

from the dedicated service of its senior, and longest serving, Senator. Whoever replaces our friend in this Chamber will have a challenging task in attempting to match the commitment CLAIRBORNE PELL brought to this job.

Mr. President, it has been a pleasure to have served with Senator PELL these many years. He is a man of integrity and ability who has done much to make our Nation a better and stronger place. I wish him great health and much happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JAMES EXON

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I doubt that one can get any closer to the "Heartland of America" than Nebraska, a State which lies in the middle of the Nation and is known for its plain talking, and well grounded people. One man who has exemplified those characteristics during his long and distinguished career in the U.S. Senate is JIM EXON, who is retiring this year and returning home to the Cornhusker State.

JIM is of the generation of Americans who are veterans of World War II, individuals who understand and honor the notions of public service, sacrifice, and patriotism. To men of Senator EXON's generation, there is no problem that cannot be solved by rolling up one's sleeves, and sitting down and working together toward a resolution. In his three terms in the Senate, he repeatedly demonstrated his commitment to keeping America strong, helping our Nation's farmers, and ensuring that our rural citizens had a voice in Congress.

Nebraskans have been well served by this Senator during the past 18 years, because he was well prepared for the responsibilities and demands of the U.S. Senate. A veteran, JIM's military experience taught him how to be tough, self-resilient, and achieve goals and objectives. As a businessman, JIM learned the importance of meeting a payroll and operating without undue interference from the Government. As the Governor of Nebraska, he combined his military and business experiences to be one of that State's most successful chief executives, earning two terms in that office, which was followed by his election to the U.S. Senate in 1978.

For the past eighteen years, I have had the pleasure of serving with JIM on the Senate Armed Services Committee. In his capacity as a member of that Committee, JIM has worked hard to help provide for the defense of the United States, and to ensure that our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to do their jobs, and to meet any threat, anywhere. Without question, his experiences as a soldier and non-commissioned officer in the World War II Pacific Theater certainly helped to shape how he approached making defense policy.

Mr. President, Senator JIM EXON has served his State and Nation admirably

and selflessly. He stands as an excellent example of the traditions of public service, and I hope that men and women in Nebraska and throughout the United States will follow the lead he has set to make America a better and stronger place for all her citizens.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DAVID PRYOR

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, on the nights when the Senate remains in session well past when most others have gone to bed, when tempers are short and most Members are frustrated that we have not made more progress, those are the times when a sense of humor really comes in handy. One colleague who consistently manages to find a bright spot when others only seem gloom, and who is able to find a humor in almost any situation, is our friend from Arkansas, DAVID PRYOR.

DAVID has capably represented the people of Arkansas as their Governor, and in both Houses of Congress. His career in our Nation's Capitol began in 1966 when he was first elected to the House of Representatives, and where he served in four Congresses. In 1979, he moved across the Hill to the Senate where he is about to complete his third term in office. Through his position on several key committees, DAVID has been able to work to make Arkansas an even better place to live, and I know his constituents are thankful for his efforts.

Though DAVID and I did not share any committee assignments, I have enjoyed serving with him in the Senate these many years. The "Sheriff", as I liked to call him as his father held that office in Arkansas, always approached his duties with enthusiasm and dedication, and he upheld the finest traditions of this institution. DAVID is truly a gentleman of the South, and I know that he will be missed by his many friends here in the Senate.

Mr. President, given the great number of successes Senator PRYOR has enjoyed throughout his life, I am certain that fate will again smile upon him in his career following the Senate. I wish good health and happiness in the years to come and am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve with him.

TRIBUTE TO SENATE SUPPORT STAFF

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, when one thinks of the U.S. Senate, most visualize this Chamber and the 100 Members as the greatest deliberative body in the world. To those of us who serve here though, we know that the Senate actually goes well beyond the floor and galleries found within these four walls and two stories of the Capitol.

One of the best kept secrets of the Senate are the people who work here and support our efforts in making the law. Especially critical to that process are a number of individuals who work

with us day in and day out. I would like to take a moment to recognize these people and the valuable services they render to us, the U.S. Senate, and the Nation.

This body is all about debate, and the chief Parliamentarian, Bob Dove, and his assistants are critical to keeping the debate running smoothly. These men and women have the unenviable responsibility of interpreting the exhaustive and sometimes confusing rules of the Senate. Without question, anyone who has sat in the President's Chair and presided over the Senate has been grateful for the assistance of these men and women when proceedings are suddenly bogged down in a tangled web of motions, countermotions, amendments, and objections. Somehow or another, the Parliamentarians are always able to sort things out and keep everything back on track.

Each year thousands of people visit the Senate to observe their representatives at work. After getting a taste of what are often dry, and somewhat technical discussions, they leave here to tour and enjoy the Smithsonian, the National Galleries of Art, or one of the many monuments around town. The Reporters of the Senate, however, are unable to walk away from this Chamber no matter how tedious debate gets. These men and women spend long hours on their feet, faithfully and accurately keeping a transcript of the proceedings of this body. These detailed notes are transcribed and printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in the matter of less than 24 hours, a truly impressive feat. Without question, the men and women who work for chief reporter Ron Kavulick are truly worthy of commendation for their seemingly boundless levels of energy, and their unflinching commitment to accuracy.

As each of us knows, the responsibilities of a Senator are not limited to this floor. We have committee meetings and hearings, leadership meetings, appointments with constituents, and many other matters which command our attention. Still, when it comes time for a vote, our place is here. The men and women in the Republican and Democratic Cloakrooms are largely responsible for helping us keep track of when measures are coming up, how much debate time has been allocated by the leadership, and when we need to be in the Chamber for votes. Our lives would be much more hectic if it were not for the helpful service of the Cloakroom personnel and I know that I speak for all the Members on this side of the aisle when I say that Hilary Newlin; Laura Martin; Brad Holsclaw; Michael Smythers; and Dave Schiappa all make our lives a little more organized and we greatly appreciate their efforts. The secretary for the majority, Elizabeth Greene, and her assistant, John Doney, can be proud of their cloakroom staff.

The two people who have been tasked with much of the physical and administrative matters of the Senate for most

of the 104th Congress were Secretary of the Senate Kelly Johnston, and Sergeant at Arms Howard Greene. These individuals labored largely anonymously, and certainly with little thanks for their efforts; but without their contributions, we would not have had the many excellent and important services that their offices provide to us. Of course, two new people fill these positions, Gary Sisco as Secretary of the Senate, and Greg Casey as Sergeant at Arms. We welcome these men to the Senate and wish them great success in their careers.

On a more personal note, as most of my colleagues probably already know, I have long been an enthusiastic supporter of the Senate Page Program. Bringing young men and women to Washington to witness and participate in the legislative branch of Government is not only educational, but will hopefully encourage these students to aspire to posts in public service. It is important to both good government, and the continued well-being of the Republic, that bright, energetic, and concerned individuals get involved in public policy and governing the Nation. I am confident that the Senate Page Program will serve as a catalyst for some of tomorrow's leaders.

Mr. President, I know that there are literally thousands of people who make important contributions to the efficient operation of the U.S. Senate and I hope that they will not be offended that I have not recognized them personally. They may rest assured, however, that we very much appreciate their hard work.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR PAUL SIMON

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, perhaps one of the greatest hallmarks of the U.S. Senate is the civility of the institution. Though the 100 Members of this body have views on the issues that are often far apart, we debate our differences politely and completely, and more often than not, are able to arrive at a compromise that benefits the majority of Americans. One Senator in particular has repeatedly demonstrated himself to be an individual of great decency and courtesy. This Senator is my good friend from Illinois, PAUL SIMON.

Senator SIMON has dedicated his adult life to public service. Beginning with a stint in the U.S. Army in the early fifties, and soon after his return to civilian life, he was elected to the Illinois senate in 1954, and then to the Illinois senate in 1962. After his service in the legislature, PAUL SIMON was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served for 10 years, and played an important role in legislation concerning education, job training, and was instrumental in the establishment of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Since PAUL came to the Senate in 1984, we have worked together on many legislative initiatives, especially as we

both had seats on the Judiciary and Labor and Human Resources Committees.

I commend Senator SIMON for his willingness to listen to debate with an open mind, and for having the resolve to reach an agreement that is in the best interest of our Nation. I have enjoyed working with my friend from Illinois through the years, and the Senate will not be the same without him. Unquestionably, PAUL has capably served his constituents throughout his tenure, and I wish him and his family much success and happiness in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BRADLEY

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute today to the senior Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BRADLEY], who announced last year that he would not seek reelection but that he would remain active in public life.

Blessed with both great academic and athletic gifts, BILL BRADLEY graduated from my alma mater, Princeton University, with honors in American history. He won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University, where he earned his graduate degree after studying politics, philosophy, and economics. He was best known to many, before he came to the Senate, as a basketball player of tremendous skill and talent.

During his career in the Senate, four principles have guided BILL BRADLEY. He has sought to restore economic and personal security for American families, strengthen our civil society, protect our natural heritage and rethink America's role in the world. He has worked toward these goals on the Senate Finance Committee, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Special Committee on Aging.

Others may focus on his contributions in the fields of economics and taxes, but I believe he BILL BRADLEY has been particularly effective in building bridges between peoples and spreading the values of democracy—methods which I also consider the best ways of building lasting security and peace.

BILL BRADLEY wrote the 1992 Freedom Exchange Act, the largest U.S. educational exchange initiative in history. I understand that more than 10,000 "Bradley kids" have come here from the former Soviet Union to study and absorb our culture and the lessons for freedom, democracy and a market economy.

The Senate will miss him and his spirit of independence. I am confident that, although he is retiring, he will not be out of public life. Whatever he and his family do, I trust that it will be as exciting and rewarding. The Senate, however, will truly miss him.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SIMPSON

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, the ties that bind us together here often transcend party identity and the affairs of the day, and they frequently span expanses of time and space.

Such are the ties on which my friendship with the senior Senator from Wyoming [Mr. SIMPSON] has been based. The initial tie was through his father, our former colleague, Milward L. Simpson, who in his early years—probably while he was a student at Harvard Law School in the 1920's—earned high repute as a tutor. And among the students he tutored with great effectiveness, were the children of my uncle, Clarence Pell. So I feel that my friendship with Senator ALAN SIMPSON began long ago with this family association.

ALAN SIMPSON brought to his work here in the Senate rare attributes of grace and good humor—qualities which help immeasurably in facilitating the often contentious and trying process of political accommodation. To my mind, these qualities of mind and spirit, which do so much to promote comity and civility, are almost as important as the substance of the great good work that ALAN SIMPSON has done in the fields of immigration reform, veterans affairs, and entitlement reform. Indeed, his success as a legislator is attributable in no small measure to the refreshing traits of character which he brought to the effort. Most important of all is his wonderful sense of humor—a quality often lacking in this body.

I value my association with ALAN and Ann SIMPSON over the years and wish them well in all that lies ahead.

THE 104TH CONGRESS

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, the 104th Congress certainly ended far better than it began. A year ago, I truly feared that the major accomplishments of my 36 years in the Senate were about to be jettisoned by the extreme agenda of the new majority. Now, as the Congress draws to a close, the outlook is considerably brighter, thanks in great measure to President Clinton's determined resistance to an unreasonable dismantlement of progressive government. I am immensely pleased, in particular, that the tide was turned on education and that we actually wound up with a 12 percent increase in Federal funding.

To be sure, there have been some disappointments, notable among them the failure to ratify the Chemical Weapons and Law of the Sea Treaties. And we should not lose sight of the fact that there is still momentum toward curtailment of many programs of great merit. I fervently hope that the coming election will produce a Congress that will be more moderate in outlook and further redress the balance toward progressive government.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, the Senate soon will bid farewell to one of its most legendary Members—the senior Senator from Rhode Island, CLAIBORNE PELL. I have had the distinct privilege of working with Senator PELL