

since 1871. And I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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<sup>1</sup>Acting Librarian

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

CONVENTION SPEECH OF SENATOR  
JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, recently at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, my colleague, Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER addressed the delegates assembled there. His remarks were, as usual, right on point, discussing some of the most important issues of our times. I ask unanimous consent that the full text of Senator ROCKEFELLER's remarks be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the remarks were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[The Charleston Gazette, Wednesday, Aug. 28, 1996]

TEXT OF ROCKEFELLER'S CONVENTION SPEECH  
(The Associated Press)

*Prepared remarks of Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-Va., at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago on Tuesday:*

My name is Jay Rockefeller. I'm from West Virginia. And I'm a Democrat. Let me tell you why.

We Democrats understand what makes America different. In America, a lifetime of hard work adds up to something: owning your own home; putting your kids through college; having peace of mind when you retire.

And no return on a lifetime of hard work means more to more Americans than the peace of mind provided by Medicare and Medicaid.

Medicare—the rock solid guarantee that poor health won't put you in the poor house.

Medicare—part of the sacred trust that binds us together.

Medicare—conceived by Democrats. Passed by Democrats. Defended by Democrats.

In 1964, I went to West Virginia as a VISTA worker—to the small coal camp of Emmons. I worked in Emmons for two years to make a difference, to change some lives. But in the end, I was the one who was transformed. I learned that even the smallest changes can take a lifetime of effort. And I learned that even the smallest efforts count.

In 1965, Lyndon Johnson signed the Medicare and Medicaid bills into law. He carried on the work of Harry Truman and Jack Kennedy, fighting to see health security guaranteed for every senior citizen and working family.

Today, Democrats are fighting to extend that same peace of mind to every American. Today, we are fighting to protect our legacy from Republican rollbacks.

At the Republican convention, Bob Dole talked about going back to the America of his youth. Yes, there is a lot to be said about a time when life was simpler. But nostalgia can play tricks on you \* \* \* not all aspects of the good old days were so good.

There was a time in America when our elderly often lived out the end of their lives in poverty and despair. There was a time when widows were left with nothing, when husbands would lose their homes after caring for a terminally ill spouse. There was a time in America when families' college savings could be wiped out and family farms were sold to pay parents' hospital bills.

But in 1965, we turned a corner. Because of Medicare and Medicaid, we live in a different America. A better America.

Remember, no family is immune to sudden tragedy, old age or illness. The heartbreak is the same for every one of us. That is why we must remember that Medicare and Medicaid are the only safety net protecting working families against impoverishment caused by catastrophic illness.

Today, Americans can all look toward their retirement years with hope and confidence, not fear and anxiety. Today, older Americans and people with disabilities can be assured that they will be treated with dignity.

Democrats are committed to a balanced budget, but we won't do it on the backs of the people who built this country and made it great.

Last year, Republicans tried to give out \$245 billion of tax breaks for the rich and cut \$270 billion to try to pay for it. And watch out! If the Republicans win, Medicare and Medicaid will be back on the chopping block.

Thirty years ago, Republicans fought against the creation of Medicare. Bob Dole voted against it. Remember what he said only a year ago, and I quote, "I was there, fighting the fight, one of the 12, voting against Medicare in 1965 . . . because it wouldn't work." And Newt Gingrich talks of letting Medicare wither on the vine. We will not let that happen.

And why will we defend Medicare for the family trying to take care of an aging parent? Because that's what families do.

And why will we defend Medicare for senior Americans who have lost their spouses? Because that's what families do.

And why will we be there to defend Medicaid for the family of a child with a disability? Because that's what families do.

And why will we be there to defend Medicare for the couple approaching retirement who need peace of mind? Because that's what families do.

Why will we safeguard Medicaid for children? Because that's what families do.

Why do we continue to push for health care for all Americans? Because that's what families do.

And why are we going to vote Clinton-Gore in '96?

Because that's what families do. And because of what they do for families.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN RILEY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a special South Carolinian and well known

Charlestonian, Mrs. Helen Schachte Riley, who passed away last week at the age of 81.

Mrs. Riley was a respected community servant and devoted Christian, mother, and wife. Throughout her long and distinguished life, this enthusiastic woman was actively involved in her community and many local and charitable organizations.

The strength of a community lies within its citizens, and Helen Riley contributed much to our great city of Charleston. Unquestionably, Mrs. Riley is a role model to many South Carolinians, including her son, Joe Riley, who serves as the Mayor of Charleston. Her legacy lives on and she leaves her children, grandchildren and great grand-children a proud heritage and fond memories of an outstanding and gracious lady.

Mr. President, Helen Schachte Riley's family has my deepest sympathies and condolences on their loss. I believe an article from yesterday's Charleston Post and Courier nicely sums up Mrs. Riley's life and many accomplishments, and I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[Charleston Post and Courier, Sept. 18, 1996]

HELEN SCHACHTE RILEY

Helen Schachte Riley didn't make headlines, as did her late husband, prominent civic leader Joseph P. Riley Sr., or her son, the long-time, popular mayor of Charleston. But she was a much-admired force in the community, known for her devotion to her family, the quality of her character and her gracious style.

While naturally shy, Helen Riley had long been in the limelight, either at the side of her husband, or as one of her sons staunchest supporters. She handled her public role with dignity and charm.

A native of the city in which her family would play such a prominent role, she was a bright student at the College of Charleston, graduating second in her class. Then it was on to Jefferson Medical College where she became a medical technologist.

But most of her life was spent as a wife and as a mother to three daughters and a son. Before her death last week at age 81, her devotion had extended to 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr., who delivered the eulogy at his mother's funeral mass at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, remembered her Tuesday as the "the best role model" and as "the-glue that held us together—our center of gravity."

Helen Riley's parents taught her the importance of community service, the mayor said, noting her involvement with the Association for the Blind and the Florence Crittenton Home. And she was "a wonderful child to her parents," he noted, "teaching us the joy and responsibility of caring for three generations at one time."

Her husband and her children had no question about their importance in her life. They knew, the mayor said, that they were her "very center" . . . "it was the bedrock of our existence." Deeply religious, she also taught the value of character above all else, according to her son, setting "a standard of goodness."