

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
HOMENETMEN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Fresno Sassoun Chapter of the Homenetmen on the occasion of their 25th Silver Anniversary. The Homenetmen are to be commended on the services they provide to the community.

It is the mission of the Homenetmen to prepare exemplary and law abiding citizens by providing physical and health education, endowing the mind and soul with the finest spirit of sportsmanship and developing an understanding of responsibility and honor as they strive for individual and collective excellence. There are currently two hundred members of the Fresno Sassoun Chapter, these members consist of mothers, fathers, community members, athletes and scouts.

The Fresno Sassoun Chapter currently has 100 athletes participating in different divisions and sporting events. This chapter fields basketball teams ranging from under 9 to over 30. The Fresno Homenetmen also have a soccer team competing in the Fresno City League. Fresno's Sassoun Chapter also has athletes participating in ping pong, tennis, track and field, and swimming.

In addition to athletics the Fresno Sassoun Chapter has 75 members involved in the Boy and Girl Scouts. Scout leader Mano Handian and his troop are always busy planning activities ranging from camping and educational trips to community activities. This year 14 scouts from the Sassoun Chapter participated in the 1998 World Jamboree held in Yerevan Armenia.

Mr. Speaker it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the Fresno Sassoun Chapter of the Homenetmen. This organization exemplifies leadership in athletics and community involvement. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno Homenetmen a happy Silver Anniversary.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF BILL
GRADISON FROM THE HEALTH
INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA

HON. RON PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our former colleague Bill Gradison, who served the constituents of Ohio's Second District in exemplary fashion for eighteen years until his retirement on January 31, 1993 when he was named President of the Health Insurance Association of America (HIAA). As many of my colleagues know, at the end of this year, Bill will be stepping down from his presidency at HIAA.

During the time Bill represented the citizens of Ohio's Second District in the House, he was influential in many important areas, such as

strengthening our health care system, helping steer us toward a balanced budget, promoting a reduction in the tax burden working Americans face every day, building a lasting social security program, and increasing trade opportunities for our businesses.

In his life after Congress, Bill remained dedicated to his work on providing high quality, affordable health care coverage. Mr. Speaker, today I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill on his years of hard work and dedicated service to the Congress and to the HIAA, and wishing him all the best in his future endeavors, wherever they may lead him. I know we will continue to benefit from his contributions to our deliberations on the best ways to improve our health care system for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
BILL PAXON

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding so that I can tell this Congressman PAXON just what I think of him. First of all I think he is one of the finest members ever to serve in this House. He is a doctrinaire conservative just like me and he has been a true leader in bringing some fiscal sanity back to this body.

But Mr. Speaker, BILL PAXON's greatest contribution has been his ability to inspire others to success both as a candidate and later as a Member of Congress.

And the sad part about his decision to leave Congress is the fact that even after serving as a county lawmaker and a State Assemblyman and after serving here in Congress for ten years, he is still in his mid-forties.

And Mr. Speaker, losing this great talent is indeed sad, for he has so much to offer to the Republican Party, to this House and to this country.

BILL, as you prepare to leave this body, please know that all of your friends here in this House, and I mean hundreds, all wish you, your wife Susan and your young daughter the very best wherever the future takes you and always keep in touch.

TRIBUTE TO JANE MURDOCK
HOLLAND

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mrs. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Jane Murdock Holland, who will celebrate her 80th birthday on November 15th of this year. For eight decades Mrs. Holland has seen this country through many eras, including the Great Depression and World War II. She was happily married for 45 years to Edward Holland, who passed away in 1986. A devoted mother and wife, she

raised six children who are all very active in social, political, and in civic causes. Lovingly referred to as "Gam," she is the proud matriarch of 14 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Mrs. Holland graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in English from the College of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois. In her younger years, she was a successful athlete, playing both softball and basketball, and even now her grandchildren consult her on upcoming sporting events.

She has volunteered on several political campaigns, including my own, and she also volunteers her time to read to children every week. She is an avid bridge player, reader, and gardener.

Mrs. Holland is an example of women who have made personal sacrifices as they raise the next generation of leaders. She has contributed in numerous ways to the strength of her community and to the strength of America by devoting her time and attention to her sons and daughters. I am proud to have such a dear friend and to have such an extraordinary woman in my district. Happy Birthday, Jane.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NORMAN MELLOR

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, throughout this country of ours there are a few individuals who, because they contribute so generously of their time and talents to help others, are recognized as pillars of their community. I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Dr. Norman Mellor, whose dedication to the community is unparalleled. And on a personal note, I have special affinity for Dr. Mellor because he is a long-time friend of my family's and is the doctor who delivered me at Corona Hospital 45 years ago.

Since 1929, when he was 13 years old, Dr. Mellor has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America, first as a scout and then as a leader. He earned his Eagle Scout badge in 1933, and went on to earn some of the highest honors a Boy Scout can receive. Dr. Mellor's awards include the National Council's Gold Medal Hornaday Award for helping co-found the Idyllwild Arts Academy; the Silver Beaver Award for scout leadership; and the National Council's Distinguished Eagle Award in medicine for 25 years of being an Eagle Scout and excellence in his field.

In recognition of his accomplishments and lifelong dedication to scouting, the Inland Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America recently named a campsite at Camp Emerson Boy Scout camp after Dr. Mellor. He still teaches a summer course at the camp on birds and mammals, a passion he developed during his days as a scout at Camp Emerson.

No person is more deserving of recognition than Dr. Mellor. He has dedicated his life to improving the lives of others around him and is a truly exceptional individual. On behalf of the 43rd congressional district, I want to commend Dr. Mellor for his outstanding accomplishments and thank him for his contribution to the betterment of our community.