

TRIBUTE TO JOHN O. HEMPERLEY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John O. Hemperley, the budget officer of the Library of Congress, who passed away last Saturday. As former chairman and now as ranking member on the Legislative Branch Subcommittee of Appropriations, Congressman VIC FAZIO, worked with John for many years and joins me in honoring his memory.

Appropriations Committee members and staff rely heavily on the expertise, efficiency, and responsiveness of agency budget officers. John embodied the highest standards of dedicated public service. Both Vic and I counted on his unsurpassed knowledge and understanding of the Library's budget. John fervently supported the Library's mission and the budget funding that mission. However, he always presented the facts honestly and faithfully executed the budget enacted by the Congress.

For 196 years, the Congress of the United States supported and nurtured the Library's development. Today, it stands as a unique and treasured institution—the greatest repository of knowledge in the history of the world. The Library continues to explore new frontiers, expanding its mission to provide electronic services to all its constituent groups while maintaining its traditional services to the Congress and the Nation.

John O. Hemperley was a unique and treasured individual. For the past 23 years, he developed and cultivated the relationship between the Library of Congress and the Committee on Appropriations. He will be sorely missed, not only by those who knew and loved him here in the Congress and in the Library, but by all those who may never have known him but who benefit daily from the enormous resources the Library provides. The challenges the Library faces will be more daunting without him.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of our Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, and for all other members of the Appropriations Committee, and our staff, I would like to express our great sorrow and extend our sincere condolences to John's wife, Bess Hemperley, their children, and grandchildren.

CHILDREN ARE OUR MOST
PRECIOUS POSSESSION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, our children are our most precious possessions. Both Republicans and Democrats theoretically and philosophically agree on this self-evident, but nevertheless profound truth. In practice and policymaking with respect to programs that benefit children; however, there is a deep chasm of disagreement between the two parties. Since

it gained control of the House of Representatives the Republican majority has waged a cruel and unrelenting war on children.

While trumpeting its support for the "right-to-life" for unborn children, the Republican majority has made survival much more difficult for living children. Aid to Families with Dependent Children has been eliminated as a Federal entitlement in House legislation. Within the next few weeks it is expected that the White House will surrender and agree to remove this Federal protection for poor children that has existed since the New Deal. The entitlement for Medicaid which protects the health of our poorest children is also under attack with all of the State's Governors voting to eliminate it. The new Government-health care industrial complex has already begun to endanger the lives of newborn infants and their mothers by forcing them out of hospitals within 24 to 48 hours after birth.

Immigrant children will now be searched out in schools and denied school lunches if Republican legislation prevails. And, of course, immigrant children will be denied access to Medicaid. Cuts in funding for education threaten the provision of opportunity for all poor children. Republicans have proposed to cut even the very successful HeadStart Program. Teenagers who have benefited from the Summer Youth Employment Program for more than 20 years may be the victims of the zero funding passed by the Republican majority and find there are no jobs in this summer of 1996. Children in poor working families will continue to suffer despite the fact that their parents go to work every day but are still unable to adequately provide for their families on the present hourly minimum wage.

The "right-to-life" is just an empty slogan unless it is accompanied by programs and policies which provide an even playing field of opportunity for all children. On June 1 the Children's Defense Fund is sponsoring a great summit in Washington called "Stand For Children." This is a gathering which deserves the support of all Members of Congress. We should all join the "Stand For Children" on that specific day. And for all the days before and after June 1 Congress should refocus on the business of protecting our most precious resource—children outside of their mothers' wombs as well as children inside the wombs.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWBORN TO THE
FETUS

Man stay in there
The womb is where its at
Until tots slide out and breathe
The right-to-life is guaranteed
You never had it so good
Out here in America
They don't treat us
Like they promised they would
Right away at the hospital
They put us out
Cause my welfare Mom
Didn't have no clout
Stay where you are man
The womb is where its at
A smart fetus can live
Like a rich lady's cat
No food stamps for immigrants
But long picket lines protect
Our pre-birth rights
The womb they glorify
Outside they watch us die
The womb is where its at
Curled up in that nice nest
You always get the very best

But out here only fear
They'll take my entitlement
Man stay in there
Cash in on this fetus fetish
Be a hero embryo
Pro-life politicians
Offer nine months of love
But at birth's border
Immigrants from heaven
Receive a hellish shove
Until tots slide out and breathe
The right to life is guaranteed
Long protest lines protected
Our pre-birth rights
We crave the medals they gave
When we were hidden
Intimately way out of sight
The womb is where its at
Safely grow soft and fat
Immigrant school lunches are now gone
Budget cuts down to the bone
Newborns sound the trumpet
This land is littered
With ugly infant tombs
Babies must unite in battle
Make war to regain
Out wonderful respected wombs
The womb is where its at
Until tots slide out and breathe
The right-to-life is guaranteed
We appeal to the United Nations
We cry out to the Almighty Pope
The holy right of return
Is now our only hope
Man stay in there
The womb is where its at.

TRIBUTE TO MS. MARGARET
SIMMS

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a magnificent lady, Ms. Margaret Simms, who retired from 23 years of service to the National Democratic Club [NDC] at the end of March. She played an important role in the daily lives of Members of Congress, political party representatives, lobbyists, and friends of the NDC. She will be sorely missed.

Margaret labored faithfully on behalf of the NDC. She performed her job with grace and perfection. She greeted all patrons with respect and courtesy. My constituents, family, friends, and I were beneficiaries of her geniality on numerous occasions. She was cherished by all of us.

On April 2, Members of Congress and friends of the National Democratic Club gathered to pay tribute to Margaret and to thank her for making their lives in Washington more pleasant. I was among those Members who took time during the recent congressional recess to personally express my appreciation to Margaret. In addition, I presented her with a proclamation, designating Tuesday, April 2, 1996 as "Margaret Simms Day" in the First Congressional District of Missouri, in recognition of her dedication, excellence, and hospitality to citizens of the First District. It was an honor much deserved.

I wish Margaret Simms great health and wonderful fellowship in her retirement.