher dollar amounts weren't reserved for large, sparsely populated states.

Connecticut, a small state with a third of Michigan's 9.6 million population, got \$179 per person. New Jersey, which has 8 million residents, got \$148 per person from the federal agency that funds roads, bridges and other transportation projects.

Rep. James Barcia, D-Bay City, said he, too, was surprised that Michigan ranked dead last despite the "pitiful shape" of its roads.

"This underscores the need to work together in a bipartisan fashion to make sure Michigan gets a fair return," he said.

Barcia sits on the House committee that is rewriting the funding formula for transportation dollars. Michigan currently is a "donor state"—paying more in federal gas taxes than it gets back.

Michigan ranked third from the bottom in overall spending by the federal government, about the same as it has in the last several years.

The state received \$4,131 per capita in federal spending, only 81 percent of the national rate, or \$941 less per person, the report said.

"This is one of the reasons we are so big into block grants, so we can figure out where our tax dollars are spent instead of some federal bureaucrats," Truscott said.

**IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN
LEWIS OF GEORGIA**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize my friend and colleague, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of Georgia. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, he has distinguished himself as a man of highest integrity and commitment to improving human relations in our country.

His accomplishments in the area of civil rights are as remarkable as they are numer-

ous. Congressman LEWIS' concern with spreading awareness of the civil rights movement and its importance in contemporary society is reflected in his desire to educate not only those who reside in his district, but outside of his district as well. This desire clearly manifested itself in 1989, when at the request of a parent concerned with the fact that her daughter's predominantly white eighth grade class did not possess an understanding of the enormity of the civil rights movement, he traveled to Shawnee Mission, KS, to speak about his firsthand experience.

Over 200 eighth grade students sat mesmerized as Congressman LEWIS delivered an emotionally charged speech which included his involvement with sit-ins at segregated lunch counters, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee which he chaired, and his participation and subsequent beating during the freedom rides. His modesty would have prevented the students from knowing that he was one of the "big six" in the civil rights movement, had it not been for the research they had conducted on their own prior to his arrival. Congressman LEWIS conveyed the importance of commitment to a cause, and relayed his extraordinary experiences while maintaining a demeanor marked with humility. Two years later, he returned to the school in Shawnee Mission as he once again embraced the opportunity to tell his story in an attempt to educate and enlighten a small group of our Nation's younger generation. The selflessness he exhibited in traveling a thousand miles from his district, motivated solely by a desire to educate and share, is unique in a world where many individuals succumb to monetary or press related incentives.

This anecdote is but one of many instances where Congressman LEWIS has exhibited his unchallenged commitment to civil rights in the United States. Born in 1940 to a sharecropper in Alabama, he was the first in his family to finish high school. At 18, he met Martin Luther King and by 19, had already become a force in the civil rights movement through activities such as organizing the first lunch counter sit-in. He actively participated in the 1961 freedom rides, the 1963 March on Washington, and the coordination of the Mississippi Freedom Project. He led the Selma to Montgomery March for voting rights in 1965, and was attacked by policemen in his quest for equal rights for all. His strong participation in these events eventually led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

On Friday, June 27, Congressman LEWIS hosted a luncheon for senior citizens residing in the high-rises of his district. His goal was to provide them with an opportunity to interact with their representative in a fun, relaxed environment. This annual event has grown from a gathering of 250 senior citizens to a community event of over 900. Funded entirely through private donations, Congressman LEWIS has been able to sustain this event for 7 years.

Congressman JOHN LEWIS is a shining example of how one individual can persevere in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the fact of extreme adversity. His commitment to all individuals, young and old, is a testament to his impeccable character.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Congressman JOHN LEWIS. His accomplishments speak for themselves, yet his humility surpasses all he has done for his district, his country, and the rights of all Americans. It is with a great sense of pride that I refer to Congressman JOHN LEWIS as a colleague and friend.

TAJIKISTAN'S PEACE ACCORD

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, after 5 long years, Tajikistan's civil war—the costliest conflict in the former Soviet Union, in terms of casualties—may be over. Negotiations underway since 1994 under U.N. auspices have finally produced a peace accord and the opposing sides have crafted a power-sharing arrangement. Provisions are in place for over 20,000 refugees to return and elections are planned within 12 to 18 months.

Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov and Saidabdullo Nuri, leader of the United Tajik Opposition [UTO], signed the General Agreement on Peace and National Accord on June 27. Among the accord's key features is the 26-member National Reconciliation Commission, composed of 13 government and 13 opposition representatives, and chaired by Nuri. Until elections are held, the opposition will control at least 30 percent of government portfolios. The opposition's fighters will be integrated into the government's force ministries, and 460 fighters will protect opposition leaders in Dushanbe. On July 10, the Reconciliation Commission came to terms on a general amnesty that will allow members of the UTO to return to Tajikistan.

The general agreement was signed in the Kremlin, testifying to Russia's key mediating role. Moscow had backed Tajikistan's Government against the opposition—a melange of democratic, Islamic, and regional forces—since the war broke out in 1992, but has obviously rethought its priorities and acknowledged that the opposition cannot be defeated militarily, at acceptable cost. Moreover, the advance of the Taliban forces in Afghanistan, which Tajik opposition fighters had used as a staging ground for assaults against Russian and Tajik Government forces, has also convinced Moscow and, apparently, anti-Taliban, Shiite Iran, that Tajikistan must be stabilized in the face of the new threat from Sunni Islamic fundamentalism.

As many analysts have pointed out, however, it is too soon for rejoicing. Though Moscow seems determined to end the conflict, there are several potential spoilers. Foremost among them is Abdumalik Abdullojanov, Tajikistan's former prime minister and chairman of the Party of National Revival. Abdullojanov represents the interests of Leninabad, the country's most populous and wealthy oblast, which had produced Tajikistan's rulers since the 1930's. By contrast, President Rakhmonov and his followers are from Kulyab oblast, whereas Nuri and most of the opposition are affiliated with the

mountainous region of Karotegin. Yet Abdullojanov was not invited to participate in the peace talks or the Reconciliation Commission, and his followers have been given no positions in the coalition government. With no stake in the agreement and no incentive to promote its success, Abdullojanov has every reason to undermine its implementation, and can count on the backing of the population in northern Tajikistan.

Abdullojanov also has the presumed support of Islam Karimov, President of Uzbekistan, which borders Leninabad oblast and is Abdullojanov's base of operations. Karimov did not authorize Uzbekistan's signature as guarantor of the Tajik peace agreement, indicating that Russia and Uzbekistan—though they share deep concerns over Taliban victories in Afghanistan—continue to compete for influence in Tajikistan, and that Tashkent will not play along unless its interests and those of its allies in northern Tajikistan are taken into account.

If the government in Dushanbe does not see these dangers, the opposition does. On June 28, UTO first deputy leader Akbar Turajonzade told Interfax that Dushanbe's unwillingness to include representatives of other parties and movements, specifically mentioning Abdullojanov, was a mistake and could jeopardize prospects for peace.

Apart from Abdullojanov, any number of well-armed military commanders, with strong local bases, could resume hostilities or simply block the establishment of a unified country with a recognized government exercising authority over its entire territory. And even if they could be brought over, the process of sharing government portfolios and dividing the economic pie among all the various movements and factions will require masterful diplomacy.

Still, the peace accord and all its attendant problems are far preferable to the alternative. Tajikistan's population has not known peace since the country became independent. The understanding between the government and the opposition may finally have laid the groundwork for the broader reconciliation that will be needed for enduring stability.

Mr. Speaker, quite apart from the obvious humanitarian imperatives, it is in the United States interests that Tajikistan's peace accord succeed. War-torn Tajikistan lags behind most other New Independent States in building democratic institutions. We should encourage the reconciliation process and urge that the planned elections take place as scheduled and that they be as free and fair as possible. It would be especially useful for IFES, the Washington-based International Foundation for Election Systems, which has done such important work in helping local authorities organize elections all over the world, to be involved with Tajikistan's Central Election Commission. Hopefully, conditions will permit other United States NGO's to begin working with political parties, and gradually help put back on track the democratization in Tajikistan that was so tragically interrupted in 1992.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE S. ANSELL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exceptional contributions Dr. George Ansell has made for America's higher education system. As the president of the Colorado School of Mines, he has announced his retirement. Dr. Ansell is truly dedicated to the higher education system and the students he serves. Under the leadership of Dr. Ansell, the Colorado School of Mines has emerged as one of the West's premier institutions excelling in engineering, applied science, and earth sciences.

Dr. Ansell has broadened the college's scope to include high academic achievement and quality research, and insisted on seeing each strengthen the other. The Colorado School of Mines was recently recognized by the National Science Foundation for institution-wide reform in undergraduate education in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. The selected colleges are now considered national models of excellence by the NSF.

Dr. Ansell, born in Akron, OH, in 1934, grew up in New York, attending the elite Bronx High School of Science. He attended Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute on a Naval ROTC scholarship, receiving a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering in 1954, and later a master's degree in metallurgical engineering, and a Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering in 1960. He served as an engineering officer in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1958, and physical metallurgist on the Metal Physics Consultant Staff, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory—1957–58. From 1960 to 1984, he was a faculty member at his alma mater, RPI. He became chairman of the Materials Division, RPI—1969–74, dean, School of Engineering, RPI—1974–84, acting dean, School of Management, RPI—1980–81, and finally, president of Colorado School of Mines in 1984.

Dr. Ansell leaves the Colorado School of Mines with a legacy of excellence. His efforts have truly enhanced the institution. His leadership there will be sorely missed. His never-ending quest for academic perfection has truly left its mark.

I thank Dr. Ansell for his contributions, on behalf of the State of Colorado, and I enter into the RECORD a quote by Dr. Ansell that expresses his sentiments about the Colorado School of Mines:

It has been a great privilege for me to have served as president of Colorado School of Mines. My tenure has been filled with exciting challenges and opportunities to promote the vitality of this outstanding institution.

My proudest achievement has been improving the quality of an already outstanding institution by: increasing the number of underrepresented minorities from three percent to 14 percent of the undergraduate student body, increasing the number of female students to 25 percent of the entire student body, insuring through fundraising that any student who has the desire and the ability can attend CSM, regardless of his or her financial means, expanding the base of the school's first-rate faculty, and revitalizing the campus physical plant with state of the art facilities. Colorado is fortunate to have