

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MRS. ALMA LEE  
THOMPSON-LEWIS FOR HER  
DEDICATION TO SERVICE

## HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. Alma Lee Thompson-Lewis. She was born in the rural town of Flora, Mississippi on September 6, 1930.

Mrs. Lewis received her early education at Good Hope Church and Christ Missionary Industrial Church School in Jackson, Mississippi. She earned her high school diploma from Camden Street School in Canton, Mississippi and Mrs. Lewis later furthered her studies at Mary Holmes College in West Point, Mississippi.

Born to Mr. Willie Lee Thompson and Mrs. Emma Deloris Cotton-Thompson, she is the eldest of four children. After the passing of both her parents in 1950, Mrs. Lewis, with the help of her grandparents, served as caregiver to her three siblings; Mrs. Lucille Thompson-Jamison, Mr. John Thompson and Mrs. Louise Thompson Eley-Sumler.

Mrs. Lewis has been a long-time community servant. She's worked many years with organizations in and around the Flora, Mississippi area. These organizations include the Magnolia Improvement Committee, The Ebony Group, Community Pride Groceries, the Madison County Civic Organization and the Order of the Eastern Star; an organization of which she is a member. She is a faithful and dedicated member of Fearn's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church where she has served as choir advisor, group captain and Sunday school teacher. Over the years, she has also been involved with many other community service projects, including serving as manager of the Magnolia Heights voting precinct.

Mrs. Lewis began to serve with the Mississippi Head Start Program as a carrier, where she used her family's station wagon to transport children to and from the Head Start Center in Flora, Mississippi. She was eventually certified to teach for the Head Start Program and finally promoted to Center Director, where she eventually retired in 1991.

She is the wife of Mr. Dan Lewis and mother to Mrs. Debra Thompson-Devine, Mr. Levi Lewis, Mr. Calvin Lewis, Mrs. Almarie Lewis-Winters, Mr. Sylvester Lewis, Emma Jean Lewis (deceased at six months of age), Mr. Howard Earl Lewis and Mrs. Sandra Lewis-Denton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Alma Lee Thompson-Lewis for her life-long dedication to service and commitment to education.

REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE  
DAVID CROCKETT

## HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, below is the text of a detailed report of a speech given on the floor of the House of Representatives that I believe will be of interest to my colleagues. The description was included in a book titled "Speeches on the Passage of the Bill for the Removal of the Indians," published by Perkins and Marvin in 1830. The speech was given by Rep. David Crockett of Tennessee on May 19, 1830, in opposition to the Indian Removal Act. Unfortunately, the Congress disregarded Crockett's objections and passed the bill, which was then signed into law by President Jackson.

A SKETCH OF THE REMARKS OF THE HON. DAVID CROCKETT, REPRESENTATIVE FROM TENNESSEE, ON THE BILL FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE INDIANS, MADE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1830

Mr. Crockett said, that, considering his very humble abilities, it might be expected that he should content himself with a silent vote; but, situated as he was, in relation to his colleagues, he felt it to be a duty to himself to explain the motives which governed him in the vote he should give on this bill. Gentlemen had already discussed the treaty-making power; and had done it much more ably than he could pretend to do. He should not therefore enter on that subject, but would merely make an explanation as to the reasons of his vote. He did not know whether a man (that is, a member of Congress) within 500 miles of his residence would give a similar vote; but he knew, at the same time, that he should give that vote with a clear conscience. He had his constituents to settle with, he was aware; and should like to please them as well as other gentlemen; but he had also a settlement to make at the bar of his God; and what his conscience dictated to be just and right he would do, be the consequences what they might. He believed that the people who had been kind enough to give him their suffrages, supposed him to be an honest man, or they would not have chosen him. If so, they could not but expect that he should act in the way he thought honest and right. He had always viewed the native Indian tribes of this country as a sovereign people. He believed they had been recognised as such from the very foundation of this government, and the United States were bound by treaty to protect them; it was their duty to do so. And as to giving to giving the money of the American people for the purpose of removing them in the manner proposed, he would not do it. He would do that only for which he could answer to his God. Whether he could answer it before the people was comparatively nothing, though it was a great satisfaction to him to have the approbation of his constituents.

Mr. C. said he had served for seven years in a legislative body. But from the first hour he had entered a legislative hall, he had never known what party was in legislation; and

God forbid he ever should. He went for the good of the country, and for that only. What he did as a legislator, he did conscientiously. He should love to go with his colleagues, and with the West and the South generally, if he could; but he never would let party govern him in a question of this great consequence.

He had many objections to the bill—some of them of a very serious character. One was, that he did not like to put half a million of money into the hands of the Executive, to be used in a manner which nobody could foresee, and which Congress was not to control. Another objection was, he did not wish to depart from from the foundation of the government. He considered the present application as the last alternative for these poor remnants of a once powerful people. Their only chance of aid was at the hands of Congress. Should its members turn a deaf ear to their cries, misery must be their fate. That was his candid opinion.

Mr. C. said he was often forcibly reminded of the remark made by the famous Red Jacket, in the rotundo of this building, where he was shown the panel which represented in sculpture the first landing of the Pilgrims, with an Indian chief presenting to them an ear of corn, in token of friendly welcome. The aged Indian said "that was good." The Indian said, he knew that they came from the Great Spirit, and he was willing to share the soil with his brothers from over the great water. But when he turned round to another panel representing Penn's treaty, he said "Ah! all's gone now." There was a great deal of truth in this short saying; and the present bill was a strong commentary upon it.

Mr. C. said that four counties of his district bordered on the Chickasaw country. He knew many of their tribe; and nothing should ever induce him to vote to drive them west of the Mississippi. He did not know what sort of a country it was in which they were to be settled. He would willingly appropriate money in order to send proper persons to examine the country. And when this had been done, and a fair and free treaty had been made with the tribes if they were desirous of removing, he would vote an appropriation of any sum necessary; but till this had been done, he would not vote one cent. He could not clearly understand the extent of this bill. It seemed to go to the removal of all the Indians, in any State east of the Mississippi river, in which the United States owned any land; Now, there was a considerable number of them still neglected; there was a considerable number of them in Tennessee, and the United States' government owned no land in that State, north and east of the congressional reservation line. No man could be more willing to see them remove than he was if it could be done in a manner agreeable to themselves; but not otherwise. He knew personally that a part of the tribe of the Cherokees were unwilling to go. When the proposal was made to them, they said, "No; we will take death here at our homes. Let them come and tomahawk us here at home: we are willing to die, but never to remove." He had heard them use this language. Many different constructions might be put upon this bill. One of the first things which had set him against the bill, was the letter from the secretary of war to colonel Montgomery—from which it appeared that the Indians had been intruded

• 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.

upon. Orders had been issued to turn them all off except the heads of the Indian families, or such as possessed improvements. Government had taken measures to purchase land from the Indians who had gone to Arkansas. If this bill should pass, the same plan would be carried further; they would send and buy them out, and put white men upon their land. It had never been known that white men and Indians could live together; and in this case, the Indians were to have no privileges allowed them, while the white men were to have all. Now, if this was not oppression with a vengeance, he did not know what was. It was the language of the bill, and of its friends, that the Indians were not to be driven off against their will. He knew the Indians were unwilling to go; and therefore he could not consent to place them in a situation where they would be obliged to go. He could not stand that. He knew that he stood alone, having, perhaps, none of his colleagues from his state agreeing in sentiment. He could not help that. He knew that he should return to his home glad and light in heart, if he voted against the bill. He felt that it was his wish and purpose to serve his constituents honestly, according to the light of his conscience. The moment he should exchange his conscience for mere party views, he hoped his Maker would no longer suffer him to exist. He spoke the truth in saying so. If he should be the only member of that House who voted against the bill, and the only man in the United States who disapproved it, he would still vote against it; and it would be matter of rejoicing to him till the day he died, that he had given the vote. He had been told that he should be prostrated; but if so, he would have the consolation of conscience. He would obey that power, and gloried in the deed. He cared not for popularity, unless it could be obtained by upright means. He had seen much to disgust him here; and he did not wish to represent his fellow citizens, unless he could be permitted to act conscientiously. He had been told that he did not understand English grammar. That was very true. He had never been six months at school in his life; he had raised himself by the labor of his hands. But he did not, on that account, yield upon his privilege as the representative of freemen on this floor. Humble as he was, he meant to exercise his privilege. He had been charged with not representing his constituents. If the fact was so, the error (said Mr. C.) is here, (touching his head) not here (laying his hand upon his heart). He never had possessed wealth or education, but he had ever been animated by an independent spirit; and he trusted to prove it on the present occasion.

#### A TRIBUTE TO F. JOHN WHITE

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor F. John White. Mr. White, the Chief Executive Officer of Public Financial Management, Inc. and a member of its Board of Directors, will celebrate his retirement after a lifetime of service to his company, profession, and community.

As CEO of Public Financial Management, Inc., Mr. White is responsible for the overall daily management of the firm and chairs the PFM Management Committee, the primary policy-making body in the firm. In his role, Mr. White has spearheaded PFM's growth in personnel, technology advances, and business

practice expansion. He has helped to expand PFM over the past 30 years from a single office with five employees in 1980 to over 445 employees in 31 offices nationwide.

Mr. White has also taken the lead in PFM's effort to develop and maintain a strategic consulting practice designed specifically to assist state and local governments in strengthening credit ratings. He led the team that wrote the original Five Year Plan for the City of Philadelphia in 1992 enabling Philadelphia to recover from a more than \$200 million structural operating deficit and regain an investment grade rating. This effort resulted in upgrades from all three major credit rating agencies and Philadelphia's return to the bond market after a two-year absence.

Prior to joining PFM in 1980, Mr. White held policy-making positions in various aspects of local, state and federal governments. He served as Deputy to the then District Attorney Edward G. Rendell of Philadelphia and as Regional Representative in the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce. He spent five years handling administrative and legislative matters for then Congressman William Green, serving on the House Ways and Means Committee.

A life-long resident of Philadelphia, Mr. White is a graduate of The William Penn Charter School and Muhlenberg College. He serves on Penn Charter's board of overseers as Treasurer.

Mr. White's long and impressive career showcases his commitment and service to his profession and community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking F. John White for his work and congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my vote on the House floor during the vote on H.R. 3117 and H.R. 1141 on January 23, 2012 because of family commitments in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of both H.R. 3117 (Roll No. 5) and H.R. 1141 (Roll No. 6).

#### IN RECOGNITION OF TOMMY FELLO AND THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TOMMY'S RESTAURANT

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the 40th anniversary of Tommy's Restaurant, and its owner, Tommy Fello.

What later became "Tommy's" on Coventry Road in Cleveland Heights started out as a part-time job at a 7-stool lunch counter at the corner drug store for Tommy when he was in the 9th grade in 1967. By 1972, just a year and a half after graduating from Cleveland Heights High School, Tommy bought the lunch counter and renamed it Tommy's. Having

learned to make Lebanese specialties, such as falafel, hummus and baba ghanouj, from the lunch counter, he incorporated these and other items to cater to a growing demand for good food and healthy lifestyles. His menu includes vegetarian, vegan, macrobiotic, and gluten-free foods. But one can also get hamburgers, hot dogs and meat pies. After 45 years cooking and 40 years as the owner, Tommy still works long hours behind the grill making sandwiches and other treats for his many customers.

With success, Tommy always found ways to give back to his community. Every year on Earth Day, Tommy Fello can be found at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in Ohio's 10th Congressional District, feeding all the volunteers the wonderful food he cooks at his restaurant. On New Years Day every year, Tommy opens his restaurant for a 4 hour pancake breakfast with all proceeds donated to the local arts community. Tommy's Restaurant has provided a first job to thousands of youths in the Cleveland area since opening. Tommy has worked as a mentor for many local schools and is often asked to give entrepreneurial and motivational speeches to students of all ages.

Tommy's Restaurant is a Cleveland-area landmark. His website lists many customers of national and local renown, including TV personality Al Roker, actress Alicia Silverstone, the late Cuyahoga County poet laureate Daniel Thompson, blues musician Mr. Stress (who also has a sandwich named in his honor), comedian Molly Shannon (who once worked at Tommy's), actor Danny DeVito, the late graphic novelist Harvey Pekar, singer Patty Smith, and movie director Jim Jarmusch. I am proud to also be on this list.

I am also proud to know this fine individual who has worked hard, found much success, and has given so much back. Other business-owners on his street have nicknamed him the King of Coventry or the Mayor of Coventry because of their appreciation for all his hard work and dedication to the community. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Tommy Fello on his celebration of 40 years owning Tommy's Restaurant.

#### BLACK JANUARY

#### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a landmark event in history known as "Black January". This was a day when Azerbaijani citizens stood up to the Soviet government and gave up their lives for freedom from communism and dictatorship. Indeed, January 20, 1990, in Baku, Azerbaijan, has become a symbol of when the Soviet empire lapsed.

At midnight, on January 19, 1990, twenty-six thousand Russian troops flooded the capital city of Baku with tanks. Armed with a state of emergency declared by the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet Presidium and signed by then President Mikhail Gorbachev, the incursion was intended to suppress a growing independence movement. The end result was the opposite as the incident inflamed Azerbaijani nationalism and contributed to the breakup of the Soviet Union.