

I hope the Congress will have the courage to do what is right rather than what is expedient and what is popular. That is what we are sent up here to do.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN OF COLOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for organizing the special order that was supposed to be on women's history, although it had been altered.

I would just like to offer my remarks for this evening. Let me also add that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) has certainly put her stamp on history through her outstanding work here in the House of Representatives and being the first African American woman to be elected to her district.

It is fitting indeed that we honor the achievements of women of color, who for too long were neglected in our Nation's history. In recent years, it has been exciting to watch school children learn about African American women of strength, courage, and dignity who shaped the course of history.

We can point with pride to women like Harriet Tubman who secretly guided over 300 slaves to freedom on the "Underground Railroad." She spent time working in my home State of New Jersey at Cape May between 1849 and 1852.

We honor the legacy of Sojourner Truth, who was freed from slavery by the New York State Emancipation Act of 1827, became famous in her lifetime as a preacher and abolitionist and lecturer. When war broke out, she raised money to buy gifts for the soldiers and went into Army camps and distributed them by herself.

We recall the contributions of Mary McLeod Bethune, who built Bethune-Cookman College in Florida and founded the National Council of Negro Women. She was the first black woman to receive a major appointment in the Federal Government.

□ 2230

She served as an adviser to President Franklin Roosevelt and to President Truman.

There have been so many remarkable women of color that it is impossible to pay tribute to all of them tonight. We have all had the opportunity to meet women who were personal heroines in our own lives, and I would like to pay tribute to three women who have had the greatest impact on my early life, African American women who have made a direct contribution to my growth and development. And these three women, other than my late mother and grandmother, have had a

tremendous impact on my development.

The first one I would like to mention is Mrs. Madeline Williams, who was an adviser of the NAACP Youth Councils and College Chapter of the Oranges and Maplewood in New Jersey. When I was invited to join the NAACP as a college student she provided the opportunity for young people to become involved in civic activities and public service. She helped me develop an interest in civil rights at a time in history when we were all moved to become involved. I remain grateful to her for giving me the opportunity to become involved in civil rights and government affairs.

Another great woman who exerted an enormous positive influence on my life was Mrs. Mary Burch, founder of a group called The Leaguers, which helped young people from the inner city to become more involved in their activities in their cities.

Belonging to the Leaguers opened up a whole new world for young people like myself, a world from which we otherwise would have been excluded. Never before had we been able to have the opportunity to wear formal attire when I was a young boy; to learn the waltz and to attend cotillion dances in a ballroom. It was an uplifting experience which taught us about social graces and made us feel special.

The Leaguers sponsored many innovative programs. I recall as a teenager my excitement over my first real trip as a high school student away from home, to visit Philadelphia, through a Leaguer exchange program. Later, the student I visited, Joe Wade, stayed at my home in Newark. Forging friendships and relationships with young people from different cities was exciting, it was novel, and it was a great experience. This year we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Leaguers.

Finally, let me just mention another exceptional woman from New Jersey whom I was pleased to join at a celebration recently at her hundredth birthday at the YWCA in Montclair last week, and that is Mrs. Hortense Tate. Her career spanned seven decades of service through education as a teacher and guidance counselor, the enrichment and development of young women through the Montclair YWCA and the AKA sorority, and over 70 years of service to her church.

When I was a young teacher at Robert Treat School in 1957, Mrs. Tate guided me and inspired me. She comes from an outstanding family; her father worked his way up from a blue collar job to become a principal of an African American school in Topeka, Kansas. As we all know, the 1954 Supreme Court case was based on the Topeka Board of Education that said separate but equal is unconstitutional. He was acquainted with Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver.

Mrs. Tate entertained Mary McLeod Bethune and Dorothy Height. Her son, Herb Tate, was a distinguished foreign diplomat, and her grandson, Herbert H. Tate, Junior, is President of the State of New Jersey Board of Public Utilities.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring these women of achievement who have, as the theme of this Women's History Month goes, "put their stamp on America." I am so pleased to have the chance to express my personal gratitude and admiration for women who have meant so much to me throughout my life. I would not be here if it were not for the faith, confidence and direction that these persons have had on my life.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for Wednesday, March 24th, on account of illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. OLVER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

- Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. JEFFERSON, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

- Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes each day, today and on March 25.
- Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. MILLER of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. ENGLISH, for 5 minutes, on March 25.
- Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. BILIRAKIS, for 5 minutes, on March 25.
- Mr. CUNNINGHAM, for 5 minutes, on March 25.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 437. An act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 333