

SENATE—Wednesday, October 18, 2000*(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2000)*

The Senate met at 10:01 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Your omniscience confronts and then comforts us. We know that if we acknowledge Your involvement in the work of this Senate, that You are actually present in the Chamber, we will be accountable to You for what we say and how we say it and the methods we use to both block or boost progress. Your x-ray vision penetrates to reveal the human dynamics as we near the conclusion of this 106th Congress. You see our efforts to complete our work, while at the same time You also see the tensions over control, how we will look to the American people, and our desire to win arguments as well as votes. We harbor vague ideas about Your omniscience, but seldom think about the fact that You are as concerned about legislation and political process as You are about running the universe.

Lord, it is difficult to trust You to work out Your best for America in the midst of our divided ideologies. We need a fresh supply of faith to serve You by doing our work cooperatively, speaking the truth as we have come to understand it, blending the finest thinking we can produce with Your help, and then leaving the results to You.

Now in this moment of honest confrontation with You, we ask for Your help to do things Your way. We commit ourselves to excellence in our work and we trust the results to You. We truly believe that You desire to work out Your purposes for America through this Senate. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TIM HUTCHINSON, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the hour of 12:30 p.m. the Senate stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m. in order for the weekly party caucuses to meet.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will resume debate on the conference report to accompany the Agriculture appropriations bill. Debate on the conference report will be limited to today's session, with final remarks to begin at approximately 3:30 p.m. Those Senators who have statements are encouraged to come to the floor as early as possible today due to the break for the weekly party conference meetings. The vote on the Agriculture appropriations conference report will occur at 5:30 p.m.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUTCHINSON). The distinguished Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following my brief remarks, the Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, be recognized for 20 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CANONIZATION OF MOTHER KATHARINE DREXEL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am here today to pay tribute to the legacy of Mother Katharine Drexel, who on October 1, just a few weeks ago, became the fourth American ever to be canonized by the Vatican.

Katharine Drexel was born in 1859 into a very well-to-do family in Bucks County, PA. Early in life, though, she dedicated herself and her inheritance to work for social justice for African Americans and Native Americans.

Mother Drexel's legacy reflects more than simply her commitment to the Catholic faith, though her faith was the inspiration for her life's work. Her activism expanded into the area of civil rights due to her understanding of the lingering effects of racism towards African American and Native Americans.

Due to her commitment to eradicating the vestiges of racism, she founded the Blessed Sacrament for the Christian education of Native Americans and African Americans.

In addition, throughout her life, she founded over 100 educational institutions for African Americans and Native Americans.

The most famous school she founded is Xavier University in New Orleans. At the time, no Catholic university in the South accepted black students and Mother Drexel established Xavier University to fill this void.

Along with her sisters, Mother Drexel inherited close to \$14 million. Mr. President, \$14 million in 1860 was a lot of money. Through her support of civil rights organizations such as the NAACP, and her numerous foundation schools, Mother Drexel donated more than \$20 million through her charitable work, a figure that in today's value exceeds a quarter of a billion dollars.

The excellent management of her inherited estate also earned her the reputation as an accomplished businesswoman. Thus her social justice work in the late 1800s and early 1900s also made her a woman's rights activist.

Although Mother Drexel passed away in 1955, her legacy continues today through the work of the Catholic order that she founded in 1891, an order that continues to carry out her vision of ending racial injustice.

It is my hope that we will all join in acknowledging the work of those who have dedicated themselves to working for the needs and concerns of all Americans. Nevada is home to both Native Americans and African Americans. I find it, therefore, especially appropriate that I speak today in spreading across the RECORD of this Senate the tremendous contribution and legacy of this great American, Mother Katharine Drexel.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.