

million in federal funding for summer youth employment programs.

How, I ask, do my colleagues on the other side of the aisle expect our young people to develop an appreciation of the value and importance of education and work, if all they see is Congress appropriating money to build more prison cells, but not to air condition schools or provide summer jobs?

Mr. Speaker, when, and if, anyone has an answer to my question, I, along with the thousands of young people in my district, would love to hear it.

A TRIBUTE TO THE BARBER FAMILY ON THE BARBER FAMILY REUNION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF STRONG AMERICAN FAMILIES

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute a strong American family from throughout our great nation which will be holding an especially loud and joyous reunion in Minneapolis from July 30th to August 2nd.

The Barber Family will be celebrating the "Power of Family." Nothing could be more right on target. I want to wish the Barber Family, and Barber Family Reunion State Chairperson Marion Barber, the very best for a most successful family gathering.

Mr. Speaker, I salute all American families for the miracles they perform every day. Together, America's families are what our nation is all about: The freedom to love, the freedom to work, the freedom from crime and hatred, the freedom to pursue our dreams.

If you want to gauge the value of family in America today, you should show up at the Barber Family Reunion, which has chosen as its reunion theme "Linking the Past, Present and the Future."

Mr. Speaker, as Congress considers actions in its day-to-day routine, I urge every member to keep families like the Barbers in mind.

As Marion Barber wrote in a letter to me, "Family and family ties are the most important elements that make up the core and fabric of the true American family. What the family does and the values it practices have a great impact on our society. Families need to stay together, pray together and help each other."

Mr. Speaker, it's families like the Barbers—staying together, looking out for each other, helping each other—that provide our great nation with its real strength. Our families know how to overcome challenges and difficulties—and survive and flourish.

The Barber Family's history is the story of our nation. Jim Barber, a slave, more than a century and a half ago, was brought down from Virginia to Georgia and sold to John Reynolds. There, he met Elizabeth Reynolds, another slave. They married and had seven children.

And in a few days, the descendants of Jim and Elizabeth Barber will be celebrating their blessings and their love for each other in Minneapolis. Their struggles have not divided them, just as our great nation's struggles have not divided America.

Mr. Speaker, the Barber Family represents the American Dream and today I wish all the

members of the Barber Family the very best. I thank them for doing their part to make America the greatest country on earth.

STATEMENT REGARDING
NORTHERN IRELAND

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all Members of this House and Americans everywhere who long to see Northern Ireland enter a period of peace, social justice and economic reconstruction have viewed with great dismay events these past few days in Northern Ireland. What is particularly troublesome and in some ways painfully symbolic of the conflicts that continue to plague the people on that troubled piece of earth, was the murder over the weekend of three innocent young Catholic boys, Richard-11, Mark-10 and Jason Quinn-9, who were burned to death early Sunday morning by a fire bomb reportedly thrown by practitioners of the worst kind of religious bigotry and hatred.

Hopefully the tragic deaths of these three innocent boys will mark a watershed in the long and sad history of Northern Ireland's religious strife and men and women of good will who are committed to peace and reconciliation throughout Northern Ireland will work together to reinforce the fragile peace process underway in Northern Ireland. Those efforts should receive the strong endorsement and support from those of us in the United States who share that objective.

Mr. Speaker, a growing number of my constituents are taking a closer look and a keener interest in events in Northern Ireland and this process is assisted by such statements as the enclosed editorial *Trying to Get Beyond the Boyne* published in the July 12 *Providence Sunday Journal* which I request to be inserted in the RECORD at this point. In my view, this editorial contains thoughtful observations on a very difficult and complex situation and makes the significant point that Northern Ireland must move past the anachronisms of the past and into a more enlightened and reasoned future if the peace process is to survive and prosper and I am confident that it can and will.

I agree, too, with the editorial's observation that the President should move swiftly to name a successor to the recently departed Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith and that my good friend Paul Quinn, who is well experienced in Irish-American affairs makes an excellent candidate for this assignment. Mr. Quinn enjoys wide-spread bi-partisan support from my colleagues in the Congress and from governmental, political and community business leaders throughout Ireland and those in the United States who share our commitment to a more peaceful and prosperous day on the island of Ireland. He has made substantial contributions to relations between the United States and the Republic of Ireland and the North for more than 35 years and I know he will continue to do so for many years to come whatever the President's decision is regarding the next Ambassador.

TRYING TO GET BEYOND BOYNE

William Trevor's *After Rain* is the tale of a boy—son and grandson of proud Unionists

in an Ulster village—who brings calumny upon himself by refusing to march. We are given to understand that the boy may be prey to a religious hallucination of some sort, that he must pay for his intransigence with his life, that his brother in the paramilitaries must properly have a hand in his killing. Thus does Mr. Trevor, the masterful Anglo-Irish short-story writer, draw us into the insanity of "the Troubles" in Northern Ireland.

The good burghers are pious and temperate Presbyterian townsmen who once a year don the bowler and the orange sash to commemorate their ancestors' defeat of the Catholic forces at the Battle of the Boyne.

The crazy person is the one who refuses to join in the Protestant marching to fife and drum through the Catholic neighborhoods—a ritualized rubbing of salt into the worlds of the subjugated people's descendants.

Thoughts of the fictional strife come to mind because today is the 308th anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, in which the Protestant monarch of England, William III, of the Dutch House of Orange, vanquished the Catholic King James II. In the all-too-real life of Northern Ireland this past week, the peaceful promise of the Good Friday accords has been imperiled by violence in the buildup to this climax of "marching season."

Orange Order Protestants tasted defeat this spring when Irish voters north and south—including a narrow majority of Protestants—endorsed the peace process at referendum and followed up last month by electing a veto-proof majority of peace-accord supporters to a new self-rule assembly.

A bitter pill for the hardliners is that the new first minister of Northern Ireland, chosen under a peace process he helped to create, is one of their own, David Trimble.

Trimble, head of the Protestant Ulster Unionists Party, built his base in the Orange Order but came to believe that growing numbers of his constituents and co-religionists had wearied of the conflict that has wasted three decades and more than 3,400 lives in the North. This marching season, having helped to forge the shaky peace, Mr. Trimble has stayed on the sidelines as the order demanded the right to march its traditional route from the town or Portadown, west of Belfast, to the Anglican church in Drumcree and back. Since the British government's decree that they shall not march through a Catholic neighborhood in Portadown, Orangemen have camped in a nearby pasture.

Incidents of violence and rioting have ensued in the British-ruled province in recent days, as Prime Minister Tony Blair, Mr. Trimble and other moderates have sought a peaceful way out of the impasse. Orange leaders have threaten a general strike that could, they assert, paralyze Northern Ireland. Well, perhaps not. Not if enough Protestant citizens boycott the strike.

The Clinton administration played an important role in getting all sides through the negotiations that produced the accord but has little policy role now except to cheer and pay as the peacemakers face their first tough test in the streets.

(In an indirect way, however, President Clinton could contribute modestly to the long-term prospects for Irish peace by swiftly naming a successor to the recently departed ambassador to Ireland, Jean Kennedy Smith. Paul Quinn, the Pawtucket-born Washington lobbyist, has the experience in Irish-American affairs to make him as good a candidate as any.)

The hope for peace in Northern Ireland is with a new generation that, like Mr. Trevor's fictional youth, resists its inherited duty of hatred. Let us hope that its quiet force—which has won two historic votes for the pace-seekers since Good Friday—will