

is a middle ground where the United States can point out firmly, strongly and, hopefully, politely that problems exist without diluting those principles that underlie our democratic tradition while working with China in a positive manner to bring about economic progress.

14. The Chinese must understand that when the United States acts, it is acting in its own self-interest, but it is in the United States' best interest to work cooperatively with an economically strong and politically sound China. It would appear that a strong China can bring stability to Asia, help the world with problem nations, e.g., North Korea, contribute to the solution of world ecological problems and present American businesses with new opportunities.

15. It is the delegation's opinion that there should be increased bilateral meetings and governmental exchange programs. A lack of understanding regarding key issues now exists on both the part of the Chinese and the Americans. The United States has a great opportunity in China. There is no deep feeling of hostility. The Chinese seek respect as a major player in world affairs. They are moving, albeit slowly, in the right direction. It is in our interest to help them continue this forward trend.

16. It would appear that the Chinese are looking for a statement from the United States as to where the relationship is going. In the past few years, both nations have reacted and, in some cases, over-reacted to problems such as Taiwan, Pakistan and trade issues, including transshipping and violations of copyright laws. Tension between the United States and China has been increased by the debate over the most favored nation status. Statements from various Members of Congress, many of which are aimed more at appeasing their own political constituents rather than for foreign consumption, are upsetting to the Chinese. After the U.S. Presidential election, more U.S. attention should be directed to China, working perhaps toward a summit sometime in late 1997 or early 1998.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JIM CONNELLY

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 1997*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of my dear friend, Jim Connelly. Jim is retiring after a highly distinguished public relations career and will be recognized for his many years of service an event in his honor on June 27.

Jim was born in Youngstown, OH on April 2, 1992 as the fourth child of Cora and Martin Connelly. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945 with the Military Railway Service and the Armed Forces Radio Service in China, Burma, and India. Upon leaving the service in 1945, he served as public relations director for Edward J. DeBartolo, the shopping center king. He later served as public relations director for the Kenley Theater Summer Stock Co. where he was charged with securing publicity for celebrities including Mickey Rooney, Alan Jones, Burt Wheeler, and others.

Jim moved to California in 1959 and embarked upon a newspaper career. He worked for a number of area papers including the Rialto Record, Bloomington News, and the San Bernardino Independent Press. At this time,

he also handled public relations for Bob Hope including many of the Bob Hope Desert Classic Golf Tournaments and the many USO shows overseas conducted to entertain our American troops. In a recent note, Bob Hope said he was unable to attend Jim's retirement party because he was running in a 100-mile marathon.

To say the least, Jim has had a most remarkable life and career. He worked on behalf of the Presidential campaigns of both John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy. He served as the director of public relations for the State of California Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also directed public relations for the grand opening of the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda. Over the years, he has served many, many worthy organizations with his time, energy, and talent.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Connelly provides an example of community outreach and leadership that is deeply respected and admired by his professional colleagues and our community at large. I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and Jim's many admirers in thanking him for his remarkable public service over the years and in wishing him and Rose the very best in the years ahead.

STATEMENT BY MARYANN  
SCHRUPP REGARDING CHILD  
LABOR

### HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 1997*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Ms. SCHRUPP. It is estimated that between 100 million and 200 million children of the world under the age of 15 work. The concern is for children exposed to hazardous working conditions, for those who are exploited and endangered mentally and physically. These children make barely or under subsistence level wages and work without any proper benefits or hope of receiving an education. This education can lift them out of their present state of living and this is the education that is not available to them.

This is not a new phenomena, one that has recently become a priority for global consideration and global course of action. Unicef's 1997 report on the state of the world's children has focused specifically on the problem of hazardous child labor. Western media has started informing Americans of the conditions of soccer ball workers, soccer ball assemblers in Asia, rug makers in Pakistan, glass makers in India and textile workers in Asia and Central America. These workers are children hired for their low cost and expendable nature, their small fingers, and their inability to organize or question.

The fact that some of these children are working for American-based transnational companies has put the pressure on these companies to discontinue condoning the practice of child labor. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's report on the apparel industry and codes of conduct, corporate codes of conduct under business guidelines prohibiting the use of child labor are becoming more common as consumers as well as religious, labor and human rights groups are

increasingly calling upon companies to take responsibility for the conditions under which the goods they sell are being manufactured.

Codes of conduct for American industries such as sports equipment and textile manufacturers are essential to stopping the importation of goods made by child labor either correctly or indirectly. Huge and popular names like Disney, Gap, Nike, Getz, Arizona, Eddie Bauer, and Gitano have been directly linked to overseas and in some cases national sweatshops where they can take advantage of the cheap and hard working supplies of local labor.

The most obvious examples of overseas sweatshops owned by American-based companies are the Maquiladoras of Central America where textiles are manufactured. 15-year-old girls who work in the Maquilas of Honduras tell how they're forced to take birth control pills on a daily basis and are required to pay for an expensive abortion injection if they do become pregnant. These girls are not allowed to leave each day until they fill a production quota. If a rush order for clothes came in, observers would note these girls entering the Maquilas at 7:00 a.m. and not returning until sometimes as many as 23 hours later. That's a 23-hour workday.

In China, Indonesia, and Pakistan, sporting equipment used in the United States is manufactured by child laborers. Jonathan Silvers wrote the following report in the Atlantic Monthly on soccer ball factories in Pakistan. No amount of preparation could have lessened the shock and revulsion I felt on entering the sporting goods factory in the town of Sialkot where scores of children, most of them aged five to ten, produce soccer balls by hand for about a dollar and 20 cents a day. The children work 80 hours a week in near total darkness and total silence. A partial list of infractions for which they may be punished is tacked to a wall near the entrance. It's a document of dubious utility. The children are illiterate. Punishments are doled out in a storage closet at the rear of the factory. There children are hung upside down by their knees, starved, caned or lashed. The punishment room is a standard feature of a Pakistani factory, as common as a lunchroom at a Detroit assembly plant.

Eighty percent of the soccer balls sold in the United States are imported from Pakistan. These are the same soccer balls that were used in the 1996 summer Olympic games and all professional sporting events. The Fowl Ball Campaign, a campaign launched by a coalition of non-governmental organizations, cannot prove that any soccer balls manufactured in Pakistan are not made by children.

Still, these reports show only a fraction of the picture. Most cases of child labor do not involve western companies but occur in domestic households unseen and unregulated. The more sinister forms of child labor such as child prostitution and the virtual slavery of bonded labor are often far removed from western markets and influence. They remain a national issue for these developing companies, many of which protest sovereign rights to run their nation's factories as they see fit. Most of the time, however, the children are employed at ages ruled illegal even by their country's governments.

For this reason, the United States needs to take responsibility for more than direct involvement with child labor. Countries, companies, and non-governmental organizations around the world are working together to not only eliminate child labor but to create conditions in developing countries which will prevent the exploitation of children.

The Convention on the Rights of a Child was signed into international law by the United Nations in 1990. It is the most widely ratified treaty in history signed by all but