

WILLIAM N. BALTZ, MEMBER OF CONGRESS, 22ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT-ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of a former colleague, the Honorable William N. Baltz, D-Millstadt, who represented the 22nd Congressional District of Illinois from March 4, 1913 to March 3, 1915.

The Baltz family came originally from Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. Early records indicate that most members of their family were engaged in agricultural pursuits. One was a blacksmith, while another served as the Mayor of Gross Bierbrau. Johann II and his wife Maria along with their seven children departed Bremen, Germany on June 3, 1834 and arrived in Baltimore on August 25. One son disappeared in Philadelphia on their trek westward. Johann and his family traveled by wagon and boat down the Ohio River valley to St. Louis and in December of that year they settled in Sugar Loaf Township, just west of Millstadt, Illinois, where that home still stands. Five children were born there and their legacy continues today.

The descendants of Maria and Johann are numerous. The Baltz family served as farmers, teachers, storekeepers, postmaster, lawyers, bankers, physicians, millers, dentists, engineers, scientists, writers, church, school and also civic leaders. Among the most prominent of these descendants was William Nicolas Baltz, a farmer and staunch democrat. He was born in Millstadt, Illinois on February 5, 1860 and attended the public schools in Millstadt. In addition to farming, he engaged in milling and banking, helping to establish the First National Bank of Millstadt. He served as the President of the Millstadt Board of Education from 1892-1917 and also served on the St. Clair County Board of Supervisors from 1897 to 1913. He was the County Board's Presiding Officer from 1908 to 1911.

William was elected to the 64th United States Congress on March 4, 1913 and represented the Illinois 22nd Congressional district in Woodrow Wilson's first administration up to March 3, 1915. Referred to as "Honest Bill" by his constituents, Congressman Baltz played as the catcher for the annual House vs. Senate baseball game, I might add, without a glove. In the 1914 game, William hit a three bagger off the wall of Griffith stadium in Washington and that year the Democrats beat the Republicans. William's father, Phillip, was also an appointee of President Andrew Johnson serving as the Postmaster of Millstadt. William and a brother G.F. (Gus) married two Diesel sisters, Katherine and Otillia. Gus, also a lover of baseball, graduated from ISNU in 1900 and captained that year's baseball team as a center fielder.

William and his brothers, Richard G. and Fred L., also founded the Millstadt Milling Company in 1893. It was purchased by Golden Dipt Corp. in 1957. The brothers organized the First National Bank of Millstadt in 1903 and it's chief operating officials are still in the Baltz family.

William was unsuccessful in his re-election efforts to the Congress and soon thereafter served along with his brother Fred as the Mayors of Millstadt. William resumed his agricultural and business pursuits for the rest of his life until he passed away on August 22, 1943. He lies at Mount Evergreen Cemetery in Millstadt, IL.

As the century ended and the new millennium begins, the work of William N. Baltz and the entire Baltz family stands as a testament to the courage and determination of our immigrant past. Their selfless efforts at continuing to support the community both in the last century and this century reminds us of our Nation's heritage and the symbol of what makes America the greatest nation on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service and memory of U.S. Congressman William N. Baltz.

HONORING JOHN MCGUINNESS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a man that meant a great deal to the State of Colorado. John McGuinness recently passed away in Broomfield, CO. He was 67 years old.

John was born on June 10, 1932, in Queens, NY. He received a bachelor's degree in marketing from Fordham University. He attended graduate school at Columbia University and also worked in live television in the 1950's.

John decided to move to Colorado in 1958. He worked in advertising sales for KWGN-TV, he was involved in early FM stations in Denver and did political consulting for many campaigns. He later founded McGuinness and Associates and returned to consulting for radio and cable television. In the late 1980's, he became the court assigned operator of KDEN, a Denver radio station.

John's marketing degree was helpful when he was appointed to the Colorado State Fair Commission in 1983 by former Colorado Governor Roy Romer. After the general manager resigned, John took over as the acting director and served with great distinction in that capacity until his resignation in December of 1999.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer tribute in memory of John McGuinness. He was a great man that will be missed by all those who knew him.

RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM HAS NO PLACE IN AUSTRIA'S DEMOCRACY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, recent elections in Austria produced the disturbing result of the far right Freedom Party receiving the second most votes among all the parties. The Freedom Party's leader, Joerg Haider, has been

an advocate of anti-immigrant policies, and has voiced supportive opinions regarding certain policies of the Nazi era in Austria and Germany. Today, Austrian President Klestil is faced with a choice of accepting a governing coalition that would include Mr. Haider's party as a partner with the center right People's Party.

Such a government would call into question Austria's longstanding reputation for tolerance, and as a haven for refugees from less fortunate countries, its strong championship of human rights, and its repudiation of its own unfortunate past history. As someone who has viewed himself as a friend of Austria, I believe it is incumbent that all of us in this body who value human rights to speak up and urge President Klestil and the Austrian people not to follow the extremist path represented by Mr. Haider and the Freedom Party's followers.

We should be mindful that the Austrian Freedom Party is not a unique political phenomenon in Europe. There are other nations in which far right parties have enjoyed increasing popularity. Our position with regard to the next government in Austria will be closely watched by leaders of those other extremist parties.

Our friends in the European Union have taken a strong position, indicating that they will take all possible steps to isolate Austria within the EU if Haider is part of the Austrian Government. As Portugal's Prime Minister Guterres, speaking as President of the EU, has said "There comes times when we have to be faithful to our values." Our Government and the Congress should also be forthright in expressing our views on the unacceptability of views such as those expressed by Mr. Haider throughout his political career.

In doing so we must be clear that we respect the Austrian people, and believe that Austria's rightful place is among those nations that have striven for peace, justice, and human rights. We urge them at this critical juncture in Austria's history not to depart from the path they have followed for more than 50 years. Whatever social or other problems they believe they face, the answer does not lie in the kinds of policies and beliefs voiced by Joerg Haider. We want to see Austria anchored firmly in those trans-Atlantic and European institutions that represent a community of shared values and political beliefs, but we will firmly defend those very values and beliefs that give our community its definition and leadership role in the world today. Right wing extremism should have no place in our community of nations.

WASHINGTON & LEE REPUBLICAN MOCK CONVENTION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my alma mater, Washington and Lee University, on its recent 2000 Republican Mock Convention.

Every four years since 1908, the students of Washington and Lee have gathered at the