

other fellow's point of view, and then work out our differences.

It is the same thing on the international stage. That is why we see it is so difficult to reach international agreements when people have gotten hardened into positions because of race or religion or political balance.

So if you note a tone of sadness in this Senator's voice, then you are correct because, again, we are seeing the polarization of American politics.

Why can't we have a law enforcement organization that also doesn't have to operate under a policy of separating children from their parents? That is the commonsense point of view, but, no, we devolve into these extremes.

TARIFFS

Mr. President, I came to talk about trade.

Is the United States taken advantage of by other countries? You bet and especially China. We have been letting them get away with it for years, but you don't try to correct that situation by suddenly saying, I am going to impose a tariff, as the President has, on imported steel and aluminum: 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum.

What happens then is, for the people who use those products in manufacturing, whatever their business is, that is going to cause the cost of those goods to go up. The consumers are going to be the ones who get hurt. By the way, what that is going to do, again, is the extreme. If you do this, the person who is offended is going to do this and do it more.

That is exactly what is happening in this trade war that is suddenly starting to hurt all of us. In reaction to steel and aluminum tariffs that the United States has imposed, good friends of ours, major trading partners of ours—I am keeping China in a different category. I am talking about the European Union; I am talking about Canada, one of our closest friends; and I am talking about Mexico. In retaliation for what we are doing to them, they are now retaliating and putting tariffs on other goods. They are putting tariffs on everything, not only for steel and aluminum but from washing machines to lobster, whiskey, and cheese.

We are starting to see the consequences of these moves. People are starting to hurt. This Senator has heard from many businesses in his State that are starting to get hurt. In Florida, we are seeing the harmful effects of these tariffs. Mind you, it is not just the Budweiser Brewery that I visited several months ago in Jacksonville that produces 3.3 billion aluminum cans a year. Of course, the cost of those cans are going to go up, and it is going to be the consumer who pays, but it is going to affect others in the restaurant industry, the medical device industry, the marine manufacturing industry, and the auto parts industry.

Let me tell you about the cost of these auto parts that we have to im-

port and those made here domestically. Because of the increased costs of steel or aluminum, the cost of those parts are going up. Maybe the dealer that services your car and replaces parts is one thing, but what about the individual entrepreneur, like the auto mechanic shop that has to buy its parts that all of a sudden has to charge more? The big guys that deal in many more automobile repairs can spread that cost over a lot of people, but that poor individual auto mechanic shop is getting hurt. It is happening right now, and they are losing business.

Take, for example, the marine manufacturing industry. Manufacturing boats is a big industry in Florida. It is worth \$121 billion a year in Florida, which is 650,000 jobs in Florida and tens of thousands of downstream jobs in Florida and nationwide. The industry in our State alone provides over \$10 billion in annual economic activity. All of those businesses are really getting hurt because the European Union, Canada, and Mexico—three big export markets for the boat manufacturers—are getting orders cut because of the retaliatory tariffs of 25 percent from the European Union. They are not going to sell any more boats to European customers if they have to pay an extra 25 percent. They will go elsewhere where they can get it cheap, and that means 10 percent extra costs in Canada; 15 percent in Mexico.

What is that going to do? There are jobs in that boat manufacturing industry that will go away. They are brands that you might recognize like Nautique, Bryant, and Bass Cat. They are all brands of one company, Correct Craft, that I visited in Orlando this week. They manufacture boats and engines in factories across the country, with their headquarters in Orlando.

The President's tariffs have increased the production costs considerably because of the cost of aluminum and steel that goes into those boats. To add insult to the already existing injury, they are being hit with these retaliatory tariffs from other countries where they sell their goods.

There is no sugarcoating it. We are in the midst of a full-blown trade war. If this thing gets out of control, it can take us into an economic recession like the Smoot-Hawley tariffs did in the recession that led to what is known as the Great Depression. If we continue down this path without an exit strategy, we are going to regret it.

Already, our boat manufacturers in Florida have lost tens of millions of dollars in canceled orders. Regal Marine Industries had \$4 million worth of orders fall through. The company estimates it will lose \$13 million this year because of these tariffs, and that will wind up costing people their jobs. It is no small thing.

This is what happens when you get excessively extreme, when you get partisan, when you act like you know it all, when you improvise your way through a complicated world and don't

have a well-thought-out plan of how to get out of this mess. Again, with bipartisan consensus, it is the nature of the politics that we have to rein in.

There is also the story of Micro Stamping, which is the sole supplier of high-grade surgical equipment. That equipment is used in the treatment of breast cancer. Micro Stamping is contemplating shutting down because the President's trade moves are stopping it from getting the specific type of steel it needs to manufacture the equipment.

What about Hale Products? It is up in Ocala. It is also being crushed by the tariffs. It makes fire suppression equipment. Since the cost of the tariffs is passed down to the end consumer, it says the tariffs will make it harder for municipal fire departments—that are already facing stiff budget constraints—to buy the new, lighter weight lifesaving firefighting equipment. This will have repercussions beyond the company's immediate business needs.

It is worth noting that what is going on is doing lasting damage to our strategic alliances. The U.S. Government—this executive branch—is treating our friends like enemies and is giving comfort to our adversaries. This is no way to run a country. We should be working with our allies to address our global challenges. We ought to be advancing our shared interests, not just in trade but in national security and a range of things.

Before we escalate these things and they get out of hand, we need to think a little bit more about what we are doing, why we are doing it, and if we are doing it the right way. This Senator is saying we are not doing it the right way. What we are doing is sending a message that America is closed for business. I don't think that is what we want to do.

I urge my colleagues to join this Senator in shining the light of day on the hard truth of what happens when you go along and make things up without having a clear plan for success, which is exactly what this trade war right now is a product of. That kind of approach doesn't work for the USA; it doesn't work for Florida; and it doesn't work for the vast majority of hard-working everyday Americans. I think it is time to come to our senses.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. (Mr. GARDNER). The Senator from Missouri. COMMEMORATING THE NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, last night, the Major League Baseball All-Star Game was hosted in Washington. In conjunction with that game, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum hosted an event to honor the Homestead Grays, which was one of the teams from that league. There were great teams in that league. The Homestead Grays had won the Negro League World Series in 1943, which was 75 years ago. They had a great exhibit here in town about that team and about the history of that league.

The museum, which was founded in 1990, is located in Kansas City, MO. It is dedicated to highlighting and preserving that important part of our sports history—the history of African-American baseball. Bob Kendrick runs that museum, and it is a museum I would encourage all of my colleagues to visit as the All-Star Game was in Kansas City a few years ago, and it was one of the venues for Major League Baseball.

When people are in Kansas City, playing the Royals, managers and coaches often take their players there—players who haven't been there before and players who want to go back—just for them to have a sense of what it was like when there was the segregation of baseball and also some of the great players who played there. The chairman of the board, Stewart Myers, was here yesterday, and the vice chairman, Adam Sachs, was here yesterday.

The museum is actually expanding and building the Buck O'Neil Research and Education Center on the Paseo in Kansas City. Buck O'Neil was a great Kansas Citian, but he had also been a great part of Negro Leagues Baseball. In June of this year, vandals broke into the YMCA, on which a lot of money had already been spent. It was where that part of the museum, the research center, was going to be housed. The vandals did more damage than they should have been able to do, and, unfortunately, there was some water damage in the building. Yet that effort continues.

The Negro National League was created there in 1920 at that Paseo YMCA. There was an owners meeting, and the owners decided, It is time we really put more of a structure into this league. So they established a league. Before 1920, these African-American teams barnstormed around the country and played whomever they could play. After 1920, they could still barnstorm, but there was a league, there was a league championship, and there was a structure they had not had before.

In 1947, as every baseball fan knows, the Brooklyn Dodgers decided to integrate baseball, and Jackie Robinson, who had played for the Kansas City Monarchs, was the first player to step into that challenge of integrated baseball. The league lasted another 13 years or so. I think the last team finally folded in the early 1960s.

Some of the greatest baseball and the most exciting baseball ever played was played in this particular league—names like Satchel Paige, who said about himself that he was so fast he could turn off the light in the bedroom and be in bed before it got dark. He was a great pitcher, and he was a great runner. Buck O'Neil, Satchel Paige, Cool Papa Bell, Jackie Robinson, and 100 other names in that last 3 years of the 1940s who joined the Major Leagues are all part of that story.

Missouri teams were an important part of that story. The Monarchs

played for 37 seasons, and I already mentioned that Jackie Robinson played briefly for the Monarchs before he went to the Dodgers. They won a dozen league championships. They sent more players than any other team to the Major Leagues. The St. Louis Stars, who were on the other side of our State—originally the St. Louis Giants—played 12 seasons. They won the league championship in 1928, in 1930, and in 1931.

The real focus of the exhibit here this week was on the Homestead Grays. Now, where did the Homestead Grays come from? I think I already mentioned they were celebrating the 75th anniversary of winning the Negro League World Series in 1943. The Homestead Grays were originally based in Homestead, PA, just outside of Pittsburgh.

In 1940, in 1941, and in 1942, they played at least half of their games here in Washington. When the Washington Senators were traveling, the ballpark would be available, and the Homestead Grays would play games there. By 1943, they were playing about two-thirds of their games in Washington and generally had more people at their games than the Washington Senators had at their games. They won nine consecutive league pennants from 1937 through 1945.

There was even an effort, when the Nationals team was brought here, to call the Nationals the Washington Grays because of that tremendous team that had played here. The team owners chose the Nationals because it was one of the Washington Senators' official nicknames. That is an important part of our history right there, and we are going to be celebrating the 100th anniversary of that league in 2020.

I and Congressman CLEAVER, who is on the other side of this building, are looking at ways to draw more attention to this great part of our story. It is sad because of the segregated elements of it, but it is a great story because of the entrepreneurship and the sportsmanship and the competitive nature of that league.

Mr. NELSON. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I can tell the Senator is interested. I am pleased to yield.

Mr. NELSON. Indeed, this Senator is interested. Would you believe that a lot of those retired players who are still living happen to live in Florida?

Mr. BLUNT. Right.

Mr. NELSON. Further, as the Senator correctly pointed out, once Jackie Robinson was able to break into the majors in 1947, it would be another 11 years—1958—before the last team in the Major Leagues integrated. Would you believe, for all of that period of time, these great baseball players who have contributed so much had no pensions?

Further, it was years later in this Senate—in the last decade—that, finally, the Commissioner of Baseball was brought in front of the Commerce Committee in order to face the music

about the fact that the retired players who had not played in Major League Baseball but in the old Negro leagues in America—because they couldn't get into Major League Baseball, even while the rest of the teams were being integrated, which took 11 years—had no pensions. Would you believe that Major League Baseball, through Bud Selig, finally agreed to give them onetime pension payments?

This Senator is so grateful because that has helped so many of the residents in my State who are these great players. Senator BLUNT has so accurately described their considerable talents on the baseball field.

Mr. BLUNT. I think that is an important part of the history.

There were a couple of players there last night who had played in the league, and of course there are fewer of those players all the time. I have had a chance, as you have had, to meet and talk to them over the years—to talk about the excitement of that kind of baseball and their ability to entertain both with their sportsmanship as well as just with their talent as sportsmen.

I think it was a great league, and it is a great story. I don't know if the Senator has had a chance to go to the museum in Kansas City, but as a guy who knew those players and appreciates what that league was all about, I would certainly love to go there with the Senator sometime.

Mr. NELSON. If the Senator will yield, as a matter of fact, I am looking forward to seeing that museum.

It was one of the Senator's players on the Kansas City Monarchs—"Peach-Head" Bob Mitchell, retired, who was living in my State—who brought to the attention of his Senator the inequity that had occurred in their never getting pensions, even though they were certainly capable of getting into Major League Baseball but, because of segregation, could not.

Mr. BLUNT. I am looking forward, along with others, to celebrating that century of history. It is an important part of the story to be told, and I am glad the Senator has helped add to it here today.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Mr. President, I also want to talk for a few minutes about the importance of getting the appropriations bills to the Senate floor, and I want to do that by talking about the opioid epidemic.

Our annual opportunity to look at that is legislative—legislative in terms of deciding how to spend money as we try to deal with this epidemic that claims more lives than any other single accidental cause of death. For a long time, car accidents predominated that list, but in virtually every State in the country, more people die now from drug overdoses than die from car accidents.

There are people of every age, such as the high school cheerleader in my hometown of Springfield, MO, who hurt her leg and got medicine for that leg injury. I think it was after 3 years of