

who don't go on to college. We are failing to prepare them for today's changing world.

Employers complain that many newly-hired workers lack the capacity or the motivation to learn, do not show up ready for work, do not want to work 8 hours a day and 5 days a week, and frequently quit after a few weeks. One company I met with said they had not hired someone from the local high school in seven years. Another company I visited this summer canceled a planned expansion because they could not find enough skilled workers in the area.

These problems are certainly not unique to southern Indiana. But what all this says to me is that good as we are, as successful as we have been, it is not good enough. We need to do better.

NEEDED STEPS

Clearly a variety of steps are needed to boost economic development in southern Indiana. We need to improve the basic infrastructure of our communities—from roads and bridges, to water systems, to affordable housing. We must do all we can to encourage our talented young people and entrepreneurs to stay in our communities. There is no substitute for talented, creative people. And we need to work to create a business environment in which innovative and competitive efforts of the private sector can flourish. Never forget that small businesses are the backbone of the Indiana economy. They employ more than 2 million Hoosiers.

We need to frankly assess the strengths and weaknesses of our communities and work to build consensus for progress. I know that many Hoosiers are ambivalent about change, but we need to answer the most basic question of all—what kind of communities do we want? And we should recognize the positive role government can play. The character, initiative, and resourcefulness of Hoosiers are still key to our success. But so are various government activities like infrastructure and basic research.

Yet, at the very top of our list must be improving our education and training efforts. We must give priority to early education, stronger high school curricula, tougher education standards, and improved school-to-work programs. We also need to promote business/school partnerships, distance learning, and lifelong learning programs. The emphasis throughout should be on improving the work ethic and on teaching the basic skills: reading, math, communication. We simply must increase the quality of our workforce—by investing in the education and skills of Hoosiers.

And we need to remember that all of our young people must be equipped to participate in a rapidly changing economy. It is not enough to give the top students great opportunity. We have an obligation—and a strong self-interest—to ensure that all of our young people have the skills to fill the jobs in our new economy.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LATTIMER MINE DISASTER

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, on September 10, 1897, near Hazleton, PA, a seminal event in American labor history occurred. In one of the earliest efforts by workers to organize to seek better working conditions and higher wages, 19 men died and at least 36 others were wounded in what is now known

as the Lattimer Mine Massacre. These men forever changed the face of the American labor movement.

It is difficult to imagine today the working conditions of the miners of 1897. Not only were workers paid low wages for extremely long hours under dangerous and sometimes deadly working conditions, but the coal companies maintained control over virtually every aspect of the miners' lives. They lived in company-owned houses, were forced to buy from company-owned stores, and were treated by company doctors.

The coal mined in northeastern Pennsylvania was the energy source for the industrial revolution in America. Jobs in the coal mining industry gave the newly arrived immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe of the late 1800's a chance to make better lives for themselves and their children. Immigrants from Italy, Hungary, Poland, and other countries faced enormous prejudices and difficulties in assimilating into American culture and becoming accepted by the native-born population.

On September 10, 1897, 400 men began what was to be a peaceful march and demonstration to fight to obtain better wages, better working conditions, and the ability to organize.

A posse of armed citizens led by the local sheriff attacked the miners in a massacre that left at least 19 men dead and countless others injured.

The Lattimer Mine Massacre and the subsequent trial, which ended in an acquittal of the massacre leader mine superintendent Gomer Jones, brought national attention to workers rights and the plight of the men who toiled under abysmal conditions in our Nation's coal mines. The massacre led to a strengthening of the United Mine Workers of America as the voice for anthracite miners and was the first step in helping to empower miners and break down the walls of anti-immigrant sentiment which these men faced.

Mr. Speaker, in 100 years the labor movement has come a long way. The right of workers to organize and bargain collectively is no longer questioned. Regulations now help ensure the safety of mines and other workplaces.

Mr. Speaker, on the 100th anniversary of this terrible tragedy in American labor history I would like to remember the spirit of the miners that is summed up in the following statement from the monument memorializing the massacre:

"It was not a battle because they were not aggressive, nor were they on the defensive, because they had no weapons of any kind and were simply shot down like so many worthless objects; each of the licensed life takers trying to outdo the others in butchery."

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to include a copy of a story from the Hazleton Standard Speaker from September 10, 1995 which recognized the 98th Anniversary of this event. This article provides a background on what transpired 100 years ago today.

NINETY-EIGHT YEARS AGO, GUNS RANG OUT IN
LATTIMER

(By Ed Conrad)

Today marks the 98th anniversary of the Lattimer Massacre, one of the most gruesome days in the annals of American labor.

On Sept. 10, 1897, a group of striking anthracite miners at the A.D. Pardee & Co. colliery near Harwood were marching toward

Lattimer Mines in an effort to persuade miners at the Pardee mining operation there to join their cause and walk off their jobs.

Luzerne County Sheriff James Martin and members of his posse, brandishing firearms reported supplied by mining operators, formed a roadblock near the village in an attempt to prevent the unarmed marchers from gaining access to the colliery.

Martin was ordering the miners to turn back when, suddenly, the sheriff fell to the ground, either by accident or when pushed by one of the strikers.

Almost immediately, a shot was fired—by whom has never been precisely determined—and members of the posses began firing their weapons at the marchers and a bloodbath ensued.

Nineteen striking miners were shot and killed, with six more succumbing to their gunshot wounds within two weeks.

The total of 25 men killed and many others injured made it one of the worst incidents of labor violence in the nation's history.

It was due to the growing unrest by striking miners in the Hazleton area that Martin had been asked to intervene and try and keep the peace.

The trouble in the Hazleton area mining area had begun a few weeks earlier at the Honeybrook Colliery, near McAdoo.

Twenty boys who held jobs as mule drivers refused to obey an order from Gomer Jones, division superintendent of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Co., to stable their animals. The boys refused to do so unless they received extra pay.

Consequently, Jones fired the boys and triggered a strike that would leave an indelible mark on labor relations in Pennsylvania's coal fields.

Although, strikes were relatively common in northeastern Pennsylvania's coal fields, this one was worse than most as the miners' resentment against the coal operators continued to escalate.

Martin was notified of the situation and came to Hazleton where he deputized 87 men, some of them prominent persons. They reportedly were instructed to use whatever means necessary to quell any and all disturbances.

Martin, a former mine foreman, also solicited the assistance of sheriffs from both Carbon and Schuylkill counties.

Jointly, the three county sheriffs issued a proclamation banning mob parades and demonstrations.

In open defiance, striking miners began marching from colliery to colliery. Workers in Harwood were told to leave their jobs and join the effort.

It is not generally known but an ugly incident had occurred earlier on the infamous day of the Lattimer Massacre.

The same group of marchers, who hours later would be mowed down in Lattimer, had arrived in the vicinity of Hazle Mines where they attempted to get some of the miners there to join their strike.

However, the sheriff and his deputies stepped in and a brawl erupted, but no member of the posse fired his gun.

In the melee, several of the strikers were injured and two of them arrested.

Nevertheless, organizers of the march felt they had accomplished something because quite a few miners at Hazle Mines, apparently fearing for their well-being, left their jobs and fled from the vicinity of the colliery.

It was at this point that word spread among the marchers that they would leave Hazle Mines and head for the A.D. Pardee mining operation near Lattimer.

As they approached Lattimer, there were approximately 150 marchers who were carrying a pair of American flags.

Then came the confrontation—and the bloodshed.

Martin had given conflicting statements to two different newspapers about what had triggered the gunfire.

"I halted the marching column and read the proclamation but they refused to pay attention and started to resume their march," he had told a reporter from the Philadelphia North American.

"I called the leader to stop but he ignored my order and I attempted to arrest him. I hated to give the command to shoot and was awful sorry that I was compelled to do so, but I was there to do my duty."

Later that same day, apparently on the advice of his attorney, Martin told a reporter from another newspaper that he had not ordered the deputies to open fire.

News of the massacre enraged residents of the entire Hazleton area and violence was feared.

In order to prevent a serious uprising, five regiments of the state National Guard were ordered into the Hazleton area by Gov. Daniel H. Hastings.

Charles McGlynn, a charter member of the original three-man Lattimer Massacre Memorial Committee and currently chairman of that committee, has conducted extensive research on the incident and identified the 19 men who were killed at the scene.

TRIBUTE TO BENNY L. TOLBERT

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, after 39 years in the banking community, Benny L. Tolbert, a resident of Rockmart, GA, in the Seventh District of Georgia, has taken early retirement. Mr. Tolbert began his career at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. He later earned certificates from the Georgia Banking School in Athens and the School of Banking of the South at LSU. Mr. Tolbert later served as president of the Rockmart Bank and the Commercial Bank of Tallapoosa. He ended his career serving as president and chief executive officer of the First Floyd Bank.

In addition to his banking career, Mr. Tolbert served in civic activities including chairman of the Cedartown Merchants Association, president of the Cedartown Chamber of Commerce, president of the Kiwanis Club of Rockmart and president of the Ruritan Club of Cave Spring. Mr. Tolbert served his country by serving 6 months active duty and 5½ years active reserve.

Mr. Tolbert and his wife, Charlene, are members of the Shorter Avenue Baptist Church where Mr. Tolbert serves as a member of the finance committee, a deacon, and Sunday school teacher.

It is my honor to offer these words in support, and in recognition of, Mr. Tolbert's career of service to his community.

WELDON RECOGNIZES VALLEY FORGE SEWER AUTHORITY FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity today to

recognize the Valley Forge Sewer Authority in Valley Forge, PA. Today, the Valley Forge Sewer Authority was presented with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award for 1997.

Valley Forge Sewer Authority's consistent excellence in providing wastewater treatment to a wide area of homes and businesses in and around Valley Forge, as recognized by this award, is particularly noteworthy and deserves special recognition in this year the 25th anniversary of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972.

All too often, the positive aspects of our Nation's environmental protection efforts and laws are not acknowledged. Rather, the focus is placed more on the unfortunate instances when our environment is harmed. Valley Forge Sewer Authority, which serves thousands of households and numerous businesses, is an example of how we can live and work in harmony with the environment under the direction of Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

As the Representative of the Seventh Congressional District, in which the Valley Forge Sewer Authority is located, I ask my colleagues to join me congratulating the authority for its accomplishment. The member municipalities, municipal authorities, and Valley Forge Sewer Authority's management and staff deserve our commendation for true environmental protection.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHIE ASHBURN

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who holds a special place in the hearts of all Philadelphians, Don Richard Ashburn. Richie Ashburn died of a heart attack yesterday in New York at the age of 70. Just hours before, he had been in the booth at Shea Stadium broadcasting a game between the Mets and his beloved Phillies.

For almost 50 years, Richie was a part of Philadelphia. He came up as a rookie in 1948 and promptly won the job of starting center fielder. That year he hit .333 with 32 stolen bases, was the only rookie voted to the all-star game, and was subsequently named Rookie of the Year. He won batting titles in 1955 and 1958, and was known as a superb outfielder who could run down almost any ball. He set records by notching 500 or more putouts in four different seasons and 400 or more putouts in 9 seasons.

On the last day of the season in 1950, with the Phillies leading the Dodgers by only one game in the standings, the two teams met at Ebbetts Field to decide who would take the National League Pennant. With the score tied 1-1 in the bottom of the ninth, a Brooklyn player tried to score from second on a ball hit into the outfield by Duke Snyder. Richie fielded the ball and threw a perfect strike to the catcher, who tagged the sliding Dodger out to end the threat. The Phillies won that game with 10th-inning home run, but it was Richie's throw home that saved the season for the "Whiz Kids." Some of us remember that game

like it was yesterday, and I will always remember Richie's voice, which was the voice of the Phillies for decades after his retirement as a player. His midwestern twang, his dry humor, and the sage baseball wisdom which characterized his broadcasts could be heard throughout the city from April to October. Richie was elected to the hall of fame in 1995 and on July 30 that year, more than 35,000 fans, most sporting Phillies red, showed up to usher him into the hall. It was the largest crowd ever at a hall of fame induction ceremony.

The city of Philadelphia lost a friend yesterday. Richie was a class act. All over the city, from the stoops of South Philly to the church which now sits where Connie Mack Stadium once played host to Whitey's many triumphs, the city mourns the loss of its favorite adopted son. Richie Ashburn grew up in a small town in Nebraska, but he came to love Philadelphia as much as Philadelphia loved him. City flags will remain at half-mast until Richie is laid to rest. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the memory of Richie Ashburn, who was more than just a great ballplayer.

DIRECT DEMOCRACY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting my Washington Report for Wednesday, August 20, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

DIRECT DEMOCRACY

One of the more intriguing questions of government is whether it is responsive to the views of the voters. Many Americans think it is not. Others think politicians are too responsive, spending all of their time trying to be reelected and basing their positions on what they think the voters want rather than what they think would be good for the country. My belief is that politicians reflect the views of those they represent more than the people think, but certainly examples can be found to the contrary. In a country as large as ours the people cannot govern themselves directly, at least not on every matter on the national agenda. A fundamental issue of American democracy is the appropriate means for the voters to express themselves.

Under our system of representative democracy, the voters play an essential but limited role. They do not determine public policy but they vote to determine who will determine public policy. In some ways, the accepted notion that every adult is entitled to an equal voice in the conduct of public affairs is difficult to square with the practice of filtering the wishes of the voters through elected leaders.

I sometimes wonder whether we are on the threshold of a transformation in our democracy involving a significant increase in citizen participation. All of us lament the decline of voter participation and the cynical manipulation of our political campaigns. Most of us have a feeling of being "left out" of the decision-making process, like the constituent who complained to me that no one asked him whether he favored the recent budget agreement. Occasionally I encounter people who believe government has become an alien force in American life. Faith in major institutions of government is low. The damage to democracy in all of this is obvious.