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We are in his debt to this day, and surely 1999 is year to acknowledge it.

I ask that the obituary from the New York Daily Express be printed in the RECORD.

The obituary follows:

[From the New York Daily Express, August 20, 1838]

CITY AFFAIRS

DEATH OF DAPONTE—Signor Lorenzo Daponte being a resident of this City died here on Friday at the advanced age of 90. His celebrated opera, written for Mozart, has given him a name all over the world. The Sunday Morning News states that he was a Venetian and native of *Cenda*—educated from the Church, and then afterwards from his fine poetic talents and passion for music, that he became a prominent person in the Court of Emperor Joseph II of Austria. Under his special protection, he formed a close relationship with the celebrated Mozart, which led to the production of those admired Operas, *Giovanni*, the *Marriage of Figaro*, and *c.*, which the poetry of Daponte is no less eternized by its own beauties than by the divine music by which it is embalmed. After the decease of Mozart, who died in his friend Daponte's arms, the poet went to London, and there for years was intimately associated with the early efforts to introduce a more perfect Italian Opera. From there, Signor Daponte came to America, where he has resided 32 years, chiefly in this city; and to his indefatigable exertions, commanding talents, and profound literary attainments, are we mainly indebted for the taste every where diffused in our country for the music and language of his native land. He has been the Cadmas to whom we owe an unpayable debt for these inappreciable gifts. His memory will endure; for his disinterested labors and passionate devotion to the arts which he cultivated. As a Latin and Hebrew Scholar, he had perhaps no equal or superior here.

NOTICE.—The numerous Italians of this City, countrymen of the venerable Daponte, deeply impressed with the honor which the character and labors of the deceased have reflected on their own and their adoptive country, will assemble at his late residence, No. 91 Spring Street, precisely at 6 o'clock p.m. this day whence his remains will be conveyed to the Cathedral, and a requiem performed by distinguished Italian artists of this City, previous to the interment of the corpse in the Catholic burying ground.●

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHERN INDUSTRIALIST DANIEL PRATT

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel Pratt, a distinguished Southern Industrialist and founder of the city of Prattville, Alabama. A man whose vision guided the state on a course of industrialization and modernization. As a celebration of Daniel Pratt's 200th birthday, 1999 has been named the "Year of Industry" in Alabama. This is a significant tribute to honor a very important figure in the history of Alabama. Daniel Pratt's legacy not only includes the beginning of modern industry to the

state, but also philanthropic deeds that were unrivaled for his era. Daniel Pratt's indomitable pioneer spirit serves as an inspiration to others who have faced adversity and conquered the unknown.

Born in 1799, Daniel Pratt was raised in Temple, New Hampshire. Brought up as a Congregationalist in a traditional Puritan family, Daniel Pratt grew up disciplined, structured, and religious. He received only a limited education, but took advantage of an opportunity to apprentice under a family friend, who was an architect and a builder. This new focus in his life helped to channel his natural inclination towards machinery and building. After his mother's death in 1817, Daniel Pratt acted on his ambitions and set out for the South, which he regarded as a land of opportunity. Daniel Pratt's formative years instilled in him a strong work ethic and religious convictions, along with a sense of compassion. These two attributes would help to guide him through difficult decisions throughout his life.

After sailing to Savannah, Georgia, Daniel Pratt did not immediately become a rich entrepreneur. Initially, he put the tools of his apprenticeship to work as a builder and planner for wealthy planters. After a few years, he moved onto ship building, adding to his burgeoning knowledge of construction and the industrial process. Daniel Pratt was willing to take the long road to success. He realized that the only way to succeed in life was through hard work and gritty determination. He also had the common sense to learn from others, which paid off when he befriended Samuel Griswold, who was a prominent cotton gin manufacturer in the area. Through friendship as well as a business relationship, Daniel Pratt learned the trade which would ultimately thrust him into the forefront of Southern industrialization. Daniel Pratt proved to be so adept at the manufacture and sale of cotton gins, that he became a partner in the enterprise within a year. At this point in his life, Daniel Pratt's unbridled vision was able to manifest itself in his actions. He saw that the expansion of the cotton gin into the West was a fantastic opportunity for his new enterprise. He realized that the center of distribution in the South would revolve around the great river systems which offered the advantage of water as a cheap source of power. Pratt had planned to stay in business with his partner, but with Indian uprisings in the Alabama area, his partner became apprehensive. This did not deter Daniel Pratt in the slightest. As his first biographer, Shadrack Mims wrote: "The indomitable will of Daniel Pratt, that spirit of enterprise which characterized him through life, was not to be daunted nor discouraged by Indian uprisings. He purchased material for fifty gins, put the same on wagons, and in 1833, he with his brave wife headed for Alabama."

Daniel Pratt rapidly met the success he foresaw in his move to Alabama. He

found quick sales among the planters of the Alabama Black Belt. He established a temporary site for his factory along Autauga Creek and immediately began to expand his operations. Within a period of five years, it was evident that he needed a larger area for a permanent site. He chose to settle on a marshy, heavily wooded piece of land only three miles from his original site. In only ten years, he turned this hostile area into a thriving manufacturing village of eight hundred people. This is the site that would eventually form the booming industrial town of Prattville.

Initially, the Gin Factory was the corner stone of the economy in the new settlement. But as business grew, Daniel Pratt reinvested the profits into new industries in the town. By the 1850's, Prattville, for its size, furnished the most diverse industrial pattern in the United States. In addition, the Pratt Gin Company became the largest gin factory in the world, with unrivaled quality in construction. Daniel Pratt's business was so successful, that he began to invest money in the state infrastructure. He presided over railroad conventions and sparked Southern railroad growth with his generous infusion of capital.

Daniel Pratt also used his good fortune to invest in the Red Mountain Iron and Coal Company, and he controlled the Oxmoor iron furnaces in the Birmingham Industrial district. In his honor, the great vein of coal west of Birmingham was named the Pratt Vein, and Pratt City was later incorporated into the town of Birmingham. These furnaces were destroyed by Wilson's Raiders during the Civil War, but Daniel Pratt was determined to rebuild them. With the help of his son-in-law, Henry Debardeleban, he did just that, and by 1873, they were back in operation. The name was changed to the Eureka Mining Company, and the towns of Birmingham and Bessemer began to thrive. Daniel Pratt is credited with being one of the driving forces behind the development of that entire area of the state.

In 1847, the University of Alabama awarded him the degree of Master of Mechanical and Useful Arts, the only one of its kind the University has ever given. Pratt also served as a distinguished member of the Alabama House of Representatives throughout the duration of the Civil War.

However, it was Daniel Pratt's philanthropic deeds which set him apart from other industrialists of his time. Pratt built schools and churches for workers in his textile mill with his own money. His boundless paternalism towards his workers led him to teach in Prattville's Sunday Schools. It was his sincere desire to better both the town of Prattville as well as the entire South through his relentless efforts to preach the industrial gospel. He wrote numerous letters and articles professing his industrialist beliefs, which were published in southern newspapers and periodicals across the area.

Although born 200 years ago, Daniel Pratt serves as a shining example of a pioneer spirit which transformed the South into a thriving industrial center. His leadership, vision, courage, and generosity is an inspiration to everyone.●

SISTER JANE: A CHAMPION FOR THE POOR

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the work of an extraordinary woman from the state of New Jersey, Sister Jane Frances Brady.

Sister Jane, as she is widely known, has been a tireless advocate on behalf of the poor and uninsured. She has done this most visibly through her 26-year tenure as both president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey.

Mr. President, as many of my colleagues know, Paterson is my home town and I am privileged to be able to call Sister Jane a good and longtime friend. Sister Jane has just recently stepped down from her position as president, and will leave her post as CEO of St. Joseph's by the summer. I know that she will be sorely missed there.

But Sister Jane is not leaving health care altogether. She will be the new executive vice president of Via Caritas Health System in Parsippany.

The combination of Sister Jane's tough administrative style and endless compassion has enhanced St. Joseph's facilities and reputation immensely. During her time there, the hospital has excelled in providing care for people living with HIV, newborns, bone marrow transplant candidates, patients needing open-heart surgery and trauma victims.

Mr. President, one of the most important things that Sister Jane has done through her work at St. Joseph's is to care for poor children. A huge part of fighting that battle is waging a campaign to provide health insurance coverage for those children. I would like to share with my colleagues a recent editorial in the Bergen Record about Sister Jane, and her fearless courage to fight for the right of the urban poor population to have access to adequate health care.

Mr. President, I congratulate Sister Jane on all her hard work at St. Joseph's, and wish her well in her new position at Via Caritas.

Mr. President, I ask that a copy of the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Bergen Record, Jan. 12, 1999]

SISTER JANE STEPS DOWN

An estimated 290,000 children in New Jersey go without medical insurance. So last year, when the Whitman administration withdrew some funding for a health-care program for uninsured children because of lower-than-expected enrollment, Sister Jane Frances Brady, president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Paterson, was furious.

With the help of St. Joseph's, Passaic County alone had registered more than 1,400 children—nearly one-fifth of the statewide enrollment up until that point. "If we did that, why can't the state do as much?" Sister Jane asked.

Stung by criticism from Sister Jane and others, the state initiated a massive advertising campaign to sign up uninsured children. It included mass mailings, advertisements, and a radio spot by Governor Whitman.

Sister Jane has always expected others to work as hard for the poor as she does, and that applied to state officials as well as St. Joseph's employees. In addition to championing the urban poor during her 26 years at St. Joseph's, Sister Jane has transformed the hospital into a regional health-care hub that attracts patients statewide for services such as high-risk births and open heart surgery.

Earlier this month, Sister Jane stepped down as president. Patrick Wardell, the hospital's new executive vice president, will run the hospital on a day-to-day basis, but the 63-year-old nun will continue as CEO until July. At that point, she will assume full-time her role as executive vice president of Via Caritas Health System in Parsippany. Via Caritas is a Catholic health-care system—formed in 1997—that has St. Joseph's as its largest hospital member.

Sister Jane set a fine example for dedication and leadership at St. Joseph's. Prior to suffering a small stroke in 1997, she had never taken a sick day. And under her leadership St. Joseph's became one of the most financially sound hospitals in the state. Although she will remain a tireless voice for compassion for the less fortunate, her day-to-day involvement in the medical care of the poor in Paterson will be missed.●

100 YEARS OF SPARTAN BASKETBALL

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my alma mater, Michigan State University, as their basketball program celebrates its centennial season. Over the course of the last century, Spartan basketball has been a tremendous source of pride for the Michigan State student body and its vast alumni network. A splendid representative of the Big Ten conference since 1951, MSU is one of the premier college basketball programs in the nation. MSU basketball has produced 45 NBA draft picks, among them some of the greatest players in the history of the game.

The many great teams and coaches that have graced the floor of the Jenison Field House and Breslin Center should be very proud of the tradition of excellence that they have built. The accomplishments of Michigan State's basketball program are tremendous: 15 First-Team All-Americans, seven Big Ten championships, four Big Ten players of the year, 12 NCAA Tournament appearances, and one National Championship.

I extend my warmest regards and best wishes to the 1998 National Coach of the Year, Tom Izzo, and all current Spartan players. I also applaud all past coaches, players, and supporters of Spartan Basketball's first one hundred years. I hope the next century is as exciting and successful as the first.●

TRIBUTE TO GORDON M. SHERMAN

• Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Gordon Sherman, of Dunwoody, Georgia, who after more than four decades of dedicated service to the Social Security Administration retired on December 31, 1998. He is an outstanding example to his family and friends, and has been an asset to the many communities that he has touched over the years.

Gordon has more than 40 years of combined military and civilian federal service. He began working for the Social Security Administration in 1958 and has served as the Southeast Regional Commissioner to the Social Security Administration (SSA) since October 1975. In this role, he has been responsible for supervision, coordination, executive leadership, and effective and efficient administration of the Social Security program in the eight southeastern states.

As a career senior governmental executive, he has received many awards in honor of his noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding leadership over the years. Several of Gordon's most prestigious awards are the U.S. Army Legion of Merit medal, two Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Awards, the National Public Service Award from the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA) and the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA), the coveted Ewell T. Bartlett National Award for Humanity in Government, and the national "Making the King Holiday Award" from the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday Commission for his assistance in making this holiday a reality.

As a native of Alabama, he graduated from Auburn University with a B.S. degree and received J.D. and LL.M degrees, as well as an honorary LL.D from Woodrow Wilson College of Law and completed the Senior Managers in Government (SMG) program at the John F. KENNEDY School of Government at Harvard University. Gordon and his wife Miriam are also associated with several business, educational, professional, civic, service and volunteer organizations in the Dunwoody area.

Mr. President, I would like to honor and commend Gordon Sherman for his outstanding and innumerable contributions over the years to the State of Georgia and to our entire Nation, and ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting and congratulating Gordon on his retirement. Gordon, you truly are a great American, and I wish you many more joyous years in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO THE VETERANS OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave men and women who risked their lives fighting in the Persian Gulf War.

February 27 marks the eighth anniversary of the end of the Persian Gulf War and the liberation of Kuwait. After