

headlines, you can see the possibility for a restoration of the confident, outward-looking U.S. consensus that our history teaches is a requirement for global peace and prosperity.

The cornerstone of this renewed embrace of America's global role is the deal reached early Monday in Beijing for China to join the World Trade Organization. President Clinton let this agreement slip away last April, because of fears about the anti-international know-nothingism that seemed to have infected Congress. That was one of the biggest mistakes of his presidency, and he has commendably been trying ever since to walk it back.

The deal Clinton got Monday isn't quite as good as the one he backed away from before, but it's good enough. What's better is the new confidence among free traders that they can win the political argument, on Capitol Hill and around the country.

Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers puts the case for the WTO deal simply and starkly: Twice in this century, changes in the economic balance of power have led to wars—first with the rise of Germany before World War I and later with the rise of Japan. Now the world economic order is changing once again, with the emergence of Beijing as an economic superpower. It is overwhelmingly in America's interest to draw this modernizing China into the global economic system.

Americans who are confident about the world-changing power of our capitalism and democracy will welcome the agreement. China will now have to live by the free-market rules of the WTO. It will have to accept international investments in its major industries, including banking and telecommunications; it will have to abide by international arbitration of its trade disputes; it will have to accept the Internet and its instantaneous access to information. If you can devise a better strategy for subverting Communist rule in China, I'd like to hear it.

What makes the anti-WTO camp so nervous? It must be the fact that we're living in a time of economic upheaval. As the global economy becomes more competitive, the rewards for success become greater, and so do the penalties for failure. Optimists embrace this future, while pessimists seek protection from it.

Fear of the future: That's the shared characteristic of the new anti-internationalists—from Pat Buchanan on the right to AFL-CIO president John Sweeney on the left. They seem to believe that every new job in China will mean one less in America. Thank goodness economics doesn't work that way. The evidence is overwhelming that global prosperity creates new markets, new demand—and more prosperity for all of us.

That doesn't mean that there won't be losers—there will be and the U.S. textile industry and some blue-collar traders will undoubtedly be among them. But in macro terms, this is a pie that gets bigger, a game where two sides can win.

The administration's most articulate champion for this kind of internationalism is Summers. And it must be said that the new Treasury Secretary is cleaning up some of the unfinished business left by his predecessor, Robert Rubin.

Summers helped rescue the WTO agreement with a trip last month to Beijing, where he met with Zhu Rongji, the Chinese prime minister. Summers told him that "we wanted a deal, but it would have to be on commercial terms. . . . We would both have to make concessions on percentage points." Thanks to hard bargaining by U.S. trade negotiator Charlene Barshefsky, that's essentially what happened.

This week brought other signs of renewed political support for a pragmatic internationalism. The administration cut a deal with House Republicans that will allow the United States to pay nearly \$1 billion in back dues to the United Nations, in exchange for a ban on funding any international organization that promotes abortion.

Summers has worked hard to include debt relief for the world's poorest nations as part of the U.N. funding deal, and his mostly succeeded. Wealthy lenders will take a hit under this agreement, while poverty-stricken nations will get a break. That sounds like the right kind of bargain.

Another step in the internationalist revival could come next month when Summers pitches European nations to accept some new rules for the International Monetary Fund. He'll urge that the IMF support either tough fixed exchange-rate plans or genuinely free floating rates—but not the muddled in-between schemes that have gotten so many countries in trouble. He'll also urge a new IMF assessment system to detect when countries' short-term liabilities are rising toward the danger point. And in light of the recent Russian fiasco, he may argue that countries should accept outside audits as a condition of receiving IMF funds.

Some Americans still believe that "IMF," "free trade" and "WTO" are dirty words—symbols of an elitist conspiracy that will harm ordinary Americans. This view is dangerously wrong, and it was good to see it losing ground this week.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR. LAURIE CARLSON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and commend the life of Mr. Laurie Carlson and to extend my personal sympathies to his family and friends in his passing. Mr. Laurie Carlson worked to enhance the lives of many citizens of Wisconsin over the years. He was the founder of the Wisconsin Progressive Party in 1934 and was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1936, where he served for three terms. He then continued his life of dedication to public service as the Clerk of Courts for Dane County for another four terms.

Mr. Carlson's simple message and instructions on, "How to get the Voters Involved" is one that I deeply respect and identify with. In this message he spoke of town meetings and always maintaining a strong personal connection to constituents. Upon reflection on his time in public service Mr. Carlson was quoted as saying, "Shoe leather is cheap. We would go out and meet people. We would get ideas from them." He also believed that a strong focus on the issues, as well as on true bipartisanship would help Wisconsin and the Nation move forward.

Mr. Carlson's political achievements were numerous and great, but there was also much more to this wonderful man. He was a devoted husband and proud father of four children. His commitment to his wife Helen and his children—Mary, Jay, Laurene, and Geraldine, was first and foremost in his life. Mr. Carlson was also a dedicated friend and community member. He tirelessly worked to share his knowledge and leadership in order to as-

sist others to become successful. He empowered many people to prosper in business and countless other ventures while always maintaining his commitment to those less fortunate in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to honor this fine gentleman for his life commitment to public service.

RECOGNITION OF THE UKRAINIAN FAMINE OF 1932

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the Ukrainian famine of 1932–33 stands as one of the most tragic events of this century. Millions of Ukrainian men, women and children starved to death in one of the cruelest acts of inhumanity ever recorded.

The rich and productive soil of Ukraine once fed the world. Ukraine was known then as the breadbasket of Europe. It was inconceivable that in 1932 peasants would be forced to scavenge in harvested fields for food and that their diets would be reduced to nothing but potatoes, beets and pumpkins. Instead of planting seeds for the next crop, peasant were reduced to feeding those seeds to their children. As a result, little grain was harvested for the next crop, and the situation grew worse.

Peasants began leaving Ukraine, trying to search for food in Russia and other neighboring territories, but they were turned back.

Soon, millions began to starve to death.

As many as ten million people may have died in this famine. That's fully one-quarter of the people in rural Ukraine. The Kremlin was starving the people of Ukraine to death because Josef Stalin and the Soviet dictators wanted to avoid mass resistance to collectivization. So they killed the peasants—slowly, deliberately and diabolically through mass starvation.

The West did little at the time to put an end to the man-made famine. They continued to buy grain at cheap prices from Russia, taking more food away from the Ukrainian people.

We should never forget this tragedy. Today we honor the memory of the millions of victims. And we support the efforts of the people of Ukraine, who were subjected to the famine and to decades of oppressive Soviet rule, as they continue on their path to democracy, respect for human rights, and economic progress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution and stand together with the people of Ukraine.

H.R. 3446, SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD REFORM ACT OF 1999

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today H.R. 3446, the Surface Transportation Board Reform Act of 1999.

The Surface Transportation Board has been a troubled agency since its creation at the end of 1995.