

foundations of the economic prosperity of nations; but we must also ensure that they are compatible with the values that we all share, and which find their most worthy expression in the respect for rights, for all fundamental human rights, including appropriate working conditions.

In this new international context, Spain looks with special interest towards Europe and the Atlantic. After years of absence, Spain is once more actively involved in the political life of Europe.

Accession to the European Union constituted a watershed in the recent history of my country. Within a short time, Spaniards made an exceptional effort to adapt their entire economic, industrial, and even social structures to the regulations of the new environment where we have chosen to live.

We can say, and I as a Spaniard am proud to do so, that this effort has been rewarded by considerable success. Spain today is an open and modern country, with a plural, highly-motivated and thriving society, which faces the future with optimism and aims to play a leading role in the community of developed nations.

It is precisely because we are aware of the enormously positive effect that accession to the European Union has had on our country, that Spaniards from the outset have been resolutely in favour of enlargement to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Europeans now have the opportunity and the moral obligation to incorporate into the ambitious project now under construction those countries that, on account of unfair historical circumstances, remained isolated from what had always been their political, economic and cultural environment. The possibility of extending respect for values shared by us all to Central and Eastern Europe, together with the economic progress of their people, is the best guarantee for peace and stability for the future of our continent.

Besides being a European country, Spain has historically been an Atlantic nation. Our history is closely bound up with the Transatlantic link that unites the two shores. European unity cannot be built to the detriment or at the expense of the relationship with the United States. Today, as in the past, Transatlantic relations must constitute one of the focal points of our international relations.

Spain's Atlantic vocation is not confined to the northern hemisphere. Obviously, Spain feels particularly concerned with everything that happens in Latin America. This region currently presents very encouraging results, both in respect of political and economic progress, although many problems are still pending, such as poverty and social inequality.

The high degree of inter-relationship that exists between the Iberian peoples on both sides of the Atlantic cannot be explained solely in terms of the long period of time during which they formed a single nation. Once the countries that today make up what we call Latin America reached their independence, close ties were still preserved between our peoples. These ties continue to be very strong today, as shown by our active participation in initiatives such as the Ibero-American Summits, the promotion of relations between the European Union and these countries, and the resolute commitment of Spanish businessmen to the future of Latin America.

But today's Hispanic world has expanded far beyond its geographical and political boundaries. It has become a major force, even in the United States, where it has taken on special importance.

The Hispanic community in this country has an ever-growing presence. This presence is not only the result of its strong demographic growth, but rather constitutes a development with major social and political repercussions, on account of the progressively bigger role of the individuals that make it up.

The United States should not forget that the Union was formed with the Southern states, on whose people the Hispanic imprint was deeply stamped. In short, the Hispanic world is an integral part of the history of the United States.

Allow me to quote the words of: President Kennedy. In a speech delivered in 1961, he said: "Unfortunately, too many Americans think that America was discovered in 1620, when the pilgrims came to my state, and they forget the immense adventure of the 16th century and beginning of the 17th in the South and South-western part of the United States."

Perhaps President Kennedy's words would not respond to today's reality. I am sure that the Hispanic community I mentioned earlier, and which is nowadays evermore flourishing and influential, will ensure that the enormous colonising task undertaken by its ancestors in the 16th and 17th centuries in what today are the Southern and South-western states of this country is given due recognition by fellow Americans.

There is a very large Spanish section in the Library of Congress. Therefore this is a good place to recall that on territory that is now American, two great cultural vectors meet: one coming from Northern, Anglo-Saxon Europe, the other from the Mediterranean, what we could call the Latin and Iberian culture.

It is precisely on our collaboration with, and on the support of this noble institution, the Library of Congress, that I place my highest hopes for recognition of a new awareness of Spain's historic role in creating and forming the personality of the American nation.

The widely recognized academic authority of the Library, the new data-processing methods that give it an enormous capacity for disseminating its bibliographical and documentary treasures, as well as its plans for collaboration with the most important libraries of our country, are our best guarantee for success.

Honorable Senators, Honorable Representatives, a good knowledge of our past will enable us to better understand our future.

In 1840, Alexis de Tocqueville, in his work *Democracy in America*, wrote, "America is a country of wonders; everything there is in constant change, and all change seems to be progress."

We are now in the first year of a new century and are living in times of great change. Therefore let us live up to the spirit that Tocqueville saw in 19th Century America and let us ensure that all change will constitute progress, so that the words with which the illustrious Frenchmen described those Americans will ring true: "In America man seems to have no natural limits to his efforts; in his eyes, everything that has not already been achieved is because it has not yet been attempted".

Thank you very much.

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

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

(The following statement was printed in the RECORD at the request of Mr. DASCHLE.)

EXPLANATION OF MISSED VOTES

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I regret I was unable to vote on the Iran Non-proliferation Act and two judicial nominations, but it was necessary for me to be in Montana today.

I traveled back to Montana to join with Montana farmers, Montana business people, and Montana government officials, and Montana economic development experts in Great Falls and Helena to greet a high-level Chinese agriculture purchasing delegation. This group is led by the Chairman of COFCO, the China National Cereals, Oils, and Feedstuffs Import and Export Corporation, and includes senior Chinese government officials. We provided this Chinese delegation with information about the opportunities Montana presents and educated them about the high quality and competitive agricultural products and value-added food products in our state.

I have been working for over 20 years to expand trade and open markets overseas for Montana and American agricultural commodities, value-added agricultural products, manufactured goods, and services. Increasing exports brings benefits to our farmers, our workers, and our communities in Montana.

China, in particular, represents a market of almost unlimited potential. I have worked hard for the last 10 years to expand trading relations between the United States and China. This year, I am leading the fight to grant China Permanent Normal Trade Relations status, PNTR. The full implementation of this agricultural agreement is a vital part of this effort to bring China into the WTO. It will ensure that Montana and the rest of America will benefit from the unique opportunities in China. The delegation that I brought to Montana this week is only the first step along the road to increased exports to China.

The outcome of today's vote on the Iran Nonproliferation Act would not have changed had I been present. This measure passed, 98-0, and I strongly support it. I do so for three reasons: it requires the President to report to Congress on foreign entities where there is "credible information" that they have transferred certain goods, services or technologies to Iran; it authorizes the President to impose measures against these entities; and it prohibits "extraordinary" U.S. payments to the Russian Space Agency until certain conditions are met. I voted for a

similar bill in 1998, legislation which passed the Senate, 90-4, and was subsequently vetoed by the President.

I also support the outcome of the other rollcall votes that occurred in the Senate today, for the confirmation of two Federal judges. Kermit Bye, nominated to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the 8th Circuit, and George Daniels, nominated for District Judge of the southern district of New York, are both highly qualified judges. Both were confirmed today, by votes of 98-0. In both cases, my vote would have made the outcome 99-0.

Although I regret that I was unable to cast these three votes, I am pleased to have advanced the economic well-being of my state by continuing my fight to open markets for Montana agriculture.

INTERNET PRIVACY

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I want to bring to the Senate's attention an article from today's *TheStreet.Com* entitled "DoubleClick Exec Says Privacy Legislation Needn't Crimp Results." For many Americans, the fear of a loss of personal privacy on the Internet represents the last hurdle impeding their full embrace of this exciting and promising new medium. In addition, many other Internet users unfortunately are today unaware of the significant amount of information profiling that is occurring every time they visit a web site. Notwithstanding the significant privacy concerns raised by such surreptitious activity, many companies continue to oppose even a basic regulatory framework that would ensure the protection of consumers' privacy on the Internet—a basic framework that has been successfully adopted with respect to other areas of our economy. That is why I was so pleased to see a leading Internet Executive from DoubleClick state that his company would not "face an insurmountable problem" in attempting to operate under strict privacy rules. Complying with such rules is "not rocket science," the executive stated, "It's execution." Obviously, what this gentleman has asserted is that strict privacy rules would not impede the basic functionality and commercial activity on the Internet. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Commerce Committee to draft legislation in this area and hope that others in industry will join DoubleClick's apparent willingness to implement pro-consumer privacy rules.

I ask unanimous consent that an article entitled "DoubleClick Exec Says Privacy Legislation Needn't Crimp Results" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *Street.Com*, February 24, 2000]

DOUBLECLICK EXEC SAYS PRIVACY LEGISLATION NEEDN'T CRIMP RESULTS (By George Mannes)

The worst-case scenario for DoubleClick (Nasdaq:DLCK—news) may not be so bad after all.

The Internet advertising company has suffered a barrage of negative publicity recently over the information it gathers on people's online activities. News that the Federal Trade Commission is conducting an informal inquiry into the company's data-collection policies was among the developments that prompted a 23% decline in the stock's price over the past week. (It rose 1 47/64 Wednesday to close at 85 55/64.)

But at a Wall Street conference Wednesday, a DoubleClick executive at the eye of the data-collection storm told investment professionals that even the worst outcome for DoubleClick wouldn't present a major hurdle to its business plans.

ROCKET SCIENCE

Jonathan Shapiro, senior vice president and head of the company's Abacus Online Alliance, told a group of attendees at the eMarketing2000 conference hosted by C.E. Unterberg Towbin that DoubleClick would be able to find a way to operate under stricter privacy rules. "It's not rocket science," Shapiro said. "It's execution."

Shapiro's comments come in the wake of assertions by activists and at least one senator that, to protect people's privacy online, DoubleClick and other online marketers should be restricted from continuing current information-collection policies. That hasn't sat well with DoubleClick, whose president suggested last week that such restrictions would hurt the company and threaten the financial health of all Internet companies relying on advertising revenue.

As part of its strategy to help marketers finely target their advertising messages, DoubleClick is in the process of merging anonymous profiles of the online behavior of millions of Web surfers with information from its recently acquired subsidiary Abacus Direct. The company's goal is to tie as many of the anonymous online profiles as it can to its Abacus database, which details the names and off-line purchasing habits of millions of consumers.

OPTING OUT

At issue is how easily DoubleClick will be able to attach names and addresses to its anonymous online profiles. The company hopes it will be able to continue its current "opt-out" process. Under that procedure, if people register by name at a DoubleClick-affiliated site such as Alta Vista, DoubleClick can attach that name to the information it gathers from different sites and through Abacus Direct, assuming the person has been sufficiently warned and hasn't specifically refused to the arrangement, or "opted out." In contrast, the privacy bill that Sen. Robert Torricelli (D., NJ) introduced this month would prevent DoubleClick from collecting personally identifiable information unless surfers have "opted in," or specifically agreed to the arrangement.

But even if DoubleClick were required to switch from opt-in to opt-out, the company wouldn't face an insurmountable problem, according to Shapiro. "If we have to go to opt-in . . . we'll get people to opt in," he told a small group of investors at a breakout session.

Asked how the company would be able to do this, Shapiro made it sound like no big deal. "You'd do a value exchange," he said,

outlining a scenario in which the company could easily get 20 online merchants with which it does business to each contribute a \$10-off to a coupon book. Then DoubleClick could use that coupon book as an incentive to have online consumers opt in. The merchants, not DoubleClick, would absorb the cost of the coupons, and consumers would benefit by receiving a \$200 value, he said.

LIFTING THE GLOOM

Shapiro's comments stand in contrast to the gloomy statements made last week by DoubleClick President Kevin Ryan who said if companies were forced to get Internet surfers to opt in, "it would be extremely hard for the Internet to be successful." Ryan may have been talking about having to get permission even to create anonymous online data, not just personally identifiable profiles.

But a reading of Torricelli's bill, as well as an FTC complaint filed by the Electronic Privacy Information Center indicates that proponents of opt-in want it only for personally identifiable information. "If there's a realistic assurance that the information collected will remain anonymous and not be tied to an actual identity, there is no real need for an affirmative opt-in," says David Sobel, general counsel for EPIC.

In a further indication that opt-in isn't a life-or-death issue for DoubleClick, Shapiro said the company wouldn't have to personally identify all the now-anonymous surfers in its database before the Abacus information would be useful. What DoubleClick will be able to do, he said, is to use a sample of identifiable surfers—for whom it has personally identifiable purchasing histories and online habits—to make an educated guess at the buying habits of surfers who remain anonymous. DoubleClick believes that tactic will be possible using information from about 5 million personally identifiable Internet users—a sample size the company hopes to amass by the end of the year. So far, the company has between 100,000 and 200,000 profiles in its combined off-line-online database, Shapiro said.

But that doesn't mean the company would be ready to quit after collecting 5 million of these profiles. "We would like to, over time, learn who people are," Shapiro said.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, February 23, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,744,135,736,409.24 (Five trillion, seven hundred forty-four billion, one hundred thirty-five million, seven hundred thirty-six thousand, four hundred nine dollars and twenty-four cents).

One year ago, February 23, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,619,948,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred nineteen billion, nine hundred forty-eight million).

Five years ago, February 23, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,837,337,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred thirty-seven billion, three hundred thirty-seven million).

Ten years ago, February 23, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$2,992,887,000,000 (Two trillion, nine hundred ninety-two billion, eight hundred eighty-seven million) which reflects a doubling of the debt—an increase of almost \$3 trillion—\$2,751,248,736,409.24 (Two trillion,