

to disappear anytime soon. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has been considering international standards for ecolabeling in its negotiations on the connection between trade and the environment. The issue will also be discussed at the Singapore meeting of the World Trade Organization in December, 1996.

#### CHILD LABOR AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

Can we apply our experience from ecolabeling to labor concerns?

One of the most emotional issues regarding goods—particularly textiles—manufactured in developing nations is the use of child labor. In a 1994 Department of Labor (DOL) report mandated by the Congressional Committees on Appropriations, DOL reported that between 100 million and 200 million children are in the workplace more than 95% of them in developing countries. The industries which employ children range from garments and carpets to small-scale mining and gem polishing. (source: Department of Labor, "By The Sweat And Toil Of Children: The Use of Child Labor in American Imports", July 15, 1994)

A recent survey by the International Labor Organization (ILO) found a positive correlation between child labor and factors such as poverty, illiteracy, rural under-development, urban slum conditions, and school non-attendance. About four-fifths of those children who worked did so seven days a week and, in many instances, girls worked longer hours than boys. (source: Child Labor Surveys: Results of methodological experiments in four countries, 1992-1993, International Labor Office, 1996, ISBN 92-2-110106-1)

The ILO estimates that at least half of all child workers are found in South and Southeast Asia. Asia probably boasts the highest percentage of children working in industries which export to the United States. Working conditions range from "crowded garment factories, where the doors are locked and the children work for 14 hours, to small dusty earthen huts which can seat four children to a loom, knotting carpets in a pit for hours on end." (source: Department of Labor report, previously cited)

A recent article in Life magazine on the manufacture of Nike soccer balls in Pakistan told of "children as young as six bought from their parents for as little as \$15, sold and resold like furniture, branded, beaten, blinded as punishment for wanting to go home, rendered speechless by the trauma of their enslavement . . . Children are sought after, and bonded, and sometimes taken in outright slavery, because they do not cost as much." (source: Life, "Six Cents An Hour", June, 1996) Nike, as well as Reebok, have since announced that their soccer balls from Pakistan will soon be made in stitching centers where the labor can be closely monitored, as opposed to the current system that relies on children in small villages scattered throughout the country. Nike and Reebok hope that these stitching centers will eliminate child labor from their portion of the soccer ball industry. Nike and Reebok, however, are currently very small players in the manufacture of soccer balls, when compared with Addidas, Mikasa and other companies that have made no announcement on child labor.

Of equal concern are documented stories of so-called "sweatshop" labor, in which workers, frequently women, are locked into unsafe workplaces, and forced to work long hours for minimal wages. Last summer, U.S. papers carried front-page stories of a raid on an El Monte, California, sweatshop where most of the workers at the shop were recent female immigrants from Thailand who had been virtually enslaved by the manufacturer. Workers were forced to live in a compound encircled by razor wire, threatened with

rape, and required to work 20-hour days for as little as \$1 an hour. (source: People, "Labor Pains", June 10, 1996)

Early experience with labor-related labeling indicates that it can work.

One label gaining in popularity and market share in Europe and recently introduced in the U.S. is the "Rugmark" label awarded to some hand-knotted rugs made in Nepal and India without the use of child labor. Nearly 900,000 children under the age of 14—including children as young as 4—are working in the carpet industry in Pakistan; 200,000 in Nepal; and 300,000 in India. Children are frequently bonded to a looming operation to pay off the debts of their parents. The U.S. is the world's second-largest market for hand-knotted Oriental carpets, with imports of over \$150 million annually from India alone, and has the potential to have a major impact on the manner in which these carpets are made.

#### CONCLUSION

Consumers and advertisers alike are obsessed with determining and declaring that a particular product is safe for children. But our economy fails to tell consumers whether products are safe for the children who made them. Parents have a right to know that the clothes and toys they buy for their children were not made by other exploited and abused children. Unfortunately, they have no way of knowing that in today's marketplace.

Voluntary labeling programs may continue to hold the key. These programs have not been easy to establish or to enforce. Nor will a "one size fits all" approach be practical—it is likely that different modes of labeling regimes will work best in different economic sectors. But our experiences with ecolabeling programs and the Rugmark label prove that voluntary labels are effective, and popular with consumers. If voluntary, they are consistent with our international trade obligations. Corporations who maintain that they have a reliable, enforceable code of conduct should be willing to translate that code into a reliable, enforceable label that informs consumers of the impacts of their purchases.

We must take responsibility for our purchasing and marketing decisions. The price of a product and the rate of profit cannot be allowed to overwhelm the moral obligation to protect children and to respect the rights of other workers. We have the means to inject this level of respect into the marketplace if we exert our will to do so. Through responsible consumer education our values of protection for the environment, for children and for workers can be reflected in the way we make our goods.

#### THE FAIR HAVEN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 20, 1996 the Fair Haven Community Health Center will hold an Open House to dedicate its new building and to celebrate 25 years of service to the Fair Haven area.

The Fair Haven Community Health Center has been a fixture on Grand Avenue for the past 25 years. During that time, it has been a part of the community people could always rely upon. The Center has undergone considerable change through the years. When it opened for two nights a week in 1971, it was housed in Columbus School with a storefront

office and had a staff of five, including two VISTA volunteers. That year the Center was visited 500 times. By 1982, the Center had begun a prenatal and midwifery program and purchased, renovated, and added on the property at 374 Grand Avenue. The Center also opened the "Body Shop," a school based clinic, at Wilbur Cross High School.

Today, the Fair Haven Center has purchased, renovated and connected property at 362 Grand Avenue. The complete facility now has 24 exam rooms, a new laboratory, waiting area, health education and social service rooms. The Center has a staff of 80 including 10 physicians, 8 nurse practitioners, and 6 nurse midwives. The facilities include three buildings and three satellite clinics which received a total of 48,000 visits this past year. These new renovations and additions mean that the Center can continue to do what it does best, caring for people.

Throughout its history, the Fair Haven Community Health Center has remained committed to the ideal of providing health care for all those who need it, regardless of their ability to pay. While medicine today is increasingly cost-conscious, Fair Haven practices medicine which puts the patient's well-being first. By combining preventive care and education with a range of services from prenatal care to geriatric medicine, the Center ensures that all its patient's needs are met. This holistic, integrated approach is what defines the Center and makes it so valuable to New Haven. Center Director, Katrina Clark said, "We have always felt that we were part of the community, and I think that is why we've been so successful in meeting the health care needs of the people we serve. At a time when many people are alienated and rejected by the health care system, Fair Haven stands as a beacon of caring for our patients and providing excellent service."

I am proud to rise today to congratulate the Fair Haven Community Health Center. The newly renovated facilities will enable the Center to provide even better health services and preventive care to the people of Fair Haven.

#### BIPARTISANSHIP IS THE KEY TO ETHICS REFORM

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, last week my dear friend Representative PORTER GOSS who serves on the Ethics Committee as well as the Rules Committee took out a special order to urge changes in the ethics process—September 12, 1996.

He proposed that changes in the ethics process should take effect in the next Congress and that the Rules Committee is the proper venue for ethics reform.

I must take strong exception to the claim that the Rules Committee is the right place to consider reforms of the ethics process. Given the primary job of the Rules Committee—reporting special rules for the consideration of legislation—the committee is properly a partisan committee with a 9 to 4 ratio. The Rules Committee is an arm of the majority leadership and so it is appropriate that all the Republican members of the committee—including

Mr. GOSS—are appointed directly by Speaker GINGRICH. But this partisan makeup makes the Rules Committee the wrong venue for ethics reform.

The House ethics process must be the product of bipartisan consensus. The most recent ethics reforms, for example, issued from the work of the Bipartisan Ethics Task Force established in 1989. The task force was composed of 14 Members, 7 from each side of the aisle, including 2 ex officio leadership Members and others who had valuable experience on ethics reform issues.

The task force was bipartisan in fact as well as name. The Members and staff operated on a completely bipartisan—or nonpartisan—basis. The task force divided its work into subgroups of two Members each—one Republican and one Democrat. Each subgroup investigated problems and options in a specific area and reported its recommendations back to the full task force.

Obviously only bipartisan suggestions could be reported from any subgroup. And the full task force worked by consensus; no recommendation was issued from the full task force unless all Members were in agreement.

One subgroup was responsible for developing recommendations on the Ethics Committee's enforcement procedures. Because the Ethics Committee was considering complaints against Speaker Wright at that time, the task force decided that the subgroup on ethics enforcement should not include any task force member then serving on the Ethics Committee. Moreover, the subgroup, by consensus, delayed its first meeting until the Ethics Committee closed its investigation of Speaker Wright.

Again, the subgroup on ethics procedures needed unanimity to report any recommendation and the full task force proceeded by consensus requiring all members to sign off before including any provision in its comprehensive ethics reform package.

The paramount goal of any congressional reform must be to restore public confidence in the integrity of this institution. I believe the bipartisan approach is the only appropriate model for considering ethics reforms.

THE SACRED HEART CENTENNIAL  
TRIBUTE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I bring to the attention of the House and the entire Nation the 100th anniversary of the founding of The Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Family Church, in Munsing, MI.

From its humble beginnings in a community town hall, where Father Anthony Molinari spoke with his congregation from atop a piano for lack of a pulpit, The Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish has grown over the last 100 years to become an integral part of our community.

Sacred Heart Church was founded in the fall of 1896 to meet the spiritual needs of rapidly expanding Munsing. The first pastor, Father Anthony Molinari, started the church and spearheaded the initial fundraising efforts to build a permanent sanctuary. To accomplish this, the parish hosted benefit dinners with the

slogan: "A hot meal guaranteed to satisfy, for the price of 25 cents". Their first benefit alone raised \$600.

By the following fall, construction on a permanent building began and the church was finished in the spring of 1898. It was a small wooden structure with a towering belfry and living quarters for the priest. On September 11, 1898, the church was consecrated the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

During the following years, the church continued to grow along with the community. A new pipe organ was installed, a Belgian bell was added to the belfry, and a parochial school was built. The Sacred Heart School, offering 8 grades, opened in 1914 with 316 students enrolled. The church also added a convent for the Sisters of St. Dominic in 1924.

On April 27, 1933 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus was destroyed by a devastating fire which started by a spark in the chimney. The church was completely demolished, and only the Blessed Sacrament was salvaged. Construction on a new church did not begin until the summer of 1949, and the cornerstone was finally laid on September 4 of that year. On the Feast of the Sacrament, June 19, 1950, the new church was dedicated.

In the spring of 1970, the Sacred Heart School was closed after 56 years of operation. To replace it, the Confraternity Christian Doctrine [CCD] program began the following October. Under the leadership of Brother Felix Butzman, of the Christian Brothers, 500 students were able to continue their religious instruction under the program which allowed students to be released early from public schools to attend CCD classes.

Since 1975, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus has been under the spiritual leadership of Father Tim Desrochers, Father Vincent Ouellette, and Father Raymond Moncher along with a caring parish staff. During these years, the church has continued to flourish and evolve. Improvements include a thriving choir under the leadership of Theresa Chartier, a barrier-free entrance for wheelchair bound members of the congregation, a new Rogers electronic-pipe organ, religious education classrooms, and the renovation of the Sacred Heart School building into low-income senior citizen housing.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Church reaches out into the community through its ministries to the Munsing Hospital, the Superior Health Haven, Superior Shores Nursing Center, Casino Corrections Facility, and Alger Maximum Security Prison Facility in addition to their own congregation. They also provide religious instruction to adults, teens, and children.

Mr. Speaker, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church has provided a place of prayer, hope, and faith for the Munsing community throughout their 100-year history. The clergy and congregation have worked together to form a long-lasting institution of religious faith in this community. On behalf of the Upper Peninsula, State of Michigan, and the entire Nation. I would like to congratulate The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on their 100-year anniversary and I wish them peace, joy, and happiness now and for future generations.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TOM BEVILL AND THE HONORABLE GLEN BROWDER

SPEECH OF

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to participate in the remarks being made at this special order today on behalf of our colleagues, Representative TOM BEVILL and Representative GLEN BROWDER, both of Alabama, who will be leaving the House of Representatives at the end of this session.

It has been my good fortune to have the opportunity to work with these two gentlemen and participate with them on activities and programs related to our work in the House of Representatives. Both men are of exemplary character and have always shown an interest in discussing and pursuing issues and programs beneficial to our citizens. They bring with them to every discussion the grace, dignity, and respect for others that arises only from strong and resolute religious convictions.

TOM BEVILL has been a much loved and respected member of the Appropriations Committee where he has served diligently and honorably as both chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. He has gained a broad knowledge of the many needs existing in communities around our Nation for water projects beneficial for health, safety, and economic reasons. He has also been privileged to observe many water improvement projects where he has participated in the dedication after they have been successfully completed as a result of financial assistance provided at the direction of his subcommittee. His wise and prudent stewardship on this subcommittee will be fondly remembered by those who worked with him and deeply appreciated by those communities and citizens who have benefitted from his favorable action.

GLEN BROWDER has been no less diligent in his work on the National Security Committee, leaving his favorable mark on policies developed by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Panel as well as issues related to base closings, force readiness, health benefits for veterans, and the structuring of the military depot maintenance system. Glen has pursued his objectives with quiet determination and has benefitted both his congressional district and our Nation's national security by his persistence and sincerity in seeing an issue through to a favorable conclusion.

I have a deep and abiding respect and admiration for both these fine Members of the House and know that they will continue to apply their energy and efforts in support of the people and communities they represent. It is our good fortune to have men with the temperament, drive, and ability of TOM BEVILL and GLEN BROWDER serving as Members of the House of Representatives. I wish them good health and happiness in their future endeavors, and success and joy in all their future undertakings. They deserve no less.