

mining towns of Southern West Virginia. The bottom rungs in our Ladder of Life were missing, but with God's help and by His grace, we have weathered storms of adversity and come through times of sorrow as well as joy to the present moment.

Not least of all, I owe much of my phenomenal success in serving the people of my state and my country to the many extraordinary men and women who have worked on my staff throughout my long career in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

As we have now crossed the threshold into a new century, I take this opportunity to urge my fellow West Virginians to build their future on the development of the human mind and the rock of the human spirit. I hope that more and more West Virginians will understand the imperative of education and the value of our schools, and that we will restore education to its rightful position as the primary key that opens doors onto the classic American dream of fulfillment in life as individuals and as a society. I hope that increased numbers of parents will become involved in monitoring their children's learning progress, in encouraging better performance at all levels of their children's schoolwork, and in applauding the achievements of good teachers.

I also hope that increased numbers of children will discover and rediscover the joys of reading, that more and more students will find unfathomed challenges in mathematics and the sciences and in history, and that a new generation of well-educated, keenly interested, and highly dedicated and industrious students will emerge from our schools to assure our State's preeminence in every field of learning, business, industry, and endeavor known to man, and many fields yet unknown but waiting for some blade-sharp West Virginia intellects to invent and open doors to them.

I hope that West Virginians will continue to preserve and honor the old values that guided and sustained our fathers and mothers and more distant ancestors in their daily lives and in the life of our state from its earliest beginnings.

The Biblical proverb admonishes us, "Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set."

My foster parents on their knees influenced my life from my early beginnings. I am sure that many of you can say the same thing.

Man is a spiritual creature. But if that spirituality is ignored—if man's soul is allowed to starve—the result is spiritual death. And no task of national renewal will be possible unless that effort is also a task of spiritual renewal.

George Washington in his farewell address, made the point succinctly:

... And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.

Scientists have long sought the so-called "missing link." The real missing link in our national cultural life is God.

From the depths of my heart, I thank Governor Bob Wise, House Speaker Bob Kiss, Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin, the members of both the House and the Senate, but most of all, I thank the people of West Virginia for the many years in which they have reposed their confidence and their faith in me. I have done my best.

May God always bless the State of West Virginia.

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same.

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet, knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Senator BYRD as "West Virginian of the Century," and in thanking him for his tireless work on behalf of the great State of West Virginia and its millions of residents.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RAHALL, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Member (at the request of Mrs. CAPITO) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. NUSSLE, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

A bill and concurrent resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 657. An Act to authorize funding for the National 4-H Program Centennial Initiative; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Lebanon, Syria, and Iran should allow representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the four Israelis, Adi Avitan, Binyamin Avraham, Omar Souad, and Elchanan Tannenbaum, presently held by Hezbollah forces in Lebanon; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. Con. Res. 42. Concurrent resolution condemning the Taleban for their discriminatory policies and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 21, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2589. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report on the Cost Estimate for Pay-As-You-Go Calculations; to the Committee on the Budget.

2590. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2591. A letter from the Attorney/Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2592. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Inspector General covering the period from October 1, 2000, to March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2593. A letter from the Acting Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2594. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Maryland Regulatory Program [MD-046-FOR] received June 13, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2595. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civil Penalties [Docket No. OST 2000-8058] (RIN: 2105-AC92) received June 14, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2596. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs; Threshold Requirements and Other Technical Revisions [Docket No. OST-2000-7640] (RIN: 2105-AC89) received June 14, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2597. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30251; Amdt. No. 429] received June 18, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2598. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Credit Assistance for Surface Transportation Projects [OST Docket No. OST-2000-7401] (RIN: 2105-AC87) received June 14, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.