

and concepts and bring them to fruition. Geniuses are literally thousands of times more productive than the rest of us. We all depend on them for our livelihoods and opportunities.

The feats of genius are necessarily difficult to identify or predict, except in retrospect. But judging from the very rough metric of awards of mathematical doctorates and other rigorous scientific and engineering degrees, prizes, patents, and publications, about a third of the geniuses in the U.S. are foreign born, and another 20% are the offspring of immigrants. A third of all American Nobel Prize winners, for example, were born overseas.

A stellar example of these elites in action is Silicon Valley in California. Silicon Valley companies have reduced the price of computer MIPs and memory bits by a factor of some 10,000 in 2½ decades. Although mainstream economists neglect to measure the qualitative impact of these innovations, most of the new value in the world economy over the last decade has stemmed, directly or indirectly, from the semiconductor and computer industries, both hardware and software.

Consider Intel Corp. Together with its parent, Fairchild Semiconductor, Intel developed the basic processes of microchip manufacture and created dynamic and static random access memory, the microprocessor, and the electrically programmable read-only memory. In other words, Intel laid the foundations for the personal computer revolution and scores of other chip-based industries that employ the vast bulk of U.S. engineers today.

Two American-born geniuses, Robert Noyce and Gordon Moore, were key founders of Fairchild and Intel. But their achievements would have been impossible without the help of Jean Hourni, inventor of planar processing; Dov Frohmann-Benkowski, inventor of electrically erasable programmable ROMs; Federico Faggin, inventor of silicon gate technology and builder of the first microprocessor; Mayatoshi Shima, layout designer of key 8086 family devices; and of course Andrew Grove, the company's now revered CEO who solved several intractable problems of the metal oxide silicon technology at the heart of Intel's growth. All these Intel engineers—and hundreds of other key contributors—were immigrants.

The pattern at Intel was repeated throughout Silicon Valley, from National Semiconductor and Advanced Micro Devices to Applied Materials, LSI Logic, Actel, Atmel, Integrated Device Technologies, Xicor, Cypress, Sun Microsystems and Hewlett-Packard, all of which from the outset heavily depended on immigrants in the laboratories and on engineering workbenches. LSI, IDT, Actel, Atmel, Xicor, and Sun were all founded or led by immigrants. Today, fully one-third of all the engineers in Silicon Valley are foreign born.

Now, with Silicon Valleys proliferating throughout the U.S. economy, with Silicon Deserts, Prairies, Mountains, and even Alleys being hopefully launched from Manhattan to Oregon, immigration becomes ever more vital to the future of the U.S. economy. And microchips are just the beginning. On the foundation of silicon have arisen world-leading software and medical equipment industries almost equally dependent on immigrants. As spearhead of the fastest growing U.S. industry, software, Microsoft offers some of the most coveted jobs in the U.S. economy. But for vital functions, it still must turn to immigrants for 5% of its domestic work force, despite the difficult and expensive legal procedures required to import an alien.

FREEDOM OF ENTERPRISE

In recent congressional testimony, Ira Rubenstein, a Microsoft attorney, declared that immigration bars could jeopardize the 58 percent of its revenue generated overseas, threaten American dominance of advanced "client-server" business applications, and render "stillborn" the information superhighway. In particular, Corning and other producers of fiber-optic technology have faced a severe shortage of native engineers equipped to pursue this specialty crucial to both telecommunications and medical instruments.

With U.S. high school students increasingly shunning mathematics and the hard sciences, America is the global technology and economic leader in spite of, not because of, any properties of the American gene pool or dominant culture. America prevails only because it offers the freedom of enterprise and innovation to people from around the world.

A decision to cut back legal immigration today, as Congress is contemplating, is a decision to wreck the key element of the American technological miracle. After botching the issues of telecom deregulation and tax rate reduction, and wasting a year on Hooverian myths about the magic of a balanced budget, the Republican Congress now proposes to issue a deadly body blow to the intellectual heart of U.S. growth. Congress must not cripple the new Manhattan Projects of the U.S. economy in order to pursue some xenophobic and archaic dream of ethnic purity and autarky.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the Federal Government is running on borrowed time, not to mention borrowed money—nearly \$5 trillion of it. As of the close of business Monday, December 18, the Federal debt stood at \$4,989,213,998,043.63. On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,939.14 as his or her share of the Federal debt.

More than two centuries ago, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. It's time for Congress to adopt a Declaration of Economic Responsibilities and an amendment requiring the President and Congress to come up with a balanced Federal budget—beginning right now.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session, the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 418. An act for the relief of Arthur J. Carron, Jr.

H.R. 419. An act for the relief of Benchmark Rail Group, Inc.

H.R. 1315. An act for the relief of Kris Murty.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 660. An act to amend the Fair Housing Act to modify the exemption from certain familial status discrimination prohibitions granted to housing for older persons.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 3:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2203. An act to reauthorize the tied aid credit program of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and to allow the Export-Import Bank to conduct a demonstration project.

H.R. 2627. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the founding of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.R. 2808. An act to extend authorities under the Middle East Facilitation Act of 1994 until March 31, 1996, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 22. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal.

At 8:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1398. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 1203 Lemay Ferry Road, St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Charles J. Coyle Post Office Building."

H.R. 1880. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 102 South McLean, Lincoln, Illinois, as the "Edward Madigan Post Office Building."

H.R. 2029. An act to amend the Farm Credit Act of 1971 to provide regulatory relief, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2262. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 218 North Alston Street, in Foley, Alabama, as the "Holk Post Office Building."

H.R. 2704. An act to provide that the United States Post Office building that is to be located on the 7436 South Exchange Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Charles A. Hayes Post Office Building."

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 106. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol

for a ceremony to commemorate the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

H. Con. Res. 123. Concurrent resolution to provide for the provisional approval of regulations applicable to certain covered employing offices and covered employees and to be issued by the Office of Compliance before January 23, 1996.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 418. An act for the relief of Arthur J. Carron, Jr., to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 419. An act for the relief of Benchmark Rail Group, Inc; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1315. An act for the relief of Kris Murty, to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 1398. An act to designate the United Post Office building located at 1203 Lemay Ferry Road, St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Charles J. Coyle Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1880. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 102 South McLean, Lincoln, Illinois, as the "Edward Madigan Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2029. An act to amend the Farm Credit Act of 1971 to provide regulatory relief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 2262. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 218 North Alston Street in Foley, Alabama, as the "Holk Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2704. An act to provide that the United States Post Office building that is to be located on the 7436 South Exchange Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Charles A. Hayes Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 106. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to commemorate the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H. Con. Res. 123. Concurrent resolution to provide for the provisional approval of regulations applicable to certain covered employing offices and covered employees and to be issued by the Office of Compliance before January 23, 1996; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

H.J. Res. 132. Joint resolution affirming that budget negotiations shall be based on the most recent technical and economic assumptions of the Congressional Budget Office and shall achieve a balanced budget by fiscal year 2002 based on those assumptions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1737. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget,

Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the cumulative report on rescissions and deferrals dated December 1, 1995; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committee on Appropriations, Committee on the Budget, Committee on Finance, Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1738. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, transmitting, a notice relative to funding of the Judiciary; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1739. A communication from the Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on compliance by insured depository institutions with the national flood insurance program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1740. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Water Quality Inventory Report for calendar year 1994; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1741. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the trade and employment effects of the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA); to the Committee on Finance.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-483. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

"LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO. 18

"Whereas the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, has issued a new strategic plan known as "Reinvention of the Forest Service"; and

"Whereas this plan has far-reaching implications and was developed without consultation with key elected leaders, including state governors, members of the United States Congress, or community, tribal government, and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) corporate leaders in contradiction of President Clinton's Executive Order No. 12875 "Enhancing Intergovernmental Partnerships"; and

"Whereas Vice-President Gore's "Report on Reinventing Government" was developed with the promised intent of empowering local governments and decentralizing decision-making power; and

"Whereas the "Reinvention of the Forest Service" strategic plan approved by Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy, just before his resignation, eliminates the very foundation of locally based authority that had the responsibility of working with states, local communities, tribal governments, and ANCSA corporations and masks and diffuses decision-making authority and withdraws it to Washington, D.C., making the Forest Service less responsive to local concerns; and

"Whereas moving the Alaska Region Forest Service office to Portland, Oregon, is an example of the flawed science being used to define ecosystems and ecological boundaries; and

"Whereas the newly defined purpose of the Forest Service to promote the sustainability of ecosystems without specifically retaining the traditional Forest Service objective of promoting community stability has already created problems and crises for hundreds of communities dependent upon the national

forests and state and private forest ecosystems; and

"Whereas the new strategic plan has seemingly turned away from commitment towards providing a continuous flow of renewable resources to meet the public need, as directed in the Organic Act, Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960, the National Forest Management Act, and other Acts of the Congress; and

"Whereas, under the new strategic plan, the Forest Service is more inclined to present a nebulous plan for ecosystem management where resource yields are simply the by-products of management, with no predictable flows or commitments to supply levels to sustain human life: Be it

Resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature calls upon the newly designated Secretary of Agriculture to suspend implementation of the reinvention project's strategic plan approved by Secretary Espy to allow for Congressional review and for consultation with local governments; and be it further

Resolved, That the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, conduct true partnership meetings with states, communities, tribal governments, and ANCSA corporations to develop a new strategic plan; and be it further

Resolved, That the Forest Service acknowledge the United States Department of Agriculture's legal obligations to rebuild, restore, and promote the economic stability of forest dependent communities; and be it further

Resolved, That, in keeping with federal law, timber commodities are a primary not a residual value of forest management; and be it further

Resolved, That the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, through a true partnership with local communities, identify and implement strategies for decentralizing decision making and empowering state and local governments to more effectively manage forest ecosystems to assure community stability, improve service to the public, and reduce government cost.

"Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior; Jack Ward Thomas, Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; and the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress."

POM-484. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

"LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO. 22

"Whereas 46 U.S.C. Appx. 861-889 (Merchant Marine Act of 1920), commonly known as the Jones Act, requires that seaborne shipping between United States ports be done on vessels that have been constructed in the United States and that are crewed by United States crews; and

"Whereas this requirement has resulted in much higher costs for shipping bulk commodities on United States vessels between domestic ports than for shipping those commodities on foreign carriers between United States and foreign ports; and

"Whereas there are currently no bulk carriers constructed in the United States that are capable of servicing the large-scale movement of Alaska coal and coal derived fuels; and