

He had a very, very outstanding record as a Member of the House of Representatives from Wichita, KS. He has a very thorough grasp of the agriculture community and farm problems in America; a background that I share to some extent. Russell and Wichita and all of Kansas are in the wheat country, and as a teenager I drove a tractor in the farmland. It is quite an experience to drive a tractor in the harvest, round and round knocking down grain; pulling a combine, again, again, and again. It is a great incentive to become a lawyer, which I did after moving out of Kansas.

But beyond his professional qualifications and his experience, Dan Glickman is a great human being, compassionate, understanding, and will really be able to work with the problems of the American agriculture industry.

Still I think he has a keen eye for budget deficits and cost reductions to fit into the trend of the times as we try to move to balance the Federal budget for the target year 2002.

So I do not know that my colleagues will need too much urging because Dan has such an outstanding record and an outstanding reputation. But I wanted to add these few words in support of his nomination for Secretary of Agriculture.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

Mr. FAIRCLOTH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I rise to support the nomination of Dan Glickman. I could not help but notice the Senator from Pennsylvania saying that he was driving a tractor and that encouraged him to become a lawyer. Well, I failed to become a lawyer.

But I rise to support the nomination of Dan Glickman as Secretary of Agriculture.

As the distinguished majority leader has indicated, Dan Glickman has an outstanding record on agricultural issues and I am certain that he will serve this Nation well as its Secretary of Agriculture.

As Secretary, I am optimistic that Mr. Glickman will take an even-handed approach to agricultural regulations. Recently, legislation has been introduced which is intended to provide special treatment for a limited class of poultry producers. I am referring to S. 600—the so-called Truth in Poultry Labeling Act of 1995. It is anything but truth in labeling.

This legislation is just one example of the pressures which may be brought to bear on the Department of Agriculture during Mr. Glickman's tenure as Secretary.

I am hopeful that he will not yield to special interests seeking preferential market treatment under the guise of antifraud legislation. If successful, S. 600 would result in significant economic harm to poultry producers across the Nation—so that a limited

class of local producers could achieve market dominance.

I hope that as Secretary, Mr. Glickman will send a clear signal that such tactics have no place in the rule-making procedures of the Department of Agriculture under his leadership or at any other time.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, anyone even remotely familiar with the U.S. Constitution knows that no President can spend a dime of Federal tax money that has not first been authorized and appropriated by Congress—both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

So when you hear a politician or an editor or a commentator declare that "Reagan ran up the Federal debt" or that "Bush ran it up," bear in mind that the Founding Fathers, two centuries before the Reagan and Bush Presidencies, made it very clear that it is the constitutional duty of Congress to control Federal spending.

The fiscal irresponsibility of Congress has created a Federal debt which stood at \$4,851,857,494,143.63 as of the close of business Wednesday, March 29. Averaged out, every man, woman, and child in America owes a share of this massive debt, and that per capita share is \$18,417.06.

JOHN SILBER ON THE ARTS IN AMERICA

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, in a thoughtful article in the Boston Globe entitled "Funding the Arts Enriches the Nation," John Silber, president of Boston University, provides an eloquent reminder of the importance of the arts to the spirit of our Nation. President Silber effectively rebuts the negative myths about the National Endowment for the Arts and states the necessity and desirability of continued funding of the arts. NEA represents only one-half of 1 percent of the Federal budget. The program it funds and disseminates to neighborhoods and communities across America are eminently deserving of this moderate level of Federal support.

I commend this article to my colleagues and I ask unanimous consent that it may be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Boston Globe, Mar. 20, 1995]

FUNDING THE ARTS ENRICHES THE NATION

(By John Silber)

The 104th Congress has brought with it an open season on federal support for culture. Members of the congressional leadership have proposed defunding public broadcasting, and two former heads of the National Endowment for the Humanities testified that it ought to be terminated and advised the same fate for the National Endowment for the Arts.

The most common charge made against public broadcasting is bias toward the left, and those who would impose a death sentence on two endowments continually trot out the same horror stories.

With regard to the NEA, the cases in point are some items in an exhibit of Robert Mapplethorpe's photographs, an alleged work of art called "Piss Christ" by Andres Serrano and a piece of blood-spattered performance art by Ron Athey.

The NEH has subsidized a ludicrously tendentious set of standards for the teaching of history and has funded the Modern Language Association, the professional association of literary scholars, as it deconstructs into vulgarity and irrelevance.

These genuine horror stories are not so much the doing of the endowments as irrepressible eruptions of contemporary culture. It is very likely they would have occurred without government subsidy. We live, after all, in an age when John Cage was taken seriously as a composer.

But these are only the horror stories. The solid achievements of the endowments are ignored in favor of their few sensational mistakes.

The NEA has provided startup funds for a vigorous movement of regional theaters and enriched the musical life in the nation through the support of orchestras and other performance groups. The NEH has, among other activities, supported some of the most distinguished programs on public television, such as "Masterpiece Theatre" and "The Civil War."

Such successes have enriched the intellectual and artistic life of millions of Americans, and they have been far more influential than the comparatively few failures.

Nor is it true that PBS is, as a whole, a liberal enclave. There are, of course programs on PBS made from a liberal perspective and sometimes this perspective amounts to a bias that distorts reality. But PBS is also studded with programs produced from a conservative perspective.

And the great majority of PBS programs are about as free of ideology as is humanely possible. Consider one recent case, a history of the Cold War called "Messengers from Moscow." The final episode of the series was made up largely of interviews with Soviet politicians, bureaucrats and generals. Most of them agreed that the Soviet Union had been a fraud, and that the US challenge, orchestrated largely by Ronald Reagan, had brought the Soviet system down and made them see reality.

Jimmy Carter appeared as the man who first terrified the Soviets by considering the neutron bomb, and then was snookered into abandoning it by a massive propaganda assault. A Russian general explained that had the neutron bomb been deployed, the Soviet strategy of overwhelming NATO with tanks would have been rendered useless.

This politically incorrect program was produced by a PBS station with major funding from the NEH. It is representative of federally subsidized culture at its objective best, and it is impossible to imagine it on commercial television.