

have a tradition in the Republican caucus in which we have Thursday lunches that are hosted by various members of our caucus. I have served something from the town in which Jack Daniel's is made—not the whiskey but the food. Senator CINDY HYDE-SMITH served some Mississippi food last week before the recess. We will go around the room in the order in which we have come in, and everyone will stand up and say something. Well, we all say something, but what was different about Richard Lugar was, during those Thursday lunches, he actually had something to say. He was intelligent and thoughtful. He studied. He was never flamboyant. He was not into symbolic votes. He dominated Indiana politics for 36 years, and he had the respect of virtually anyone whom he ever met.

Not many Senators in our history have the opportunity to do what he did with former Senator Nunn and the Nunn-Lugar law, which was to basically dismantle thousands of nuclear weapons—take out the explosive parts of them and render them useless as instruments of war for the future. He continued to work for a safe world and played a major role in the New START treaty in 2010.

There will be many memorials and many speeches and many compliments paid to Senator Lugar. President Obama awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the highest civilian honor in our country. I will remember him for his quiet, unassuming, highly intelligent, thoughtful style of leadership. The world is better and safer because of Richard Lugar's life in public service. He was always a gentleman, always principled. He was a model for what all of us should hope for in our public officials. He was a good friend for many years.

I and Honey, my wife, and our family send our sympathy and our respect for the life of Richard Lugar to Char and his family.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

NOMINATION OF STEPHEN MOORE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, over the past few weeks, we have learned more and more about the President's pick, Stephen Moore, for the Federal Reserve.

We now know he has made all kinds of offensive, disparaging comments about women, even about women who play sports. He has even questioned women who are in broadcast booths. We know he is against child labor laws. He thinks we should have 11-year-olds working. He has said that he wants people to start working at 11, at 12. He has said he is a radical in this.

Think about this. The President is about to nominate for the Federal Reserve a gentleman who says he is an economist but who really isn't. He didn't get his degree and didn't get a Ph.D. in economics, as Federal Reserve people often do. Yet put that aside.

He said: I am a radical in child labor. I mean, who thinks that way in the year 2019?

Other things we know, he was banned from the op-ed page of the Kansas City Star after publishing an editorial with all kinds of factual errors. See, the editor knew he was a conservative. The editor may have been a conservative. I don't know. That is not the point. The point is it was filled with factual errors, and the editor said: Those kinds of factual errors are just unacceptable. We are finished with him—not that the editor doesn't agree with certain viewpoints, but she just said: We are not running him anymore because he doesn't tell the truth.

We have him on videotape showing breathtaking contempt for people in the middle of the country, from places like Arkansas and Kentucky and Tennessee and my State of Ohio. Here is what Mr. Moore said, and it is on tape and many people have seen it:

If you want to live in the Midwest, where else do you want to live besides Chicago? You don't want to live in Cincinnati—

The home of Senator PORTMAN—
or Cleveland.

My home. He said:

You don't want to live in Cincinnati or Cleveland or these armpits of America.

That is what he said.

President Trump is showing his disregard for Cincinnati and Cleveland and Kentucky and Arkansas and Tennessee and the middle of the country by nominating someone who is so out of touch and has such contempt for the middle of this country. "The armpits of America" is what he called two of my State's great cities.

Make no mistake, he wasn't just insulting Cleveland and Cincinnati; he was insulting Little Rock; he was insulting Nashville; he was insulting people who get up every day and work hard. He was dismissing millions of Americans. He was undermining the dignity of work by dismissing them, people who have been ignored by Washington and have been preyed upon by Wall Street.

Across the industrial heartland, tens of millions of Americans raise families; they serve in our military; they power our companies; they contribute to our country.

Mr. Moore, how dare you demean them and diminish them with those kinds of comments? How dare you insult them and their hometowns?

You can't fight for these Americans when you don't know the first thing about the places they live. You don't understand that all work has dignity. You don't understand the dignity of work. You don't understand honoring and respecting work.

It is particularly ironic where Mr. Moore made these comments. He was speaking at an event sponsored by a think tank called the Heartland Institute, located, I believe, in Chicago. Can you believe that?

Take a look at who is really behind this group, the Heartland group. I

mean, people can name themselves whatever they want. They call themselves the Heartland Institute, but they are funded by ExxonMobil, the biggest oil company, I believe, in the world. They are funded by Philip Morris, one of the tobacco giants—Big Tobacco—that poisons our children. Four hundred eighty thousand people die every year from tobacco in this country—480,000 people. You know what that means? It means Philip Morris has to find 1,300 new customers every day just to make up for the people tobacco has killed.

So the Heartland Institute is funded by ExxonMobil; it is funded by Philip Morris; it is funded by the Koch brothers—or at least we used to know they were funded by these groups.

Today, unfortunately, they don't disclose who their individual donors are, which is pretty shocking. The Heartland Institute didn't want people in the actual heartland to realize they are nothing but a corporate front—a corporate, special interest-funded front.

What have they done with those donations? Well, you can expect them to do the bidding of ExxonMobil; you can expect them to do the bidding of Philip Morris; you can expect them to do the bidding of the Koch brothers, and those interest groups have certainly gotten their money's worth.

The Heartland Institute has pushed junk science on behalf of tobacco companies to try to block and stop and neuter anti-smoking public health laws.

As recently as the late 1990s, their president wrote an op-ed. I mean, this isn't really funny at all. I don't know why I laughed, but it is so ridiculous. The president of that group wrote an op-ed claiming that moderate smoking—moderate smoking—doesn't raise your risk of lung cancer. You know, getting those 15-years-olds to start smoking only a little bit, I guess that is OK because that doesn't increase their chance of lung cancer. That is their notable achievement.

So, of course, we shouldn't be surprised that the men in the room—and it was almost all men. You could tell from the video and the audio that the men in the room, when Mr. Moore talked about my city, Cleveland, Senator PORTMAN's city, Cincinnati, talked about them being armpits of the Nation, the men in the room howled with laughter because look who comes to the Heartland Institute. It is a bunch of lobbyists, a bunch of drug company people, a bunch of oil company men, a bunch of tobacco men, a bunch of gun lobby people. All these people who come to the Heartland Institute, of course, they were laughing at those people in the industrial Midwest, in Cleveland, in Mansfield, in Toledo, in Zanesville, and all over our country. That is what these phony, rightwing, tobacco-funded think tanks really think of America's heartland.

President Trump likes to pretend he cares about people in places like Cincinnati and Cleveland. He likes to

make big promises to the people in the heartland, but look at whom he puts in charge—these conservative elites. Make no mistake, they are far-right conservatives, and they are elites. They all think they are better than the rest of the country. These conservative elites, whether they are on Wall Street, whether they are in Trump Tower, whether they are at the White House, where the White House looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives, whether these conservative elites are going in and out of the office doors of the Senate majority leader with their requests for tax cuts in hand, these are people who have contempt for the people they are supposed to serve.

Stephen Moore says he doesn't want to be judged on all the extreme and offensive articles he has written; he wants to be judged by his economic record.

So let's do that. Let's look at his economic record. It is just as bad. It is in line with views of all these rightwing elites. It stems directly from contempt for ordinary people. You see it in their policies: Make it easier for Wall Street to pay these huge—\$1 million, \$2 million, \$5 million, \$10 million—bonuses that Wall Street elites get, so often at the expense of workers.

I was at my high school reunion in Mansfield, OH, some time ago. I sat across the table from a woman who had worked at one of America's largest banks. When I grew up and I used to put my family farm paycheck into this bank, it was called Farmers Bank in those days. It has been bought and sold and bought by other bigger banks. The point is, she had worked as a teller in this bank for 30 years. She was making \$30,000 a year. Yet Wall Street continues giving million-dollar bonuses, massive tax cuts for corporations, for billionaires and pennies for working families.

Look at what happened in Kansas, where Stephen Moore was banned from writing in the newspaper because he lied so much. He helped design the tax cut boondoggle that bankrupted the State. It was the plan that eliminated taxes entirely for LLCs and pass-through corporations. The people who paid the price were millions of ordinary Kansans. There was no money for teachers. There was no money for healthcare. There was no money for higher ed.

When Republicans in the State finally rebelled and repealed that Stephen Moore far-right tax plan, Kansas had fallen behind the rest of the country. They were actually losing jobs in Kansas, a once prosperous State, while almost every other State was adding them.

One advocate in Kansas who saw his work up close said: "I wouldn't let Stephen Moore within 100 yards of my enemy's piggy bank, let alone put him on the Federal Reserve."

So why on Earth would we want to hire that guy to help run our national economy? It is pretty clear that cre-

ating jobs for workers in the heartland doesn't really matter to Stephen Moore and his crowd. After all, they don't even want to set foot there.

It comes back to the dignity of work. We need people in office who understand, who respect work. Whether you punch a clock or swipe a badge, whether you work on a salary, whether you work for tips, whether you are raising children, whether you are taking care of an aging parent, it comes down to honoring and respecting work—something apparently Stephen Moore and his far-right elitist crowd know nothing about.

The last thing we need is another conservative elitist looking down his nose at American workers, at Ohio workers, at workers in Arkansas, at workers all across this country.

FALCON TRANSPORT LAYOFFS

Mr. President, last month, GM laid off thousands of workers in Lordstown, OH, and around the country. Lordstown is a community near Youngstown and Warren in Northeast Ohio.

Many of us warned the President that if he let this happen, the layoffs wouldn't stop with GM. Those job losses would work their way up and down the entire supply chain—the people who stamp the metal, the people who make the components, the people who make all kinds of products that only go into the production of a car, the assembly of a car—but the President did nothing other than rub salt in workers' wounds by boasting about imaginary new factories coming to Ohio that were supposedly going to open.

Now, this weekend, we found out that the additional layoffs we feared are starting to happen.

Falcon Transport was part of the auto supply chain in the Mahoning Valley, transporting parts for GM Lordstown. This weekend, with no notice, they closed their doors, leaving 500 Ohioans out of a job.

They didn't just close their door; workers found out about this with an email, I believe, the night before or early Monday morning in their inboxes or people saw posts on social media telling them not to show up for work the next day. Some drivers were left stuck all around the country when they found out.

Workers in my State everywhere deserve better than an email letting them know their livelihood has been taken away. The entire community of Lordstown and Trumbull County and Mahoning County deserve better than a President who breaks his promises.

Remember, President Trump came to Mahoning Valley many times during the campaign, but he came there since the election as the President of the United States, and he said: Don't move. Don't sell your house. We are going to fill up those factories or we are going to rip them down and build new ones. Don't move. Don't sell your house. We are going to fill up those factories or rip them down and build new ones.

People trusted him. A lot of people had voted for him. They put their faith in him. They believed what he said.

What did Trump do? Instead of working to save their jobs, he turned around and handed corporations a 50-percent-off coupon to send their jobs overseas.

Here is how it works. If you are producing in Dayton, OH, you are paying a 21-percent corporate tax rate. If you move your production to Mexico, you pay 10.5 percent. So the President of the United States, in the tax bill a year and a half ago that passed this Congress—the President of the United States essentially gave a 50-percent-off coupon to American companies on their taxes. So if you move overseas, we will give you 50 percent off. It is part of the President's phony populism. Call yourself a populist, but if you are a populist, you are never racist, you are never anti-Semitic, you don't give tax cuts to rich people and then stick it to the middle class. That is what has happened over and over again—a betrayal.

I am calling on the President—maybe he should try keeping his promises, maybe he should actually fight for autoworkers, maybe he should actually stand up and support workers up and down the auto supply chain for a change. End the tax cut for corporations that—again, they shut down an American plant; they move overseas; they get a 50-percent-off coupon on their taxes.

If you love your country, you fight for the people who make it work.

TRIBUTE TO WALT STINE

Mr. President, a piece of good news. I want to talk about Walt Stine from Hartsville, OH, an Ohio veteran.

His story is a reminder of the caring and fundamental decency of the people of my State. It is a reminder of our country's veterans' comradery and dedication to each other—veterans from Arkansas, veterans from Ohio, all over this country.

Two decades ago, Mr. Stine's friend found a Purple Heart at a flea market. He bought it, and he gave it to Walt Stine, hoping his friend, a World War II veteran, would know how to return it to its rightful owner.

Mr. Stine then set out on a quest—this was long before the internet, making it much harder—to return the Purple Heart to the stranger who had earned it, who had received it decades earlier during the Vietnam war.

Mr. Stine said of the Purple Heart:

It means a lot to me. They don't pass them out in Cracker Jack boxes . . . you really have to earn 'em. And I know he earned his, and I want to get it back to him or his family.

Mr. Stine and his wife, Sandy, tried and tried. They wrote letters. They made phone calls. They couldn't find the veteran. The veteran, he said, was named Cox Bartelmay.

Finally, they realized there was a typo in the letter awarding the Purple Heart. The veteran's name was actually Coy Bartelmay, but the print said Cox Bartelmay, C-o-x.