

from the Foreign Relations Committee, under the leadership of the chairman of that committee, Chairman JESSE HELMS, The Hague Convention on International Adoption.

The reason I mention it particularly tonight is that we will be taking up this implementation legislation when we return—hopefully, soon after we return. Then we will be considering a very important treaty under the same title.

There are many hundreds of leaders in Washington today from the Joint Council on International Children's Services and with the National Council for Adoption who have worked literally for years to bring us to this point.

I also commend our partners in the House, Congressman DELAHUNT from Massachusetts, Congressman BURR, and Congressman GEJDENSON from Connecticut who worked very hard on this who were terrific leaders.

Sixty-six countries participated in this ground-breaking document. There were 37 signatories, and to date 29 countries have ratified. I particularly mention Mexico and Romania as two of the earliest countries.

Since the United States receives more children in this country through adoption than all other countries combined, and since we pride ourselves on being a leader in this particular area, I think it is very significant that we step forward, pass this legislation, and ratify this treaty.

In closing, let me say it is so significant because many Senators from both sides of the aisle have worked for so many years to promote adoption in a very positive way to say basically that every child deserves a home. If their biological family is split apart or broken up by death, or disease, or tragedy, neglect, or abuse, it is our responsibility as a society to make sure those children are cared for permanently by someone who is capable of nurturing and loving.

The significance of this treaty is that now we express, in an international way, that that child should then go to their family and then to the community at large, but if no place can be found, surely there is a home somewhere on this planet for these children. There are many orphans and there are many children in limbo caught within systems in the United States and elsewhere.

I thank my colleagues and I thank Senator HELMS for his great leadership. I look forward to taking up this issue when we return because there was great committee work done and a lot of work for many years was put into this. I am convinced that millions of children now all over the world will be able to find a home and families will be able to find children once this legislation is implemented and carried out.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas is recognized.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Thank you very much. I thank my colleague from West

Virginia for allowing me to speak for a few minutes.

#### THE MAJORITY LEADER, TRENT LOTT

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to recognize the majority leader, Senator TRENT LOTT, for his great work in getting the marriage penalty bill brought up to the point where, right after we get back, I am hopeful, we will be able to vote on this piece of legislation and get it passed.

(The remarks of Mr. BROWNBACK pertaining to the introduction of S. 2449 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

#### ORGAN TRANSPLANT LEGISLATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have a very brief colloquy with the distinguished Senator from Vermont from the Committee on Labor, Health, Education and Pensions. It had been anticipated there would be a unanimous consent request to move forward on legislation on organ transplants which came out of the Labor Committee yesterday on a unanimous vote. I had been deeply involved in that matter when the issue came before the conference on the appropriations bill for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. We had crafted, after a great deal of controversy, a resolution where the Secretary of Health and Human Services came especially to an evening session and we worked out what I thought were the final details on the settlement.

But as I think George Shultz said, nothing is ever settled in Washington and the matter has seen a new birth. The issue came before the Labor Committee and they have crafted a new proposal. I had intended to object. It now appears that others will object and the matter will not come forward.

I thought it useful to have a colloquy with Senator JEFFORDS where I would not raise an objection on his assurance that out of the conference the bill of the Labor Committee would not be watered down any more. That is a minimal consideration for fairness in organ transplants. In my judgment, no bill would be better than any bill which is less than the one which is out of committee.

My own personal view is that the compromise crafted in my subcommittee on appropriations on that bill is a superior approach, but I did see the wave moving toward what happened in the Labor Committee yesterday. Therefore, I will not raise an objection on the assurance from the chairman that that bill will not be reduced, modified, or weakened in any way in conference.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I thank the Senator for his statement. We had an incredibly good breakthrough in negotiations, which is why I can reassure the Sen-

ator of my belief that we don't have to worry about it being changed, with the administration about 3 o'clock the morning before last, after long negotiations, and we came to a resolution which at least I know my critics in Vermont and everyone I know has agreed is a wonderful resolution of the problem. I am hopeful we will also be able to get the holds from the other side of the aisle removed expeditiously so this can be passed.

I thank the Senator because he was a leader in this field, and the bill he brought out of the appropriations process was certainly one which was taken into consideration and utilized in the final resolution.

With Senator KENNEDY and Senator FRIST agreeing to it, with the administration, I think we have, for the first time, a real hope this very difficult area of organ transplants and how they will be utilized may have a permanent solution—at least a solution for a foreseeable length of time. A lot of it is due to the efforts of the Senator, and I appreciate it.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank my colleague from Vermont for that statement. I want to be sure I have his commitment he will not bring back a conference report to this floor which would water down in any way the bill which came out of his committee yesterday.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I give the Senator those assurances.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank my friend from Vermont, and I thank my colleague from West Virginia, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

#### THE LAST BUDGET RESOLUTION MANAGED BY SENATOR LAUTENBERG

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the conference report on the budget resolution for fiscal year 2001 has been adopted. I note that this will be the last budget resolution to be managed by my good friend from New Jersey, Senator LAUTENBERG. Senator LAUTENBERG joined the Budget Committee in 1985, 2 years after he was first elected to the Senate. Since that time, he has become an expert on the Federal budget process. He has worked hard. He has been diligent in his business.

The Bible says:

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings.

FRANK LAUTENBERG has been diligent in his business. His mastery of Federal budget matters was aided, to a great degree, by his earlier mastery of business matters in the private sector. FRANK LAUTENBERG was one of the founding partners of a company called Automatic Data Processing. That company now employs 37,000 employees and has a market capitalization in excess of \$31 billion. Just prior to being elected to the Senate, FRANK LAUTENBERG served as both chairman and chief executive officer of that company. As a

businessman, he developed an uncanny ability to perform mathematical calculations in his mind. As such, his staff on the Budget Committee is usually playing catchup, as Senator LAUTENBERG restates budgetary issues in percentage terms.

The people of New Jersey, and, indeed, the people of the United States, have benefited greatly from the business expertise that FRANK LAUTENBERG has brought to the U.S. Senate and especially to his assignment as the ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee. FRANK LAUTENBERG rose to the position of ranking member in 1997, following the retirement of Senator James Exon of Nebraska. Throughout Senator LAUTENBERG's service on the Budget Committee, he has been an extraordinarily able and outspoken advocate of funding for our Nation's children, for the environment, and for transportation.

In addition to serving on the Senate Budget Committee, Senator LAUTENBERG also serves on the Appropriations Committee, where he is ranking member of the very important Subcommittee on Transportation on which I serve. In that regard, Senator LAUTENBERG is eminently well versed in both the budget and appropriations processes.

So I commend Senator LAUTENBERG for his very able service to the Senate and to the Nation in his capacity as ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee. We will miss not only his contributions but also his good humor in future budget debates.

Mr. President:

It isn't enough to say in our hearts  
That we like a man for his ways;  
It isn't enough that we fill our minds  
With psalms of silent praise;  
Nor is it enough that we honor a man  
As our confidence upward mounts;  
It's going right up to the man himself  
And telling him so that counts.

If a man does a work that you really admire,

Don't leave a kind word unsaid.  
In fear to do so might make him vain  
And cause him to lose his head.  
But reach out your hand and tell him,  
"Well done."

And see how his gratitude swells.  
It isn't the flowers we strew on the grave,  
It's the word to the living that tells.

So I say to FRANK LAUTENBERG: Well done.

#### EASTER—A TIME OF REBIRTH

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, when many people contemplate Easter, thoughts of chocolate bunnies, Easter egg hunts, and family gatherings come to mind. Little girls dream of a new frilly lace-bedecked frock, shiny new patent leather shoes, and a festive bonnet adorned with ribbons and flowers to top it all off. It is hard not to feel an excitement in the air as the daylight hours increase, the winter coats are put away, and the sweet smell of the season's first roses fill the air. The landscape is freshly decorated with a

pallet of azaleas, tulips, jonquils, and pink and white flowers of the dogwood. Overnight, it seems, the silhouettes of the tree branches disappear, replaced by the first green buds of spring. Neighbors, who seemed almost strangers during the long dark winter, suddenly greet you from their front porches, and passersby out for an afternoon stroll stop to offer that much-needed gardening advice, or they admire your latest planting. The first aroma of charcoal fills the air as grills are fired up after a long rest. Children play outside after dinner, trying to squeeze in every bit of the daylight into their playtime. Everything seems new, everything seems exciting, everything seems reborn. But during this season of rebirth, how many stop to ponder the true meaning of this most holiest of seasons of the Christian calendar?

Easter, Jesus' resurrection from the dead, was the key belief of the earliest Christians. In fact, that truly miraculous event has made an imprint on other religions and inspired to thought and deed individuals who do not practice the Christian faith. Mohandas K. Gandhi said simply and eloquently:

Jesus, a man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.

The Bible says a great deal about Easter, that central mystery of the Christian faith. That Jesus was crucified and miraculously raised from the dead is hard for many to accept. It was hard for the early Christians to comprehend also, but the faith in the risen Christ spread like a wildfire on a dry and windy summer day!

Easter arrives late this year, on April 23, almost as late as it can possibly be. It is celebrated on a Sunday on varying dates between March 22 and April 25, and is, therefore, called a movable feast. Easter embodies many pre-Christian traditions. The origin of its name is unknown; however, many scholars have accepted the derivation proposed by the 8th-century English scholar St. Bede—that it probably comes from Eastre, the Anglo-Saxon name of a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility, whose festival was celebrated on the day of the vernal equinox. The Easter rabbit, a symbol of fertility, and colored Easter eggs, originally painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring, and used in egg-rolling contests, are traditions that have survived. According to the New Testament, Christ was crucified on the eve of Passover and soon rose from the dead. The Easter festival commemorated Christ's resurrection. Over time, there were serious differences between the early Christians over the date of the Easter festival. Those of Jewish origin celebrated Easter immediately after Passover, which fell on the evening of the full moon. Therefore, Easter, from year to year, fell on different days of the week. Christians of Gentile origin, on the other hand,

wished to commemorate the resurrection on Sunday, the first day of the week. It was on the same day of the week each year, but fell on different dates from year to year. In 325 A.D. Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, who, early in his reign, issued a document allowing Christians to practice their religion within the empire, convoked the Council of Nicaea. The council unanimously ruled that the Easter festival should be celebrated throughout the Christian world on the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox.

At Easter, we receive again God's greatest gift of love: Jesus. Spring is a time to remember that gift. Death and resurrection are entwined not only in the death and resurrection of our Lord, but also in spring's final struggle with winter's strong grasp. There is a struggle in both dying and in birth and it is logical to think that something must be born in order to die. However, from Jesus' words in John's Gospel, Chapter 12, verses 23 and 24, as Jesus foresees his own death, the Bible tells us something different—it tells us that something must die in order to be born. Jesus says:

The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone, but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Easter is the time of year that finds many churches overflowing. Parking attendants direct traffic caused by the overflow of cars on this special day. Pews are packed tight. Extra chairs line the aisles, and much of this crowd only sees the inside of a church once a year, and Easter is the day. It is nice to see new faces. Those who attend church every Sunday look around at all the new faces, hoping they will become familiar, and struggle to find their regular seats. The struggle is worth it, however, because some of these same people will come back and join with the community that has worshiped together all year. They will become members of a church family like those who have risen in the darkness to watch the youth group tell the Easter story at sunrise—there is nothing like it, telling it at sunrise—or who are praising God with their voices in the choir, or who cooked the pancake breakfast for Palm Sunday, or who decorated the Sanctuary with Easter Lilies. Perhaps they will be like those who teach the children the meaning of God's love and grace in Sunday school classes. They will find a church home. They will find God. They will be awakened. They will be reborn!

During our lives, we all experience the loss of a loved one. Have you ever thought about the resurrection story in a way that brought you comfort in your time of grief? A little boy recently lost his grandfather, and one day, when he was remembering his grandfather, he said to his mother, "Mom, Easter will be extra special this year. We will have two reasons to celebrate! Granddad and Jesus have both