

went into purchases and acquisitions that our people made by using some or all of the refinance bonus they received because their equity was long.

Lower energy prices contributed to this occurring. Now we are noticing that they are beginning to go up again, rather dramatically—in fact, too much. We must send a signal to those who would arbitrarily do that—and they are—that we are busy producing an energy bill in both the House and Senate that will have an impact on that kind of capriciousness they exercise against our people through the economy they adversely affect.

Does this mean we have nothing to worry about regarding the economy? I don't think so. Another strike by terrorists could again do a great deal of harm both to investors and to consumers and, in particular, to confidence. Probably it would be even a little more lasting than the last one because the strike on September 11 was obviously a total surprise. Another strike of that magnitude or bigger would prove we are vulnerable even when we are more vigilant.

We also have to be concerned about the flow of oil from the Middle East. There are those who would like to see a much wider area of conflagration in that region, if for no other reason than to hurt the United States. We have to apply our best efforts to ensure that this does not happen. But apart from these potential negative shocks, the economy seems to be recovering and looks poised to enter a period of quite respectable economic growth—not a boom, but that is all right.

Now it is our job to make sure we continue to focus on policies that will maximize the long-term growth potential of our economy, including strong national defense, homeland security, energy independence, as much as we can do, and free trade. We also need to start paying attention to simplifying and streamlining our Tax Code. It will not wait forever.

Together these policies will put us in the best position to face the challenges ahead and improve the living standards of the American people.

HISTORICAL PUBLICATION AWARD

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I am very pleased to note that a recent Senate publication has won a prestigious award. At its forthcoming annual meeting, the Society for History in the Federal Government will present its George Pendleton Award to Senate Historical Editor Wendy Wolff and the Senate Historical Office for the book entitled *Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853-1861*. The Pendleton Award is given annually for "an outstanding major publication on the Federal Government's history produced by or for a Federal history program." It commemorates former U.S. Senator George Pendleton, who sponsored the 1883 civil service reform act that bears his name.

As an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Montgomery Meigs supervised construction of the current Senate and House wings and the Capitol dome. During this project, Meigs kept a detailed journal of his activities, written in an obscure shorthand and only recently transcribed. This publication provides rich new information on construction of the Capitol extension, and on politics and life in mid-nineteenth-century Washington.

The Meigs transcription and publication project has been a collaborative effort among a number of congressional offices over the past decade, including the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House, the Architect of the Capitol, and the Library of Congress. William Mohr, a retired Senate Official Reporter of Debates, translated the shorthand, with financial support provided by the Senate Bicentennial Commission and the U.S. Capitol Historical Society.

This project has been guided through to completion by the Senate's very able historian, Dr. Richard Baker, and his dedicated staff. The idea originated in 1991 when Joe Stewart was Secretary of the Senate. It was Joe Stewart who ensured that the resources were made available to bring this fascinating history to the American public. It should be noted that Dr. Baker is the first Senate historian and he has set a high standard indeed for every Senate historian who will follow in his footsteps. We in the Democratic Caucus have been pleased to listen to Dr. Baker's "history minutes" each Tuesday at the start of our regular weekly conferences. He has given us a deeper appreciation of the challenges previous Senators faced, the rich traditions of the Senate, and also the humor exhibited in past times. His stewardship of this project has been justly rewarded by the awarding of the George Pendleton Award to the Montgomery Meigs Journals.

Copies of this 900-page book are available from the Government Printing Office and the Senate Gift Shop. I highly recommend it to my colleagues and to anyone else who treasures the Capitol.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred June 21, 1997 in Lansing, MI. Two gay men were attacked with blow darts. The assailants, who targeted the victims because of their sexual orientation, were arrested in connection with the incident.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them

against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I would like to congratulate the Girl Scouts of America on their 90th anniversary. The Girl Scouts began on March 12, 1912, when founder Juliette Gordon Low assembled 18 girls in Savannah, GA, for the first ever Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Girl Scouts of America has a current membership of more than three million girls and adults, 150,000 of whom live in Michigan. There are also more than 50 million Girl Scout alumnae throughout our nation. Girl Scouts serve their communities, developing skills in a diverse array of activities including sports, media relations, education and science while growing into the leaders of tomorrow.

One of this year's Young Women of Distinction is Ms. Noorain Khan from Grand Rapids, MI. To earn this distinction she worked on many projects including one with the Islamic Center of Grand Rapids which serves a community of 13,000 Muslims. She helped develop a grant proposal for a program to educate Muslim youth about their religion and culture, and better equip them to make responsible decisions as adults. Her grant proposal consisted of a preliminary curriculum outline, data on demographics in the Islamic community and a job description for a program director. Though the grant has not yet been secured, a framework now exists for the Islamic center and for future grant proposals.

All Girl Scout programs are based on the Girl Scout Promise and Law and Four Program Goals: developing self-potential, relating to others, developing values and contributing to society. To achieve these goals, they have established programs in foster homes, homeless shelters, school yards and Native American reservations. Further, the Girl Scouts of America have established a research institute, received government funding to address violence prevention and are addressing the digital divide with activities that encourage girls to pursue careers in science, math and technology.

Today, 90 years later, the organization offers girls of all races, ages, ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds and abilities the chance to develop the real-life skills they'll need as adults. I am sure that my Senate colleagues join me in commending the Girl Scouts on their first 90 years and look forward to them celebrating many more.