

a great Christian reformer, Martin Luther, become prophetic. "I am much afraid that schools will prove to be great gates of Hell unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not increasingly occupied with the work of God must become corrupt."

And on occasions when we pay tribute to and acknowledge the sacrifices of those men raised up by the Lord to *establish* and sustain our independence, we must re-dedicate ourselves to protecting and preserving those liberties and the righteous, God-fearing ideals that have been fought and died for by patriots throughout our American history.

In two hundred and twenty-two years, Americans have fought many wars from Valley Forge to the far-flung corners of the earth. From the bloody beaches of Normandy to the island by island war in the Pacific, to the frozen mountains of the Chosin Reservoir, millions of young Americans have given their lives for the freedoms vouchsafed by our divinely-inspired Constitution . . . for this nation under God.

In all of these wars fought on the field of battle, our enemies were definable. They wore uniforms. They fought with bayonets, grenades, rifles, cannons, mortars. A far more insidious enemy faces us today and we must prepare our youth for a more hard-fought battle for survival than we have ever known!

Girded up in the Armor of Truth and Knowledge and in the strength of our families, our youth will not be fighting in trenches, foxholes or storming beaches. The enemy is amongst us and not in uniform. His weapons are the media, new age philosophies designed to deceive and destroy the moral character of our youth. Perversion, disguised as tolerance.

Their battlefield will be the city halls, the county courthouses, state legislatures and the Congress. They must be prepared and we must prepare them that they may hold high, *with new resolve*, the Title of Liberty in memory of our God, our religion and freedom and our peace and our wives and children.

In Patrick Henry's words: "The enemy is in the field. Why stand we here idle?"

May God bless us all with continued freedom. May God bless our youth with the strength and resolve to bear the burden our complacency has placed upon them.

And may God continue to bless America.

TRIBUTE TO WTOP'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in recognizing WTOP Radio, our local and regional news station. WTOP is celebrating its 30th anniversary today, Tuesday March 9, 1999. I am sure the Members of the House and Senate listen to and are informed by WTOP. The station has been a prime source of information of news events and a pioneer in all-news radio.

Without fail, WTOP usually gets there before we do and before anyone else does. From the mundane news of traffic and weath-

er, to breaking news in the nation and around the world, WTOP is there for Washington, the region, and Members of the House and Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I also must say a special word of tribute to Dave McConnell, who has been with WTOP for 34 years, even before it was an all-news station. Dave is one of the best reporters in any of the media in Washington. His amazing dexterity and extraordinary range have made him a one-man class reporter and commentator capable of speaking to any and every subject. Members listen to Dave's Today On the Hill broadcasts to find out what is really happening in Congress! Dave McConnell is only one of the best of an extraordinary group of first rate radio journalists at WTOP who keep the nation's capital truly informed. I ask the House to join me in expressing our gratitude to WTOP for the indispensable service the station performs as well as our congratulations for 30 years of a job very well done.

WALNUT GROVE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Walnut Grove Retirement Community which is celebrating its 10th anniversary of outstanding service to the elderly community of Grundy County.

On March 7, 1989, the Walnut Grove Healthcare Center opened with 97 beds available to seniors. Four years later, in 1993, Grundy County experienced a need for more beds for the elderly. Walnut Grove applied for and completed the Certificate of Need process in order to add more beds and better serve Grundy County senior citizens. This process resulted in the increase of licensed beds from 97 to 123.

On January 10, 1994, a ground-breaking ceremony was held for these 24 private suite sheltered care units. This addition is known as the Walnut Grove Villa. As these Villas have established a fine reputation, a waiting list of applicants wanting to reside in them usually exists.

In addition to the Healthcare Center and the Villa, there are duplexes included in the retirement community. These 24 cottages house 30 elderly residents for independent living.

Walnut Grove's provision of care is sensational. The rehabilitation program of Walnut Grove is Medicare certified. Furthermore, there are always special events on the holidays, along with various outing and recreational events.

Mr. Speaker, I find it appropriate that the Walnut Grove Retirement Community be given praise for its 10 years of existence. May the service Walnut Grove has provided to the people of the 11th District and the elderly community of Grundy County continue as we move into the 21st Century.

CONGRATULATING MATTHEW JENDIAN AND ARMEN DEVEJIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Matthew Jendian and Armen Devejian upon their ordination to rank of deacon for St. Paul Armenian Apostolic Church. The rank of deacon requires much effort and discipline; the responsibility is heavy, and the standards are high. Both men have risen to those standards.

Deacon Matthew and Deacon Armen were previously ordained together as sub-deacons in 1991, and have been serving at the Holy Altar for the past 15 years. They served on the executive committee of the St. Paul Armenian Christian Youth Organization (ACYO) Chapter, were co-editors of the ACYO California in 1987, and currently teach the high school Sunday school class.

Deacon Matthew is married to Pamela Manoogian. He teaches at California State University, Fresno in the sociology department, and is campus director of the American Numanics Program. He is currently gathering data on Armenian-Americans in Central California for his Ph.D. dissertation through the University of Southern California. Deacon Matthew enrolled in his father's altar servers class at age nine, later graduated from the St. Nersess Deacons' Training Program, and has been serving at the Holy Altar for 20 years.

Deacon Armen is married to Paula Der Matoian. He is vice president of a construction and development company in Fresno, and is project manager of the New Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall which is currently under construction. In 1996, at the age of 26, he became California's youngest licensed architect. During his tenure as ACYO Central Council chairman, from 1994-1996, he helped establish the ACYO Mission Fund, the ACYO Camp Fund, and the Summer Camp ACYO Scholarship Program. Deacon Armen has been serving at the Holy Altar since 1983.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Deacon Matthew and Deacon Armen on their fine accomplishment of spiritual leadership. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these men and their families a bright future and continued growth.

PEACE CORPS ACT AUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 669) to amend the Peace Corps Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 through 2003 to carry out that Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Chairman, as an original cosponsor of H.R. 669, the Peace