

wealthy—that would make it enormously difficult, if not impossible, to balance the budget.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There have been several positive aspects to the Contract with America. First, the House leadership did what they said they would do. They took on several major issues and moved them through the legislative process expeditiously. They deserve credit for that. They have seized extraordinary control of the political agenda and the terms of the debate.

Second, several Contract items represent significant reforms. For example, the measures, that have been signed into law—congressional compliance and restrictions on unfunded mandates—are important changes.

Third, the Contract has helped bring about a serious reassessment of the role of government. The House leadership has focussed greater attention on several very important questions. How big should the federal government be? Should the functions of income maintenance and regulation be permanent features of our government? Can we pay for whatever we decide the government ought to do? Do states have sufficient resources and capabilities to resume their full role under the Constitution?

DRAWBACKS

There are also several drawbacks to the Contract. First, the Contract has dealt to a surprising degree with legislative and regulatory procedures rather than substantive legislation. For example, the Contract has its vote on sending to the states a Constitutional amendment to require Congress to eventually balance the budget rather than have us simply vote on a balanced budget. As the Speaker said, "We cleverly picked popular things to do."

Second, the Contract failed to deal with many of the real problems facing our nation. As House consideration of the Contract was coming to a close, I kept thinking to myself that it is now time to get about the business of the nation: doing something about jobs, incomes, health care, and education. The real test is not how many bills are passed or the popular ratings score or the checklist on the Contract's progress. The real test is whether we improve the lives of Americans and improve our prospects for the future.

Third, several of the Contract items went too far. For example, a central part of the Contract has been to cut back programs for millions of struggling Americans while at the same time providing tax cuts mainly for the rich—tax cuts the Wall Street Journal called "the biggest tax-saving bonanza in years for upper-income Americans". I do not find broad support for the proposals to cut federal programs that benefit children, the elderly, or the middle class.

Fourth, the tough budget decisions lie ahead. The basic Contract promise, of course, is to cut federal spending and balance the budget. If the new leadership fails at that, they will have failed altogether. The Contract's tax cuts were a major step in the wrong direction. It will be impossible to both reach a balanced federal budget and provide big House-passed tax cuts without putting the entire budget on the cutting table, including Medicare and Social Security. So far the House leadership has spoken only in generalities about cutting spending. Sooner or later, they will have to detail politically difficult spending cuts.

CONCLUSION

It is far too early in the process to say that the Contract has been a success or a failure. The House has certainly not finished its heavy lifting, and in many respects the tough decisions lie ahead. Still, a good start

has been made on certain items, and it is quite possible that with the Senate serving as a filter and a brake, the legislative results will be pretty good.

FLOYD DAVIS TRIBUTE

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, last week New Mexico lost one of our great citizens. It is with great sadness that I inform the House of the death of Floyd Davis of Rio Rancho.

The 76-year-old Davis was the continuous, energetic volunteer in the fight to preserve, protect, and nurture African-American youth.

A long-time resident of Hempstead, NY, and Rio Rancho, Mr. Davis became a singular institution in both locales for research, communication, and networking related to increasing employment opportunities for the African-American community as a whole but especially for its youth. A native of Norfolk, VA, Mr. Davis retired from the U.S. Postal Service at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York and relocated to Rio Rancho.

Mr. Davis served as a school volunteer with troubled youth in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, and Springfield Gardens, NY, and was one of the first to organize a directory of black businesses and professionals in Hempstead, NY.

He personally circulated through the public and private sector of Albuquerque in search of employment opportunities for African-American youth. Opportunities identified were disseminated through the civic and religious network of the community. This was often followed by any support required to achieve the goal of getting more youth gainfully employed.

He had recently completed a self-funded survey of African-American car sales persons in the Albuquerque area which was designed to increase patronization by the community and help strengthen the presence of these sales persons with potential customers.

Mr. Davis also served as a strong foot soldier across Albuquerque with the New Mexico Democratic Party to help get out the vote for many Democrats. He was a tireless volunteer for the Democratic Party and made sure that Democrats were elected to office.

Clearly, Mr. Davis touched a great many lives during his many years with us. I am glad I had the opportunity to know him. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to this very special man, Mr. Floyd Davis of Rio Rancho.

STATEMENT ON ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the 125th anniversary of the Order of the Eastern Star, which is being celebrated at the organization's annual convention in Atlantic City, NJ, today. This is an important organization that has done much for our Nation and deserves our recognition.

The Order of the Eastern Star is associated with the Order of Free and Accepted Masons and membership is open to Master Masons, their wives, daughters, mothers, widows and sisters. The precise beginnings of the order are not known, but records indicate that a similar organization existed in France during the 18th century. The order was introduced in the United States by Robert Morris, a La-Grange, KY., Mason, teacher, poet, attorney, and minister who wrote the first ritual in 1850 and published it in 1865 as *The Rosary of the Eastern Star*. The General Grand Chapter, which has jurisdiction over chapters in the United States and Canada, was founded in 1876 and is headquartered here in Washington.

The order is dedicated to serving people in need, to social enjoyment and promotion of civic interests. Among other activities, it offers scholarships to needy students, and maintains homes both for aged members and orphaned children of members, and aids in research into diseases such as cancer, arthritis, and heart disease.

The Order of the Eastern Star is no small organization. There are 3 million members worldwide; 2.5 million of them in the General Grand Chapter. It is the largest women's fraternal organization in the world. I feel a particularly close connection because my own mother, Mrs. Margaret Scafati, has been a member for 55 years and served as worthy district deputy in 1978.

The Order of the Eastern Star has provided spiritual guidance and tangible aid to millions throughout its 125-year history. I congratulate the Order of the Eastern Star on its first 125 years and wish it another 125 years of equal success.

TRIBUTE TO SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Representatives MAXINE WATERS and WALTER TUCKER have joined me to salute the Second Baptist Church of Los Angeles on the occasion of its 110th anniversary of providing outstanding ministry and spiritual leadership to Los Angeles' African-American community. On Friday, May 12 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, Second Baptist Church will hold its anniversary banquet to recognize the distinguished contributions of some of Los Angeles' most notable sons and daughters. In recognition of the empowering contributions that Second Baptist Church has made to our combined communities however, we would like to use this opportunity to share with our colleagues the following historical retrospective of this great church.

For African-Americans the black church traditionally has served as a beacon of light and as a nurturing spiritual foundation. Clearly, Second Baptist Church stands as a personification of that force. Organized in 1885, Second Baptist Church began its spiritual journey with a small congregation of 22 members. Today, its congregation has swelled to 1,350 active and participating members.

The church's first pastor was the Reverend S.C. Pierce, who conducted services atop an animal stable in old downtown Los Angeles. In 1887, under the spiritual leadership of the Reverend C.H. Anderson, the church purchased the land and erected its first sanctuary on Maple Avenue. The Reverend Anderson pastored Second Baptist Church for two decades. He was followed in 1908 by the Reverend J.L. McCoy, who served until 1915. The Reverend H.D. Prowd succeeded Pastor McCoy; he served from 1915 to 1920.

In 1921, the Reverend Thomas L. Griffith answered the call to pastor Second Baptist Church's burgeoning congregation. Four years later in 1925, the church erected and moved to its present edifice at 2412 Griffith Avenue. Designed in the Lombard Romanesque style by famed Los Angeles architects Paul R. Williams and Norman Marsh, the church has been designated as a historical landmark by the city of Los Angeles.

The Reverend Griffith was succeeded in 1941 by the Reverend J. Raymond Henderson. During his 20 years of ministry, the church liquidated its mortgage of \$83,000, underwent a complete renovation, constructed a parsonage and a Christian education building, and purchased an apartment building, a parking lot, and a community center.

In 1963, the Reverend Thomas Kilgore, Jr. became pastor of Second Baptist Church. It was under his leadership that the church solidified its base as an influential and important force in the future of Los Angeles' African-American community. During his leadership, the church succeeded in helping to reorder the priorities of community leaders to include the less fortunate and traditionally underserved members of Los Angeles society. He raised the community's social consciousness and established Second Baptist Church as a force not to be dismissed in formulating plans for the future of our neighborhoods and communities. Dr. Kilgore established programs to meet the needs of citizens that were otherwise not being addressed. He oversaw the construction of Griffith Gardens, a 38-unit apartment building, and established a child development center at the church. In addition, the church's social hall underwent a complete renovation and two parking lots were purchased. Today, the Reverend Kilgore serves as pastor emeritus of Second Baptist Church.

In October 1987 the Reverend William S. Epps answered the call to pastor Second Baptist Church. Today, the church operates a Christian education program, a community social service program, the Pueblo Christian Action Center, and the Second Baptist Child Development Center.

In addition, under the Reverend Epps' able leadership and ministry, the church regularly convenes seminars and forums as it continues to address the problems endemic to our communities today. Second Baptist Church extends its ministry far beyond the pulpit of its majestic stained-glass-surrounded sanctuary. It is an increasingly important force in our community as it provides spiritual nourishment to its flock, and also seeks to provide spiritual and economic renewal for the disenfranchised members of the community. It provides hope where there is often no hope and it inspires the spirits of men, women, and children by helping them to realize a better tomorrow.

Few would argue about the increasingly important correlation that exists between the church and a healthy and prosperous commu-

nity. For over a century, Second Baptist Church has contributed to that prosperity by offering a ministry that nurtures the soul and empowers the mind. By providing economic and spiritual empowerment to the community, it continues to shine as a beacon of hope for the future. We are proud to recognize and commend this historic edifice and to congratulate the Reverend Epps, the Reverend Thomas Kilgore, Jr., and the members of Second Baptist Church for their ministry and leadership to the Los Angeles community. Please join us in extending our profound best wishes for continued success in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SAN
BERNARDINO COUNTY SUN

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of the San Bernardino County Sun newspaper in San Bernardino, CA. The Sun, under the leadership of executive editor Arnie Garson, was recently recognized as one of the top newspapers in the United States for 1994 in the annual Best of Gannett competition.

The San Bernardino County Sun was one of six finalists for the Gannett's Outstanding Achievement Award recognizing the best overall news performance by a newspaper in 1994 and is the recipient of the coveted Gold Medal Award for 1994. Altogether, the Sun received seven individual awards, the highest for any newspaper with a circulation of over 40,000.

In addition, Arnie Garson was 1 of 10 editors nationwide awarded the President's Ring and has thus become one of the finalists in the 1994 Editor of the Year competition. The top three contenders will be announced at the Gannett's editors' meeting in May and the winner will be announced in June.

Specifically, the Sun won top awards in seven separate categories. Mickie Enkoji was a top winner taking home first place honors in the Outstanding Achievement in Writing and Feature Writing categories. Rebecca Fairley Raney relieved the top prize for investigative reporting, while Paul Oberjuerge was recognized for his prize-winning sports column. In addition, the Sun received top honors for public service, headlines, and packaging and presentation.

Few who make their home in San Bernardino County are surprised by the Sun's success. As my hometown newspaper over the course of my life, I have watched the Sun professionally adapt to the many changes that have taken place in our county over the years. While we may differ on specific issues from time to time, I have nothing but the utmost level of respect for the high standards and professionalism of this newspaper.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, my colleagues, and the people of San Bernardino County in recognizing Arnie Garson and the entire staff of the Sun for its success. It is only fitting that the House recognize the San Bernardino Sun, one of the truly outstanding newspapers in the United States today.

TRIBUTE TO THE FEDERAL
WORKERS IN OKLAHOMA CITY

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Federal workers who are among the bombing victims in Oklahoma City. Their great sacrifice deserves our respect. Their public service deserves our gratitude. Their memory deserves our reflection.

We have just begun the annual commemoration of Public Service Recognition Week, an occasion where Federal agencies and employee organizations recognize the contributions made by public servants at all levels of Government. The Oklahoma bombing victims are truly the most deserving of recognition this year. Those who were killed or injured while working for America, shall forever remain among our Nation's most honored.

The loss of these workers reminds us that Federal service does have its risks, as well as its rewards. The blast hit the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building just as the employees inside began another workday. Now many of them are gone, but they have left behind a legacy of service to the public that is warmly remembered by the people of Oklahoma City.

Since the bombing, the Nation has witnessed the fine work of other Federal employees working tirelessly in Oklahoma City. During each day that has passed, we have seen Federal law enforcement officers effectively pursuing suspects and witnesses, the Federal Emergency Management Agency responding to the needs of Oklahoma citizens affected by the tragedy, and the General Services Administration's Emergency Operations Center coordinating the restoration of Federal agency operations in the area. This is Government service at its best.

This terrible event has caused many Americans to learn more about Federal workers—who they are, where they live, and what they do. Let's remember with pride those who served and are still serving today in Oklahoma City. Let's also recognize that there are many more like them serving Americans across this land.

TRIBUTE TO JERROD E. HAWK

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional young man from my district who has recently accepted his appointment as a member of the class of 1999 at the U.S. Military Academy.

Jerrold E. Hawk will soon graduate Paulding High School after 4 years of outstanding academic achievement as well as extracurricular involvement. While in high school Jerrod has distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He is an outstanding student and patriot.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to identify outstanding young men and women