lose their pension. While they will not continue to accrue CSRS benefits, they will have earned a decent retirement income on which they could rely. The proposal will help Federal downsizing and reorganization efforts by allowing older employees to leave.

The proposal would also save money for the Federal Government. If the employee leaves his annuity in the trust fund, there is no outlay from the Federal Government when the employee separates. The immediate savings are significant. The CBO estimates that this proposal would save more than $3 billion over 7 years.

This is the only provision that will effectively reduce the Federal work force without RIF's. Buyouts are only an option if the employee is close to retirement or already retirement eligible. They do not pare the work force as much as push out those who can already leave. For those Federal employees 40 and over, they are not an option. These employees, however, can find good opportunities outside the Federal work force because they are the most hirable. They do not leave, however, because they will lose the 15 or more years they have invested in the Civil Service Retirement System.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BIDDLE, THE PRIDE OF NEGRO LEAGUE BASEBALL IN WISCONSIN

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride today that I pay tribute to a great man from the city of Milwaukee, Mr. Dennis Biddle. As one of the finest players of the Negro Baseball League who now resides in the State of Wisconsin, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the life and accomplishments of this truly remarkable man.

Born on June 24, 1935 in Arkansas, Mr. Biddle was blessed with natural-born athletic ability that allowed him to enter the world of professional baseball at the age of 17, making him the youngest player to emerge in the Negro league. As a player for the legendary Chicago American Giants, Mr. Biddle wasted no time breaking through the ranks and rising to the top of the Negro league. In his very first game in June 1953 against the Memphis Red Sox, he struck out 13 players and posted a 3 to 1 victory.

Wisconsin was the site of perhaps Mr. Biddle's finest game, when he pitched against the Philadelphia Stars in Racine. He was facing Gerald ''Lefty'' McKinnis who was famous for defeating Satchel Paige, perhaps the greatest pitcher in the history of American baseball. Despite his young age, Mr. Biddle led his team to a 3 to 1 victory, and earned the nickname ''The Man Who Beat The Man Who Beat the Man'', and a place in the heart of baseball fans everywhere.

Because Jackie Robinson already had broken the color barrier, Mr. Biddle knew it was just a matter of time before he would join the ranks of major league baseball. Indeed, his 30–7 record over 2 years in the Negro leagues caught the attention of the Chicago Cubs who pursued Biddle for their squad. Regretfully, Mr. Biddle broke his leg during spring training in 1955, ending his brief but brilliant pitching career.

Despite the end of his career in baseball, Mr. Biddle remains a powerful force in Milwaukee, lending his rich institutional memory for the betterment of our community. On most weekends, Mr. Biddle can be found speaking with young people, giving them advice and direction through a discussion of his rich life experiences. He is a devoted community advocate, working with Milwaukee youth on a regular basis at Career Youth Development [CYD], one of Milwaukee's premier social service agencies.

Mr. Biddle's experiences and lessons are more valuable today than ever before. Through his lecturing, teaching, and outreach, Mr. Biddle is able to bring us back to a time and a place when baseball was played for honor and glory. Last year, the Negro league celebrated its 75th anniversary, and Mr. Biddle joined with the league's 214 remaining league veterans at their museum in Kansas City. At this reunion, Mr. Biddle reaffirmed his commitment to educating the public about the wealth of history contained in the archives of the Negro league. Players like Satchel Paige, Cool Papa Bell, Josh Gibson, and Buck Leonard, and teams like the Milwaukee Bears, the Kansas City Monarchs, and the Homestead Grays, whose story must be preserved for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Dennis Biddle. I join with the city of Milwaukee in praising this outstanding individual, and wish him continued success in our community.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the annual observance of National Engineers Week, which has just concluded. Samuel C. Florman, engineer and author, defines his profession as ''the art or science of making practical application of the knowledge of pure sciences'' in his book. ''The Existential Pleasures of Engineering.'' National Engineers Week gives us the chance to remember the role of engineers in making real the American dream and their legacy in the drama of our Nation's history.

That National Engineers Week coincides with the celebration of the birth of the Father of our Country is no accident, as the profession is proud to recognize George Washington as a member. The First President, in 1749, worked as the assistant to the surveyor laying out the plan for the city of Alexandria. Commissioned a surveyor in his own right, Washington undertook the measurement and mapping of the western frontier of Virginia. Washington played a central role in the formation of the Patowmack Co., which sought to make the Potomac the major route for transportation into the burgeoning Northwest Territory. Finally, of course, Washington placed the cornerstone for the Capitol in which we work and devoted a great deal of his time to managing the development of the city that bears his name.

Engineers appear time and again in American history. The Polish military engineer Tadeusz Kosciuszko built the fortifications which protected American forces during the Battle of Saratoga; the American victory led France to join the war and secured our independence. Civil War commanders such as P.G.T. Beauregard, George Meade, Joe Johnston, and Robert E. Lee saw service as engineers during the Mexican War. Theodore Judah and Grenville Dodge constructed the first transcontinental railroad. John A. Roebling and his son Washington raised the Brooklyn Bridge. The Wizard of Menlo Park, Thomas Edison, fired the imagination with his continuing output of new technologies that changed the lives of ordinary people. Engineers were central to America's ability to meet one of humanity's ultimate challenges, to travel away from the Earth and walk upon the surface of the Moon.

Engineers are the prime movers behind the economic success Americans now enjoy. It is the engineer who recognizes how the science of the laboratory can be used or adapted to fill the needs of fellow citizens safely and efficiently. Absent the contributions of engineers in aerospace, civil, chemical, mechanical, electrical, and other disciplines, we would still be awaiting the fruits of the Industrial and Information Revolutions. The Federal Government's support for scientific research and development has long rested on the view that the results from that investment will be repaid by economic growth and a better quality of life for our citizens. Without engineers, that promise could not be realized.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to recognize in these remarks those engineers who directly serve the public interest in the agencies of the Federal Government. The Committee on Science has jurisdiction over the agencies whose ranks include many of the engineers employed by the Federal Government. They toil in obscurity trying to protect the public health, to advance the state of knowledge in technical fields, and to protect the Nation's safety and security. We in Congress have, many times, given them contradictory guidance in law or asked them to develop regulations that seek to balance incompatible goals. That these efforts fail should not be ascribed to their performance but to our design. I have no doubt that when Congress can implement the reasonable changes to regulatory policies supported by the majority of our Members that the engineers in our service will once again justify our trust in their commitment to the public good they have sworn to uphold.

Recognition is due to the sponsors of National Engineers Week: the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Chair of the 1996 Steering Committee; the American Association of Engineering Societies; the American Consulting Engineers Council; the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers; the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.; the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; the Construction Specifications Institute; the Secretariat of the National Society of Professional Engineers; the Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc.; the Society of Women Engineers; and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Corporations offering their support include 3M; Bechtel Group, Inc.; Chevron Corp.; Eastman Kodak Co.; Fluor Corp.; General Electric Co.; IBM International Foundation; Motorola; Rockwell; and Westinghouse Electric Corp. Agencies like the National Institute of Standards