

The curing season has been good  
 He takes it from the barn.  
 The second fight he also wins . . .  
 His crop emerges safe from harm.  
 Lovingly the leaves are handled.  
 He prepares for the sale.  
 These will serve to feed his family—  
 These leaves hand-tied or in a bale.  
 His legal crop goes to the floor  
 And now the prayer that's prayed,  
 "Oh God, please let demand be high,  
 A good price given by the trade."  
 And so he wins fight number three.  
 He's paid for all he's done.  
 He did his best and it paid off.  
 He thinks this season's battles' won.  
 WRONG!!! Now enter fight number four:  
 His goose may well be cooked!  
 In talks of politics ans suits  
 The farmers' fate is overlooked!  
 That status doesn't last for long.  
 Parties soon see the light.  
 Leave out the guy who grows the plant?!?  
 That's just plain dumb! And far from right!  
 Now talks of settlement include  
 The man who has the chore  
 Of growing the tobacco plants,  
 And so he wins fight number four.  
 But he worries for his family.  
 It's how his family's fed.  
 The money from tobacco sales  
 Buys shelter, clothes and bread.  
 The plant the farmer nourishes . . .  
 He tries to keep alive . . .  
 There are those who want to kill it  
 Watch if wither up and die  
 Deep in his soul he wants to help  
 This industry survive.  
 And now he bows his head and pleads,  
 "God help us win fight number five."—PEM  
 PFISTERER CLARK, *Copyright pending.*

#### HONORING JEWEL AND RUDY RUSH ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, families are the cornerstone of America. The data are undeniable: Individuals from strong families contribute to the society. In an era when nearly half of all couples married today will see their union dissolve into divorce, I believe it is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "till death us do part" seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity. These characteristics make our country strong.

For these important reasons, I rise today to honor Jewel and Rudy Rush of Rolla, MO, who on October 19, 1997, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. My wife, Janet, and I look forward to the day we can celebrate a similar milestone. The Rushes' commitment to the principles and values of their marriage deserves to be saluted and recognized.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIFE CHOICES CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER IN JOPLIN, MO

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to salute a most deserving and life-affirming ministry, the Life Choices Crisis Pregnancy Center in Joplin, Missouri. This ministry began

in 1990, and has provided a much-needed service to more than four thousand women and their families. Thanks to a strong commitment and dedication to life, they have saved at least 160 babies from abortion.

Many of the services are aimed specifically at young people. One example is a program that encourages abstinence and uses trained counselors who provide information and support for teens and their parents through the Center's 24-hour help line. Additionally, the Center provides free confidential counseling, basic medical services, and lifestyle assessments at its newly constructed facility.

America needs more organizations which, like Life Choices Crisis Pregnancy Center, encourage communities to help their own, rather than rely on government-funded programs for assistance. I ask that you join with me today in recognizing not only the achievements of this center, but also the compassionate individuals who give of themselves so selflessly, helping others in their time of need.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT OF THE CANCELLATION OF DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 71

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to section 1025 of Public Law 93-344, to the Committee on Appropriations, and to the Committee on the Budget.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached reports, contained in the "Military Construction Appropriations Act, 1998" (Public Law 105-45; H.R. 2016). I have determined that the cancellation of these amounts will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 6, 1997.*

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 6:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 167. Concurrent resolution to correct a technical error in the enrollment of H.R. 2160.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2160) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

At 7:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2267) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conferences asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. ROGERS, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. REGULA, Mr. FORBES, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. SKAGGS, Mr. DIXON, and Mr. OBEY, as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3278. An act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

Pursuant to the order of August 4, 1997, the following measure was discharged and placed on the calendar:

S. 261. A bill to provide for a biennial budget process and to enhance appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 587. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to exchange certain lands located in Hinsdale County, Colorado (Rept. No. 105-96).

S. 588. A bill to provide for the expansion of the Eagles Nest Wilderness within the Arapaho National Forest and the White