

(Mr. CONYERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HANNIBAL-LAGRANGE COLLEGE—
140TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the anniversary of an institution of higher learning in my district which this year celebrates 140 years of service in Northeast Missouri.

Hannibal-LaGrange College has provided quality Christian education to thousands of students while facing tremendous obstacles along its journey, a journey through which God's guiding hand has been evident.

The college opened its doors on September 15 of 1858. First located 30 miles to the north of its present location in LaGrange, Missouri, the LaGrange Male and Female Seminary was founded by the Wyaconda Baptist Association to instill character-building principles and Christian ideals in its students.

At the helm of the vessel was William Ellis, who served as the college's first president. Ellis, who reached the tender age of 24 years the day before classes began that first year, served admirably in his duties until Union troops took over the college's facilities in 1862 during the War between the States.

When the institution reopened in 1866, the new President, Dr. Joshua Flood Cook, certainly faced a daunting task. Building repairs were necessary, books and equipment were needed for the classrooms, the hiring of faculty was required, and community support and confidence had to be restored.

Dr. Cook began remedying these problems immediately and over the next 30 years he served as president Dr. Cook worked as a tireless servant moving the college forward in a manner that has reached unequalled levels of success.

In late 1927, the Hannibal Chamber of Commerce began an effort to bring the LaGrange College to Hannibal, Missouri. The following year, the institution moved south and has for 70 years been carrying out its place in history. The college's new move was mixed with a salute to our Nation's history as well. In 1932, to mark the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, the daughters of the American Revolution secured a number of trees from Mount Vernon, Virginia, the home of our Nation's first president. Mr. Speaker, I was recently on campus and can assure you, these trees are still standing tall among the college's entrance drive today.

All continued well for the college until 1973, when inflation and other factors put the college's future in jeopardy. When the campus was threatened with an imminent closing, community

leaders, area residents, and Hannibal-LaGrange personnel reacted quickly and decisively, raising \$85,000 to keep the college doors open. Again, faced with possible closure, Hannibal-LaGrange received a tremendous blessing in order to remain open.

However, the most challenging obstacle was yet to come. In the summer of 1989, a small fire in the college's cafeteria soon engulfed the campus' main facilities, including the administration building, auditorium, and gymnasium. As the fire blazed through the night and the early morning hours, doubts about the college's future began to surface in even the heartiest of souls. By daylight only charred remains of the structures existed.

Encouraged by his faith in God, then-President Dr. Paul Brown, as well as college personnel and supporters, began a massive effort to rebuild what was temporarily destroyed. As classes and assemblies were held that fall in tents and in trailers and dormitory basements, the campus began to take shape.

In 1992, following the construction of a new sports complex, cafeteria and computer center, the new administration building was dedicated under the leadership of Dr. Brown and current President, Dr. Woodrow Burt. Hannibal-LaGrange has certainly become "a crown of beauty instead of ashes."

This quote from Isaiah, chapter 61, verse 3, was placed on the cornerstone of the administration building, and today the college is continuing its vision as Dr. Burt and development officials are spearheading an effort to build a performance center for the institution's fine arts program. A new dormitory will be ready for the ever-increasing student population this fall which, by the way, Mr. Speaker, last year the student population not only came from northeast Missouri but New Hampshire, Texas, California and as far away as the West Indies and the country of Slovakia.

In conclusion, Hannibal-LaGrange has persevered and has produced quality alumni. Thousands have passed through the corridors of Hannibal-LaGrange, each serving as a witness to the impact the college has had on their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Hannibal-LaGrange College on providing 140 years of Christian education. May God continue to bless this fine institution for many years to come.

THE BALKANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to talk about something that is happening in the Balkans, and that is, unfortunately, ethnic cleansing rearing its ugly head once again.

Just a few minutes ago, we heard the President of the United States say that

he was going to maintain sanctions on Serbia because of the way they have been treating their population. I applaud that. But I think it is time for us in the Congress to speak out forcefully and also to look at this in its totality.

We went through a situation in Bosnia just a few short years ago where Slobodan Milosevic, the leader of Serbia, unleashed ethnic cleansing, Serbian nationalism, 200,000 people were dead, and it was something that the world just wrang its hands and did nothing until the United States grabbed the bull by the horns.

We were able to put an end to the carnage in Bosnia. Unfortunately, history is repeating itself in an area called Kosovo, where 2 million ethnic Albanians live. They constitute 92 percent of the population.

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I say Kosova not Kosovo, as many people say, because the Albanians living there call it Kosova, with an "A." And if it is good enough for 92 percent of the population to speak that way and to say Kosova, that is good enough for me.

I have been to Kosova a number of times. The people there live under total oppression. They have no rights; no political rights, no human rights, no economic rights. Albanians have been summarily fired. Communities are 80 percent and higher in terms of unemployment. It is just a people under occupation.

There have been many, many talks, many, many discussions, and the United States has been meeting with a group called a contact group, which contains six countries, Britain, the United States, Italy, Germany, France and Russia. And the contact group has basically been rendered impotent because Russia is always standing behind Slobodan Milosevic, its traditional Serbian ally. So when we try to put sanctions in with teeth, they are always watered down.

NATO, just recently, underwent all kinds of flights to show Milosevic that, if need be, NATO means business. But so far it has been empty words. The stated policy for the United States and the administration and of NATO in the West has been that the Albanians in Kosova, the Kosovars, ought to have some kind of autonomy within Yugoslavia, within Serbia. Autonomy is something they had until 1989 when Slobodan Milosevic summarily threw it out the window.

The former Yugoslavia, in those days, had a lot of different components other than the Serbs. It had the Croats, the Slovenians, the Macedonians and the Bosnians, and the Albanians, in Kosova the Vojvodinas. They had all kinds of different components. Today, rump Yugoslavia is dominated by the Serbs, containing just Serbia and Montenegro, and the Albanians could never get a fair shake in an equation such as that.

So the United States' policy and the West's policy and NATO's policy that