

Additionally, during his first four years in the U.S. House of Representatives, Diggs also served on the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (now House Resources). His ardent advocacy of statehood legislation was one of the prime subjects under its jurisdiction. Focus was on the Hawaii/Alaska proposals, which in 1959 established Democratic Hawaii and Republican Alaska as the 49/50th states in the union.

As chairman of the D.C. committee, Diggs sponsored legislation authorizing preservation of the Frederick Douglas Home in Anacostia, Southeast D.C., by having it designated a national historical site within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Interior Department. This designation replaced its previous beneficiary, Dr. Rosa Cragg of Detroit and the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, under whose aegis the Douglass Home unfortunately had languished, principally because of the latter's limited resources and those of the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association Inc.

In 1959 Diggs also became the first Black member of Congress appointed to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He had sought this assignment after his selection in 1957 by President Eisenhower, to be part of the U.S. Delegation to the Independence of Ghana in West Africa. The delegation, headed by vice president Richard Nixon, had been flown there on a "prop-ship" through a midway island refuel stop, since this was before the "jet-propulsion" age.

The prime Foreign Affairs Committee consideration during his first two years was to authorize establishment of the Peace Corps. Given Diggs' enhanced African interest following referenced mission to Ghana, he knew how important the Peace Corps would be in furthering numerous developments on that ancient colonized continent. This prompted him to be one of the committee's strongest and most respected advocates of the Corps. Subsequent positive activities of Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) fully justified his continued, invaluable support.

Upon his request he was also appointed, in 1959, to the insignificant subcommittee on Africa, which he immediately stimulated. In 1969, a decade thereafter, he rose to its chairmanship and maintained historic levels of the committee's activation until his retirement in 1980. Based on his extensive travels abroad plus meetings with African leaders and elsewhere regarding African policies, plus his unmatched official hearings, Diggs became one of our nation's leading spokespersons on this subject.

TRANSAFRICA, America's premier think-tank on African and Caribbean issues, was founded in Diggs' office where its current executive director, Randall Robinson, was Diggs' administrative assistant.

In 1969-70 Diggs founded and became the first chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. William L. Clay, one of the important players in Congress and author of the book, "Just Permanent Interests," is the senior member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation and a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. Inside the book, he states, "Charlie: We would not have made so much progress in the caucus had it not been for your leadership, signed Bill, 9/24/92." In 1971 Diggs served as a full delegate to the United Nation's general assembly while George Bush, with whom he had served in the House, was the Delegation's ambassador before he became president of the United States. Congressman Ed Derwinski (R-III) was another appointed full delegate and he later became the first secretary of the Veterans Administration.

In addition to his one semester at Fisk University, Nashville (1942-43) then being drafted into the U.S. Armed Services, there

have been only two other Congressmen, Bill Dawson (D-III.) and John Lewis (D-Ga.) who have been to that college. Diggs also has a mortuary science degree from Wayne State University, was the sole principal proprietor mortician in the Metropolitan Tri-State area of Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Virginia, and was a Howard University graduate. He also holds honorary doctor of law degrees from Ohio's Wilberforce University and Central State College, North Carolina's Agricultural and Technical State University and the University of the District of Columbia.

He is survived by his wife, Darlene Diggs of Mississippi; six children, Charles C. Diggs III, Denise Taylor Diggs, Alexis Robinson Diggs, Douglass Diggs, Carla Mathis Diggs, Cindy Carter Diggs, and 12 grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO CLEVELAND AMORY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Friends of Animals, I'd like to pay tribute to a very special constituent of mine. Cleveland Amory, noted author and founder of The Fund for Animals, died at his home in New York City on Wednesday night. Mr. Amory devoted the last 31 years of his life to "speaking for those who can't" as the unpaid President of The Fund for Animals. In his years at the helm of this national animal protection group, he has imprinted millions in our society with the notion that we should treat animals with both decency and dignity.

During three decades of advocacy for animals, Mr. Amory and his group led the way in dramatic rescues of animals all over the country. He airlifted hundreds of wild burros from the Grand Canyon who were destined to be shot by the National Park Service. They joined thousands of other animals, all snatched out of harm's way by Mr. Amory, at his Black Beauty Ranch animal sanctuary in Texas.

Black Beauty Ranch now stretches over 1,000 acres and will serve as the final resting place for a man who was known as the grandfather of the animal protection community. The world needs more people like Cleveland Amory and I hope his legacy of compassion will continue to live on.

HONORING REGINALD F. MARRA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak in praise of a man who has served with distinction in the Yonkers school system for 35 years—Reginald F. Marra. He started in 1963 as an Industrial Arts teacher at Yonkers High School and has recently retired as Superintendent of the state's fourth largest school district with 24,000 students and a quarter of a billion dollar operating budget.

His career has been one of increasing responsibility. His second position was as guidance counselor. In 1970 he was named Administrative Assistant, two years later he was named Assistant Principal and in 1973 Principal of Commerce Middle School.

A year later he went to Saunders Trades and Technical High School where, drawing on his experience, he established innovative programs to assure significant employment opportunities for his students.

In 1984 he became Director of Occupational Education and served as a Special Assistant to the Superintendent in 1986. From 1987 until 1993 he was Deputy Superintendent and that year he was named Superintendent.

He has worked tirelessly to redesign the school system in the areas of curriculum, standards, goals and accountability. Among his many accomplishments, he increased the use of computer networks, established community, university and business partnerships within each school to expand student opportunities, worked with the professional staff to improve morale and make the district competitive in attracting and retaining professional staff.

Reginald Marra has earned the respect and thanks of the City of Yonkers, its students, past, present and to come, and their parents. I am proud to join them in this salute.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday, Wednesday, October 14, 1998, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 530 and 531. Had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote 530 and yes on rollcall 531.

IN HONOR OF PATTY S. BRYANT

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Patty S. Bryant, a teacher at Pleasure Ridge Park High School in my district of Louisville, Kentucky. Ms. Bryant will be honored with the First Place National Award for Teaching Economics by the National Council on Economic Education at its conference here in Washington, DC, tomorrow.

The National Awards program recognizes outstanding, innovative, economic education teaching practices, stimulating improvements in the teaching of economics and providing examples of innovative teaching practices for replication in classrooms around the country. The goal is to increase student economic understanding as a result of enhanced teaching practices.

The National Council on Economic Education is a unique nonprofit partnership of leaders in education, business and labor devoted to helping youngsters learn to think and function in a changing global economy.

The shocking reality is that high school and college students know little about how the economic system works and what they need to know to work successfully in it. The price of economic illiteracy is young people who are unfamiliar with the basics of saving, investing, the uses of money and credit and adults who