

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 the 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.

Today, some 150 years after the concept was conceived, we know it to have been an unmitigated failure. Indeed, those of us, citizens of planet Earth fortunate enough to be present in the final decade of the Twentieth Century, have been privileged to witness events equal to any celebrated milestone in the history of mankind. In what seemed like a made-for-TV video, we were ringside spectators at a global rebellion. In less than an eye-blink the Berlin Wall fell, Germany was unified, Apartheid ended, Eastern Europe was liberated, the Cold War ceased, and a doctrine that impaired the freedom of three generations and misdirected the destiny of the entire planet for seven decades was decisively repudiated.

What a magnificent triumph of democracy and freedom. What a glorious victory for capitalism and free markets. What a majestic tribute to Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, Abraham Lincoln, and Milton Friedman. What a divine time to be alive. Surely these events represented some of the defining moments of the Twentieth Century. Ironically, the lynch-pin of all that occurred will not be found in the political or economic arena, but rather in the sciences. One hundred years after the Communist Manifesto, to be precise, on December 23, 1947—smack dab in the middle of the Twentieth Century—two Bell Laboratory scientists invented the first transistor. It was the birth of a technology that would serve to dominate the balance of this century and, I dare say, much of the Twenty-first as well. The Digital Age was upon us.

Transistors and their offspring, the microchip, transformed everything: the computer, the space program, the television, the telephone, the markets, and, to be sure, telecommunications. Modern telecommunications became the common denominator which gave everyone the ability to make a stark, uncompromising comparison of political and economic systems. The truth could no longer be hidden from the people. We had migrated said Walter Wriston of Citicorp from the gold standard to the "information standard."

In a very real sense, the technology of the Twentieth Century moved mankind from the big to the little. It is a trend that will surely continue. In physics, this century began with the theory of General Relativity; this dealt with the vast, with the universe. From there we journeyed to comprehension of the infinitesimal, to quantum physics. Physicists were now able to decode nature's age-old secrets. Similarly, in biology we also moved from macro to micro—from individual cells to gene engineering. We entered an era of biomedical research where we can probe the fundamental components of life and remedy mankind's most distressing afflictions.

Thus, in stark contrast to the signals at the turn of the last century, the evidence today is overwhelming that the next century will be dominated by the information standard. Today, millions of transistors are etched on wafers of silicon. On these microchips all the world's information can be stored in digital form and transmitted to every corner of the globe via the Internet. This will change the way we live, the way we work, and the way we play. Indeed, the Digital Revolution will direct the next century just as the Industrial Revolution directed much of the Twentieth.

So there you have it: the pain, the progress, and the promise of my parent's century. It would be grand to believe that we have learned from our mistakes, that only enlightened times await us, but I am afraid that would be a bit pollyannaish. Still, we stand on the threshold of immense scientific breakthroughs and the future looks brighter than it ever was. Indeed, the Weizman Insti-

tute of Science symbolizes the scientific miracles of the Twentieth Century and points the direction for the world as we enter the Twenty First. If my parents were still present, they would surely tell this kid from Bialystok to await the next century with great anticipation and with infinite optimism.

Thank you.●

RETIREMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA CHIEF JUSTICE ERNEST FINNEY

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, today it is my great privilege and honor to salute one of South Carolina's foremost jurists and public servants, South Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Ernest A. Finney.

On February 23, Chief Justice Finney announced he would retire from the Court after 14 years. This is a bitter-sweet day for my state. All of us who admire Judge Finney and appreciate his legacy are sorry to see him leave the bench; but we also are happy for Judge Finney if he has decided it is time to take a richly deserved rest from the rigorous demands of public service—demands he has shouldered over five decades.

When Ernest Finney graduated from law school in 1954, blacks were not allowed to join the South Carolina bar or serve on juries. Judge Finney worked as hard as anyone in the country to change that. One of only a handful of black lawyers in South Carolina in the 1950s, he began his legal career as an advocate for equal rights and desegregation.

Ernest Finney and his law partner, Matthew Perry, who went on to become the first black federal judge in South Carolina, tirelessly represented over 6,000 defendants arrested during civil rights demonstrations in the 1960s. Although they lost all the cases at the state level, they won almost all of them on appeal in federal courts.

After helping lead the fight to desegregate South Carolina, Ernest Finney turned his attention to another form of public service. In 1973, he became one of the first blacks elected to the South Carolina House in this century. He served until 1976, during which time he founded the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus.

From 1976 to 1985, Judge Finney sat on the South Carolina Circuit Court bench. Always the pioneer, he was the first black Circuit Court judge in South Carolina.

In 1985, he became the first black member of the state Supreme Court since Reconstruction. He served with great distinction as an Associate Justice and earned respect and accolades from his peers and from attorneys appearing before the Court.

In 1994, Judge Finney was elected Chief Justice, the first black South Carolinian to attain that position. Without a doubt, he is one of the finest jurists in South Carolina history. As senior Associate Justice Jean Toal commented on the announcement of Judge Finney's retirement: "He's a

giant of the judicial system in South Carolina. His tenure will be remembered as one of the outstanding tenures of the modern system."

Mr. President, today it is my immense pleasure to salute the gigantic achievements of Judge Ernest Finney, one of the most estimable public servants in recent South Carolina history. I join his friends and admirers in wishing him well as he begins his retirement, during which I suspect he will continue influencing South Carolina for the better.●

HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE IN SIERRA LEONE

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to join my colleagues from Wisconsin and Tennessee in co-sponsoring Senate Resolution 54, which was introduced on February 25. This resolution makes a strong, and much needed statement about U.S. concern and commitment to African peace and stability.

In the past several years, Sierra Leonians have seen their country go through a tumultuous period. On May 24, 1997, the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) seized control of Sierra Leone. The United States demanded that democratically elected President Tejan Kabbah be reinstated immediately.

Although diplomatic efforts by the United States and the Economic Community of West African States failed, a West African intervention force, (ECOMOG), was authorized by the international community to intervene, and it was successful in removing the unrecognized military rulers from power. On March 10, 1998, President Kabbah returned after 10 months in exile and reassumed control.

Unfortunately violence continues to ravage the country. In January of this year, RUF launched an offensive to take the capital, Freetown. Though ECOMOG drove rebel forces from the city, numerous reports of rape, mutilations, kidnapping of children for forced combat, and killings of innocent civilians by RUF forces continue to surface.

Official estimates report that in the last 2 months alone, the death toll has reached 2,000 to 3,000 people, with many also dying from lack of food and medicine. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates the number of refugees fleeing to Guinea and Liberia at 440,000.

The administration has expressed shock and horror regarding the desperate situation in Sierra Leone and I am pleased that they have indicated they will provide \$1.3 million for logistical support for ECOMOG in 1999, and \$5 million for humanitarian assistance for the people of Sierra Leone. This Resolution builds on the administration's efforts, and calls for a strong U.S. commitment to end the violence and suffering in Sierra Leone.

First, it condemns the violence committed by the rebel troops and those