

World War I when African American representation in the steel mills swelled. However, it is important to note the perseverance of these brave workers who accepted some of the most dangerous jobs and the legacy they provided for the generations after them who continued the fight for equal rights and equal opportunity.

Unfortunately, the successful CIO organizing drives of the 1930s and success of the broader labor movement began to leave African Americans behind. Though African Americans had increasingly joined the mills and unions, by World War II they still faced de facto limits on the types of opportunities they could expect at the mills. Generally limited to the lower skilled positions, regardless of their actual ability, this generation began to challenge the working order and demand equal treatment, both by their own unions and by management.

These struggles culminated in the 1970s, when the mills and unions began setting hiring and promotion goals for women and minorities. Though this represented a watershed event for African American steelworkers, they have continued to forcefully advocate for their rights while working tirelessly for labor rights and the future of the steel industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions these American heroes have made to the labor movement and to their communities. I am proud to honor the ideals represented by Black History Month and its 2005 theme of the Niagara Movement, by recognizing the African American steelworkers who struggled and continue to fight for equality, opportunity, and an end to racial discrimination.

IN MEMORY OF VIRGIL "SONNY"
DAFFRON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of this distinguished body to join me in remembering Virgil "Sonny" Daffron, an upstanding resident of the Fifth Congressional District of Kentucky. Sonny passed away on December 27, 2004, at the age of 79.

Ever since he was a boy growing up in Junction City, Kentucky, Sonny Daffron never met a stranger. Anyone who knew him would agree that he was one of the friendliest people who ever lived. His outgoing personality served as a source of joy and inspiration for all those he encountered. He took this friendly demeanor with him to Wayne County, Kentucky, where he lived with his family during his school years. It was there that he found the love of his life, Marcia Frances Kelsay.

Sonny and Marcia were a match made in heaven. Sonny would recount stories of how he'd walk past the Kelsay home numerous times each day hoping to catch a glimpse of his sweetheart. Although Sonny's brave service in the United States Navy took him away from Marcia from 1943 to 1946, his love for her did not falter. He promised himself that

when he returned home, he would make Marcia his wife.

He kept that promise, and on April 6, 1947, Sonny and Marcia were married.

In addition to being a faithful husband, Sonny was a loving father to four children: Danny Moore, Annette Susan, Stephen Denton and David Scott. He was also "PePaw" to five granddaughters, three grandsons, two great-granddaughters and one great-grandson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Sonny Daffron. While he will be sorely missed, I am confident his legacy will live on forever in the hearts and minds of his loving family and many friends.

HONORING ROBERT C. WADE, SR.

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to a remarkable individual from my home district. Robert C. Wade, Sr., a leader in Kentucky rural electrification, retired in December from the Board of Directors at Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, bringing his distinguished 34-year tenure to a close.

Bob began his service on the Nolin Board of Directors in June 1970. Four years later he was elevated to Chairman, leading Nolin RECC through 29 years of unprecedented growth and development. Bob incorporated a rare combination of intelligent leadership, innovation, and consistent hard work to create a work ethic that has established Nolin as a model of excellence throughout the cooperative industry.

In addition to his dedicated service at Nolin, Bob was also a past chair of Speak Up For Rural Electrification, SURE, and served as a director and on the Planning and Objectives Committee of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, CFC, in Herndon, Virginia. In each endeavor, Bob demonstrated a unique and effective commitment to the cause of rural electrification.

Today, I would like to recognize Robert C. Wade, Sr., before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his contributions to his community, his state and his Nation. His many achievements in the cooperative movement and rural electrification make him an outstanding American, worthy of our collective respect and honor.

THE WAR IN DARFUR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, the killing continues in Darfur and the United Nations has become paralyzed and unable to stop it. I am submitting for the RECORD a copy of a letter sent this week to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan signed by 33 members of the House of Representatives asking him to return to Darfur

and to report back to the Security Council on the conditions there.

The Security Council must take immediate, effective measures to stop the bloodshed. If the Security Council fails to act, Kofi Annan should resign out of protest. The time is now for bold action. The people of Darfur can wait no longer.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2005.

Hon. KOFI ANNAN,
*Secretary General, United Nations,
New York, NY.*

DEAR MR. SECRETARY GENERAL: As you are aware, the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army recently signed the much anticipated peace agreement which ended the cruel war that lasted over 20 years and claimed the lives of over two million people.

We commend you for your efforts in support of this peace agreement. However, it is vital that as the world looks toward the future of Sudan, it does not forget the tragedy which is unfolding in Darfur. Villages are still systematically burned, women continue to be raped, men are still being murdered and children continue to die from hunger and disease.

The situation in Darfur continues to deteriorate with recent attacks. We are very much concerned that if the security situation does not improve, the remaining NGOs will be forced to scale down or pull out, leaving the people of Darfur helpless.

The recently released Commission on Inquiry serves as a necessary tool in holding accountable those who have committed horrible atrocities in Darfur. But it is also essential that firm action immediately be undertaken by the United Nations to improve the situation on the ground and save lives. We urge you to return to Darfur to confirm with your own eyes that the situation has not improved. We cannot continue to status quo. A strong, meaningful resolution should be put forward and the Security Council should act immediately. Only in this manner the situation in Darfur can be changed.

We are certain that this will have an immediate impact on Darfur. We ask that you use your power and prestige to make a passionate plea to the Security Council to deal effectively on Darfur. If the Security Council fails to take meaningful action, we ask you to resign in protest. Your resignation would be an act of moral leadership which the world would greatly admire.

Great men in history have given up their posts to force change. William Wilberforce's commitment to justice and the abolition of slavery in Great Britain superseded his pursuit of political advancement and many believe his outspoken fight against slavery cost him the opportunity to be Prime Minister of England.

We can and will not allow the world to remain a bystander while this horrific tragedy unfolds. The situation in Darfur is being described as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today. Immediate action has to be taken. We are confident that anything that you can do to put an end to this situation will be admired greatly.

The powerful movie *Hotel Rwanda* was recently released. It highlights how the world failed the people of Rwanda. The lead actor, Don Cheadle, is nominated for an Oscar and the movie is nominated as best original screen play. People will be moved by this movie and people will remember our pledge of "never again."

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf, Roscoe Bartlett, Dan Burton, Wm. Lacy Clay, Elijah E.