

HONORING THE LIFE OF MORRIS
"MOE" BILLER

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a giant in the labor movement, a giant whose voice was silenced 2 weeks ago, Mr. Morris Biller, affectionately known as Moe. Moe Biller departed this life on September 5 at age 87.

Moe Biller's voice may be silent, but the principles for which he lived and fought for can be heard all around the world. It is often said that success in life can be measured by how many people one is able to touch in a positive way. By all accounts, Moe Biller lived a pretty successful life.

He was one of those individuals who had to swim upstream. His 20 plus years as president of the American Postal Workers Union helped to transform that union and the United States Postal Service. Moe's legacy will perhaps be that of a hero to those workers of the Postal Service who were viewed as mediocre to the mail process. He was a champion for the little people.

In 1970, he led a strike that began in his hometown of New York and spread to 30 cities involving 200,000 workers. Former President Richard Nixon called in the National Guard in an effort to move the mail. That strike led to postal reorganization in 1971 and provided workers with the right to bargain for wages, benefits and improved working conditions.

Even those who did not agree with Moe's style or message respected him for his courage and passion on behalf of the workers at the postal workers' operation.

The Postmaster General has noted that Moe Biller was a forceful, innovative leader who worked tirelessly on behalf of the American Postal Workers Union members and on behalf of the Postal Service. The Postmaster General ordered that flags at postal facilities be flown at half staff until Biller's burial, which took place on Sunday, September 7.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, Moe Biller's imprints on the labor movement, collective bargaining rights, and concern for humanity are attributes to be admired. Moe's work will continue with leaders like the current president of the APWU, Bill Burrus. I was pleased to join Bill Burrus and members of APWU at the Second Annual Moe Biller Postal Conference which took place at the Brookings Institute recently, and Moe's presence could be felt.

We have lost a giant in the movement. The best way we can honor Moe Biller is to keep his spirit alive by rededicating ourselves and redoubling our efforts to improve worker conditions, protect collective bargaining, expand health care to those in need, and provide adequate resources for those

who are the everyday workers of our society. I ask that my colleagues, citizens of America, and the 750,000-plus postal workers join with me in extending our heartfelt condolences to the Moe Biller family and our thanks for his great work on behalf of humanity. May Moe Biller's spirit rest in peace and resonate in our actions. He was truly a representative of the working man.

HONORING PROFESSOR EDWARD
TELLER

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

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the great Americans of the last century, Dr. Edward Teller, who passed away on the 9th of September and said of his own accomplishments, "What I did, I did because it was necessary, not to be remembered. The little contributions I made in pure science, I am proud of those, and whomever wants to remember that, fine." But Dr. Edward Teller deserves to be remembered, and it is important that we remember him because he perhaps more than anyone else in American science believed that we could achieve peace in the world through military strength. He did everything he could to rally a community of scientists, technical people, engineers to back up the political leadership in this country when we were faced with an enormous military adversary in the Soviet Union. And ultimately as the Soviet ambassador said when he left at the end of his tenure upon the collapse of the Soviet Empire, the Reagan Strategic Defense Initiative, which was largely Edward Teller's, hastened the fall of the Soviet Empire by a full half decade.

Dr. Teller died at age 95 of a stroke at his home in Palo Alto where he had worked for the past 28 years as a senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford, a towering source of American intellect and ideals, both literally and figuratively. Just a few days earlier, he had put in his last day of work at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory which he cofounded with his fellow University of California professor, Ernest Lawrence, 51 years ago this month, and where he labored prodigiously for the American cause ever since.

Characteristically on his last Livermore workday, he was reviewing recent technical developments concerning a new source of nuclear energy, an area he was deeply engaged in the past 64 years and upon which topic he coauthored a seminal scientific paper 70 years ago that is still widely referenced today.

But what makes Teller unique among all of the rest of the greats of our time is a vision and courage that he manifested in a most difficult, too-little-re-

membered era already a half century in our Nation's past when Americans and the other free people in the world came into serious confrontation with the empire led by the Soviet Union.

In the late 1930s, Teller and many others, more than a few being fellow refugees from Hitler's tyranny, had answered President Franklin Roosevelt's call to commit their technical talents to the defense of freedom against the clear and present danger of fascism with historic consequences known to us all. A decade later in the late 1940s when the world's free peoples faced another grave, but less clearly perceived, totalitarian threat, Teller rallied and led American scientists and engineers in providing American political leaders with the key technical means for withstanding the Soviet challenge. He continued his exemplary leadership for the following quarter century until one of our greatest Presidents, Ronald Reagan, sounded the call for the conclusive campaign of the Cold War. Then already at an age when most are content to rest, Edward Teller again rallied and marshaled his professional colleagues from all over America to create the technical core of the interlock set of philosophical, political, economic, and military challenges that Reagan launched at the Soviet Empire, resulting in its unexpectedly swift, bloodless, and utter collapse.

Mr. Speaker, Teller's technical genius and near solitary perseverance gave the United States crucial first access to the most fearsome weaponry, and the vision that he shared with Ernest Lawrence in founding the second laboratory concerned with nuclear weaponry that has endured and ensured America's weaponry excellence through its brilliantly conceived, supremely effective appeal to innate American competitiveness, and as we will do very well to remember this Teller-Lawrence lesson regarding the surpassing importance of competition-based technical preeminence in all crucial national security programs, very specifically including nuclear weaponry, for every bit as long as it takes to undergird America's national security.

It was Edward Teller's Churchillian-quality vision, his simple eloquence, and his unwaivering moral courage, and not just once but twice facing down multitudes of those less committed to the effective defense of traditional Western values, and yes to the triumph of the American cause, that we should most honor and longest remember. To be sure, Edward Teller made mistakes, and he acknowledged and regretted them; but they dwindle into complete insignificance when viewed against his monumental accomplishments on behalf of all Americans and indeed all freedom-loving people everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded when Dr. Teller talked about going to meet Albert Einstein in 1939 and asking a little girl skipping rope if she knew where

Dr. Einstein lived. She said no as she was skipping the rope. He finally asked about the guy with the big fuzzy white hair, and she directed him to the correct door. He went in with two other physicists and together with Albert Einstein they wrote the letter to FDR that changed the world. Edward Teller was a great scientist. He was also a great American.

CALIFORNIA RECALL DECISION

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

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased with the decision made yesterday by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that declared the use of older voting machines would again lead to the disenfranchisement of minority voters. I applaud the court for deciding to assure voters that the basic fundamental requirements of equal treatment and fairness are carried out. Underlying this, I quote from Justice Kennedy who wrote: "Voting is one of the most fundamental and cherished liberties in our democratic system of government." To me, the California decision highlights a painful lesson our country learned from the 2000 elections, that it is not possible to hold a fair democratic election if voters are not guaranteed their votes will be fairly counted.

I read in the paper and have heard on the news a lot of talk about hanging chads and other technical problems that led to the Supreme Court selecting George W. Bush as the President in the 2000 Presidential election; but let me tell Members that in my district, Florida's third, 27,000 votes were thrown out and never counted. Let me repeat, 27,000 votes from precincts 7, 8, 9 and 10 tossed out, never counted from minority neighborhoods that vote 98 percent Democratic.

In California, the voting machines that 44 percent of the voters were going to use in the October 7 recall election were so questionable that California's Secretary of State, a Republican, was not planning to allow this equipment to be used in future elections. And take note, the comparison he drew for the dire situation was that California should not wait for a Florida-style election problem before going ahead to replace their out-of-date voting machines.

In the court decision, the 9th Circuit stated that 40,000 citizens of California would have their votes uncounted because of old machines they were planning to use. I repeat, 40,000 votes. In addition, a quarter of the State polling places are not yet functioning because election officials did not have enough time to prepare for the recall. To me, the situation in California clearly shows that we still have quite a ways to go in reforming our voting system. And to make matters worse, even though just last year we passed an

election reform bill, the Republicans have blocked full funding. Up to this moment, we still need another \$2 billion before the end of the year to ensure that we do not repeat the 2000 election. Yet if we fail to provide the States with this badly needed funding, we may be headed right down the same path, to face this terrible situation that we were in just 3 years ago.

Here we are, 3 years later, the leader of the free world and at the same time the laughingstock of the free world telling other nations that we do not support them or we are going to sanction them because we consider their elections to be unfair; yet here at home we cannot get our own elections right.

I completely support the circuit court's decision and hope to see the election postponed until they get better equipment in place. We must never, ever repeat what happened in Florida. We certainly do not want to witness a repeat of the 2000 Presidential election. In closing, I think the recount in Florida, the redistricting problem in Texas, and the recall of California's Governor is part of a right wing conspiracy to politically enslave the American people.

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

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REMEMBERING ROBERT LLOYD KELLEY

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

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in honor and remembrance of Robert Lloyd Kelley, who tragically passed away on March 15, 2003, at the age of 57. Robert Kelley, known as Bobby, was not only an outstanding father and beloved husband, he was also a great community leader and mentor who gave freely of his time and energy.

Those who knew Bobby knew that he loved life, especially his family, his church, the Texas Aggies, his job, and his community. He was devoted to his aging parents and took care of their physical and emotional needs. Bobby was kind and generous to many in the community, but his rewards are now being reaped in the splendor of heaven.

Bobby was born on February 4, 1946, in San Antonio, Texas, to Dr. E. Lloyd Kelley and the late Mary Yvonne McGarry Kelley. He is preceded in death by his mother as well as his son, Timothy Lloyd Kelley.

Bobby played an active role in his community of Hondo, Texas, serving both on the board of directors and as president of the Hondo Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as president of the Hondo Owl Band Booster Club.

During his life, he received numerous service awards and recognitions, including Volunteer of the Year for the Hondo Volunteer Fire Department, 1986; Community EMS Service Award, 1986 to 1990; Medina County Peace Officers Association Citizen of the Year; Hondo Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year; Outstanding Band Booster Service Award; and special recognition from the San Antonio Area Chapter of the Red Cross, as well as the Boy Scouts. He was an active member of the Hondo Church of Christ. He was the chief of the Medina County Juvenile Probation Department where he worked with the troubled youth of the area, a job which he found most rewarding, and through his department he helped a faith-based program called Angels Crossing.

□ 2045

Bobby was always willing to volunteer and work on any project that was "for the kids." He always said, "If you can't do something for kids, what's the point? Kids are our future."

He also served as a Texas Department of Criminal Justice religious volunteer for approximately 8 years. He loved to sing and served as a song leader at church services held at the Joe Ney Unit in Medina County. Through his work at the Joe Ney Unit he was able to secure funds to have a chapel built, and now with his passing, a formal request has been made that the chapel to be constructed as the unit be named the R.L. Kelley Chapel. It will be dedicated to helping men find God and change their life just as he dedicated his life to helping people.

I extend my deepest condolences to Bobby's wife of 35 years, Jill, who is a seventh grade Texas history teacher at McDowell Middle School in Hondo, and his daughter, Lisa, who works for me on the House Agriculture Committee. Although he will be deeply missed, Bobby's spirit will live on in the hearts and memories of everyone he loved and inspired, especially his family and closest friends, today and for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Robert L. Kelley. Medina County, Texas, was indeed fortunate to have such a dynamic and dedicated community leader who willingly and unselfishly gave his time and talents to make his community a better place in which to live, to work, to call home and to raise a family.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, earlier this evening while we were voting on the House floor on a number of issues and as conversations develop among colleagues here, I had an interesting