

Enlargement, now intended eventually to bring 13 new members into the EU, may be officially supported by all the present governments, but their voters remain decidedly skeptical. EU leaders will have to go out and sell the idea, with passion and conviction, or they could face an upsurge in xenophobia at the polls.

If and when enlargement happens, as I fervently hope it does, it will change the EU substantially. The only way to accommodate such a wide variety of member states, at very differing political and economic stages of development, will be to build much more flexibility into the system. Somehow it has to be adapted to preserve the single market, without forcing the new members into instant bankruptcy. The high standards of developed west European economies cannot be adopted overnight in the east.

Nor is it simply a matter of economics. The accession candidates are all relatively fragile democracies. Most have only recently recovered their full sovereignty from the former Soviet empire. There are unresolved ethnic conflicts, and minority rights issues, within their borders. They could well spark the emergence of nationalist movements at least as unattractive as the Freedom party of Mr. Haider.

All these profound issues raised by EU enlargement are supposed to be tackled by the intergovernmental conference (IGC) of the present 15 member states, which opens next Monday. They are supposed to be streamlining the institutions so that they remain workable with as many as 28 members. Yet the chances are that the IGC will stick to a very narrow agenda, and leave the EU ill-prepared for the revolution to come.

Romano Prodi, president of the European Commission, says the prospect of more Haiders in an enlarged EU makes it all the more necessary to take most decisions by majority voting, not unanimity. Yet majority decisions enforced on unhappy minorities could be a formula for breeding more Haiders. The answer must be more flexible arrangements, more devolution of power, and a minimum of rules.

If an enlarged EU is going to hold together, and enjoy the support of its inhabitants, it is going to have to be rather more than a glorified common market. It does not have to be the federal super-state that British Euro-sceptics fear and loathe. But it will have to be a community of common values.

That is why the initiative running in parallel with the IGC may ultimately prove more important: the drafting of a Charter of Fundamental Rights. This should be clear, concise and easily intelligible. It does not have to add any exotic new rights that are not already present in the EU treaty and the European convention of human rights. But it should spell out the minimum rights and freedoms to which all member states of the union will be committed. It should also spell out what will happen if they transgress.

For the advent of Mr. Haider in Austria is surely only a foretaste of the challenges to come in an enlarged EU. The member states need a clear yardstick by which to judge the acceptable behaviour of any government—a yardstick that voters can read and understand before they vote. That might discourage them from voting for anti-democratic extremists. And it might restrain the other member states from ad hoc overreactions.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO FATHER FRED

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I and many, many residents of northern Michigan continue to mourn the passing of the Rev. Edwin Frederick, our beloved Father Fred, who affected so many lives by the simple act of tending and caring for those in need.

It may be misleading, Mr. Speaker, to describe Father Fred's work as simple. The simple act of sharing is to offer a hungry man half one's loaf of bread. The simple act of caring is to put one's own coat over the shoulders of a child shivering with a cold.

Father Fred went much further than that. The foundation he created has provided food, clothing and other basic necessities to literally thousands of families. The Father Fred Foundation now distributes more than a million dollars in aid each year to individuals and families in the Traverse City area. It is, at its heart, the story of the loaves and fishes, a miracle being worked by our Savior through this simple man of the cloth who was willing to ride on the back of Harley Davidson motorcycles and oversee garage sales to build this sustaining fund.

I was fortunate, Mr. Speaker, to have been one of Father Fred's instruments in his performance of good works. I looked forward each year to assisting him in serving Thanksgiving dinner to those in need. In this most basic act of charity, helping to provide sustenance to another human, I learned that most basic of Christian lessons, learning to love a stranger.

My heart was heavy this year at Thanksgiving, because as I left I knew I would never again see Father Fred alive. His smile was as wide as ever, but the cancer that was killing him had left this once powerful man very frail. Father Fred died in January at the age of 74.

We in Congress have an opportunity to meet many stately, strong, wise, and wonderful people. But in those quiet moments when I can reflect on the individuals who have really had an impact on my view of the world and my feelings for my fellow man, it is Father Fred who marches at the forefront of that long procession of men and women whose lives have at one time or another intersected with mine.

He will continue to live among us in the foundation he created, and in the special place in our hearts and memories that he created.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TWO FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, sadly I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues the passing of two of San Francisco's finest police officers—Inspector Kirk "Bush" Brookbush and Officer James "J.D." Dougherty.

On Wednesday, January 19 thousands of police officers from throughout California and the nation gave their final farewell salute to their two San Francisco comrades who had died on January 11 when their helicopter crashed returning from a routine maintenance session. "The Air Marshall and his Sidekick" as they called themselves are remembered as dedicated police officers who went above and beyond the call of duty.

For nearly 30 years they were devoted, reliable and hard-working street cops. They were highly respected, trusted and loved by their colleagues, family and friends. Both were Vietnam vets, loving husbands and fathers who were trained airline pilots recently given the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of becoming police pilots. They were passionate about their work and were making a positive impact on the San Francisco Police Department's air unit.

Indeed, the San Francisco Bay Area deeply mourns the loss of Kirk and J.D. Their colleagues will continue to look up to them with respect and admiration for as described by their boss, Commander Heather Fong, they will continue to be "two angels looking over the shoulders" of San Francisco's police officers. They were men of courage and inspiration.

I would like to express my personal condolences and prayers to their friends and loved ones, especially to Kirk Brookbush's wife, Suzanne and their son, Andrew and to James Dougherty's wife, Sun Kang and his stepsons, Chon and Paul and his children, Brigid, Jeff and Chris.

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 76, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of it. Through the efforts of Childhelp USA, a "Day of Hope" will be observed on the first Wednesday in April to focus public awareness on this social ill.

Childhelp USA has been coming to the rescue of children in distress since 1959. It is one of America's oldest and largest organizations dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse.

Childhelp's many excellent programs help keep children safe. Childhelp training programs instruct adults who work with children on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of abuse, how to respond to a child who discloses abuse and how to interrupt a suspected abuse situation. Childhelp Abuse Prevention instructors teach school children the knowledge and skills they need to prevent or interrupt abuse. This organization provides a 24-hour National Child Abuse Hotline, which delivers free, high quality professional counseling