

community. I know in my heart that it can be done.

With an end to intransigence must come a total and final repudiation of violence. There is no justification for violence, or the threat of violence. To those of you who ask; what can I do? Here is my answer: You, the leaders of the Irish-American community, must say that you condemn violence, that you demand its end, that you will not support those who engage in or support or condone violence. You must say it publicly, you must say it loudly, you must say it forcefully. And you must say it over and over again.

Violence is wrong. It is counter productive. It deepens divisions. It increases hatred. It hurts innocent people. It makes peace and reconciliation more difficult to attain. It must end.

Let me be clear on one more point. They may be twin demons but there is no moral equivalence between intransigence and violence. They are both wrong. But as bad as intransigence is, violence is worse. Intransigence takes away people's hopes. Violence takes away their lives.

There exists an historic opportunity to end centuries of conflict in Northern Ireland. If it is not seized now, it may be years before it returns, and the failure could cost many their lives.

Peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland is a worthy cause. It deserves your attention and support. You can make a difference. What you say is heard, what you do matters.

As you leave tonight, ask yourself this question: Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if, on St. Patrick's day next year, rather than praying for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, we were celebrating its existence?

If you agree, then beginning tomorrow, do all you can to make it happen. When you do, you will reap the greatest of all rewards: You will have earned the title of peacemaker.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES H. WEBB, DEAN, INDIANA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, it is with great privilege that I rise today to honor Charles H. Webb, an outstanding administrator and musician who is retiring after 24 years of service as Dean of the Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington, IN.

Since his appointment in 1973, the Indiana University School of Music has enjoyed a world-wide reputation for excellence. The Indiana University School of Music has been ranked No. 1 among schools of music in the country, and is the first and only school to bring an opera performance to the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

Dean Webb's accomplishments have been hailed by Indiana University and the State of Indiana. He received the Thomas Hart Benton Medal from Indiana University in 1987 and the Governor's Award for the Arts in 1989. He is also a two-time recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash award, which is the highest award given by the State of Indiana for meritorious service.

In addition to his responsibilities at Indiana University, Charles Webb has maintained an active performance schedule as a conductor, pianist, and organist. Hailed as one of today's finest accompanists, he has appeared with

some of the world's best musicians. He currently serves as the organist for the First United Methodist Church in Bloomington, IN.

Charles Webb's contributions to the art of music and his support for education will continue long after his retirement, as his students enrich our lives with performances in orchestras, bands, opera, and theater companies, and schools around the world. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating him for his years of tireless service, and in wishing him and family all the best in the future. •

#### NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of National Agriculture Week and to pay tribute to the farmers of this nation whose dedication and diligence throughout our history have not only served to feed our families, but have also provided a strong framework for the economic prosperity of this country.

At the 1896 Democratic National Convention, it was William Jennings Bryan who recognized the importance of farmers, not only as the individuals who provide our sustenance, but as integral parts of the American business community. He said, "The farmer who goes forth in the morning and toils all day, who begins in spring and toils all summer, and who by the application of brain and muscle to the natural resources of the country creates wealth, is as much a business man as the man who goes upon the Board of Trade and bets upon the price of grain." Today, when technology like weather trackers and cellular phones plays as important a role on the fields as it does on Wall Street, Bryan's words ring true.

Bryan's other comment about farmers reminds us of a fact too often forgotten: "The great cities," he said, "rest upon our broad and fertile prairies." Indeed, the productivity of America's farmers not only keeps Americans fed, it also enables the rest of our citizens to embark upon their daily tasks and diverse careers without concern that the grocery's shelves will be empty.

Our farmers are so productive that they sustain the lives of more than 250 million Americans every day and still have enough left over to make agriculture our nation's leading export. In 1930, 1 American farmer produced enough food to feed 24 people. Today, that same 1 farmer is feeding 129 people. In fact, our farmers are so efficient that Americans spend approximately 9 percent of their income on food, compared with much higher figures in other countries, such as 17 percent in Japan and 27 percent in South Africa.

Yet the agricultural industry's contributions to our economy often go unrecognized. I grew up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where my parents owned and operated a local restaurant. I spent much of my childhood working in that restaurant, and one of my

clearest memories is of Saturday evenings, when the farmers would come to town to stock up on supplies after a hard week's work. Every Saturday, my parents would keep the restaurant open late, waiting for the farmers to arrive. Over the years, I gained a good understanding of the successes and hardships related to agriculture. In my house, we knew that if the farmers were successful, our own business would prosper.

Since then, and the beginning of my career in public service, my contact with farmers from across the State of Maryland has confirmed my strong view that we cannot have real prosperity in this country if the farm sector itself is not sharing in and laying the foundation for that prosperity.

Farmers bear a weighty burden. At the same time that their work feeds millions and includes efforts to cleanse a polluted environment, that work is also part of a very modern industry, which generates billions of dollars in revenue and employs more than 15 percent of our citizens. Yet unlike many other billion-dollar businesses, almost 90 percent of American farms are owned by individuals or families. Family farmers are the backbone of America's agricultural industry and we must ensure that they remain a vital part of American society.

All of this is relevant, I believe, to this year's National Agriculture Week theme, "Growing Better Every Day—Together." Indeed, we all must remain committed to working on behalf of our farmers at all levels of government. Only through such cooperation can we look forward to a future in agriculture which is even more successful than our present.

In the State of Maryland, our attempts at such cooperation are indeed paying off. Recently, I have worked closely with State and local officials to support the efforts of farmers seeking to increase production by bolstering their existing export capabilities and identifying ways in which additional Maryland agribusinesses can enter foreign markets. Maryland is the eastern seaboard's fastest growing exporter. And with a strong and growing trade infrastructure—which includes the port of Baltimore, the World Trade Center, Baltimore-Washington International Airport and other aggressive export-enhancing initiatives—we are hopeful that agriculture, as Maryland's number-one industry, will be able to further tap into the State's increasing number of international opportunities. New forums across Maryland—which we have initiated together with the Maryland Department of Agriculture and our terrific Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Lewis Rileigh—are helping farmers take full advantage of our expanding capabilities and possibilities in this regard.

We in Maryland take much pleasure in the achievements of our farmers. Generating more than \$1.6 billion a year, agriculture employs about 14 percent, or 350,000 of Maryland's workers.