

committee members and staff. Travel for any member or any staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the chairman. Travel may be authorized by the chairman for any member and any staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the committee and meetings, conferences, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter under the general jurisdiction of the committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the chairman in writing the following:

- (1) The purpose of the travel;
- (2) The dates during which the travel will occur;
- (3) The locations to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each;
- (4) The names of members and staff seeking authorization.

(b)(1) In the case of travel outside the United States of members and staff of the committee for the purpose of conducting hearings, investigations, studies, or attending meetings and conferences involving activities or subject matter under the legislative assignment of the committee, prior authorization must be obtained from the chairman. Before such authorization is given, there shall be submitted to the chairman, in writing, a request for such authorization. Each request, which shall be filed in a manner that allows for a reasonable period of time for review before such travel is scheduled to begin, shall include the following:

- (A) the purpose of the travel;
- (B) the dates during which the travel will occur;
- (C) the names of the countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each;
- (D) an agenda of anticipated activities for each country for which travel is authorized together with a description of the purpose to be served and the areas of committee jurisdiction involved; and
- (E) the names of members and staff for whom authorization is sought. (2) At the conclusion of any hearing, investigation, study, meeting or conference for which travel outside the United States has been authorized pursuant to this rule, members and staff attending meetings or conferences shall submit a written report to the chairman covering the activities and other pertinent observations or information gained as a result of such travel.

(c) Members and staff of the committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, or regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Oversight pertaining to such travel.

RULE NO. 16

Powers and duties of subunits of the committee

The chairman of the committee is authorized to establish appropriately named subunits, such as task forces, composed of members of the committee, for any purpose, measure or matter; one member of each such subunit shall be designated chairman of the subunit by the chairman of the committee. All such subunits shall be considered ad hoc subcommittees of the committee. The rules of the committee shall be the rules of any subunit of the committee, so far as applicable, or as otherwise directed by the chairman of the committee. Each subunit of the committee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, and documents, as it deems necessary, and to report to the full committee on all measures or matters for which it was created. Chairmen of subunits of the committee shall set meeting dates with the

approval of the chairman of the full committee, with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of committee and subunit meetings or hearings wherever possible. It shall be the practice of the committee that meetings of subunits not be scheduled to occur simultaneously with meetings of the full committee. In order to ensure orderly and fair assignment of hearing and meeting rooms, hearings and meetings should be arranged in advance with the chairman through the clerk of the committee.

RULE NO. 17

Other procedures and regulations

The chairman of the full committee may establish such other procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the foregoing rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the committee.

RULE NO. 18

Designation of clerk of the committee

For the purposes of these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives, the staff director of the committee shall act as the clerk of the committee.

TRIBUTE TO LOY SMITH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Tennessee has lost one of its leading citizens and a truly great American, Loy Smith. Loy passed away on Sunday after suffering a heart attack while working with one of his great loves, his horses. He was 68.

Loy was a longtime close friend of both my late father and me and one of our strongest supporters. He served for 14 years as a State Representative from our home district in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

He rose to the rank of House Republican leader from 1978 to 1980. He then voluntarily left elective office to devote more time to his family and his many business interests. He remained active in politics, however, always interested in good government and in doing his part.

He served as Knox County Republican chairman from 1990 to 1992 and was one of the finest leaders our party ever had. Loy was active in many other aspects of community life, too. He was a deacon of the Thorngrove Christian Church and was a past president of the Carter Optimist Club.

He was a member of the Knoxville Elks Lodge, the Odd Fellows, the Thorngrove Community Club, the Volunteer Carriage Club, the Sons of the Revolution and the Pascal Carter Memorial Park Association.

His first love was his family, and he is survived by his wife Lonna Rhea, his children, daughter Scottie and sons, David, Jim, and Jeff, and several in-laws, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

After his family, his strongest feelings were bound up with the Republican Party. He was a very loyal Republican and very conservative in his philosophy. He believed very strongly in the things that made this Nation

great, and he especially believed in our great free enterprise system.

He was a vice president of and worked for the John Bailey Insurance Co. for 40 years. He also founded with his sons the Southeast Equipment Co. and was the owner of other businesses such as the Kay's Ice Cream Shops chain.

The Tennessee State legislature adopted a resolution Monday praising Loy Smith as, quote, "a man of great wisdom and compassion, earning the universal respect and admiration of his peers."

State Senator Ben Atchley, a longtime friend and associate of Loy's, said this: "Loy had a strong sense of the situation. He had the wisdom of understanding and of understanding the end result. He could get to the bottom line in a hurry, and he was a strong force in Republican politics."

Loy was a graduate of Carter High School. He volunteered to serve as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army and then received a business degree from the University of Tennessee.

He was a patriotic man who loved this country. More importantly, Loy Smith was simply a good man who helped countless numbers of people. He was not famous nationally, I suppose, but he was the type of man who has made this Nation the great Nation that it is today.

He did not live his life on the sidelines. He was in the arena in every possible way, and he truly made his mark.

Loy Smith will be missed most especially by his family and also by me and many, many others, I would say perhaps thousands of others. If this Nation had more people like Loy Smith, it would be a much better and kinder and stronger place. He lived his life to the fullest, and he served his country well.

□ 1530

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. ROEMER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. GOODLATTE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in December I and about 30 other Democrats sent a letter to President Clinton requesting that he include a program to provide assistance to the Nation's 10 million uninsured children in his budget that he would submit to Congress, and I am naturally very pleased that in his State of the Union Address tonight the President will announce a proposal to have Medicaid cover the 10 million

children who currently lack health insurance.

In millions of American working families both spouses work and yet neither works at a job that offers health insurance benefits, and while Medicaid provides coverage for children and families near or below the poverty level, many working families make more than the Medicaid threshold but not enough to afford health care premiums, and as a result millions of working parents remain unable to provide any health insurance whatsoever for their children.

Hoping to expand upon the progress made by last year's passage of the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill, congressional Democrats have been working hard to develop ways to address this problem. Indeed, many Members here in the House, including myself, are working on legislative proposals to remedy the problem. But I believe that making health insurance available to uninsured children really should be a central part of what we do in this Congress.

It was part of the Families First agenda which was developed by Democrats last year to help the average American family meet the costs of everyday life, and the attention the President will give this issue tonight is sorely needed. It is my hope that Republicans will join the President and congressional Democrats in recognizing that making health insurance available to all children is perhaps the most important issue we will examine here in the next 2 years.

U.S. PATENT LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRBACHER] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to discuss with the Members here assembled and those listening on C-SPAN and those who will be reading the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an issue that will be determined very early on in this session.

It is an issue that is somewhat obscure. It is an issue that is very difficult to understand in that it is complicated and deals with a complicated part of the law. It is an issue that will probably be ignored by much of the public and will probably not even be understood by most of the Members of the House of Representatives. Yet how Congress resolves this issue will determine the future well-being of our people and the security of our country.

This Congress will determine early on the fundamental patent law that will take precedence in this country probably for the next 50 years and perhaps longer. We will be making a determination of what the patent law of the United States of America will be for this generation and future generations of Americans.

Now some people say oh, my gosh, he was saying this is so important, and now all of a sudden he is talking about patent law. Well, that is exactly what I am talking about. Patent law is a part of the American legal system that has been taken for granted by the American people.

However, every time we turn around we can see that it is America's technological edge that has permitted the American people to have the highest standard of living in the world and permitted our country to sail safely through the troubled waters of world wars and international threats. It is American technology that has made all the difference, and it is American patent law that has determined what technology and what level of technological development that America has had.

This is not an obscure issue. This is an issue of vital importance to every American, and it will determine in the future the standard of living of our people and the safety of our country.

We Americans came to this continent as poor immigrants, by and large, millions of us. We fared very well for a people and, comparing what we did as Americans to other countries, we faced the most undeveloped land imaginable. There was no land that was more undeveloped than the United States of America when our forefathers and mothers came here.

And, yes, we had space and we had resources. But more importantly than that, the secret of America's success is not found in our wide expanses and our deposits of minerals. Instead, the secret of our success can be found in the fact that our people had freedom and they had guaranteed rights, and also, of course, we had a dream. We had a dream of a country where average people, even people who are below average, people who came here from every part of the world, of every race, of every religion, of every creed, could come and they could live in dignity, they could live free from fear, they could live with the understanding that their children would have opportunity to improve themselves because there was a rising standard of living. We believed in rights, and we believe that these rights are God given rights and not just government rights.

Patent rights are one of those rights that are written into the U.S. Constitution, and there is another fact for those of you who may be listening to a discussion of patents for the first time. Do you know that the United States of America is one of the only countries of the world to have written into its founding document, the Constitution, a section dealing with patent rights? In fact, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Washington, and others of our Founding Fathers were not only people who believed in freedom, but they believed in technology.

Visit Monticello and see what Thomas Jefferson did with his time after he penned the words to the Declaration of Independence, after he served as Presi-

dent of the United States. He went back to Monticello, and he spent his time inventing things that would lift the burden from the shoulders of labor.

Benjamin Franklin, the inventor of the bifocal and the stove; these were our Founding Fathers because they knew that with freedom and with technology we could increase the standard of living of our people. Our people were not just the Americans who were here, but the tens of millions of Americans who would come from other lands, who we would have to produce the wealth that was necessary to support them. We have the strongest patent protection in the world, and that is why in the history of mankind there has never been a more innovative and creative people.

Everyone has heard about Thomas Fulton and the steamboat. They assume that we invented, meaning Thomas Fulton invented, the steam engine. Thomas Fulton did not invent the steam engine. Mr. Fulton put the steam engine onto a boat and put it to work.

Cyrus McCormick invented the reaper; Samuel Morris, the telegraph; Thomas Edison, the light bulb and so many other inventions. We are proud of our history of technologies because we know as Americans, and we have always known through our country's history, that these inventions produced more wealth with less labor and increased the standard of living of all people and the opportunity of all people who were part of our American brotherhood and sisterhood.

And then of course the Wright brothers. We remember the Wright brothers: Men with little education who worked in a bicycle shop and ended up inventing something less than 100 years ago they were told was absolutely impossible by the experts. Yet they went ahead and moved ahead, received a patent, and they changed the future of mankind forever as they took mankind's feet off of the ground and put us on the road to the heavens.

Innovation and our great creative genius is the miracle that produced our wealth, not just our muscle. It was the genius and tenacity of the Wright brothers and of Cyrus McCormick and others that produced the wealth that has changed all of humankind and especially all the lives of all Americans. It was not raw muscle of every American, it was our ingenuity, our intelligence and, yes, the legal system that was established to protect that ingenuity and creativity. We treated intellectual property rights, the creation of new technologies, as we treated the property rights that someone had to a piece of land. It was his property or her property. And that is what America is all about, in that every person had a right to own a piece of property, and today as we enter the intellectual and innovative era of the electronic age and the age where ideas and creativity will mean even more, it is vital that we maintain this traditional support.