

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH IN HONOR OF NICHOLAS SMITH OF MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the birth and life of my grandson, Nicholas Bradley Smith, my namesake.

Born to Brad and Diane, on June 27, 1987, my wife Bonnie and I join Nick's other grandparents, Neville and Jennifer Monteith from Kitchener, ON, in celebration of his life.

That year the first heart-lung transplant took place, astronomers at the University of California saw the first sight of a birth of a galaxy, and the US and Russia signed an accord to remove midrange missiles. That year the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 2,700 for the first time in history. Our economy was growing.

Over the next decade government spending would outpace inflation and the national debt increased to monstrous proportions.

It is my hope that we can reduce the national debt that will otherwise be passed on to this young man and his generation. We must work today to provide Nick with a better future, a sound economy, and the ability to achieve his greatest potential.

Let us remember Nicholas Smith and all the other young people in this country. We leave our legacy to them. May it be a good one.

HONORING MATTHEW BOWERS FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Norman Bowers, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matt has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the Packard and Sea Base High Adventure Camps. Additionally, Matt earned 29 merit badges for different activities and projects. Over the eleven years he has been involved in scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions with his troop, serving as den chief, troop guide, quartermaster, assistant patrol leader, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader and senior patrol leader.

For his Eagle Scout project, Matt remodeled a nursery for the Parkville Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Norman Bowers for his

accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF IONE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, on March 23, 1953, the City of Ione was incorporated as a General Law City and is now the largest city in Amador with a population of 7,500 people. This year the city, and all those who enjoy its unique atmosphere and year round recreation, celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

Ione got its name by Thomas Brown around 1849 after one of the heroines in Edward Bulwer Lytton's drama "The Last Days of Pompeii." During the days of the Gold Rush, miners knew the town by the names of "Bedbug" and "Freezeout." Unlike other communities in Amador County, which were founded on gold mining, Ione was a supply center, stage and rail stop and agricultural hub.

The town of Ione continued to grow and prosper after its gold rush founding. The first school was built in 1853 and the first flour mill in 1855. The first brick building was built by Daniel Stewart in 1855 for his general merchandise store and is still owned and operated by the same family.

At the centennial of 1876, Ione had a population of 600 people. The centennial also celebrated the completion of the railroad to the town of Ione. The centennial celebration was the beginning of what is now known as the Ione Homecoming. This annual celebration has been held during the month of May almost every year since that first Centennial celebration in 1876 and is now held on the first weekend in May every year.

Our community is indeed proud of the City of Ione and its history. And I am proud to congratulate the City and its residents as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the City of Ione.

THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET: TAKING FROM THE POOR TO GIVE TO THE RICH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues the following column authored by Bob Herbert that appeared in today's New York Times. "Mugging the Needy" accurately details the serious dangers posed by the budget plan recently passed by the House: that in providing \$1.4 trillion in tax cuts to the wealthy, House Republicans are slashing billions of dollars in

funding that aids low-income Americans. These cuts will affect Medicaid recipients, children in foster care, the national school lunch program, as well as veterans' benefits and the ability of students to afford their higher education.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican budget is not just a political document that details their misguided vision for America. It is far more serious than even that, for it fails to stimulate the economy and create jobs, it saddles future generations with enormous deficits, and it robs needy Americans—both young and old—of critical services. The Congress should reject this budget.

MUGGING THE NEEDY

(By Bob Herbert)

I had wanted today's column to be about the events in Tulia, Tex., where a criminal justice atrocity is at long last beginning to be corrected.

(For those who don't know, prosecutors are moving to overturn the convictions of everyone seized in an outlandish drug sting conducted by a single wacky undercover officer.)

But there is another issue crying out for immediate attention. With the eyes of most Americans focused on the war, the Bush administration and its allies in Congress are getting close to agreeing on a set of budget policies that will take an awful toll on the poor, the young, the elderly, the disabled and others in need of assistance and support from their government.

The budget passed by the House is particularly gruesome. It mugs the poor and the helpless while giving unstintingly to the rich. This blueprint for domestic disaster has even moderate Republicans running for cover.

The House plan offers the well-to-do \$1.4 trillion in tax cuts, while demanding billions of dollars in cuts from programs that provide food stamps, school lunches, health care for the poor and the disabled, temporary assistance to needy families—even veterans' benefits and student loans.

An analysis of the House budget by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities found that its proposed cuts in child nutrition programs threaten to eliminate school lunches for 2.4 million low-income children.

Under the House plan, Congress would be required to cut \$265 billion from entitlement programs over 10 years. About \$165 billion would come from programs that assist low-income Americans.

This assault on society's weakest elements has been almost totally camouflaged by the war, which has an iron grip on the nation's attention.

The House budget does not dictate the specific cuts that Congress would be required to make. In its analysis, the center assumed (as did the House Budget Committee) that the various entitlement programs would be cut by roughly the same percentages. If one program were to be cut by a somewhat smaller percentage, another would have to be cut more.

The analysis found that in the year in which the budget sliced deepest:

"The cut in Medicaid, if achieved entirely by reducing the number of children covered, would lead to the elimination of health coverage for 13.6 million children."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

"The cut in foster care and adoption programs, if achieved by reducing the number of children eligible for foster care assistance payments, would lead to the elimination of benefits for 65,000 abused and neglected children."

"The cut in the food stamp program, if achieved by lowering the maximum benefit, would lead to a reduction in the average benefit from an already lean 91 cents per meal to 84 cents."

When's the last time one of the plutocrats in Congress waded through a meal that cost 84 cents?

The Senate budget is not as egregious. It calls for a total of about \$900 billion in tax cuts, and there is no demand for cuts in entitlement programs. But it is not a reasonable budget. In fact, there's something obscene about a millionaires' club like the Senate proposing close to a trillion dollars in tax cuts for the rich while the country is already cutting social programs, running up huge budget deficits and fighting a war in the Middle East.

At least in the House budget the first—if not the worst—of the cuts are in plain view. In the Senate plan the inevitable pain of the Bush budget policies remains concealed.

"There is a significant human toll in the Senate budget, but it's in the future," said Robert Greenstein, the center's executive director. "What I mean is that given the deficits we're already in, you can't keep doing tax cuts like this—you can't keep cutting your revenue base—without it inevitably leading to sharp budget cuts."

House and Senate conferees are now trying to resolve the differences in the two budget proposals. They will do all they can to minimize the public relations hit that is bound to come when you're handing trainloads of money to the rich while taking food off the tables of the poor. So you can expect some dismantling of the House proposal.

But no matter what they do, the day of reckoning is not far off. The budget cuts are coming. In voodoo economics, the transfer of wealth is from the poor and the working classes to the rich. It may not be pretty, but it's the law.

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH IN HONOR OF SELENA AND JAMES BURNETTE

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the birth and life of my grandchildren, Selena Anastasia and James Azarial, born February 26, 1997 to Elizabeth and Fred Burnette. My wife Bonnie and I join with James and Selena's other grandparents, Bonnie and Charles Burnette, to celebrate these children.

In James and Selena's birth year we made great advances in space technology. Onboard our flight to Mars was "Sojourner." This roving device, the first autonomous vehicle to travel on another planet, sent back to earth chemical analyses of soil and rocks. Sojourner was one of the greatest achievements in our space travel history.

Inventors play a unique role in our history creating new products to improve our way of life. Invention comes from the Latin, *inventio*, to discover or find out. Today, we continue to "find out" and create new ways to travel, grow food, communicate, and continue exploration of uncharted territory.

I hope that for these children curiosity will always be their guide so that they and their generation will continue scientific research to invent ways to make their own lives better.

I hope that as we consider legislation for these new issues we consider what we can contribute to our children and grandchildren by encouraging invention. I hope that we can leave Selena and James, and children and grandchildren everywhere, a brighter future because of our decisions today.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. JAMES W. HALLMAN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of this nation's most dedicated citizens, Sergeant James W. Hallman, Jr. On February 24, 2003, we lost James when he was senselessly gunned down during a morning stroll in Cantonment, the randomly chosen victim of a crime that has no explanation. We will forever miss James, but his impact and influence on our Northwest Florida community will never be forgotten.

A 34-year veteran of the Pensacola Police Department, James was the epitome of every law enforcement officer in the world. James was awarded the prestigious Silver Cross from the department in 1989 for going above and beyond the call of duty when he attempted to rescue two children near the 17th Avenue boat ramp. It was that dedication and determination to serve his community to the furthest lengths of his abilities that made him a hero to all and an officer to whom so many have tried to model themselves after.

Probably best known as the "Candy Man," James could always be found passing out candy to children when he was out patrolling schools and housing developments. As Chief John Mathis said at his funeral, "there is little doubt in my mind that right now, James is passing out candy to angels in heaven."

James' dedication to serving his community did not end upon his retirement from the police force in 1998. He was a member of the East Brent Baptist Church, the Brownsville Masonic Lodge, 32 Degree Scottish Rite and York Rite Mason, and the Hadji Shrine Temple. He was a man who lived to serve his community and for that we will be forever grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Sgt. James W. Hallman for their loss. His friends knew him as a kind man with an easy laugh and his coworkers knew him more for putting his fingers in his pocket to pull out candy than for putting his hand on his gun belt. On this such occasion, we honor one of America's greatest citizens, Sgt. James W. Hallman, Jr., whose legacy will live on long beyond his passing.

TRANSMITTAL OF IMPORTANT CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS TO POLAND

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to direct the attention of the House of Representatives to a sad anniversary. Almost 60 years ago, on April 13, 1943, Americans awoke to a startling announcement from Radio Berlin: the disclosure that thousands of bodies of Polish officers had been found by the Germans in a remote wood near the Dnieper River called Katyn Forest. These men had been captured in the fall of 1939 by the Red Army and executed the following spring by the NKVD which later became the KGB. Until the German discovery all trace of these men had disappeared.

The German discovery put tremendous strain on the western alliance from the moment it was announced. Our mortal enemy had accused the Soviet Union, a great ally who had just defeated the Wehrmacht at Stalingrad, of the unspeakable crime of murdering prisoners of war. For many in the West, it appeared to be a cheap propaganda stunt by Joseph Goebbels. Perhaps the Germans had murdered the Poles and were merely covering their tracks by blaming the crime on the Soviets. But as more and more facts were collected, it became abundantly clear that the Russians, not the Germans, had the blood of the Poles on their hands.

Over the next two years the governments of the United States and Great Britain took great pains to hold together the Alliance with the Soviet Union and downplayed Soviet responsibility for the murders in Katyn Forest and at two other sites that took the lives of more than 14,000 Polish officers. Eyewitness reports that should have been made public were classified top secret and subsequently disappeared. An Ambassador to the Balkans was forbidden to disclose incriminating documents and photographs. Polish broadcasters were censored by the Office of War Information.

Finally, between September, 1951 and December, 1952, a Select Committee of the U.S. Congress stepped in to investigate this horrible crime. This committee held hearings in six cities and four countries, received testimony from 81 witnesses and took depositions from another 100 who could not appear in person. Its published report of 2,162 pages filled seven volumes. In many ways, this investigation was Congress at its best. It meticulously assembled a body of fact that left no doubt about its principal conclusions: first, that the Soviets were guilty; and second, that the State Department and Army Intelligence (G-2) had engaged in a determined effort to shield the American people from the truth.

I recently learned that the seven-volume published record of the Select Committee to investigate the Katyn Forest massacre is not available anywhere in Poland. At the request of the Polish Government, I have arranged to provide Poland with a copy of this record which most experts believe is the most comprehensive body of record ever assembled on this subject. I would like to thank the Librarian of Congress, Dr. James H. Billington, and his fine staff for their extensive cooperation and assistance in this matter.