

voted for President Clinton's budget at that time. I wonder how those now who are saying we have a great surplus can be breaking their arm patting themselves on the back for that great vote that they didn't cast in 1993.

The President has every right to be part of the negotiations. I wanted to say to my colleague who had to leave, what is wrong with wanting more for education? What is wrong with wanting to improve our school system? What is wrong with having smaller classes? What is wrong with having more teachers? I don't see anything wrong.

What is wrong with seeing that every child that leaves the third grade can read? What is wrong with that? The 21st century will be full of technology and we have to have educated children. So what is wrong with trying to improve education in this country? Public education teaches 90 percent of all of our children. It has to be the best educational system we can give them. We need to be able to improve education all across this country.

How in the world can the Senator from Oklahoma say that the Federal Government will appoint their teachers? We give money to the States. The States, then, make the selection. The States, then, set the criteria. The States, then, have the vacancy. The States do that. I have never known a Federal Government to hire a teacher in my State. I have been Governor. I understand writing a budget. I understand what we do. I still understand it. But I don't believe the Federal Education Department hires teachers in my State or any State. So we are not telling them who to hire and who not to hire.

That is just a straw man, or whatever, to try to say we don't want Big Brother involved. We sure want Big Brother's money, we sure want Big Brother to pay it, but we don't want them to have anything to do with any kind of guidelines.

So, when we come out on the floor and chastise the President and the administration for wanting to work out pieces of legislation, you talk to the farmers in the Midwest, talk to farmers in my State; they have had a tough several years. Sure, it may have been less a year ago than it is now and times have changed. We have had a bad summer. We have had real problems. So why not help our farmers?

So, Mr. President, I suggest to those who want to come to the floor and have press conferences saying that the administration ought to stay out of our business and we will pass the legislation, well, where is it? Where is the legislation? What have we passed? The Patients' Bill of Rights? No; that was killed yesterday. Education? No. Where are the bills they were supposed to pass? "Let us get on with our business," the Senator from Oklahoma said. Well, let's get on with our business.

Here we are on Saturday, and we are lucky we are not in on Sunday after-

noon. We will be here Monday. That is a holiday. They set a sine die date of October 9, and we don't even have the appropriations bills done. So let's not be too harsh on the administration for wanting to try to get it done.

I regret that I am here. I wish all 13 appropriations bills had been on the President's desk and signed before October 1, which begins the fiscal year. I remember how hard Senator ROBERT BYRD, when he was chairman of the Appropriations Committee, worked to be sure that all 13 of the appropriations bills were on the President's desk by September 30. And they were. That is what we are supposed to do. Those are the rules.

So, Mr. President, I hope that over the weekend we can find some way that those who are responsible for the appropriations bills can bring them together, that they will find a way that we can say we have worked together, that we have used Henry Clay's advice and we have compromised. Henry Clay said, "Compromise is negotiated hurt." Negotiated hurt. Clay said, "You have to give up something and it hurts, and I have to give up something and it hurts. Once we agree, then I am willing to sign a social contract."

Clay was saying he was willing to support legislation to move the country forward and on another day we will argue the things we had to give up. So that is what we are all about here—the Henry Clay era of compromise, and the ability to sign a social contract and move forward in the best interest of this country. I hope that we can see the light at the end of the tunnel by the end of the week. I hope to be here to cast a vote in favor of a compromise and agreement that will make this country a better country. It is my last one, Mr. President. I would like to see as good a piece of legislation in all areas passed, so that when we look back on this session, we will have said we did a good job.

I yield the floor.

A GOOD SENATOR RETURNS TO THE HILLS OF HOME

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, over the next few days, as the Senate concludes its legislative business, one of the finest individuals it has been my privilege to know will bring to a close yet another chapter in what has been, by any measure, an extraordinary public service career. When that time comes—when the senior Senator from the Commonwealth of Kentucky walks out of this chamber for the last time as a United States Senator—this institution, and all who serve in it, will feel a great and lasting loss.

When WENDELL FORD came to this body on December 28, 1974, thus becoming the 1,685th individual to have served in the Senate, he did so not as a political neophyte but as an accomplished entrepreneur and a dedicated and seasoned public servant. Following service in World War II, our friend from

Kentucky returned to his home state and launched a successful insurance business. But it was the call of public service, the chance to reach out and help all of his fellow Kentuckians, that meant the most to this young executive.

And, so, in 1964, WENDELL FORD began what was to become a successful political career by winning election to the Kentucky State Senate. Two years later, in 1966, he successfully ran for the position of Lieutenant Governor, and, in 1970, against all odds, he became Kentucky's Governor, a position from which he served with distinction as the chairman of the National Democratic Governors Caucus.

Mr. President, despite his selfless service within his state, it is, of course, the near quarter-century he has spent here in the United States Senate that has earned WENDELL FORD the admiration, the respect, and the undying affection of his colleagues. And, having been elected to four terms in the Senate, it is obvious that the good people of Kentucky also understand and appreciate the skill, the dedication, and the flawless integrity that WENDELL FORD brings to his work. He serves Kentucky and the Nation with a wit and candor that are as timely and as refreshing as a cool Kentucky breeze on a hot summer day.

In fact, in 1992, he began a string of historical achievements when he received the largest number of votes ever recorded by a candidate for elected office in the state of Kentucky. On November 14, 1996, WENDELL FORD broke Alben Barkley's record for the longest consecutive service in the United States Senate as a Senator from the Commonwealth, while becoming the overall longest serving Senator from Kentucky in March of this year.

Mr. President, such milestones are not just proud, personal moments, although they are that. Rather, they speak to the immense respect, and the tremendous trust that the citizens of Kentucky have for their distinguished senior Senator. Of course, to those of us who know WENDELL FORD, such respect and trust are not unfounded.

As a Member of this body, Senator FORD has become a recognized leader in such diverse areas as aviation, federal campaign finance reform, and energy. He has, through dedication and hard work, shaped such important legislation as the National Voter Registration Act, the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act of 1994, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the National Energy Security Act of 1992, and the Energy Security Act of 1977.

The commitment shown by our colleague from Kentucky in working on these and other profound and troubling problems that face this Nation is emblematic of the devoted public servant that WENDELL FORD has shown himself to be. There will be few who will match the accomplishments of our friend; few who will bring to this body a deeper passion; and few who will legislate with greater skill.

Mr. President, as he prepares to leave the Senate, I offer my sincere gratitude to Senator WENDELL FORD for his professionalism, for his friendship, for his leadership, for his candor, and for his many years of dedicated service to our Nation. I would also like to express my admiration, and that of my wife, Erma, to WENDELL's gracious and dedicated wife, Jean. Few know, of course, of the tremendous sacrifices made by our spouses. But those of us who serve in this body understand the price paid by these selfless, silent partners. None has done so with greater dignity, or with more grace, than has Jean Ford.

And, so, I say to my friend from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I have treasured the time we have worked together, and I wish him good luck and God's speed. He is coming home.

Weep no more, my lady,

Oh! weep no more to-day!

We will sing one song for the Old Kentucky Home.

For the old Kentucky Home far away.

"My Old Kentucky Home," Stephen Collins Foster, 1826-1864.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS AND SENATOR KEMPTHORNE'S STAFF

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I appreciate you presiding as you do in such a class fashion. I would like to make a few comments here. I have been touched and impressed by the fact of colleagues coming to the floor and paying tribute to those Members who are departing. I have listened because, as one of those Members who are departing, I know personally how much it means to hear those kind comments that are made.

Senator FORD, who just spoke, is leaving after a very illustrious career. I remember when the Republican Party took over the majority 4 years ago and I was new to the position of Presiding Officer, it was not unusual for WENDELL FORD, who knows many of the ropes around here, to come and pull me aside and give me a few of the tips of how I could be effective as a Presiding Officer. I think probably one of the highest tributes you can pay to an individual is the fact that you see their family and the success they have had. I remember when WENDELL FORD's grandson, Clay, was a page here. I think Clay is probably one of the greatest tributes paid to a grandfather.

DALE BUMPERS, often mentioned here on the floor about his great sense of humor, is an outstanding gentleman. He is someone whom I remember before I ever became involved in politics. I watched him as a Governor of Arkansas and thought, there is a man who has great integrity, someone you can look up to. And then to have the opportunity to serve with him has been a great honor.

JOHN GLENN. Whenever any of the astronauts—the original seven—would blast off into space, my mother would get all the boys up so we could watch them. I remember when JOHN GLENN blasted off into space. Again, the idea that somehow a kid would end up here and would serve with JOHN GLENN is just something I never could dream of at the time. In fact, JOHN GLENN became a partner in our efforts to stop unfunded Federal mandates. You could not ask for a better partner.

Speaking of partners, he could not have a better partner than Annie. I had the great joy of traveling with them approximately a year ago when we went to Asia. That is when you get to know these people as couples. I remember that we happened to be flying over an ocean when it was the Marine Corps' birthday. On the airplane we had a cake and brought it out, to the surprise of JOHN GLENN. But you could see the emotion in his eyes. I know the Presiding Officer is a former U.S. Marine, so he knows what we are talking about.

DAN COATS. There is no more genuine a person than DAN—not only in the Senate but on the face of the Earth. He is a man of great sincerity, a man who can articulate his position so extremely well. He is a man who, when you look into his eyes, you know he is listening to you and he is going to do right by you and by the people of his State of Indiana, and he has done right by the people of the United States. He is a man who has great faith, a man to whom I think a number of us have looked for guidance.

When you look at the Senate through the eyes of a camera, you see just one dimension. But on the floor of the Senate we are just people. A lot of times we don't get home to our wives and kids and sometimes to the ball games or back-to-school nights. There are times when some of the issues don't go as we would like, and it gets tough. At these times, we hurt. There are people like DAN COATS to whom you can turn, who has said, "Buddy, I have been there and I am with you now." So, again, he is an outstanding individual.

Also, Mr. President, I have been really fortunate with the quality of the staff I have had here in the U.S. Senate during the 6 years I have been here. As I have listened so many times to the Senate clerk call the roll of those Senators, they have answered that roll. I would like to just acknowledge this roll of those staff members whom I have had. This is probably the first and only time their names will be called in this august Chamber:

Cindy Agidius, Marcia Bain, Jeremy Chou, Camy Mills Cox, Laurette Davies, Michelle Dunn, Becky English, Gretchen Estess, Ryan Fitzgerald, Lance Giles.

Charles Grant, Ernie Guerra, Julie Harwood, Laura Hyneman, Meg Hunt, Catherine Josling, Ann Klee, Amy Manwaring, John McGee, Liz Mitchell.

Heather Muchow, Jay Parkinson, Phil Reberger, Rachel Riggs, Shawna

Seiber Ward, Orrie Sinclair, Mark Snider, Glen Tait, Jim Tate, Kelly Teske.

Salle Uberuaga, Jennifer Wallace, Brian Whitlock, Suzanne Bacon, Becky Bale, Stan Clark, Tom Dayley, Tyler Dougherty, Carolyn Durant, George Enneking.

Buzz Fawcett, Margo Gaetz, Erin Givens, Jim Grant, Wendy Guisto, Jennifer Hayes, Al Henderson, Heather Irby, Steve Judy, Jeff Loveng.

Brian McCormack, Darrell McRoberts, Peter Moloney, Scott Muchow, Dan Ramirez, Dixie Richardson, Stephanie Schisler, Carrie Stach, Gary Smith, Michael Stinson, Sally Taniguchi, Julie Tensen, Mitchell Toryanski, Brian Waidmann, Vaughn Ward.

That is a lot of staff. But over 6 years, some of those have come and gone.

I have also received valuable assistance from interns who have worked in my state and Washington offices. I ask unanimous consent that the following list of interns for the past six years be printed in the RECORD.

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

INTERNS

Angie Adams, Tara Anderson, Jennifer Beck, Matthew Blackburn, Emily Burton, Emilie Caron, Michelle Crapo, Matt Freeman, Amy Hall, Rick Hansen.

Michelle Hyde, Paul Jackson, Beth Ann Kerrick, Heather Lauer, Jennifer Ludders, Karen Marchant, Kendal McDevitt, Jan Nielsen, Bryan James Palmer, Tracy Pellechi.

Tyler Prout, James Rolig, Dallas Scholes, Robin Staker, Meghan Sullivan, Omar Valverde, Franciose Whitlock, James Williams, Curt Wozniak, Tim Young.

Kim Albers, Chris Bailey, Kevin Belew, David Booth, Matt Campbell, Stephen Cataldo, Pandi Ellison, Andrew Grutkowski, Chad Hansen, Sarah Heckel.

Laura Hyneman, Michael Jordan, Lisa Lance, Keith Lonergan, Lori Manzaneres, Wade Miller, Kate Montgomery, Rocky Owens, Kurt Pipal, Alan Poff.

Nichole Reinke, Don Schanz, Nathan Sierra, Jacob Steele, David Thomas, Curtis Wheeler, Brian Williams, Angie Willie, Darryl Wrights.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, this will probably be the last time officially on this floor as a U.S. Senator that I look at the faces of these people that you and I have worked with—the clerks, and Parliamentarians, the staff. It is family. The young pages that we see here with that sparkle in their eye and the enthusiasm that they have for this process—it is fun to talk to you and to see your sense of enthusiasm for this. As I said, you are going to have a sense of the U.S. Senate like few citizens, because you have been here, you have experienced it, and you have been up close in person.

But to those of you that I see now as I look to the desk, those who have sat in your places that I have worked with through these years, I thank you. America is well served by you, by your professionalism and your dedication.