

The Pelosi Amendment has been the Trojan horse for transparency, participation and accountability at the MDBs. For the first time, citizens were given the right to know in advance what projects their government and the Banks had planned. Knowledge is power. More citizens now know about, comment on, monitor or participate in Bank-financed projects than at any time in the past, with the hoped-for effect of improving projects and mitigating environmental impacts.

Larry Williams, the tireless international campaigner for the Sierra Club, was one of the primary forces behind the MDB reform campaign that led to the development, passage, and implementation of the Pelosi Amendment. Larry's leadership brought changes to the World Bank which one observer said were the outcome of "four years of congressional hearings and constant badgering by environmentalists."

Larry Williams has touched the lives of millions of people who will never know directly of his untiring efforts on their behalf. I commend him for his untiring efforts and am honored to have been able to work with him. We will miss him.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3829) to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a program to help children and youth learn English, and for other purposes:

Ms. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this bill and ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

We have before us a very overt attack on a very effective program that helps children for whom English is not their family's language.

Learning takes place at several levels based on the individual's ability and capacity. Research clearly indicates that it takes a minimum of three to five years for such children to become functionally proficient in English. English proficiency is essential in order to be successful in the mainstream society.

The bill essentially ignores this fact, by limiting to two years funding for students who have limited English proficiency. The bill also jeopardizes the potential for any increase in qualified bilingual teachers by eliminating federal grants for university teacher training programs.

I strongly embrace the notion that children need to learn English as quickly as possible. But, bilingual programs should be designed to ensure that children achieve the highest academic standards that their ability allows. They should not be subject to some arbitrary deadline that would prevent classroom teachers and local administrators from doing what is best for each child.

Mr. Chairman I represent Miami and Dade County, Florida, the Fourth largest school system in the country. We have approximately 40,000 active students with limited English

proficiency, and my school district tells me that an average of 2.9 years of bilingual instructional education is necessary before these students can be mainstreamed with the skills necessary to achieve proficiency in English.

Mr. Chairman, this bill ignores the needs of these students; it ignores the results of recent research; and it ignores the very practical needs of school districts like mine, that must teach English to tens of thousands of youngsters who speak some other language at home.

I urge the defeat of this bill.

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY HOTEL AND STANLEY MUSEUM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all of those involved with the operations and management of the Stanley Hotel and Stanley Museum in Estes Park, Colorado. Since 1990, the Stanley Hotel has offered fine service and grand accommodations at the gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park. I commend the proprietors for continuing that tradition and accommodating a museum celebrating the area's history. On June 9, the Stanley Museum was opened to showcase a collection of artifacts and mementos related to the enterprising brothers, Frances Edgar (F.E.) and Freelan Oscar (F.O.) Stanley. Born in Maine in 1849, the restless twins are famous for their inventions and ingenuity. To speed up their early work as artists, the twins invented the airbrush. When photography occupied too much of their time, they invented a method to dry-plate photography to speed up the processing. The Stanley brothers' love for music inspired them to produce fine violins—nearly 2,500 of them. The twins were also well-known for inventing the famous Stanley Steamer. F.O. Stanley suffered from tuberculosis and moved to Estes Park for the high, dry climate. A notorious gambler, he virtually established tourism in the Estes Valley. The Stanley Museum highlights the many contributions of the Stanley Brothers and pays tribute to their lasting legacy. Through the many artifacts, mementos and photographs displayed, one can truly appreciate the Stanley's influence on Colorado and the nation. I commend Marty Yochum, Frank Riggs and all of the museum docents for their hard work and dedication to this valuable effort.

HONORING SWADESH CHATTERJEE AND THE INDIAN AMERICAN FORUM FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 1998

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Indian American Forum for Political Education is one of the oldest and most respected Indian American community organizations in the United States. During the August recess more than

500 members of the IAFPE gathered in nearby Chantilly, Virginia for its annual convention and to elect a new slate of officers.

During the course of the convention, the IAFPE unanimously selected Swadesh Chatterjee as its new president. As a senior member of the House International Relations Committee, and particularly as someone who has supported a strong relationship between the United States and India, it has been my privilege to get to know Mr. Chatterjee. He has worked tirelessly with key decision makers in Washington to help the world's oldest democracy become better friends with the world's largest democracy. It is a fitting tribute to his work that Swadesh was elected to this post.

Mr. Speaker, we are a nation of immigrants. Swadesh Chatterjee's life is the classic success story of an American citizen who immigrated to this country and rose to become a leader in his community. Swadesh was born in Calcutta, India, where his mother still resides, and graduated in 1965 from Calcutta University with a degree in physics. Four years later he obtained a second degree in electronic engineering from Jadapur University. Swadesh came to the United States in 1980 to become the plant manager of Brandt Instruments, a manufacturer of process control instrumentation located in the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina. From this position, Swadesh was promoted to Executive Vice President and, for the past five years, he has served as the company's President. Under Swadesh's direction, Brandt Instruments has been extremely successful with its operating profits growing 170 percent during the last three years.

Swadesh is married to Dr. Manjusri Chatterjee, a psychiatrist in Cary, North Carolina. The couple have one daughter, Sopini, and a son, Souvik.

Swadesh Chatterjee has proven to be an exemplary citizen of the United States. He has become a successful businessman, civic leader and advocate for the interests of the Indian American community in Raleigh, North Carolina, and in Washington, D.C. Politicians on both sides of the aisle have sought Swadesh's wise counsel and support. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Swadesh on his election to the presidency of the IAFPE and wishing him continued success in the years ahead. Swadesh's story is a reminder to all that the Indian American community is one of our country's best human resources, as well as success stories. It is also wonderful proof that the United States is strong because we have welcomed immigrants to our shores, as they search for a better life for themselves, and better proof yet that we should continue to do so in the future.

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD A. BREIER, FORMER MILWAUKEE CHIEF OF POLICE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harold A. Breier, our former chief of police in Milwaukee who died Wednesday at the age of 87. Mr. Breier's name was synonymous with law and order in Milwaukee.