

working in the state congressional delegation knew that if you wanted to launch an ambitious project and have it done well, you wanted Henry Woods to be in charge of it.

His institutional memory is as incredible as it has been invaluable. It is not uncommon for him, at a moment's notice, to recall the name of a constituent's wife, the ages of their children and which schools they attend, which of his cousins serve in the State Legislature, and what civic groups he belongs to and who he supported in the last campaign. He can also cite zip code after zip code, not to mention phone prefixes for cities and towns across Arkansas.

Over the years he has made many friends in the halls of the House and Senate, from the doorkeepers to the printing clerks, from the restaurant workers to the Rules Committee staffers who have all helped him accomplish things for the members and constituents. He has an amazing way of finding the people and the resources to accomplish any project he is given.

Henry, a proud Hot Springs native, is legendary for his political savvy and quick wit. His fellow staffers often wondered why someone as busy as Henry was so willing to serve as driver for his employer whenever one was needed. After a while, they realized that those occasions gave Henry as much as a half-hour of interrupted access to the member, which he used to full effect. He has often been heard cautioning members and staffers alike that certain visitors waiting to see them "may not be right, but they're convinced." Another popular Henryism has been an admonition to disgruntled staffers that they "can just get glad in the same clothes they got mad in."

Henry has set up and run intern programs that have easily helped more than 1,000 Arkansas students become familiar with the working of Congress and the federal government. His intern program has been so successful that it has been emulated by countless other congressional offices. Henry's interns never sat idly in the office waiting for the next tour, softball game or free reception. He made sure each one had the chance to work in a variety of capacities and learn a number of skills in the offices. It is not surprising that many of his interns have gone on to run for public office and serve in the state's leading corporations, commissions, and charitable organizations.

In addition to his official efforts, he kept the Arkansas State Society and the University of Arkansas alumni society running efficiently for many years, working countless hours of his personal time to organize events ranging from the cherry blossom reception to football watch parties and trips to the horse races—all aimed at keeping Arkansans in Washington in touch.

Several of his friends established an award in his name last year at his beloved University of Arkansas, where he

served on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association. A cash award will be given each year to a student who shows an interest in internships or government services. The award will be formally announced at the University on April 22.

To put it briefly, no matter which office he was working in, Henry quickly became indispensable, a fact that was recognized by countless people both on and off the Hill as the following letters attest. Now he is leaving for sunnier climes in the southern-most point of the continental United States. We are going to miss him, and we are going to be poorer without him. We wish him well, and we want to let him know that the key will be under the doormat for him any time he wants to come back.

Mr. President, I ask that the four letters regarding Henry Wood's retirement be printed in the RECORD.

The letters follow:

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, DC, February 23, 1999.
HENRY WOODS,
Washington, DC.

DEAR HENRY: As you retire from your lifetime of public service on Capitol Hill, I want to congratulate you and thank you for your commitment, hard work, and generous leadership.

In particular, I am so grateful for your efforts on behalf of the people from our home state. The warm hospitality you have provided to Arkansas visiting the Capitol throughout these 25 years has given them a special feeling of connectedness to their representatives here in Washington. The guidance you have provided people of all ages—and especially youth and students—leaves a wonderful legacy . . . and big shoes to fill!

Hillary joins me in sending our best wishes for all possible happiness in this next phase of your life.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON.

—
FEBRUARY 22, 1999.

Mr. HENRY WOODS,
Office of Senator Lincoln, Washington, DC.

DEAR HENRY: You came to Washington for a summer and stayed a career! And what an illustrious career you've had working in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

You've held many positions during your tenure, and done a superb job in each one. You developed an intern program that has proved to be one of the best on Capitol Hill. Over the years, you have been very involved with the Arkansas State Society. Some would say, "If it wasn't for Henry, there wouldn't be a State Society." You've worked in more campaigns than I have run. Your tent parties are legendary. You helped coach the winning Capitol Hill softball team in 1982—the Priorities. You are—the Razorbacks' biggest fan!

Henry, how can we thank you for the tremendous contribution you made to our state, our country—and to all of us.

Barbara and the entire Pryor family join me in wishing you the very best in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

DAVID PRYOR.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, AR, February 19, 1999.

Mr. HENRY WOODS,
Office of Senator Lincoln, Washington, DC.

DEAR HENRY: First let me add my congratulations to the many I know you are receiving from friends and colleagues on Cap-

itol Hill as you retire from 25 years of government service. I can't imagine the Arkansas delegation without Henry. You have done so much for so many (including myself) over the years, we cannot begin to properly thank you.

I remember one of my early campaigns for the Arkansas State Legislature. You took time off and came to Arkansas to help organize a "Get Out the Vote" effort. You and your army of "intern alumni" worked tirelessly to get me elected, and I will never forget it.

Henry, Capitol Hill will miss you—but not half as much as Arkansas will miss you!

I wish you all the best in your new life.

With warm regards,

MARK PRYOR.

—
LITTLE ROCK, AR, February 11, 1999.
Mr. HENRY WOODS,
Senator Blanche Lincoln's Office,
Washington, DC.

DEAR HENRY: I'm still in denial. I can't imagine Washington without you, and if I could change your mind, I would do so in a heartbeat.

But knowing that's not possible, let me just say that "friends are friends forever" and our friendship—which began at the University of Arkansas and continues through today—will always be special.

I thank you for being so responsive to so many. I thank you for designing and implementing the best intern program on Capitol Hill. I thank you for giving so many Arkansas young people the chance to participate.

In just a few weeks, we will dedicate the "Henry Woods Award" at the University of Arkansas. It has already been endowed by your many friends and will be presented annually to the outstanding student leader on the campus. From this day forward, the most honorable student leader at your alma mater will be recognized with an award bearing your name.

Now, I have a new project for you. Certainly a book about your experiences is in order. I hope you will consider it, and I look forward to talking with you—and the University of Arkansas Press—about it.

Billie is already making Key West family vacation plans. All the Rutherfords wish you much happiness and continued success.

Thank you for making Arkansas very proud.

Best Wishes,

SKIP RUTHERFORD.●

MENTAL RETARDATION AWARENESS MONTH

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to help increase the public's awareness of mental retardation as we focus on the needs and abilities of the nation's 7.2 million Americans with mental retardation. The Arc, the nation's largest organization of volunteer advocates for people with mental retardation, consists of more than 1,000 local and state chapters. For 21 years, the Arc has sponsored the recognition of March as National Mental Retardation Awareness Month.

The Arc began in 1950 as a small army of friends and parents in Minneapolis, Minnesota came together to create the National Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children. From this spark in 1950, Arc members have become advocates not only for their own children, but all children and other Americans denied

services and opportunities because of mental retardation.

According to Arc, a person with mental retardation is one who, from childhood, develops intellectually at a below-average rate and experiences difficulty in learning, social adjustment and economic productivity. Otherwise, he or she is just like anyone else—with the same feelings, interests, goals, needs and desire for acceptance. This intellectual delay requires not only personal support, but environmental support for them to live independently.

There are more than 250 causes of mental retardation. Among the most recognized are chromosomal abnormalities, such as Down syndrome, and prenatal influences, such as smoking or alcohol use by a pregnant mother, which may lead to fetal alcohol syndrome or other complications. Malnutrition, lead poisoning and other environmental problems can also lead to mental retardation in children.

Experts estimate that 50% of mental retardation can be prevented if current knowledge is applied to safeguarding the health of babies and toddlers. Some of the keys are abstinence from alcohol use during pregnancy, obtaining good prenatal care, education programs for pregnant women, and the use of child seats and safety belts for children.

The theme for this year's observance is the elimination of waiting lists for community-based services. In a study conducted by the Arc, more than 218,000 people were identified as waiting for placement in a community-based residential facility, a job training program, a competitive employment situation or other support.

In Minnesota, over 6,600 members in fifty chapters make up the Arc network, each working to both prevent the causes of mental retardation and lessen its effects. With the guidance of the Arc, it is these local and state chapters working at the grassroots levels which have made and continue to make the greatest impact for Americans with mental retardation.

Mr. President, I truly appreciate the unabated commitment to the needs and abilities of people with mental retardation the Arc has demonstrated over the years and am honored to help further public awareness. ●

LEO MELAMED REFLECTS ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues an essay written by a great Chicagoan, and the father of our modern-day futures industry, Leo Melamed. I believe his essay, *Reflections on the Twentieth Century*, eloquently captures the essence of this great nation.

Mr. President, Leo Melamed had to travel a long hard road to reach the pinnacle of success. As a boy, he survived the Holocaust, coming to the United States to find a better life for his family. Growing up on the streets

of Chicago, Leo was able to climb the ladder of opportunity and make that better life for himself and his family. His early experiences gave him a deep appreciation of the importance of a free society and an open economy.

Leo Melamed's heroic story embodies the American Dream. The young man who came to Chicago with little has, through hard work, tenacity, intellect and energy, given much to the world. In 1972, he launched the International Monetary Market (IMM), the first financial futures market. He has also achieved the position of Chairman Emeritus and Senior Policy Advisor for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), and is the author of several books. His leadership over the past quarter century has been critical in helping transform the Chicago Mercantile Exchange from a domestic agricultural exchange to the world's foremost financial futures exchange.

Currently, Melamed serves as chairman and CEO of Sakura Dellaher, Inc., a global futures organization which he formed in 1993 by combining the Sakura Bank, Ltd., one of the world's largest banks, and Dellaher Investment Company, Inc., a Futures Commission Merchant (FCM) he established in 1965. As a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade, and with an ability to operate in all world futures markets, Sakura Dellaher, Inc., assists financial institutions in their management of risk. Because of Leo's exemplary accomplishments and contributions to the field of financial futures, he has been recognized as "the father of the futures market concept."

I should also add, Mr. President, that the March 1999 issue of Chicago magazine has chosen Leo Melamed as one of the Most Important Chicagoans of the 20th Century. The article states: "As de facto leader of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange for a quarter of a century, Melamed transformed the moribund exchange, introducing foreign currency and gold as commodities to be auctioned off in the trading pits. Thanks to those decisions, Chicago is today the world capital of currency futures trading." Leo Melamed deserves great recognition for his outstanding contributions to the city he loves so much.

Mr. President, I ask that the full text of Leo Melamed's essay, *Reflections on the Twentieth Century*, be printed in the RECORD.

The essay follows:

REFLECTIONS ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

(By Leo Melamed)

The Twentieth Century, my father told me before his death, represented a new low in the history of mankind. "The Holocaust," he said, "was an indelible blot on human conscience, one that could never be expunged."

Still, my father always tempered his realism with a large dose of optimism. He had, after all, against all odds, managed to save himself and his immediate family from the inevitability of the gas chambers. Were that not the case, this kid from Bialystok would not be here to receive this incredible Weizmann Institute honor nor tell his story. And quite a story it is!

I don't mean simply the story of how my father snatched his wife and son from the clutches of the Nazis. I don't mean simply the story of how my parents outwitted both the Gestapo and the KGB during a time in history when, in Humphrey Bogart's words, "the world didn't give a hill of beans about the lives of three people." I don't mean simply the story of our race for freedom across Europe and Siberia during a moment in history when the world had gone quite mad. And I don't mean simply the story of Consul General Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese Oscar Schindler who chose to follow the dictates of his God rather than those of his Foreign Office and, in direct violation of their orders, issued life saving transit visas to some 6000 Jews trapped in Lithuania—the Melamoviches among them. Six months later all of us would have been machine-gunned to death along with 10,000 others in Kovno.

No, I don't mean simply all of that, although all of that is a helluva story. But there is yet another dimension to the story here. I mean the story of the splendor of America! For it was here, here in this land of the free and home of the brave that the kid from Bialystok was given the opportunity to grow up on the streets of Chicago, to climb the rungs of social order without money or clout, and to use his imagination and skills so that in a small way he could contribute to the growth of American markets. In doing so he not only justified fate's decision to spare his life, but more important, attested to the majesty of this nation.

Because within my story lies the essence of America, the fundamental beauty of the United States Constitution and the genius of its creators. For throughout the years, thru ups and downs, thru defeats and victories, thru innovations which challenged sacred market doctrines, and ideas which defied status quo, no one ever questioned my right to dream, nor rejected my views simply because I as an immigrant, without proper credentials, without American roots, without wealth, without influence, or because I was a Jew. Intellectual values always won out over provincial considerations, rational thought always prevailed over irrational prejudice, merit always found its way to the top. Say what you will, point out the defects, protest the inequities, but at the end of the day my story represents the real truth about America.

For these reasons, after all was said and done, my parents were optimists. They agree, that in spite of the two World Wars, in spite of the horrors and atrocities, the Twentieth Century was nevertheless a most remarkable century. They watched the world go from the horse and buggy—to main form of transportation at their birth—to Apollo Eleven which in 1969 took Neil Armstrong to the moon.

Indeed, it is hard to fathom that at the dawn of my parent's century, Britannia was still the empire on which the sun never set; the railroads were in their Golden Age, automobiles were considered nothing but a fad, the phonograph was the most popular form of home entertainment, and life expectancy for the American male was but 48. Sigmund Freud first published his "Interpretation of Dreams," and Albert Einstein, the foremost thinker of the century, had just published his theory of relativity.

Of course, the event that would have the most profound effect on the direction of our present century occurred back in 1848—smack dab in the middle of the Nineteenth Century: Karl Marx and his associate, Friedrich Engels, published the Communist Manifesto. The concept of communism would dominate the political thought of Europe and later Asia for most of the Twentieth Century.