

of the President's first term . . . It's going to take us a lot of hard work just to take us to the point where we're not adding to the debt.

There is not one year that they are not adding to the debt.

In the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth years of the budget that Jack Lew presented, when you look at his real numbers, the deficit was going up each year. So it was not a fix to our debt problem.

Then he says this on the White House blog, February 13, 2011:

Like every family, we have to tighten our belts and live within our means while we're investing in the things that we need to have a strong and secure future . . . We know that you have to stabilize where we're going before you can move on and solve the rest of the problem. This budget does that.

So it is going to stabilize us and move us forward.

Well, as I say, that was not well received. The New York Times wrote this on February 5, 2011. That was his op-ed. I won't go into the editorials, but a whole list of those were critical of Mr. Lew.

I would just say this, we are in a difficult financial position. We need honesty, we need a budget that is truthful, we need the regular order so the Budget Committee does its work, and then it comes to the floor of the U.S. Senate—this will be first time in over a thousand days—it guarantees 50 hours of debate, it can't be filibustered, it can be passed with a simple majority, we will know what is in it, and people can offer amendments. That is what should have been happening for a long time that has not been happening. That is what the law requires, and that should be completed by April 15 of this year.

As we go forward, I am confident that we will be better served by public discussion of our debt, not secret meetings. I have been critical of them. I had hoped that some of them would ripen into some good solutions, but all we have had is temporary “kick the can down the road” maneuvers, and nothing substantial has been done to change the debt course of America.

By the way, when Mr. Erskine Bowles, whom President Obama appointed to head his fiscal commission, saw this budget in 2011, he said it goes nowhere near where they will have to go to resolve our fiscal nightmare. Everybody knew this budget wouldn't do the job, and that is why it was never brought through the process, and that is why it wasn't brought to the floor for a full budget analysis in committee and in debate on the floor.

So as we go forward, I will be meeting with our new chairman, Senator MURRAY. She is a great, tough advocate for her values, but she is a good person to work with. I have told her we will try to work with her, but we are going to talk about the great issues of our time, the difficulties we face, and see if we can't make this system work better and try to put this country on a sound financial footing.

We can do it. We can get this country on a sound path. It is not impossible, but anybody who thinks it will be easy is wrong. This is going to take some hard work. As we do that in a bipartisan, open way in the committee, on the floor of the Senate, the American people will be able to digest the difficulty of some of our challenges, and so will our Members in Congress. In the end, that, I think, leaves us in the best position to reach the kind of agreement, compromise, solution, that can put us on the right path, because everybody is going to have to swallow a little bit.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

THE BUDGET AND THE DEFICIT

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I couldn't help but listen to the words of my friend from Alabama regarding the debt and deficit, and then to be reminded that we did balance the budget not too long ago. In fact, in 1993, we passed a tax bill here in the Senate and in the House—it was signed into law by President Clinton—which set us on a course to reduce the deficit. In fact, by the years 1999 and 2000, we balanced the budget. We had a surplus. Can you imagine that? We had a surplus for 3 years in a row. The Congressional Budget Office and OMB said that if we had continued on that pathway, we would have fully paid off the national debt by 2010.

When I hear my friends on the Republican side talk about reducing the deficit and the debt, we did that. When the Democrats were in charge of the Senate and the House and we had the Presidency, I would also point out that not one Republican on that side of the aisle voted for that bill in 1993. I can remember standing here and debating with my friend from Texas at that time on this bill, and there were all kinds of dire warnings that if this bill passed, we were going to have depressions and recessions; the business community would stop, and it would be the worst thing that ever happened to this country if we passed the Clinton tax proposal. Well, we passed it, but without one Republican vote.

And what happened? We had the largest spurt of economic growth this country had seen almost since the 1950s and 1960s. This was to the point to where, as I said, by the end of the 1990s we had a balanced budget and we had a surplus.

Then President Bush comes into office, and we had surpluses, enough to retire the entire national debt by the year 2010. So what did President Bush say? Well, now we are going to give tax cuts. They pushed through this big tax cut bill for which this Senator did not vote.

That tax cut bill gave a lot away to corporations and to the wealthy of this country, so that they didn't have to pay their fair share. Also, there were

two wars we didn't pay for, plus a recession, and now we are in this huge deficit.

We know how to get ourselves out of this fix. We did it in 1993. It was by having the people in this country pay their fair share of taxes, to make sure that corporations, to make sure that those who enjoy the benefits of living in this free and productive society, pay their fair share. This is for all of us to raise the revenues necessary to meet our obligations in education, health, infrastructure building, the security of our Nation, and also to raise enough revenues so we can reduce the deficit.

But it can only be done with fairness and with fair sharing by all, and that is what President Obama has spoken about. He spoke about that in his inaugural address. That is what we have been talking about here for a long time; that is, shared sacrifice on behalf of all, and to make sure that all pay their fair share of taxes in this country so we can once again do what we did in 1993. We can do it again if only my friends on the Republican side will join with us in making sure we raise the necessary revenues to get us out of this hole.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The Senator from Missouri.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the period of morning business be extended until 2 p.m. today, and that all provisions of the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Missouri.

REMEMBERING STAN MUSIAL

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, first of all, this is the first time I have spoken on the floor when you were in the chair. Welcome to the Senate and welcome to the presiding chair.

I want to talk for a few minutes today about a baseball great, a Missouri great, Stan Musial, who passed away on Saturday at the age of 92. Stan Musial was born in November 1920 in Denora, PA. His title was Stan “The Man.” He was the youngest of six children. When he wasn't called Stan “The Man,” he was just a guy who worked at a company as a young man, whose dad was a Polish immigrant, whose mother was of Czechoslovakian ancestry, and whose dreams were probably not to become a professional baseball player but who was, indeed, a great athlete from the very start.

In his remarks, when he presented Stan Musial the Medal of Freedom in 2011, President Obama said the following:

Stan matched his hustle with humility. He retired with 17 records—even as he missed a season in his prime to serve his country in

the Navy. He was the first player to make—get this—\$100,000. Even more shocking, he asked for a pay cut when he didn't perform up to his own expectations.

I don't think that August Busch gave him the pay cut—again, a quote—but I have read the story where Stan Musial was holding out for a pay package somewhere in the mid-90s and August Busch, Jr., who not long before that had bought the Cardinals, called him into the office and said: I'm never going to pay you 90—whatever thousand dollars he was asking for. He said: I'm going to pay you \$100,000, and you are going to be the first baseball player to make \$100,000.

Stan Musial played for the Cardinals from 1941 to 1963, the only Major League team he played for. He entered the majors in 1941 as the fifth youngest player. He ended his career in 1963 as the third oldest player. He had a record of 24 times being named to the Major League Baseball All-Star team. He won seven National League batting titles, three National League Most Valuable Player awards, and he led the Cardinals to three World Series championships in the 1940s.

Stan Musial—No. 6—had a batting average of at least .300 in every 1 of his 17 seasons—a .300 hitter for every 1 of his 17 seasons. His lifetime batting average was .331. He batted .330 in the year before he decided to retire. He had 3,630 career hits, hitting 1,815 hits in St. Louis at Sportsman Park and Busch Stadium, and he hit another 1,815 on the road. He played as well at home as he did away from home. He missed the entire 1945 season while he was serving in the Navy.

It was a fan at Ebbet's Field—with the Dodgers playing at Ebbet's Field—who groaned as he came to the plate one time in a game—he was always particularly good against the Dodgers. The fan said: Here comes the man. And from that point on, his nickname was Stan "The Man."

I had a chance to sit by Tommy Lasorda at a luncheon a few years ago after I had read a biography of Stan Musial. Tommy was sort of the long-time Dodgers manager who was a player when Stan Musial was playing, and he said he thought Stan Musial was the best ballplayer he ever saw play, and he was death on the Dodgers. The Dodgers fans liked him, but it was a real rivalry.

Stan was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame the first year he was eligible, in 1969, and he would be one of the great ambassadors to baseball for the rest of his life. When he retired in 1963, Commissioner Ford Frick said:

Here stands baseball's perfect warrior. Here stands baseball's perfect knight.

Stan Musial became an American icon throughout ballparks and over the radio in the 1940s and 1950s. KMOX, in the 1960s, had a booming signal that went almost all the way to the west coast and covered a lot of the South, and the St. Louis Cardinals were the furthest south of any baseball team

and the furthest west of any baseball team. Because of that, Stan Musial played on a club that, in many ways, became America's team at that time.

I can remember growing up in southwest Missouri on a dairy farm, and particularly late at night when we were hauling hay—and I can remember this when I was 10 or 12 years old—and whoever was in the truck must have been almost deaf because the driver would have the radio turned as loud as you could turn the radio up, and the St. Louis Cardinals game would be coming out of both windows as we were out there working in the fields or, if we weren't working in the field, we would be sitting on the porch somewhere listening to the Cardinals play, and there was no greater Cardinal than Stan Musial.

Bob Gibson, another great Cardinal and Stan's teammate and fellow Hall of Famer, said:

Stan Musial is the nicest man I ever met in baseball.

And Bob Gibson went on to say he didn't particularly associate nice with baseball, but he associated nice with Stan Musial.

Bob Costas had this to say about Stan Musial:

Stan Musial didn't hit in 56 straight games. He didn't hit .400 for a season. He didn't get 4,000 hits. He didn't get 500 home runs. He didn't hit a home run in his last at bat, just a single. He didn't marry Marilyn Monroe; he married his high school sweetheart. His excellence was a quiet excellence.

ESPN titled Musial the most underrated athlete ever. Only Hank Aaron—thinking about the things Stan Musial didn't do—had more runs than Stan Musial and extra base hits. Only Tris Speaker and Pete Rose had more hits. And only Babe Ruth and Barry Bonds created more runs. But Stan Musial was at the highest levels in all of those areas.

Writing in the St. Louis Post Dispatch this week, Bernie Miklasz wrote:

Let's celebrate Musial's extraordinary life and be thankful for his enduring presence through the decades. Let's keep it simple in honor of this remarkably uncomplicated man. There has never been a more perfect union, a better relationship between an athlete and a town, than Stan Musial and St. Louis. From the time Stan took his first at-bat as a Cardinal, until his death Saturday at his home in Ladue, he was part of the community's soul for 71 years, 4 months, and 2 days.

Many stories about Stan Musial have been told, but I want to mention three that Bernie mentioned in that same article. He talked about when Musial was first inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame—as I said earlier, as soon as you could possibly be inducted. It was an overcast day in Cooperstown. The crowd was quiet, subdued, and a little bit put off by the day. Moments before Musial's official ceremony, the clouds got out of the way and the sunshine emerged, and Dizzy Dean's widow said: "Stan brought the sun. He always does."

In the 1960s, a second story emerged of Musial and other Major League stars

visiting U.S. troops in Vietnam, and they went to the military hospitals to console the wounded soldiers. One seriously injured soldier looked up at Musial from his hospital bed and said: "You're the best." And Musial's response was: "No, you are."

Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher Joe Black, an African American, told a story about being racially taunted by players in the St. Louis dugout during a game. Musial, who was batting at the time, and facing Joe Black, stepped out and angrily kicked the dirt to display his disapproval of his own teammates. He waited after the game to tell Black:

I'm sorry that happened. But don't you worry about it. You're a great pitcher. You will win a lot of games.

Black said Musial's support helped him gain the confidence he needed to become a top pitcher.

The fourth and last story Bernie told was of legendary center fielder Willie Mays, who frequently talked about Musial befriending African-American players, relating that at an All-Star game black players were being ignored by the other players. Mays said:

We were in the back of the clubhouse playing poker and none of the white guys had come back or said, "Hi" or "How's it going?" or "How you guys doing?" or "Welcome to the All Star Game." Nothing. We're playing poker and all of a sudden I look up and here comes Stan towards us. He grabs a chair, sits down and starts playing cards with us. And Stan didn't know how to play poker! But that was his way of welcoming us, of making us feel a part of it. I never forgot that. We never forgot that.

Musial didn't make a lot of fiery speeches. He didn't "lead" a movement or try to promote himself as an angelic humanitarian. He just did good things.

There is one last story, a love story, between Stan and his wife Lil. This may be the best Musial statistic of all. They were married for 71 years, 4 months, and 2 days until Lil's death on May 3, with Stan following her in January.

I listened to KMOX from the hay truck I talked about earlier, like lots of other Cardinals and Musial fans, but I remember the first time I saw Stan Musial play at Sportsman Park. I remember the first time, 30 years later, I actually met him, when I was the Secretary of State in Missouri. Getting to meet Stan Musial was about as good as it got even then. I remember hearing him play "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" on his harmonica.

Baseball was lucky to have him, Missouri was lucky to have him, and the Cardinals and St. Louis were lucky to have him, and I am pleased to be here today to say how much we appreciate Stan Musial.

I am also pleased to be joined by my colleague from Missouri, Senator McCASKILL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mrs. McCASKILL. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague. He and I disagree on many things, but we agree on many things also, and one of

those things usually begins and ends with the State we love, Missouri, and certainly some of our most famous and beloved people who come from Missouri. Obviously, there is no one who deserves more love and respect than Stan Musial.

There are so many memories about Stan Musial that I want to try to encapsulate today, but the interesting thing about the memories I have about Stan Musial is that I don't have these memories because I am a Senator. They do not belong uniquely to me because I am an elected official. I have these memories that I share with hundreds of thousands of people who were lucky enough to encounter Stan Musial during his time on Earth.

You know, when you meet somebody, and you can tell they are kind of looking over you to try to find the person who is more important behind you or maybe they are impatient because they do not think you are a big enough deal to be taking their time? If you look at our sports icons today who travel with posesses and have entourages and certain rules about who can come near them and who can't and when, that was not Stan Musial. Not one day of his career or one day after his career did he consider himself untouchable. He saw it as his duty and obligation to be there for all fans. Whether it was somebody who worked at the ballpark sweeping after the game was over or whether it was a very talented ballplayer from another team, everyone was equal in Stan Musial's eyes. What a wonderful American value.

I could stand here today, Madam President, and talk about his amazing record as a baseball player, his unique swing, and the beauty of his accomplishments in America's favorite pastime, but what we need to focus on as we mourn the loss of this living legend is his character because it was his character that brought universal love, respect, and devotion to the man, our man, Stan "The Man."

I know Senator BLUNT talked about this story, but I want to elaborate a little bit.

It is 1952. Joe Black has just been called up to the majors after spending 1 year in the minors with the Brooklyn organization. He is facing Stan Musial. Now, keep in mind that this is an accomplished baseball player who had won two championships in the Negro Baseball Leagues, and it had only been a few years since Jackie Robinson had, in fact, broken the color barrier for Major League Baseball. He is facing Stan Musial, who already was the most feared hitter in baseball. He is standing there as a Black man on the mound in this baseball game, and out of the Cardinal dugout come jeers and taunts. In fact, one of the things said was, hey, Stan, you are not going to have any trouble hitting that ball against that dark background.

When the game was over, Stan Musial decided not to stay in the Cardinal dugout. Joe Black told the story

that as he sat in the dugout, he felt a hand on his shoulder. He looked up, and there was Stan Musial from the opposing dugout saying to Joe Black: You are going to be a great pitcher.

Now, that encapsulates the character of Stan Musial.

Chuck Connors, "The Rifleman," used to tell this story. He was a struggling hitter for the Chicago Cubs.

I may need to explain to you, Madam President, but I certainly don't need to explain to anybody in Cardinal Nation that the Chicago Cubs are an opponent. Now, we don't like the Chicago Cubs in Cardinal Nation.

Chuck Connors asked a teammate what he should do about his swing. He was struggling with being able to hit in the majors, and they all told him the same thing: The only guy who can help you is Stan Musial. So even though he was reluctant to approach a hitter on the opposing team, he went to Musial and asked for help, and, of course, Stan responded as all of us would expect he would; he spent 30 minutes in the cage with an opposing player trying to help him with his swing. Connors recounted that he really wasn't ever that good of a hitter, but he said he never forgot Stan Musial's kindness.

And when he finished watching me cut away at the ball, Stan slapped me on the back and told me to keep swinging.

After the 1946 season, the promoters from the Mexican League decided it was time for them to up the ante on baseball. At the time, Stan Musial was making the enormous sum of \$13,500 playing for the St. Louis Cardinals. The Mexican League came to Stan Musial and said: We are going to offer you—a king's ransom at the time—\$125,000 for 5 years. That was a lot of money for Stan Musial and his family, but he turned down the Mexican League. When asked about it later, he said:

Back in my day, we didn't think about money as much. We just enjoyed playing the game. We loved baseball. I didn't think about anybody else but the Cardinals.

Harry Caray knew Stan Musial for over 50 years. He would often tell the story of Stan Musial wandering out of the ballpark after a steaming doubleheader—and trust me, we can have steaming doubleheaders in Missouri—looking as if he had been through 15 rounds in a prize fight and every single thing in his body language signifying that he was exhausted and just wanted to go home and lie down. Instead, when he got to his car, he found fans waiting for him. "Watch this," Harry Caray told a friend. And sure enough, Musial's whole body straightened—like Popeye had just eaten a can of spinach—and he started shouting, "Whaddya Say! Whaddya Say!" And he signed every single autograph of all the fans surrounding his car. Harry Caray loved telling that story not because it was unusual—that is who Stan Musial was—but for the opposite reason: because it was ordinary. Even in his time, when baseball players weren't

paid as much and so were more part of the community, Stan Musial stood apart by standing with the people in the community.

It wasn't just Cardinal Nation that worshipped Stan Musial. His opponents, the opposing teams—can you imagine this happening today? Believe it or not, the New York Mets had a Stan Musial Day at their park. And in Chicago, the home of the Cubs, he once finished first in a favorite player survey, edging out the legendary Ernie Banks, who was also a very nice guy who was beloved by the fans of baseball in the Midwest.

I could go on and on with stories that reflect this man's character. Yes, he has amazing statistics. Yes, him hitting a baseball was a thing of beauty to all baseball fans in America. But, really, what this man was about was that phrase we love to throw around in politics way too often; that is, American values. This was a man who didn't have to talk about his values because he lived them—his love for his family and how close they are.

I am very fortunate to be friends with the Musial family and have visited with them in the days since his death. They received messages from every star in the constellation of American baseball, but one stood out. Joe Torre, upon hearing of Stan's death just a few days ago, sent a message to the Musial family, and it simply said this:

Stan Musial was a Hall of Famer in the game of life. We will miss you, Stan Musial.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, as we get started on this next Congress—and I wish to congratulate the Presiding Officer for joining this Chamber. As someone who has had the opportunity to preside during my first 2 years in the Senate, I commend the Presiding Officer for those actions and look forward to working with you on a variety of projects.

What I want to do today is continue a tradition that I actually inherited from one of our former colleagues, Senator Ted Kaufman of Delaware. Senator Kaufman, who had been a long-time employee of the Senate, came to this floor on a fairly regular basis during his time here to basically celebrate and acknowledge—in most cases—the tireless, unsung work of so many of our Federal employees. As we debate budgets, debt, and deficit, we oftentimes