

least the "history according to Jake", but he now has retired and we miss him.

Following the hymn, a House member, tells us his/her life story—about the influences that shaped his life, values, philosophy, politics and faith.

On these occasions, members offer a window into their souls that I expect few others have ever seen. Through this sharing each of us, so often is surprised that, beyond the accents, geography and political labels, surprised at how much we have in common. After hearing Joe Moakley of Massachusetts tell of his South Boston childhood, Charlie Rangel, who grew up in Harlem, said "Joe, we really grew up in the same neighborhood just never knew it!"

Regarding our differences, and they are many, we grow to understand them better.

We close with another prayer. We pray that we may be salt and light in this world we share.

Each of us truly is blessed by our participation and pray that somehow our Congress and nation, one nation under God, are as well.

BALANCE THE BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, last week, during his State of the Union Address to Congress, the President paid a great deal of lip-service to the need for balancing the budget. Ironically, it was only 2 weeks earlier, that members of his own party, said "We—Democrats—are advantaged, both politically and substantially, in not reaching an agreement on the budget." This confirms the President and his colleagues are more interested in campaign politics than in the future of this country.

While my colleagues on the other side of the aisle believe that it is to their advantage not to balance the budget, let me remind them of who stands to gain the most from a balanced budget—every American. All the working families who have mortgages, car notes, or student loans will benefit. Interest rates directly affect their standard of living and lower interest rates mean more money in their pockets. Those who currently rely on Medicare, and those who will in the future, will be able to rest assured that these services will be there for them. Families, the middle class, and businesses are targeted for tax cuts. These are the people who need and will receive the advantages of a balanced budget.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority in Congress will continue to work toward a balanced-budget agreement. We take our commitments seriously. It is time the President and his colleagues did the same.

SALUTE TO MARION AND NATALIE CHARD OF THE MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the outstanding work of Mr. Marion Chard and Mrs. Natalie Chard of Madison, CT. Although

Mr. and Mrs. Chard are not my constituents, I have a great respect for their work with the Madison Historical Society and the Allis-Bushnell House. During the Civil War, Madison's C.W. Bushnell contributed to keeping our Nation whole by contributing to the construction of the *Monitor*. The Madison Historical Society has in its collection the original telegram from President Abraham Lincoln to C.W. Bushnell requesting immediate assistance in building the *Monitor*.

I, too, have a great affinity and interest in the history of the Civil War. A little known fact of the Civil War was that Union Naval Officer David Glasgow Farragut was of Hispanic origin. He is credited with splitting the Confederacy in two with his victories along the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico and successfully blockading the South. Farragut became the first American awarded the rank of Admiral of the Navy and was recognized worldwide as a hero. Farragut was one of approximately 10,000 Hispanic soldiers that fought on both sides of the Civil War.

I ask my colleagues here assembled to join me in saluting the efforts of the Chards, and other historical preservation groups nationwide, for their dedication to safeguarding our Nation's history. Their efforts will benefit future generations of Americans that seek to learn more about our past. Mr. Speaker, I ask to enter into the RECORD, following this statement, a copy of a historical account of the U.S.S. *Monitor* from the U.S. Navy's Division of Naval History.

Navy Department
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Division of Naval History (OP-29)
Ships' Histories Section

USS MONITOR

On 4 July 1861, Secretary of the Navy Welles recommended the appointment of a Board to report on the merits of ironclads. The recommendation was approved by Congress and a board was authorized. The Board was appointed on 8 August, and on 16 September, it reported, recommending acceptance of three of the proposals submitted for their review. One of the proposals recommended was Ericsson's *MONITOR*.

The contract for the building of the *MONITOR*, was signed on 4 October 1861, between John Ericsson, principal, John F. Winslow, John A. Griswold, C.S. Bushnell, sureties, and Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy. One of the provisions of the contract was that the vessel be completed and ready for sea in 100 days from the date of the contract.

In order to expedite the work, Ericsson made contracts with various concerns. The hull was built by Thomas F. Rowland of the Continental Iron Works, Green Point, Long Island, New York; the main engines and auxiliary machinery by Delameter and Company of New York; the turret by the Novelty Iron Works of New York, and many other establishments contributed to the work by contracts for forgings, bolts, etc.

The iron hull of the vessel was launched at Green Point, on 30 January 1862; the turret guns, and other fittings being added later. On 19 February, the *MONITOR* left Green Point and went to the New York Navy Yard, where it appears, she was commissioned on 25 February. Lieutenant John L. Worden, USN, was her first commanding officer.

The *MONITOR*'s dimensions were as follows: length, 179 feet; beam, 41 feet 6 inches; depth, 11 feet 4 inches; tonnage, 776 (Navy Register). Her battery consisted of two XI-inch Dahlgren pattern guns. They were cast at the West Point Foundry and had the following characteristics; length, 13 feet

3.7 inches; weight of guns, 16,000 pounds; weight of shot, 166-170 pounds; weight of shell, 127-130 pounds; and weight of service charge powder, 15 pounds. The ship's complement, as of 6 March 1862, may be obtained from Appendix II.

On 27 February 1862, the ironclad left the yard for sea, but because of poor steering qualities she returned to the yard. A few changes were made and she departed for Hampton Roads on 6 March 1862. (Appendix I contains a factual account, by Lieutenant Worden, of this trip to Hampton Roads and of the famous battle between the *MONITOR* and *CSS VIRGINIA* (ex-MERRIMACK).

The *MONITOR* arrived at Hampton Roads during the evening of 8 March. The next morning, she engaged the *CSS VIRGINIA* (ex-MERRIMACK), commanded by Lieutenant Catesby ap R. Jones, CSN, in battle in Hampton Roads. Lieutenant Worden was wounded during the engagement and the command fell to Lieutenant Samuel D. Greene, USN. The battle lasted over three hours when the *VIRGINIA* retired from action to Norfolk. The *MONITOR* remained at Hampton Roads for the protection of the wooden Union ships.

Consular dispatches received in Washington revealed the plan of the Confederates to concentrate their vessels and force the blockade of Wilmington. In consequence of this it was decided in December 1862, at Washington, to send more vessels to Wilmington, including the three ironclad monitors *PASSAIC*, *MONTAUK* and *MONITOR*, to cooperate with the army in an attack on Wilmington and the defenses about the city. The fall of Wilmington would have rendered the blockade more effective and cutoff a large part of the supply of goods received by the South from abroad.

On 29 December 1862, the *MONITOR*, Commander J.P. Bankhead, USN, commanding, left Hampton Roads for Beaufort, North Carolina. She left under her own steam, but in tow of *USS RHODE ISLAND* and accompanied by the monitor *PASSAIC*. A very rough sea was encountered off Cape Hatteras, and the *MONITOR* began leaking and taking water to such an extent that the pumps could not discharge it. The work of transferring the crew was attempted by the *RHODE ISLAND*, but the vessel foundered before this could be fully accomplished and four officers and 12 men were lost.

The *MONITOR* sank shortly after midnight, 31 December 1862, twenty miles S.S.W. of Cape Hatteras. The exact location of her sinking is not known. At noon on 30 December 1862, the *RHODE ISLAND*'s position by dead reckoning was Latitude 35-25 North and Longitude 75-16 West, and at noon on 31 December 1862, her position by head reckoning was Latitude 34-56 North, Longitude 76-05 West. The *RHODE ISLAND* endeavored to remain as near as possible to the position, where the *MONITOR* was believed to have sunk, until daylight on the morning of the 31st, but after daylight she cruised looking for her missing small boat, so that the position taken at noon was not necessarily that of the sinking of the *MONITOR*.

At 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. the *RHODE ISLAND* sounded with 30 and 40 fathoms of line respectively, but got no bottom. At 7 a.m. soundings showed her in 35 fathoms of water.

Quoting from a letter written by Commander Bankhead concerning the sinking of the *MONITOR*, the position is given thus: "As near as I could judge, making allowance for current, drift, and sea, we were about 25 miles south of Cape Hatteras, say in Latitude 34-50 North, Longitude 75-30 West, depth of water, 30 fathoms.

The *MONITOR* has never been raised.
Compiled: 14 FEB 1957.