

STATEMENT ON MOTHER TERESA

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and the contributions of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, a woman devoted to helping the poorest of the poor find solace. Although her presence will be missed, her legacy of charity continues to inspire the entire world.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Mother Teresa for her outstanding and enduring record of humanitarianism. She challenged all Members of Congress to extend our hearts and our resources to those in need. As a Nobel Laureate, Mother Teresa unselfishly created the Missionaries of Charity, a religious order that operates 517 missions in over 100 different countries. She led 4,000 Sisters in seeking out the poor, the abandoned, the sick and the destitute. Malcomb Mudderidge wrote of Mother Teresa, in his book "Something Beautiful for God," that she could "hear in the cry of every abandoned child the cry of the Bethlehem child; recognize in every leper's stumps the hands which once touched sightless eyes and made them see." She said she saw God in the eyes of those who suffered. She created hospices for the dying, and places of rest for the tired. She reached out and elevated the awareness of millions to the realities of those less fortunate.

While we mourn the loss of a great humanitarian, we must ensure that her giving and loving spirit lives on in each of us. Mother Teresa once said, "the poverty in the West is not only a poverty of loneliness, but also of spirituality. There's a hunger for love, as there is a hunger for God." As servants and representatives of the public, we have an obligation to make Government and Congress a benevolent and merciful institution dedicated to meeting the needs of all its citizens. Mr. Speaker, I join in honoring Mother Teresa for all that she accomplished and for her lasting impact on our world.

CONGRATULATING J. FLETCHER CREAMER SR., ON HIS INDUCTION TO THE NEW JERSEY CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate J. Fletcher Creamer Sr. on being inducted into the New Jersey Construction Hall of Fame by the Utility and Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey. This well deserved honor comes in recognition of Mr. Creamer's many contributions to the construction industry and the welfare of our State.

As chairman and CEO of J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc. since 1946, Mr. Creamer is a wonderful example of the American ideals of entrepreneurship—an example of the American dream come true. Mr. Creamer is a third

generation of Creamers to head this family owned enterprise. His son, J. Fletcher Creamer Jr., serves as president and his grandson, 22-year-old Fletch, has recently joined the company as well. This continuity of family contractors has helped this important local business become a thriving, successful force in the local economy. As evidence of that, Creamer & Son was ranked 254th in Engineering News Record's recent listing of the top 400 construction contractors in the Nation. This is a family business that grew because it adhered to the standards for quality set by Mr. Creamer's grandfather and carried on by each successive generation. Whenever this company is discussed, it is always in terms of the highest professional and personal standards. People know they're dealing with honest, ethical professionals when they deal with Creamer & Son.

Mr. Creamer willingly shares his lifetime of expertise with others in the business world. He serves on the boards of the American Pipe and Plastics Co., Orange and Rockland Utilities Inc., Commerce Bank/North, the New Jersey Alliance for Action, and the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey, where he is a former chairman. His guidance has helped make all of those organizations the successes they are today.

Mr. Creamer is more than a businessman, however. He is a truly dedicated and active member of his community. Many people can talk about giving something back to the community that has made them successful, but Mr. Creamer actually does something about it. He and his family have worked with a wide variety of organizations, dedicating themselves to helping make their community a better place.

He has served as chief of the Fort Lee Fire Department, a trustee of the Englewood Hospital Association, vice chairman of the Bergen County United Fund, chairman of advance gifts for the Boy Scouts of America, chairman of the Private Enterprise Political Action Committee, director of the Fort Lee Chamber of Commerce, member of the Saddle River Planning Board, Bergen County Finance Chairman for former Gov. Thomas Kean's first-term election campaign, cochairman of Governor Kean's first Inaugural Committee, member of the Board of Governors of Hackensack Medical Center, member of the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission, commissioner of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, chairman of the National Multiple Sclerosis Golf Outing, chairman of the capital campaign for the Hackensack Medical Center, finance chairman for DARE of New Jersey, and member of the Bergen Economic Development Corporation.

As might be expected, this is only one of the many honors and awards Mr. Creamer has received during his lifetime. He has been named Man of the Year by both the Englewood Cliffs and Fort Lee Chambers of Commerce; received the De La Salle Award from Paramus Catholic Boys High School; the Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews; the Catholic Youth Organization Big Guy of the Year Award; the Distinguished Service Award from the West Bergen Mental Health Center; the Foundation for Free Enterprise Hall of Fame. He has also been honored by the Boy Scouts of America, Bergen Community College, and the 200 Club of Bergen County among others.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Mr. Creamer served in both World War II and the Korean war. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and dog breeding. He is a member of the Nantucket Billfish Club, Hudson Tuna Club, Black Meadow Rod and Gun Club, and the Holiday Beagle Club.

Mr. Creamer and his wife, Katherine, make their home in Saddle River. They have three children, J. Fletcher Jr., Jeffrey (deceased), Glenn, and Dale.

With such a long and varied record of accomplishments, Mr. Creamer is certainly one of the most outstanding citizens of New Jersey. While this current award recognizes his work in the construction industry, his contributions to the community go far beyond those made on-the-job. He is a shining example of what someone who cares about others can do to help those around him. He carries with him the values instilled by his father and grandfather, and is passing those values on to his sons and grandsons. I wish Fletch, his wife, affectionately known as Kissie, and his family many more years of continued success.

CURRENT ECONOMIC EXPANSION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, for those who missed it during the August recess, I would like to bring a column by James K. Glassman of the American Enterprise Institute to the attention of my colleagues. The subject of the piece is the current economic expansion.

The most important economic lesson Ronald Reagan taught us is that high tax rates inevitably discourage investment and productivity. The theory behind reducing taxes remains perfectly sound—namely, that people will have a greater incentive to engage in fruitful enterprise if the government confiscates less of their earnings.

Through deregulation, privatization, and across-the-board tax cuts, Ronald Reagan unleashed the longest economic expansion in U.S. peacetime history. He also inaugurated a new era of American enterprise and prosperity.

The author is right on target when it comes to attacks on so-called trickle-down economics. What the opponents of supply-side tax cuts are really assailing is the simple idea of allowing people to keep more of their own money, so they may invest capital, hire workers, and produce goods and services.

Although I would, of course, give the Congress more credit than does the author for the prevailing economic figures, I could not agree more that President Reagan set it all in motion. I would only remind him that the same principles guide today's Congress and, whether they like it or not, members of the current administration.

Again Mr. Speaker, I commend the following column by Jim Glassman to the attention of all interested parties.

[From the Washington Post, August 12, 1997]

THE REAGAN BOOM

(By James K. Glassman)

Whose economy is this anyway?

Both President Clinton and Congress are eager to take credit for our 3 percent GDP growth, 4.8 percent unemployment and 2.3 percent inflation—amazing figures, all.