

Jewish, and largest women's membership organization in the country, was founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold to help meet medical needs in what was then Palestine.

Since that time, Hadassah has been a leading force in Israel's medical needs through Mt. Scopus Hospital, Ein Karem Hospital, and various clinics across the country. Hadassah hospitals, in addition to serving as a model of peaceful coexistence in the Middle East, provide state-of-the-art health care to 600,000 patients a year—regardless of race, religion, creed or national origin—and often treat the most critically wounded in the region's ongoing conflicts.

Through the College of Technology, the Career Counseling Institute, and Youth Villages in Israel and through Young Judaea and the Hadassah Leadership Academy in the United States, Hadassah has been critical in upgrading the educational and learning opportunities for the people of Israel.

In the United States, Hadassah women sold \$200 million in US World War II bonds as its first national domestic effort. Since then, Hadassah women have been actively engaged in health education programs on breast cancer and osteoporosis; voter registration efforts; Jewish education; grassroots advocacy on US-Israel relations, Jewish communal concerns; women's issues; humanitarian relief to distressed communities and countries; and volunteer work in literacy programs and at domestic violence shelters.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the continued efforts of Hadassah members and their ninety year history.●

TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK BISHOP

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Frederick W. Bishop of Hooksett, NH. Frederick has been chosen as New Hampshire's Citizen of the Year for his exceptional leadership and devoted service to the community.

I commend his active role in both the community of Hooksett and the Granite State. He has served countless hours on Boards and holds positions in numerous organizations within the state. Mr. Bishop has served as Chairman of the Hooksett Police Commission, President of the Hooksett Men's Club, member of the Memorial School Booster's Club, Chairman of the Hooksett Winter Carnival, Treasurer of the Hooksett Underhill School PTO, Chairman of the Librarian of the Year Award Event, and numerous other positions and memberships.

Along with his positions, Frederick has found time to serve as a Little League Coach, a member of the Hooksett Emergency Medical Services Committee, and a volunteer for Catholic Charities. Frederick is also a member of the Business and Industry Association of NH, the New Hampshire

Easter Seal Society, and the Kiwanis Club. His efforts to improve the community in which he lives serve as a positive role model for people in towns across the country. He has been instrumental in raising the membership of the Hooksett Kiwanis Club by personally sponsoring 180 new members.

Frederick Bishop is one of the most deserving candidates of this recognition that I have encountered. His efforts and devotion have made the Town of Hooksett a better place to live. He should be proud of his accomplishments and service. It is truly an honor to represent him in the U.S. Senate.●

STEEL INDUSTRY RETIREE BENEFITS PROTECTION ACT OF 2002

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I am pleased to join as a cosponsor of this extremely important legislation, S. 2189, the Steel Industry Retiree Benefits Protection Act of 2002. This legislation is coming none too soon, for hardworking steelworker retirees who, through no fault of their own are facing the loss of health and death benefits, and for the industry itself that needs this relief in order to revitalize itself and remain competitive.

In particular, the act would preserve the health and death benefits for the retirees of steel, iron ore, and coke companies facing consolidation or liquidation. The bill establishes a health benefits program for steel retirees of acquired or shuttered steel companies modeled on health plans available for Federal workers. Like its model, the new program will require retirees to pay reasonable monthly premiums, will provide coverage for prescription drugs, and will deliver medical care through preferred provider organizations. In addition to health coverage, the proposed legislation extends a \$5,000 death benefit to the designated beneficiary of each enrolled retiree.

The hard working families of the Iron Range of Minnesota are facing excruciatingly tough times. Their situation is truly desperate and they need our help.

The taconite industry in which generations of workers have proudly labored has been ravaged by surges of semi-finished steel slab dumped in this country by our trading partners. Many have lost their jobs, just last year 1,400 workers were laid off when LTV Steel Mining closed its doors. Now, 10,000 former employees, their spouses and dependents face loss of health insurance and many are finding that they stand to lose a good portion of the pensions the company had promised.

Last month, the HELP Committee held hearings on the need for legacy cost legislation both for retirees and for the industry. The testimony was riveting. The need compelling. My good friend, Jerry Fallos, president of Local 4108 of the United Steelworkers of America, testified at those hearings. The stories he had to tell were grim indeed.

As Jerry said, the people of the Iron Range are used to hard times. They

have weathered any number of challenges over the years. They are good people, proud, hard-working, the best you can find anywhere. They are survivors, and they will get through these difficult times as well. They have given much to their country, and now they need our help.

I am determined to give them that help. The good people of the range have responded to their country in its times of needs. Over the years our Nation's economy flourished and our manufacturing industries boomed from the iron ore produced through the labors of steelworkers on the range.

There is both a moral imperative to meeting this challenge as well as a business necessity in doing so.

As a matter of fairness and economic justice, we must help the working families who gave their all to this industry and who, through no fault of their own, indeed because of the unfair practices of our trading partners, find themselves without jobs, health care or adequate pensions. In the last 2 years, 32 U.S. steel companies have filed for bankruptcy, and these companies represent nearly 30 percent of our domestic steel making capacity. These failures were not the fault of the workers at these companies. These failures resulted from unfair and predatory practices of our trading partners over an extended period.

Equally as important, our domestic steel industry will simply not be able to revitalize itself and remain competitive while shouldering the massive legacy cost burdens that exist. With on average three retirees for every active employee, the industry faces virtually insurmountable barriers. Government assistance is essential and we will need the President's active support for legacy cost legislation if we are to prevail.

Unfortunately, however, the President appears to have washed his hands of this problem. He claims to have done his part by providing section 201 relief to the industry. The issue of legacy costs, he says, for the sake of retirees and to permit industry consolidation, is someone else's problem.

It is not, however, as simple as that. First, the jury is still out on whether the section 201 relief will in fact be that meaningful. According to recent accounts, there are over 1,000 exceptions to the President's section 201 decisions being considered. And, Secretary O'Neill is reported as saying that he suspects "a significant proportion of them will be favorably decided." Moreover, the President's section 201 decision did nothing for the iron workers in Minnesota and Michigan. While the President imposed a fairly significant tariff on every other product category for which the International Trade Commission found injury, for steel slab he decided to impose "tariff rate quotas." This brings us virtually no relief. Nearly 7 million tons of steel slab can continue to be dumped on our shores before any tariff is assessed. The injury will continue.

Second, by ignoring the legacy cost issue, the President is walking away from the hard work that must be done to promote industry consolidation and re-vitalization, an objective this administration has been advancing from the start.

We need serious legacy cost legislation and that is precisely what this bill represents. I urge my colleagues in the Senate and the House to support its passage. And I urge the President to take another look at this issue and work with us on a meaningful solution.

The viability of our domestic steel industry, and our national security, are at stake here. We must act, and we must act soon.●

RECOGNITION OF MR. BEN LAMENSDORF

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Mr. Ben Lamensdorf of Cary, MS, for his distinguished service as President of Delta Council.

Delta Council is an economic development organization representing eighteen counties of Northwest Mississippi. Organized in 1935, Delta Council brings together the agricultural, business, and professional leadership of the area to solve common problems and promote the economic development of the Mississippi Delta region.

As President of Delta Council, Ben has been an effective leader in promoting sound agricultural policy in a year when that issue has been so vital to rural America. His insights and experience have been of invaluable assistance to my staff and me as we addressed policies to make American agriculture stronger.

Ben also distinguished himself in other areas of public policy that have impacted on his beloved Mississippi Delta region. He has been a proponent for better schools and innovative educational models; he has supported transportation and water resource projects that are vital to the future of Northwest Mississippi; his personal farming practices have served as an example for sound conservation and environmental measures, and he has been a leader in defining and shaping alliances in health care that can have both an immediate and long-term impact on the well-being of citizens in the Delta.

The level of Ben's commitment to Mississippi and its people has been evident since he returned home to Cary after graduating from Mississippi State University. In addition to operating a cotton, soybean, wheat, and pecan farm in Sharkey and Issaquena Counties, he owns and operate Grundfest and Klaus Gin.

Ben serves as a chairman of the board for the Bank of Anguilla. He is a member of the Anshe Chesed Temple in Vicksburg and serves on the board of the Institute of Southern Jewish Life. A Founding Director and current Board member of Delta wildlife. Ben has also served as a member of the Sharkey-Iaasquena Soil and Water Commission.

I congratulate Ben Lamensdorf for his contributions to the Delta region Mississippi and the Nation, and I look forward to his future contributions in improving the quality of life for our citizens.●

EXPEDITED BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURES

● Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, the expedited bankruptcy procedures provided in Chapter 12 of the bankruptcy code are extremely important for family farmers struggling during difficult times. I have been working diligently to extend these provisions and to make them permanent. I am pleased that both the Farm Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill Conference Committees are currently considering permanent extensions. The bill we are about to pass is an important stop-gap measure that will provide much needed assistance to family farmers until a permanent extension is enacted.●

MURKOWSKI AND STEVENS AMENDMENTS, NO. 3132 AND NO. 3133 TO S. 517, THE ENERGY REFORM ACT

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I rise today to explain my opposition to the Murkowski and Stevens amendments to S. 517, the Energy Reform bill.

Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is not the only solution to our dependence on foreign oil. I am opposed to drilling in the Arctic Refuge because I believe there should be a comprehensive national energy policy.

During the Senate's ongoing consideration of S. 517, I have voted in favor of strengthening Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for SUVs and light trucks. By increasing oil savings, stronger CAFE standards would make us less dependent on foreign fuel and demonstrate a real commitment to conservation. The CAFE amendment failed. I voted in support of increasing the amount of renewable fuels in our energy portfolio. This provision failed. I have also supported tax credits for domestic marginal well production and providing incentives to consumers for purchasing alternative technology vehicles and improving the efficiency of their homes and offices. I am optimistic that these efforts will be successful.

I am prepared to support a national energy policy that balances our energy needs with strong environmental protection. Reducing our dependence on foreign oil is a national priority, but should not come solely at the expense of our nation's precious natural resources.

First established by President Eisenhower in 1960, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was created and later expanded to preserve the area's unique wilderness and wildlife values by protecting fish and wildlife populations in their natural diversity. The 1.5 million acres of the Refuge's coastal plain pro-

posed for oil exploration and drilling, known as the "1002" area, is the most biologically productive part of the Refuge. The coastal plain is home to a diverse collection of wildlife including polar and grizzly bear populations, musk oxen, 180 bird species, and one of the largest caribou herds in North America.

Each year, the Porcupine Caribou herd—over 129,000 members strong—migrates 400 miles from wintering grounds in the north central Canadian Yukon to the Arctic Refuge coastal plain where they give birth to their young. In a typical year, the herd can birth up to 40–50,000 calves.

The importance of the Porcupine Caribou herd can best be illustrated by a 1987 Conservation Agreement between the Governments of Canada and the United States. The Agreement recognizes the value of the Porcupine herd and the importance of protecting their birthing grounds to ensure the future sustainability of the population as a vital part of the Refuge's ecological system. In Canada, land north of the Porcupine River was withdrawn from development in 1978. Oil exploration and drilling in the Porcupine Caribou herd's prime calving grounds remains an item of contention between the United States and Canada and threatens the future of the Conservation Agreement.

I am prepared to support a national energy policy that balances our energy needs with strong environmental protection. Reducing our dependence on foreign oil is a national priority, but should not come at the expense of our nation's precious natural resources. Allowing oil and gas development in the coastal plain promises only short-term benefits that may irreparably damage the wildlife values and unique vitality of the Arctic Refuge.

Opening the Arctic Refuge to oil exploration and drilling should not be the primary component of the effort to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. There are other steps we should take that would provide more benefits in the long term.●

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, statistics show that a woman is raped every 5 minutes in the United States and that one in every three adult women experiences at least one physical assault by a partner during adulthood. In fact, more women are injured by domestic violence each year than by automobile accidents and cancer deaths combined. Statistics that report the abuse of our children are equally staggering. Nationwide, an estimated 826,000 children are victims of abuse and neglect, a number greater than the population of my home State of South Dakota.

April is recognized as both Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This week,