

your day . . . which shall rule—wealth or man; which shall lead—money or intellect; who shall fill public stations—education and patriotic free men or the feudal serfs of corporate capital?"

La Follette then goes on to say that that speech kindled in him the spirit he carried throughout his public service. As La Follette described it, "It grew out of the intellectual awakening . . . the very center and inspiration point of which in Wisconsin was then, and has been ever since, the University at Madison. It is difficult indeed to overestimate the part which the University has played in the Wisconsin revolution," La Follette said. "For myself," he said, "I owe what I am and what I have done largely to the inspiration I received while there. It was not so much the actual courses of study which I pursued; it was rather the spirit of the institution—a high spirit of earnest endeavor, a spirit of fresh interest in new things, and beyond all else, a sense that somehow the state and the University were intimately related and that they should be of mutual service."

La Follette's attachment to the University was understandable and fitting. He was the first graduate of the University to become Governor. The legendary Charles Van Hise was a member of that same graduating class—the first person to obtain a PhD from the University, he was later effectively appointed University President by La Follette.

And I must say that it was that same sense of the spirit of the institution, so intimately connected to Wisconsin's progressive traditions, which sparked my passion for public service.

What I learned here that inspired me is that while La Follette and other Progressive Reformers like George Norris and Theodore Roosevelt were regarded as secular men, they really were at the moral core of a movement that had deep roots in the Jewish Prophetic Tradition and the Christian Social Gospel, which implied that there were certain norms of decency that must be the objectives of political choices in a democracy.

That tradition was rooted in the belief that politics must be more than merely transactional. It must be more principled than "who gets what." That it could and should be, as Bill Moyers has said, transformational—that it must try to "even the starting gate so that people who are equal in humanity but not in resources have a reasonable opportunity to pursue a full and decent life."

The Wisconsin tradition dictates that political leadership must challenge people to see beyond their own self-interests and prerogatives. That is why whenever anyone comes into my office asking me to do something, I first ask them to read aloud a sign hanging on the wall which asks, "What do you want me to do for someone besides yourself that is more important than whatever it is you want me to do for you?" If you cannot answer that question you are failing the ultimate test of good citizenship in a democracy.

For the past 40 years, in the Legislature and the Congress, I have tried to pursue that special Wisconsin vision of the role of government in shaping a more just society. Wisconsin has so often in its history been informed by a special sense of commonwealth—of using our common wealth to invest in efforts to spread the blessings of society more broadly.

I wish I could say that we are still following that special calling today, but we have drifted away in so many ways. Over much of the last three decades we have seen the country retreat from those ideals. Anna Quindlen has written that "America is a country that now sits atop the precarious latticework of myth. It is the myth that

work provides sufficient rewards, that working people can support their families. It's a myth that has become so divorced from reality that it might as well begin with the words "Once upon a time." Why does Quindlen say that? Because one out of every four American workers makes less than \$8.70 an hour—poverty level for a family of four.

La Follette and the past greats of the University would be stunned to see that in one generation America has gone from being the industrial society with the smallest gap between rich and poor to the one with the largest.

They would be astounded to see that the safety net, which they fought so hard to construct, has not been nearly strong enough for large portions of our population.

They would be appalled that the number of Americans without health insurance has grown by 4 million people in less than a decade.

They would see shame in the fact that the most well off 1 percent of America's families enjoy control over 33 percent of the nation's wealth while the bottom 50 percent struggle to maintain 2.8 percent of the nation's wealth.

They would be dismayed to see how little heed has been paid to the warning of Adam Smith, the founding high priest of capitalism, that without fair rules of the game to keep markets honest that capitalism could be misaligned into a system that provided insufficient protection for the legitimate interests of workers and consumers alike.

They would find it unbelievable that the percentage of American workers who belong to unions has contracted rather than expanded over the last half century.

They would be outraged that the ownership of news outlets is much more heavily concentrated today than it was in their era.

They would not be surprised, but they would be repelled by a tax system that provides greater rewards for accumulated wealth than it does for work.

And most of all, La Follette himself would be disheartened by the growing financial barriers to opportunity that are encountered by the children of so many working families who seek to attend this very University.

La Follette himself is Wisconsin's most distinguished example of how crucial it can be to eliminate financial barriers to higher education. In his autobiography, La Follette made the following observation:

"My single term at the University law school had been rendered possible only through the consideration of the faculty in making an extraordinary exception in my case and permitting me to enter without paying the usual matriculation fee. I had no money . . ."

How little we have learned, despite all the blather uttered by both political parties about how much we have expanded opportunity for higher education. UW Chancellor John Wiley observed in a speech last November that the median family income in Wisconsin is a little over \$45,000, but the median family income for this year's new freshman at Madison is \$90,000. Think about that for a moment. As Wiley pointed out, "The distribution of brains, talent, ambition, and creativity is independent of family income. We will ignore that fact and freeze out the children of average and low income families at our peril."

Now tie that to another fact. Pell Grants, the principal student aid program for low income students, now pay for only one-half of the cost of instruction that they paid for in 1976. I feel acutely about this because I'm the Ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee and the Subcommittee that funds all education programs. Next, add in

another fact. More than half of all college graduates graduate with debts above \$15,000.

If La Follette were planning to go to law school today, he couldn't afford it. How many La Follettes or Gaylord Nelsons or Bill Steigers are we today passing over?

What would he and the University greats of old say about a government which, when struggling with a \$500 billion deficit, a huge Social Security deficit, record long-term unemployment, and 44 million people without health insurance, decides that the number one priority in the budget next year is to provide a \$155,000 tax cut to someone making a million dollars while we short fund elementary and secondary education by \$9 billion and continue to tolerate a two-tier system for access to higher education or quality health care.

We all love this country. In spite of all its short comings, this is a great country. But shame on us for allowing such an outcome. We must do better.

I thank the University—and you should, too—for its tradition of producing graduates and citizens who are never satisfied, for it's tradition of saying "We can do better!" For the sake of the kind of country we want America to be, let's all do our part to live up to that tradition.

Now, I'm sure that some of you may strongly disagree with the thrust of what I have said today. That's o.k. As Will Rogers observed, "If two people agree on everything, one of them is unnecessary." That difference would probably be rooted in the fact that we follow different philosophers. Some of you may follow Plato or Aristotle or even Ayn Rand, God Forbid. But my favorite philosopher is Arch the Cockroach.

Archy was a character invented by a writer by the name of Don Marquis in the 1920s. He was supposedly a poet who had died and had come back to life in a body of a cockroach. He lived in a newspaperman's office and every night would crawl out of the woodwork, climb onto the typewriter, dive head first on the keys, and leave little messages which would appear in the newspaper the next day. He had a thought for every occasion. One of the things he said was this:

"did you ever notice that when a politician does get an idea he usually gets it all wrong"

But my favorite was this:

"im too small to feel great pride and as the pompous world goes by i see things from the under side"

Like Archy, I try to see life from the underside. I make no apology. I learned it here!

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COL. LORRIS
WILLIAM MOOMAW

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Colonel Lorris "Bill" Moomaw who recently passed away. Bill was a true American hero and patriot, and a beloved friend and colleague to many in his community. In his years spent in the armed forces, Bill embodied the ideals of integrity

and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from our military personnel. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man, and his many contributions to his community, state and country.

Bill lived an immensely rich and full life, always holding firm to his beliefs in serving his community and country. In 1935, he graduated from flying school at Randolph Field, Texas, and began flying commercial flights until the onset of World War II. During the war, Bill flew numerous transport missions, serving as the Operations officer of the first regularly scheduled Military Air Transport runs. In 1945, he served as Operations officer for a dangerous and important transport operation between India and China known as "The Hump," and his unit received over nine hundred citations, and became the only non-combat unit to receive a Presidential unit citation. As the war ended, he was assigned to finding and removing American POW's from South East Asia, Singapore, and Indonesia, frequently flying into unsecured areas occupied with hostile forces.

At the end of the war, Bill was offered and accepted a regular commission and was transferred to Washington where he served as military aide and pilot to the first two Secretaries of the Air Force. His flights included piloting such dignitaries as Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and Johnson, and taking Bob Hope and other Hollywood celebrities on Christmas trips to entertain our troops.

Mr. Speaker, we are all at a great loss because of Colonel Lorris Moomaw's passing, but can be comforted in knowing his service to our nation helped secure the freedoms we enjoy today. I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Colonel Lorris William Moomaw before this body of Congress and this nation. My thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

HONORING ADELE GILMORE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a woman who will be missed by all who knew her. It brings me great sadness to report that Adele Gilmore of Sunrise, Florida, passed away on April 27th, at the age of 86. Ms. Gilmore championed her community through her deep conviction to philanthropic endeavors and public service. Her tremendous strength of character will be remembered by her friends, family, and colleagues.

Hardworking and driven, Ms. Gilmore was a former vice president of Nathan's Famous restaurant. She was hired to work at Nathan's by Murray Handwerker, the son of Nathan's founder Nathan Handwerker.

Ms. Gilmore founded the Nob Hill Chapter of the City of Hope, a research organization aimed at finding cures for cancer, AIDS, and other life-threatening diseases. Ms. Gilmore got involved in the City of Hope after losing her son, Mark, to AIDS. The Nob Hill Chapter of City of Hope has raised over \$2 million since 1987, and Ms. Gilmore's efforts at the group's annual Christmas gift wrapping drive at the Sawgrass Mills Mall helped generate that success.

Ms. Gilmore was also an active member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, as well as an officer and director of the Sunrise Regular Democratic Club. In addition, she found time to become involved in the political campaigns of former President Bill Clinton and former Vice President Al Gore.

Mr. Speaker, Adele Gilmore was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known her. She is survived by her sister Evelyn, her sons David and Peter, her grandchildren Joshua, Benjamin, Maghan, and Fir, and one great-grandchild. Today we celebrate Adele's life, which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in her footsteps.

RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN JOHN TIPTON

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Captain John Tipton who was recently killed in Iraq.

Capt. Tipton, 32, a 1989 Granite City High School graduate, died this past Sunday in an explosion during combat in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq. The province, west of Baghdad, is where Camp Fallujah is located and is one of the most hostile regions in Iraq. Capt. Tipton was commander of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas with his wife, Susie Tipton, of Collinsville, and their two children, Austin, 4, and Kaitlyn, 2.

I am proud of the service Capt. Tipton has given to our country and the service he and others provide on a daily basis. Not enough can be said about the sacrifice and dedication these men and women display while serving in Iraq. It is troops like Capt. Tipton, those risking their lives everyday, that ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my heart felt condolences go out to his family and all the troops continually fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON PROGRAM TO PREVENT OBESITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we have an epidemic of obesity in America, threatening to become the single most pressing public health issue before us within one year. I would like to commend the outstanding work being done at the University of Houston in my district, where they have recently created the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2000, 31 percent of U.S. adults aged 20 years and older—nearly 59 million people—were obese. And the problem is getting steadily worse. In 2003 obesity was responsible for 16.6 percent of prevent-

able deaths in America, preceded only by tobacco which is responsible for about 430,000 deaths a year. Recent research suggests that obesity will become the leading cause of death by 2005, claiming more than 500,000 lives.

In addition to the enormous human toll, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease estimates that the economic burden of those being overweight or obese in the United States totals approximately \$117 billion a year.

Realizing the serious need to address this nationwide epidemic, the Department of Health and Human Performance in the University of Houston's College of Education has begun development of the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness. The center will conduct clinical research, educational programs, and outreach to serve the UH student body and the demographically diverse underserved community surrounding the UH campus. In partnership with the Biomedical Engineering Group at the University of Houston, the institute will search for biomarkers to predict obesity risk and treatment outcomes. This unique, new institute gives the University of Houston a leading role in national obesity research.

I commend the University of Houston for creating a center whose studies will provide a model for the nation and whose research will benefit millions of Americans in the midst of a health crisis.

HONORING MR. STEWART UDALL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Stewart Udall who has served our country in many ways—for six years as a Member of the House of Representatives, nine years as Secretary of Interior, and countless years as an environmental activist, scholar, historian, and citizen of the outdoors. However, it is for a unique contribution to the preservation of our natural resources that I am here today; as Secretary of the Interior in 1962, Stewart Udall was instrumental in the creation of Point Reyes National Seashore in my district in Marin County, California.

Point Reyes National Seashore is truly a treasure for the nation. Conceived as a park in the 1930s, the hard work of dedicated people finally made the Seashore a reality during Stewart Udall's tenure. The park is enjoyed by over 2.5 million visitors annually and ranks among the top twenty most-visited National Parks in the country. Comprising over 71,000 acres of estuaries, beaches, coastal grasslands, salt marshes, and coniferous forests, Point Reyes National Seashore is home to 45% of North American avian species, 18% of California's plant species, and hundreds of migrating whales.

Its rich cultural history, dating back 5000 years to Miwok settlements, includes the landing of Sir Francis Drake in 1579 and the development of early 19th century Mexican land grants which are the precursors of modern ranches in the pastoral zones. The Seashore today successfully balances the needs of visitors and ranchers with the preservation of ecosystems and historical sites.