

Reform, which recommends a "new Americanization movement" emphasizing the melding of individuals rather than the accommodation of groups. It argues that national unity should be built upon a shared belief in constitutional values, and that the nation "admits immigrants as individuals" and must "emphasize the rights of individuals over those of groups."

Today the government concocts "race-conscious remedies" such as racial preferences for conditions it disapproves. This encourages Americans to aggregate into groups jockeying for social space. Perhaps it would be best to promote the desegregation of Americans by abolishing the existing five census categories, rather than adding a sixth.

However, the "multiracial" category could speed the dilution of racial consciousness. One criticism of this category is that "multiracial" does not denote a protected class under the law and therefore gathering data about those who think of themselves as "multiracial" serves no statutory purpose. To which the sensible response is: good.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 514, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay," and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL J. MURRY

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my long time friend, Mr. Michael J. Murry, of Hales Corners, WI, who is being honored by the South Side Business Club of Milwaukee, as 1997 Man of the Year.

Mike Murry, the chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Merchants and Manufacturers Bancorp, is a fine choice as the recipient of this year's Man of the Year Award. He has been a well-respected force for many years in the financial community on the southside of Milwaukee and its suburbs.

Adding to the respect he has established as a business leader, Mike is to be commended for his 1990 organization of the St. Josaphat Basilica Foundation, to restore this Southside Milwaukee landmark to its original grandeur. The foundation has raised over \$3 million to date, and the impact on the basilica building on the neighborhood is amazing. A sense of pride and history have been restored, along with the bricks, mortar and paint, to this grand house of worship, which is now, yet again, a shining beacon for all to see in Milwaukee.

Mike Murry has given his time and talents to other worthwhile causes and organization in his community, including Alverno College, Covenant Health Care, St. Francis Hospital, Sacred Heart School of Theology, the Wisconsin Conservancy of Music, St. Joseph Day Care Center, the Girl Scouts of America, the

Kiwanis, and many banking and financial organizations and various Polish heritage groups.

Congratulations, Mike. I join your lovely wife Jan, and your children, in saluting you as you receive this prestigious award from the South Side Business Club. Best wishes, God bless and keep up the excellent work. A grateful community salutes you.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES H. MARCIANTE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Charles H. Marciante, president of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO.

For the past 36 years, Charlie has been a leader in the New Jersey State AFL-CIO. Prior to the merger of the State's AFL and CIO unions, he served briefly as secretary-treasurer of the old State Federation of Labor. Charlie served as secretary-treasurer of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO from its inception on September 25, 1961 until his election as president in 1969. First elected as president in June 1970, he was reelected to a 3-year term in 1973 and a 4-year term in 1976, 1980, 1984, 1992, and again in 1996. Now serving his eighth and last term as president, it is apparent that Charlie has given his all to the New Jersey AFL-CIO. Identified from youth within the trade movement, Charlie has achieved a notable position as spokesman for organized labor in New Jersey, as well as deserved recognition in the councils of the national labor movement.

Charlie was born in Trenton, NJ. He was educated in the Trenton public school system and graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Rutgers University in 1952.

Prior to his election as secretary-treasurer of the State federation Charlie served a 5-year apprenticeship and worked in the construction industry as a journeyman electrician. In the field of electronics, Charlie supervised the installation and military readiness of one of the major east coast missile defense sites in New Jersey for the U.S. Air Force. He remains a member of Local Union No. 269 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), AFL-CIO, as a journeyman electrician.

Charlie has served his State in numerous social, civic, and charitable leadership capacities while an officer with the New Jersey AFL-CIO. A former charter member of the State's Economic Development Authority, he has also served as a member of the Economic Development Council and was appointed to the Governor's Economic Recovery Commission in 1974. Charlie is a founding member of the Alliance for Action and the Society for Economic and Environmental Development (SEED), which is a dual coalition of labor and business groups seeking to expand economic potentials for New Jersey. He served for several years on the State Department of Education's vocational education board, raising New Jersey's standing from 49th to 6th in the Nation on vocational programs and school facilities.

Charlie led the campaigns to reform New Jersey's workers compensation and unem-

ployment insurance systems and devoted himself to the State Workers Compensation Reform Act of 1980 and the unemployment insurance system task force in 1983 to 1984. He has also served on the New Jersey Business Retention and Job Retraining Commission assisting dislocated workers to secure extended out of work benefits, retraining and education upgrading to assist them to compete job wise and a rapidly changing economic world.

In 1990, Charlie served as cochairman of the Governor's Health Care Reform Commission, the first proposed total revamp of the State's health care system, which was a prototype of the Federal universal care proposal of President Clinton. Many of the ideas generated from that commission were incorporated into the Federal proposal. Charlie is a member of the board of directors of the Robert Wood Johnson University School of Medicine and Dentistry in New Brunswick, NJ, serving on the finance and quality of care committees. He and several unions successfully led the Federal court challenge to reform of the delivery of health care in New Jersey.

Charlie has acted as a State labor coordinator for Radio Free Europe, a U.S. savings bond campaign labor coordinator and vice chairman of the President's and Governor's committee to employ the handicapped. He has been a major fundraiser for Deborah Hospital, where free heart and lung procedures are undertaken, and has served as labor coordinator for annual March of Dimes drives in New Jersey.

Politically, Charlie has served as an elected delegate from New Jersey to several Democratic National Conventions and has served in the 1980's on the labor advisory committee of the Republican National Committee along with several other AFL-CIO designated representatives.

Charlie is married to the former Barbara Quinn of Trenton. They reside in West Trenton and have four children, Michael, Catherine, Stephen, and Mary Barbara.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Charlie's family and friends, NJ SEED, and the State of New Jersey in recognizing Charles H. Marciante's many outstanding and invaluable contributions to the community.

IN MEMORY OF GERALD ROGERS PETERS OF EMPIRE, OH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Gerald Rogers Peters, who passed away on September 25, 1997. Gerald served in the Army for more than 25 years and was a master sergeant when he retired. During his military career, Gerald served in World War II, the Korean war and Vietnam. After retiring from the service, Gerald worked at Titanium Metals Inc. until retiring from there also.

Gerald has known as a kind and caring man. He was the father of nine children and enjoyed taking care of them along with his nieces and nephews. He had a gentle soul and was loved by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to pay my last respects to a man who gave so much

of himself to his country, his community, and his family. Gerald will be missed by all whose lives he touched. I am honored to have represented him and proud to call him a constituent.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORT BENEFIT CALIFORNIA

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, California is famous as the home of the motion picture industry, Disneyland, beaches, and an overwhelming tourist industry. It may surprise you to learn, however, that agriculture is actually California's No. 1 industry. Since California is also the home of numerous international ports, the combination of agriculture and international trade creates the backbone of California's economy. As such, it is a priority to foster growth in agricultural exports by supporting U.S. efforts to decrease barriers to trade with foreign countries.

For the last 50 years California has held the title as the Nation's No. 1 agricultural State. California's agricultural industry is important to the Nation as well as to the economic well being of our local communities. Agricultural exports account for over half of California's total agricultural products which brings \$22 billion into the California economy every year. Thus, over half of the revenues earned by the sale of California's agricultural products were generated by California growers' ability to enter and compete competitively in foreign markets. For some products, such as the sale of cotton in my district, exports account for 75 percent of the \$1 billion in total sales revenues.

Agriculture provides 1 in every 10 jobs in the State. These jobs serve as the underlying force behind California's economic strength. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's 1995 Crop Report, "for every \$1 billion in export sales, 27,000 jobs are created in the state". By this approximation, agricultural exports helped the total California economy by creating 124,000 jobs, and these jobs, on average, pay more than non-export related jobs. In my district, Kern County's \$350 million in exports sales creates almost 10,000 jobs, which does not include indirect economic benefits.

Given the direct relationship between agricultural exports and employment levels, it is important that we work to increase exports by encouraging free trade and maintaining strong working relationships with our trading partners. Although exports already represent a large portion of California's agricultural sales, they remain the area of greatest potential growth for the industry. While overseas markets are growing, our domestic market has reached a stagnant growth rate. The global marketplace is where the action is, due to the fact that there are about 6 billion consumers beyond our Nation's borders. In just the last 6 years, U.S. agricultural exports have increased by 50 percent.

New trade agreements that open and liberalize trade allow California farmers access to those 6 billion consumers in the global market. I mentioned how successful cotton has been

for California and my district. Consider if other agricultural products also succeeded in expanding through free trade. For example, as the leading dairy producing county in the Nation, Tulare County in my district is well positioned to seize a lion's share of the growing world dairy demand if only fair and free trade can be achieved. Other major agricultural products found in California, such as pistachios, almonds, grapes, and stone fruits, stand to gain from the ability to enter foreign markets if given an equal footing with producers from other countries.

We must plan for future growth by working with our trading partners to open market access, allowing California farmers the opportunity to sell even more goods in the global market. Expansion of agricultural exports has always been my priority. As the Representative of an agricultural district I am proud that the success of California's farmers and ranchers helps build America's economy while feeding millions. Since the implementation of NAFTA 3 years ago, agricultural exports to our NAFTA trading partners have increased by 13 percent. Trade liberalization under NAFTA will continue to bolster the economic forces that are promoting trade growth. As we work to further reduce barriers to trade, we can look forward to great increases in our agricultural exports. Creating a free market is in our best interest, and I urge this Congress to do its best to continue to support free trade.

A GROWING TREND

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to a growing trend in America: Democrats who have switched to the Republican Party. These officials were tired of the same old liberal social philosophies which characterize the Democrat Party as the party of higher taxes, bigger government, and moral permissiveness. A classic example of this liberal thinking was the Clinton administration's proposed takeover of the health care industry, a scheme which had Democrats running for cover in the 1994 mid-term elections, when 9 million more people voted Republican than in 1990 and the Republicans took control of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

The Republican National Party has added 18 new elected officials to its ranks within the past week. Since Bill Clinton and ALBERT GORE were elected in 1992, 349 elected Democrat officials have now joined the GOP.

Last Thursday, North Dakota State Representative Michael Brandenburg switched to the Republican Party, saying, "I knew I had to make the change to stay true to myself and my own beliefs."

On Friday of last week, Topeka, Kansas City Councilman Vince Cook renounced his affiliation with the Democrat Party and joined the Republicans. "Nationally, regionally, and locally, it [the Democrat Party] has been associated with fund raising irregularities, political patronage, and professional and personal scandals," said Cook. Clearly, the growing campaign fund raising scandals surrounding the 1996 Clinton/Gore Campaign is fueling the flight from the Democrat Party.

Last Saturday in New Jersey, Evesham Mayor Gus Tamburro joined the Republican Party and endorsed Governor Christie Whitman, saying, "Under Christie Whitman's leadership we have reaped the benefits of jobs, tax cuts, and economic growth. That's why I switched parties."

On Monday of this week, 13 elected Democrats in Texas switched to the Republican Party at a ceremony hosted by Governor George Bush. Among those Texans who abandoned the Democratic Party was Presiding Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, Michael J. McCormick. To date, 90 elected Democrats have joined the GOP in Texas alone since 1992.

In New York this week, Liberty Town Supervisor Richard Martinkovic changed his party affiliation and stated, "I join the Republican Party today and look forward to working with all elected officials . . . to serve the people, not be served."

And finally, in my home State of Georgia, State Representative Scott Tolbert announced his decision to join the GOP. Tolbert gives Republicans 79 seats in the 180-seat State House of Representatives, the highest number since Reconstruction. At a ceremony in Jefferson, GA, Tolbert commented, "After watching the Democrat Party in action, I knew I had to make a change."

I welcome each of these 18 new members to the Republican Party. The door to our party remains open to all who are committed to the ideals of smaller, smarter government with lower taxes and more freedom for the American people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 512, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye," and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

RECOGNITION OF THE WEBB SCHOOL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Webb School.

Founded in 1922 by Thompson and Vivian Webb in Claremont, CA, the school has maintained a tradition of academic excellence throughout its history.

Though initially an all male school, the Vivian Webb School for girls was opened in the fall of 1984. The school now also includes the Raymond Alf Museum. Founded after a student's discovery of a fossil of a previously unknown prehistoric pig, it is the only museum of paleontology located on a high school campus. The museum houses over 80,000 specimens, 90 percent of which were collected by