

Professor Handlin's appealing writing style allowed him to touch a generation of Americans far beyond the confines of the academic world. His observations on our history dealt movingly with the experiences of immigrants from the beginning of our history. During his brilliant career, he published nearly a book a year, and each received wide acclaim.

As he notes, Americans have argued over immigration for centuries. To those concerned that today's immigrants will not adjust to America and contribute to American life, he replies that in 1850, 27 languages were spoken in Boston. Yet, these immigrants quickly learned English and joined our communities, just as immigrants are doing today.

When asked last month whether he still viewed our ethnic diversity a basic strength, he responded unequivocally, "More so than ever."

As we consider immigration reform today, we would do well to keep Professor Handlin's insights in mind. I know my colleagues join me in commending the contributions of this great scholar and outstanding American. I wish many happy returns as he and his family celebrate his 80th birthday this weekend.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, on that evening in 1972 when I first was elected to the Senate, I made a commitment to myself that I would never fail to see a young person, or a group of young people, who wanted to see me.

It has proved enormously beneficial to me because I have been inspired by the estimated 60,000 young people with whom I have visited during the nearly 23 years I have been in the Senate. Most of them have been concerned about the enormity of the Federal debt that Congress has run up for the coming generations to pay.

The young people and I almost always discuss the fact that under the U.S. Constitution, no President can spend a dime of Federal money that has not first been authorized and appropriated by both the House and Senate of the United States.

That is why I began making these daily reports to the Senate on February 22, 1992. I wanted to make a matter of daily record of the precise size of the Federal debt which as of yesterday, Wednesday, September 20, stood at \$4,967,473,200,287.86 or \$18,856.61 for every man, woman, and child in America on a per capita basis.

THE REED FAMILY OF POPLAR BLUFF, MO

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, today I rise to salute a family from southeastern Missouri whose dedication to providing a better life for their children and whose commitment to education serves as a model for parents and families across America.

Ferdie Reed had to leave school in the sixth grade to work in the cotton fields outside his home of Poplar Bluff, MO, and has worked as a night watchman at Three Rivers Community College for the past 28 years. He married Lillie Mae Arrington in 1950 and together they raised eleven children, stressing the values of hard work and responsibility as the keys to a successful future. Ferdie worked hard to provide for his family by farming, while holding other jobs. Lillie devoted herself to her family as a full time mother and was active in the work of the Reed's local church. She proved to be an inspiration for her children by going back to school and earning her General Equivalency Degree.

The emphasis the Reed family places on education and their example of hard work was followed by their 11 children, all of whom graduated from Three Rivers Community College in Poplar Bluff. Ten of the children have also gone on to earn bachelors' degrees at 4-year universities. Together, the 11 Reed children have more than 170 years of education.

Recently, the Reeds were honored in their home of Poplar Bluff for their dedication to education and the positive impact they have had on their children and their community. I join today in honoring Ferdie and Lillie Reed, as well as their children, Wendell, Ferdie Jr., Linda, Brenda, Sharon, Patricia, Kathryn, David, Karen, Paul, and Mary Ann for their significant achievements. I salute them for their dedication, determination, and perseverance in the pursuit of a better life through education.

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further proceedings under the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FAIRCLOTH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 10 a.m. having arrived, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 1868, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 1868) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Helms (for Dole/Helms) amendment No. 2707 (to committee amendment on page 2, line 25), to provide for the streamlining and consolidation of the foreign affairs agencies of the United States.

Brown amendment No. 2708 (to committee amendment beginning on page 15, line 17 through page 16, line 24), to clarify restrictions on assistance to Pakistan. (By 37 yeas to 61 nays (Vote No. 452), Senate earlier failed to table the amendment.)

Murkowski amendment No. 2712, to set forth requirements for implementation of the Agreed Framework Between the United States and North Korea Act relating to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization.

AMENDMENT NO. 2708

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 1 hour of debate on the Brown amendment No. 2708, equally divided.

Mr. BROWN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I yield myself 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. So ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this amendment is about simple fairness. We have taken their money. We have obtained a contract to deliver equipment, and we do not want to deliver that equipment. I understand the feelings of those Members who have that position. But, Mr. President, it is wrong to take somebody's money and not deliver the equipment and not give them their money back.

If this were Sears, Roebuck in the United States, we would lock them up. The consumer protection laws do not apply to the U.S. Government, but, Mr. President, simple fairness does. The American people understand this issue because they understand what it is like when someone who is selling something takes their money and does not deliver either the product or the money. That is what this amendment is all about. It is about fairness, and it is about saying either give them their money back or give them the equipment they contracted for.

Mr. President, I retain the remainder of my time.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further proceedings under the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COVERDELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry.

Under the quorum call that just took place, how is the time charged to each side?