

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for morning business now wherein Members can speak not to exceed 5 minutes.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITION ON VOTES

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent on the evening of July 20, 1995. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 317, an amendment offered by the Senator from Texas [Mr. GRAMM] regarding the elimination of set-asides in the Federal procurement process.

I was also necessarily absent on July 21, 1995. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: "yea" on rollcall vote No. 319, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 320, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 321, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 322, and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 323.

RELOCATION OF THE "PORTRAIT MONUMENT"

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, last week, with the help of the distinguished majority leader BOB DOLE, the Senate in record time passed an important joint resolution. The measure calls for a statue honoring the leaders of the Women's Suffrage Movement to be removed from the crypt and put in a place of honor in the Capitol rotunda.

The House must now act on this resolution. But when it is approved, this Congress will have succeeded where three others did not.

In 1928, 1932, and 1950 resolutions were introduced to move the statue of Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony from the crypt.

These resolutions went nowhere. But with Senator DOLE's help, we were able to quickly clear a space on the calendar for this resolution to be passed.

Timing is critical because we want to move the statue before the 75th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution. That occurs on August 26, and several groups have planned ceremonies to mark the date when women earned the right to vote—and thereby gained full citizenship in our Republic.

I believe the elevation of that statue is long overdue and was pleased that so many of my colleagues gave their support. The rotunda is filled with monuments to the achievements of men in American history. It is only fitting that the accomplishments of these women will also be memorialized in a place of honor. Their efforts changed the history of the United States—and the world by making Democracy "saleable" to every person.

Mr. President, last week the 75th anniversary of Woman Suffrage task

force held a press conference and discussed our resolution. At that meeting, Joan Meacham and Dr. Caroline Sparks—leaders in the effort to move the statue—eloquently traced the history of the monument and what its elevation would mean to American women. I ask that their statements be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statements were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REMARKS, JOAN-FAYE MEACHAM, PRESIDENT OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE TASK FORCE

Press Conference to Announce Senate Passage of Resolution to Move the Suffrage Statue from the Crypt of the Capitol to the Rotunda, Sewall-Belmont House, July 19, 1995.

Good Morning, my name is Joan Faye Meacham. I am the President of the 75th Anniversary of Woman Suffrage Task Force. On behalf of the Task Force and the National Woman's Party, I welcome Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska and members of his staff, distinguished members of Congress, members of the Task Force's Honorary Leadership Committee, representative of participating women's organizations, and members of the press.

We are happy to be here at the historic Sewall-Belmont House to announce that on July 17, 1995 the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution to move the suffrage statue from the Crypt of the U.S. Capitol to the Rotunda.

In 1848, a simple statement was included in the "Declaration of Sentiments" presented in Seneca Falls, New York at the Convention that launched the modern women's rights movement.

"Resolved. That it is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to the elective franchise."

The three women, Lucreita Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, that we honor in the Suffrage Monument, devoted their entire adult lives to this duty to achieve the vote that we enjoy today.

As you know, August 26th is the 75th Anniversary of the success of their efforts. The 75th Anniversary Task Force is celebrating the achievements of these women and thousands of others who worked and sacrificed for suffrage by announcing four days of activities in our nation's capital from August 24th to August 27th 1995. One of our primary goals for this anniversary is to honor our suffrage leaders by moving their monument to a place of prominence in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. The Senate's passage of the resolution to move the statue brings us closer to our long awaited goal.

Here to tell you more about the meaning of the statue and the effort to move, is Caroline Sparks, Chair of the 75th Anniversary Women's Rights March who, with Barbara Irvine, the President of the Alice Paul Centennial Foundation, was the founder and Co-Chair of the "Move the Statues" Campaign. Dr. Sparks, an activist for the women's rights for 25 years, has tirelessly worked to bring the story of the statue to public attention. It is with pride and appreciation that I introduce Dr. Sparks.

REMARKS BY CAROLINE H. SPARKS, PH.D., CHAIR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY WOMEN'S RIGHTS FESTIVAL AND MARCH AND CO-CHAIR OF THE "MOVE THE STATUE" CAMPAIGN

Press conference to Announce Senate Passage of the Resolution to Move the Suffrage Statue to the Capitol Rotunda. July 19, 1995, Sewall-Belmont House.

The statue of suffrage leaders, featuring Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony—our "mothers of woman suffrage"—was presented to Congress by the women of the nation on February 15, 1921, Susan B. Anthony's birthday. Alice Paul of The National Woman's Party, commissioned the statue as a memorial to the work of women to achieve the vote.

Adelaide Johnson, the sculptor of the statue, tried to capture in her monument the spirit of the revolution that enfranchised the women of our nation. Her beliefs about the import of the woman movement are expressed in her original inscription for the monument:

"Spiritually the woman movement is the all-enfolding one. It represents the emancipation of womanhood. The release of the feminine principle in humanity, the moral integration of human evolution come to rescue torn and struggling humanity from its savage self."

Johnson's inscription described the three suffrage leaders as "the three great destiny characters of the world whose spiritual import and historical significance transcend that of all others of any country or any age." Her words were whitewashed out with yellow paint in 1921 after the Joint Committee of the Library of Congress balked at the so-called pagan language that glorified the early feminist movement. The statue was moved from the Rotunda to the Crypt shortly after its initial dedication, where it still remains, 75 years later. The statue's name has been lost though it has been known variously as "The Woman Movement", "Revolution" and the "Pioneer Suffrage Statue". Today, known simply as "The Portrait Monument", the women's names face the wall and cannot be seen.

I first saw the statue while in Washington for a march for women's equality in 1977. Like many women, a friend and I simply stumbled upon it. Although we had been activists for many years, we had never known of its existence. When I worked for the Feminist Institute, the statue was the inspiration for the development of the Feminist Walking Tour of Capitol Hill, in which we gave women an opportunity to see women's history in the nation's capital and to hear stories of women's fight for equality. Women still tell me that they "stumble" upon the statue, never having known its story.

In 1990, a coalition of women's groups, led by the Feminist Institute, the Alice Paul Foundation, The National Woman's Party and other women's organizations and supporters launched a campaign to move the statue. We felt then, and we still feel, that we need public symbols that depict women who have participated in the creation of our Nation. We are concerned that visitors to the Capitol Rotunda are left with the impression that women had nothing to do with the founding of the Nation. We believe it is important for our citizens, especially our children, and foreign guests to see pioneers of suffrage in the Rotunda with George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, as an inspiration and a reminder that women fought for over 70 years to win basic rights. Young women, especially, need to know that women accepted their duty to fight for our rights and be inspired to continue the struggle for equality begun by these foremothers. Everyone needs to know the history of the struggle to achieve suffrage for half our population.