

enacted, companies have greater leeway, even incentive, to relocate overseas, taking advantage of weak or nonexistent labor and environmental standards. That can only be demonstrated vividly by what we did in NAFTA and what happens when these jobs in our country go to Mexico. They export their products back to our market is what happens.

The upshot for our workers? Lost jobs, lower wages, and not only do we lose these great-paying jobs here in this country, and by the way, over the last 14 months, we have lost 1.2 million manufacturing jobs in this country. Hello. If anybody is listening, we are losing at an accelerated pace our whole manufacturing base in America. Not only do we lose those great-paying jobs, but once we lose those jobs, we cripple whole communities. We take away their tax base. They do not have the resources for fire and police and education and health care and all of the other pieces that make our communities work.

A recent report underscores these points. Economic data show that NAFTA passed on a fast track, and WTO, World Trade Organization, policies have taken a devastating toll on American industry. We have lost 3 million jobs in this country as a result of these unfair trade deals. Many of those workers were in well-paying manufacturing sectors.

In my own State of Michigan we have lost over 150 jobs. They have simply evaporated.

So when fast track proponents argue that this fast track authority will boost the economy, we need to be clear. If we pass fast track, the only thing we will boost is the unemployment rate, and it is already going up too fast. Fast track is a divisive issue being pushed on American workers at a time when they can least afford it. While unemployment soars and more layoffs are in sight, we cannot put even more jobs in jeopardy and undermine an already weak economy.

There are many ways that we can work together to help American workers and get our economy moving again. Fast track simply is not one of them. This is not the time to pull the rug out from underneath American workers just as they are struggling to get back on their feet.

If we want to do something to help them, let us do a decent unemployment compensation benefit. Only 40 percent of the people who are laid off in our country get any unemployment compensation, and in many States like my State of Michigan, the payout has been frozen for 6 or 7 years. It is pathetically low. People cannot make their mortgage payment. They cannot make their insurance premium. They cannot make their health care premium on what they are given through unemployment if they are lucky to be part of the 40 percent that gets something at all. Let us do something on unemployment compensation.

Let us do something on health care, making sure that they get a benefit that will take care of their premium so that they can have health care for themselves and their families. Let us do something about retraining to make the transition.

Mr. Speaker, fast track is the wrong issue at the wrong time for the American people, and I hope my colleagues will see to it, it never reaches this floor.

□ 1945

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOHN B. HYATT FROM COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and acknowledge the life and memory of John B. Hyatt, a constituent and friend, a longtime Columbia, Missouri, businessman, a devoted husband and father, an avid golfer, a passionate Missouri Tiger fan, a community activist.

John Hyatt was born in the small Missouri town of Fayette in 1924. He served our country, enlisting in the Navy at the age of 19. He was stationed in the Pacific during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946.

Upon his return home, John attended Central Missouri State University and excelled in basketball. In fact, Mr. Speaker, after graduation, he began his professional career as a high school coach.

In order to supplement his modest coach's salary, John began selling life insurance. It became apparent that his prowess as a coach was only surpassed by his innate abilities as a salesman. He concluded a successful 40-year career with State Farm Insurance in 1994.

John's greatest sale, however, was reserved for his personal life. It was in 1953 that he convinced his best friend's sister, Mary, to become his life's partner. Together they had two children, Vicky and Bill.

On Wednesday, November 7, the Boone County Citizens for Good Government will pay tribute to John Hyatt posthumously with the Guardian of Good Government award. There can be, I think, no greater tribute. He was to me a good friend, a confidante, a sage political adviser, but not just in words, but in deeds.

The 17th century philosopher Francis Bacon said this: He that gives good advice builds with one hand; he that gives good counsel and example builds with both. That describes the essence of my friend, John Hyatt.

It was, in fact, John Hyatt who co-founded the Boone County Citizens for Good Government in the 1980s. In those early days, the group, under his watch, took a bold stand on some controversial issues and had a few setbacks.

John remained undeterred. He was unafraid to challenge the status quo. Good government, John explained to me simply, deserves nothing less. John took those political lessons to heart, and the Boone County Citizens for Good Government resurfaced with a renewed commitment to candidates and community causes.

He was then and remained fiercely independent. John believed strongly in the two-party system, and supported individuals in either party. It was our principles that John looked for, our integrity, our character. So to have John Hyatt in one's corner for an upcoming election was a strong ally for any candidate.

John kept politics in perspective, however. It was, after all, family and friends that made life's journey worthwhile. He was an eternal optimist.

Mr. Speaker, I am quite confident John never read the works of A.A. Willitts, yet the words of the author are descriptive of the man being honored by this tribute: "Get into the habit of looking for the silver lining of the cloud, and when you have found it, continue to look at it, rather than at the leaden gray in the middle. . . . There is no path but will be easier traveled, no load but will be lighter, no shadow on heart or brain but will lift sooner for a person of determined cheerfulness."

Mr. Speaker, that is the legacy of John Hyatt. For those of us blessed to have known him, our lives have been enriched beyond measure. The less fortunate among us have been comforted by his generosity. Our community and its leaders have become better guardians of the public trust through his quiet challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I add my name to those who gather and salute the memory of John Hyatt as a guardian of good government.

FAST TRACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks U.S. Trade Rep Bob Zoellick has attempted to link fast track legislation to antiterrorism efforts. Some say he has questioned the patriotism of those of us who opposed fast track by pointing out that we are indifferent to terrorism, saying we do not share American values if we do not support fast track, because that is the way, he says, to combat terrorism around the world.

Fast track does not embody, Mr. Speaker, those American values that our U.S. trade rep has indicated. Fast track so often means weaker environmental standards. It means dealing with countries without free elections. It means dealing with wealthy families who usurp worker rights, oppress people in developing countries, and ultimately take American jobs.

Supporters of fast track argue that the U.S. is being left behind. They tell us we need fast track to increase American exports and to increase new jobs for American workers. But our history of flawed trade agreements has led to a trade deficit with the rest of the world that has surged to a record \$369 billion. The 2000 trade deficit is 39 percent higher than the previous record set in 1999.

The Department of Labor has reported that the North American Free Trade Agreement alone has been responsible for the loss of 300,000 jobs in this country. While our trade agreements go to great lengths to protect investors and protect property rights, these agreements rarely include enforceable provisions to protect workers or to protect the environment.

CEOs of multinational corporations tell Members of Congress that globalization stimulates development and allows nations to improve their labor and environmental records. They say interaction with the developing world spreads democracy.

The facts speak differently. Democratic nations such as India are losing out to more totalitarian nations, such as China. Democratic nations such as Taiwan are losing out to authoritarian regimes, such as Indonesia.

In 1989, 57 percent of developing country exports and manufacturing came from developing democracies; 10 years later, only 35 percent of developing country exports and manufacturing came from developing democracies. It is clear that corporations are relocating their manufacturing bases to more totalitarian regimes, where even the most minimal labor and environmental standards are often ignored.

The fact is, Western business investors want to go to China, they want to go to Indonesia; they want to go to countries which are dictatorships, which have docile work forces, authoritarian governments and they are very predictable for Western investors.

They do not go to India, they do not go to Taiwan, not to South Korea; they do not want to stay in this country many times because we have strong environmental laws, because labor unions can organize and bargain collectively, because good wages are paid, and because we have free elections.

Western corporations instead want to invest in countries that have weak environmental standards, unenforced labor law, below-poverty wages, and where workers have no opportunities to bargain collectively.

Flawed trade policies cost American jobs, put downward pressure on U.S. wages and working conditions, and erode the ability of local, State, and Federal governments to protect public health and to protect the environment.

If we fail to include important labor and environmental provisions in future trade agreements, multinational corporations will continue to dismiss labor and protection of the environment as discretionary and wholly un-

necessary expenses. Global working conditions will continue to suffer.

We need in this body to press for provisions that promote workers' rights in all countries and promote economic advancement in all countries. The U.S. must continue to be a leader in setting standards for worker rights, for fair wages, for worker safety, and for environmental protection.

In the last year, in this country, we have lost, since President Bush took office, 1 million industrial jobs. We have experienced economic slowdown, and we have experienced a drop in the stock market that we have not seen in a decade. Fast track will not solve that problem; fast track will make that problem worse.

Our Nation cannot afford to sell its principles to the highest bidder. The global race to the bottom must be stopped and turned around.

In 1998, fast track was defeated in this Congress 243 to 180. Fast track should be defeated again in Congress this year.

WITH FALL HARVEST COMES FALLING PRICES IN FARM COUNTRY AND FALLING HOPES FOR OUR NATION'S FARMERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, local commodity prices are becoming an everyday story for Kansas farmers and ranchers. Last week was no exception, with headlines like "October Farm Prices Show an Abrupt Drop" and "Farm-Price Index Suffers the Biggest Drop on Record."

Last Wednesday, data showed that farmers' prices were reduced the largest amount in 1 month, 9.5 percent. The decline between September and October is the sharpest month-to-month price drop in 91 years, since USDA began recording farm prices in 1910.

The corn price, \$1.79 for October, was down 12 cents from September. Twelve cents may not sound like much, but for the State of Kansas, that is a loss of \$50 million to the State's economy. Soybean prices plunged 43 cents to \$4.10 cents a bushel, 35 cents below the price just 1 year ago. For the average Kansas farmer who plants about 150 acres of soybeans, that is a 1-month loss of about \$1,500 on his or her fall harvest.

Farmers know that grain prices always drop around harvest time, but even the Department of Agriculture admitted last week that "the breadth of this downturn is unanticipated."

Grain producers were not the only ones affected. The index of meat prices fell 4.2 percent, hog prices at \$41 per hundredweight declined \$4.10, and cattle prices fell to \$67.50, down \$1.50.

The news of this dramatic price drop is bad not only for agricultural producers, but for all of us who depend upon American agriculture for the security of our food supply. However, to

farmers whose grain incomes have grown steadily smaller, it is no surprise, nor is it a surprise when the price continues to drop.

More headlines just from yesterday tell that story: "Wheat Export Commitments Second Lowest on Record," "Corn Sales Lagging." Our farmers want to be able to continue feeding our Nation and others around the globe with the safest, most abundant food supply in the world, but with record low prices and trade barriers hindering the export market, times are tough in agriculture country.

My farmers tell me that they want to get their income from the market to raise prices through increased exports to willing consumers in nations around the globe, yet political barriers distort international trade. And so our farmers need short-term assistance just to continue farming and to pass the family farm to their sons and daughters.

The House has acted to assist farmers by passing the Farm Security Act last month. Now it is up to the U.S. Senate to realize the need for legislation.

Last Thursday, the Secretary of Agriculture stated that she was pleased by the newly developed Senate plans to proceed with a farm bill this session. That statement was followed by the President's announcement Friday of his appointment of a new special assistant for ag trade and food assistance.

The President said that he is not opposed to signing a farm bill into law this year, and the addition to the administration's agriculture team is a positive step to further coordinate farm bill efforts between Congress and the White House.

I am encouraged to once again hear the administration's commitment to farm policy, and I am glad to see the Senate Committee on Agriculture responding by beginning to mark up their version of a farm bill.

I look forward to working together on farmers' priorities: caring for the environment, a farm income safety net, and greater trading opportunities.

With the tragic events of September 11, the battle against terrorism is continuing. Our Nation has many vital defense priorities right now both at home and abroad. However, food security is one of the most important elements of homeland security, and we must not overlook our Nation's farmers before this session ends.

Farmers are counting on us to deliver the promise of a farm bill, and with all that they do every day to provide us with food, clothing, and shelter, we must not let them down.

EXPRESSING REGARD AND SYMPATHY TO UKRAINE AT 68TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE OF GREAT FAMINE OF 1932 AND 1933

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.