

have a leader who is interested in the Senate, who is interested in putting the Senate where it ought to be—first—and who is interested in improving the decorum in the Senate so that the people who view this Senate, through that all-seeing electronic eye, will see a truly premier upper House.

We have students, we have professors, we have young people in high school, we have lawyers, State legislators, and people in all walks of life watching the Senate daily when it is in session, and they expect to see the best.

I have been a member of the State legislature in West Virginia, in both houses, but even in the State legislatures—and they are closest to the people—even there they will look to the U.S. Senate and to the other body across the way for inspiration.

It saddens me to see a Presiding Officer in this Senate reading magazines or a newspaper or books when he is supposed to be presiding. Millions of people are watching, as well as visitors in the galleries, and I wonder if they go away thinking the Presiding Officer doesn't have much interest in the body if he is not listening to what is being said. He should be aware and alert to what is going on and ready to protect the rights of every Senator while debate is under way.

I think we have a majority leader now and a minority leader who are going to bring these things to the attention of the Members. We, all 100 of us, owe these leaders our very best support when they are trying to do the right thing: Trying to make the Senate what the framers intended it to be.

I really am encouraged, because I think that Senator LOTT is a man in that mold. He is bright, he has an endearing personality, he has an art of persuasiveness that will win many battles. He is considerate, he is patient, and a leader has to have all of these attributes. I thank him for all of these things.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I renew my great appreciation for the Senator from West Virginia, and I appreciate very much his remarks. I hope we can live up to his comments and expectations; we are going to work very hard to do that. I yield the floor.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I, too, would like, again, to express my gratitude to the distinguished Senator from West Virginia for his kind remarks throughout the day, again most recently. I appreciate very much the manner with which he has expressed himself. It is an honor for me to be complimented in public by the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, and he has done so generously.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a pe-

riod for morning business until the hour of 5 p.m. today, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes each.

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

THE 105TH CONGRESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me first congratulate, again, all of our new colleagues and their families for this very momentous occasion. It is one of the most thrilling things for me to watch new Senators come down the aisle, accompanied by a colleague, to raise their right hand and to take the oath of office. I can recall so vividly my own experience in that regard now twice. I know, having had that experience, what a remarkable and what a memorable opportunity it is for any woman or man.

Let me also again reiterate my gratitude to the majority leader for his remarks and for the kindnesses that he has shown to me and to our caucus as we have worked through the schedule, worked through the committees, worked through the many procedural matters that we had to discuss today. We begin the 105th Congress with renewed hope, with optimism, with good will.

There is much to do, and there is much need to do it together. We have had many months of competitive political effort, and now it is time to govern. Franklin Roosevelt once said, "The future lies with those wise political leaders who recognize that the great public is interested more in government than in politics." Let us recognize that and seize the future. Let us summon the best in all of those around us as we call upon the best within ourselves to join in common purpose and in common cause. I have no doubt that our efforts here during the course of the 105th Congress will, by any standard, then be judged a success.

Mr. President, I indicated when I introduced the resolution relating to Senator BYRD that I had a statement. I would like at this time to make that statement.

ROBERT C. BYRD'S 50 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, tomorrow, January 8, 1997, will mark a momentous day in the life and career of one of this chamber's most esteemed and respected Members.

Fifty years ago, on January 8, 1947, before this Senator was born, ROBERT C. BYRD took his seat in the West Virginia State Legislature, thus beginning a remarkable half-century of public service.

On this golden anniversary of the beginning of a remarkable career, I want to take a few minutes to call attention to this achievement, to congratulate him for it, and to thank him for his service to the people of West Virginia and the United States.

Fifty years of public service. That is a long time. Perhaps I can illustrate.

It translates into two terms in the West Virginia House of Delegates, one term in the West Virginia State Senate, three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, and seven terms in the U.S. Senate.

Since ROBERT BYRD began serving the people of West Virginia, 10 Presidents have occupied the White House—that is nearly one-fourth of all Presidents in American history. ROBERT BYRD began serving the people of West Virginia before 20 Members of this Chamber, including this Member, were born. Before there was a CIA; before there was a Marshall plan; before the Korean war.

When ROBERT BYRD began his political career, Harry Truman had not yet upset Dewey or dismissed Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Senator Joe McCarthy had not yet begun his infamous Red-baiting. Lyndon Johnson was still in the House of Representatives, and he was being joined by John Kennedy and Richard Nixon, both of whom were taking their first congressional seats.

When ROBERT BYRD began his remarkable half-century career in public service, it was 2 years before the Soviet Union had tested its first atomic bomb, 10 years before the Soviet Union launched sputnik, and 12 years before there were 50 States in our Union.

Five decades is indeed a long time, but it is not for longevity alone that we recognize and applaud the senior Senator from West Virginia. We recognize our esteemed and respected colleague for the quality as well as the quantity of his public service. His lifelong commitment to public service has been one of total dedication to serving the people of his beloved State and to the highest ideals of public service. And the people of West Virginia have honored him for it.

In ROBERT BYRD's 50 years in public service, he has won every election in which he has been a participant. In 1970, he received the largest percentage of the total vote ever accorded a person running for the Senate in a contested election in the State of West Virginia.

In 1976, he was the first person in West Virginia history to win a Senate seat without opposition in a general election. He has held more legislative offices than anyone else in the history of his State. He is one of only three U.S. Senators in history to be elected to seven 6-year terms. He is the longest-serving Senator in the history of his State. And, on January 13, Senator BYRD will have served 38 years and 10 days in the Senate, becoming the fourth-longest-serving Senator in U.S. history—behind Senators Hayden, THURMOND, and Stennis.

West Virginians are not only pleased with their man in Washington; they are proud of him. They have honored him with nearly every honor the State has to offer; this includes being selected as the West Virginian of the Year three different times—the only person ever selected more than once.

This Saturday, January 11, a 10-foot, 1,500-pound statue of Senator BYRD will be unveiled and formally dedicated in his honor in the West Virginia State Capitol. No other person in the history of the State has had such an honor bestowed upon him or her. The statue appropriately depicts Senator BYRD holding the Constitution and pointing to the section of the document that provides Congress with the power of the purse.

Of course, West Virginians are in the process of renaming the State after him. Every town you go into, it seems you can find something named after ROBERT C. BYRD. His name is prominently displayed on hospitals, university buildings, roads, and bridges throughout the State. There is the Robert C. Byrd High School in Harrison County, and the U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd College, in beautiful Sheperdstown. There is the Robert C. Byrd Community Center in Pine Grove, the Robert C. Byrd Visitor Center in historic Harpers Ferry, and the much-needed Robert C. Byrd Cancer Research Center.

Last year, the Governor of West Virginia, Gaston Caperton, called Senator BYRD "West Virginia's most beloved son * * * truly a legend in his own time." Truly he is, Mr. President, and ROBERT C. BYRD has become a legend in the U.S. Senate, as well.

More than two-thirds of his 50 years of public service has been in this Chamber. The standards he has set here, the principles for which he has stood, the service he has rendered to this Chamber and every member in it, have all been in the best traditions of American government. For this reason, the "Almanac of American Politics" could write that ROBERT BYRD "may come closer to the kind of Senator the Founding Fathers had in mind than any other."

He is the Senate's foremost historian—"the custodian of the Senate's ideals and values," as Senator Nunn has called him.

He has held more leadership positions in the U.S. Senate than any other Senator in history, and he has cast more votes than any other Senator in history.

He was the first man in the history of the Senate to hold the job of Senate majority leader, lose it, and then gain it back again. "That fact," wrote Michael Barone, "tells us something about the determination, the combination of hard work and ambition which have propelled this coal miner's son to the top ranks of the American Congress."

I love that description, so I want to repeat it: "the combination of hard work and ambition which have propelled this coal miner's son to the top ranks of the American Congress." This is a remarkable statement about a remarkable man. An orphan boy who was raised by a coal miner in the hills of West Virginia, who once pumped gas at

a filling station and worked as a produce salesman to make a living, who worked as a meat cutter and a welder in the shipyards of Baltimore and Tampa in order to feed his family, has risen to and succeeded at the very top of our government.

His life, in the words of President Clinton, is a "testament to the idea that public discourse and public life can be a thing of very high honor."

One of Senator BYRD's favorite quotes is Horace Greeley's observance that:

Fame is a vapor;

Popularity an accident;

Riches take wing;

Those who cheer today may curse tomorrow; Only one thing endures: character.

Mr. President, as Senate Democratic Leader, I salute the enduring character of ROBERT C. BYRD while I congratulate him for 50 years of outstanding public service. And I thank the people of West Virginia for their wisdom in keeping him here with us.

Mr. President, I now yield the floor.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROTESTS IN BELGRADE

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I think it is important today as we see a transference of power in Congress after duly-held elections that we pause to support the people who are standing, as we speak, in a frozen public square in Serbia, who are trying to have the same rights that we enjoy today in America. I think we must stand with the people of Serbia who have for 8 weeks been standing in the freezing cold to demand the results of their recent elections be implemented.

Mr. President, the world watches in awe at the display of popular sovereignty in the former Yugoslavian Republic of Serbia. In 8 weeks it has built from a few thousand to over 400,000 people who have risen up in peaceful opposition to the regime of Slobodan Milosevic on whom the Clinton administration has pinned part of its hopes in the Balkans.

We cannot help but admire the courage, the bravery, the commitment of the young people and the young at heart who are standing up for democracy. They are trying to bring about change through moral suasion and the strength of their convictions. As they do that, they remind the world that all governments everywhere borrow power from the people they serve, and the people can take that power back when they determine that they must.

We have had many debates on this floor regarding the future in that most

unfortunate part of the world. Today, we have tens of thousands of Americans on the ground in and around Bosnia to try to keep a tenuous peace, to keep the military factions apart that only recently were at war.

We are in Bosnia at great cost. Our Balkans policy is confused. We have spent \$5 billion and the meter is still running. Our troops will be on the ground for at least another year. At the same time, in neighboring Serbia, we are seeing the best example of peaceful self-determination. The people of Serbia are united on the principle of fair and democratic elections. The Milosevic regime is hanging on to an Old World order that will not remain. It will not remain because of the strength of the people.

The United States should not stand idly by. The administration needed President Milosevic to reach the peace agreement in Dayton. So there has been a tendency to turn a blind eye to his faults, his protection of war criminals, his antidemocratic actions. But it is clear the people of Serbia are rising up and they are saying, "No more." Because the administration helped create this situation in the Balkans, I think we have a special responsibility to exercise our influence on President Milosevic to honor the will of the Serbian people.

Last month, representatives from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe were invited to Serbia to investigate the election crisis. They attempted in vain to persuade President Milosevic to accept the municipal election results in 14 of 19 of Serbia's largest cities.

The people are protesting to send a clear message that their votes matter and that no regime has the right to nullify the will of the people, from whom all governments borrow power.

Mr. President, we pray that President Milosevic will accept the will of his people. We pray that this crisis will be resolved peacefully, and we pray that democracy will triumph in Serbia.

Mr. President, I am urging President Clinton today to speak out with a clear, strong voice that the United States stands behind the Serbian people and that the results of the free elections that were held should be implemented. It is time for the peaceful demonstrators in Belgrade, in their fight for a self-determined nation and freedom, to prevail. I urge the President to use his influence with President Milosevic to stand down and let the results of those elections go forward.

Mr. President, we are beginning a new session of Congress. We had elections, and now we are implementing the will of the people. It has been thus for over 200 years in this country. Maybe some of us take that right for granted—the right to vote and the right to know that our vote will be counted fairly.

Mr. President, it is the time for Americans to ask everyone in the