

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WORLD POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, in my capacity as Chairman of the Technology Subcommittee of the Committee on Science, I have come across many interesting facts about the relationship between science and the environment. This editorial from *The Keene (New Hampshire) Sentinel* at first seems humorous in discussing the idea that lawnmowers cause smog. However, as one reads further one realizes that the main point of the editorial is that the ever growing number of people on the Earth stretch the environment's resources to the point where it is ever more difficult to provide for the needs of the world's population. While written in a humorous vein, this editorial provides a strong reason to support international family planning programs.

[From the *Keene (New Hampshire) Sentinel*](By *Sentinel Editorial*)

PEOPLE SMOG

In what has to be the ultimate insult to the American way of life, scientists studying the source of dangerous chemicals in the air have determined that mowing the lawn causes air pollution.

The report, issued on April 1, seemed like a joke at first. We waited for the big hoot at the end. But apparently it is serious, and the problem isn't just lawnmower engines.

"Wound-induced and drying-induced . . . compounds are expected to be significant in the atmosphere," said the team of researchers, in a study that's about to be published in a journal called *Geophysical Research Letters*. Among the chemicals released by "wounded" grass are methanol, hexanal, acetaldehyde, acetone and butanone. The team adds that the same chemicals are also produced in small amounts when people and animals eat raw vegetables.

Okay, even one of the researchers admits this is funny stuff. "It just doesn't seem likely to me that the smell of newly mown grass is toxic," said biochemist Ray Fall. But eventually, who knows, when too many freshly cut lawns are added to too many lawnmower exhaust pipes, and too many cars, and too many factory smokestacks and too many wood stoves and so on?

This apparently trivial grass-clipping story, like reports of so many environmental and social problems, should be seen in the context of a deadly serious dilemma that's often ignored by governments and news media: the world's burgeoning population.

When we read of, hear of and occasionally experience urban blight, environmental pollution, traffic jams, waves of illegal immigrants, filled-in wetlands and other maddening challenges of modern life, we really ought to think more often of the common de-

nominator. People. People have to work, play, build, heat their homes and businesses, travel from place to place. And as we do so, bit by bit we inevitably degrade our physical and social environments. No single activity is particularly troublesome. But the more of us there are, the more degradation there is. Where will it end, with a standing-room-only society shrouded in a poison fog?

These thoughts are prompted not so much by the lawnmowing story, but by some alarming testimony presented last month to a U.S. House committee. Werner Fornos, the indefatigable head of the nonprofit Population Institute was practically on his knees trying to persuade indifferent members of Congress to spend a mere \$25 million on international family planning assistance next year.

Fornos outlined the situation in stark terms, noting that the world population grew from one billion to two billion between 1830 and 1930—in 100 years—then added a third billion by 1960—in just 30 years. Since then, it has doubled to six billion. We publish extracts from Fornos's testimony on this page today. It makes sobering reading, as we approach another lawn-mowing season.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY—PHELPS DODGE CORPORATION WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation authorizing a water rights settlement which was entered into on May 4, 1998, by the Gila River Indian Community and the Phelps Dodge Corp.

As my colleagues who are involved with western water issues know, reaching a settlement to an Indian water rights dispute is an incredibly complex and contentious task. The parties to this agreement should be commended for their willingness to work cooperatively to settle their differences and for their perseverance in striving to reach an agreement.

While the settlement which my legislation authorizes is an important step in the right direction, it is in many ways the vanguard for a much larger settlement currently under negotiation. These negotiations are intended to permanently and comprehensively address the water needs of central Arizona and the Phoenix metropolitan area while providing a final settlement of all water claims by the Gila River Indian Community.

The issue of long-term water supplies is of the utmost importance to Arizona. Phoenix is currently the sixth largest metropolitan area in the United States and it continues to grow rapidly. It must have permanently assured, afford-

able water supplies to maintain its prosperity and sustain its growth. Any settlement which is ultimately reached must be crafted to ensure that water is readily available a century and more from now.

The legislation which I introduce today provides a vehicle for advancing the process of negotiating a comprehensive settlement. I will work tirelessly to ensure that any settlement which is reached protects the water supplies of all Arizonans in perpetuity and acknowledges the primacy of State water law over allocation of this precious resource.

REGARDING THE PASSING OF MS. SANDRA CHAVIS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my heartfelt sadness on the recent passing of an individual who provided tremendous service to our country and in particular, to the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 22, 1999, Ms. Sandra Chavis passed away after suffering a heart attack. She was 50 years young.

Mr. Speaker, I join many individuals in my district and the Washington area in mourning Ms. Chavis. Her dedication to our Nation's fair housing laws and her commitment to public service are recognized and cherished by many.

Indeed, there are many families throughout our Nation's cities who have equal access to home ownership because of her tireless efforts to open the doors to homes everywhere, for everyone.

Her dedication in this area is as well-known as her gracious demeanor and her love for her family.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Chavis first showed her dedication to public service in San Francisco in 1973, where she worked for the Social Security Administration. In 1978, she joined the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing and Office of Human Resources. She joined the Department at a time when fair housing laws were still in their nascence.

At the time of her unexpected death, she was serving as Director of the Department's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity in Washington, DC. Her cumulative work at the Department of Housing and Urban Development represented a career of fighting for fairness and equality for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, her life and work were held in such high esteem that the Department of Housing and Urban Development led by Secretary Andrew Cuomo are opening their hearts

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