

chains, prisoner of the colonists who rose up against his bad management. Columbus was able to clear his name and made a fourth and final voyage to the New World before he died in Spain on May 20, 1506. The great irony, however, is that Christopher Columbus believing that he had discovered some untouched part of the Indies, or distant outpost of China, not a continent previously unknown to the Europeans. He had made a mistake, but what a glorious mistake it was! For us, it was a very fortunate mistake. Christopher Columbus had discovered what for Europeans was truly Terra Incognita, a new and unknown land, a treasury of natural riches that we, as his heirs, enjoy to this day.

I am glad that we celebrate this brave man. We celebrate a man who made a great gamble, a man who set off to seek a back door to the Far East by setting his sights west and trusting in ancient scholars. We celebrate a man who appreciated the romance of a traveler's tales and who sensed the riches and wonders that await the bold. We celebrate an imperfect man, a man who failed in his goal but who achieved much nonetheless. We celebrate a man whose daring, whose courage, who sheer persistence, moved history forward.

We talk about profiles in courage. These are profiles in political courage. Here was an intrepid man who perhaps could claim the greatest—or one of the greatest—profiles ever written on the record of humankind. Imagine him out there on the deep waters. He had no wireless telegraph; he had no radio; he had no weather forecasters. All he had was the compass. There were no ships in the area to rescue him if his ship sank. There was no way to hear back from home or to speak to those back home if he became ill. There was no helicopter to take him to the nearby hospital or to a sister ship. There he was, alone on the great blue waters.

Just imagine what courage he must have had, never knowing whether he would be able to return against the winds that were blowing from the east, no refrigerator in which to keep the hard tack. His son, Ferdinand, who accompanied him on his fourth journey, I believe it was, wrote that he, Ferdinand, had seen the sailors wait until after dark before they ate the hard tack so it would not be possible to see the maggots on the hard tack. No sanitation with respect to the water and the food was cooked in an open stove with wood on the decks of the small ship.

What intrepidity. But how fortunate we are today that there was a man who was so intrepid as to face down the mutinous crew and who persisted in his faith to say an oath.

Today we look forward to that weekend and to next Tuesday, which is actually the day, 507 years later, when Columbus made the great discovery. We will celebrate the life and the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus, the first European to see the low green land on the horizon that was North America.

I would like to close with the words of Joaquin Miller:

Behind him lay the gray Azores,  
Behind the gates of Hercules!  
Before him not the ghost of shores,  
Before him only shoreless seas.  
The good mate said: "Now must we pray,  
For lo! The very stars are gone.  
Brave Adm'rl, speak; what shall I say?"  
"Why, say: 'Sail on! sail on! and on!'"  
"My men grow mutinous day by day;  
My men grow ghastly wan and weak."  
The stout mate thought of home; a spray  
Of salt wave washed his swarthy cheek.  
"What shall I say, brave Admiral, say,  
If we sight naught but seas at dawn?"  
"Why you shall say at break of day,  
Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!"  
They sailed and sailed, as winds might blow,  
Until at last the blanched mate said:  
"Why, now not even God would know  
Should I and all my men fall dead.  
These very winds forget their way.

For God from these dread seas is gone.  
Now speak, brave Admiral; speak and say."  
He said: "Sail on! sail on! and on!"

They sailed. They sailed. Then spake the mate:

"This mad sea shows his teeth tonight.

He curls his lip, he lies in wait,  
With lifted teeth, as if to bite!

Brave Adm'rl, say but one good word:

What shall we do when hope is gone?"

The words leapt like a leaping sword:

"Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!"

Then pale and worn, he kept his deck,  
And peered through darkness. Ah, that night  
Of all dark nights! And then a speck—  
A light! a light! a light! a light!  
It grew, a starlet flag unfurled.

It grew to be Time's burst of dawn.

He gained a world; he gave that world

It's grandest lesson: "On! sail on!"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair wishes to express the gratitude of the Senate to the revered senior Senator from West Virginia for his eloquent and moving address on this easily overlooked occasion.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the chair.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1999

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate, under the previous order, will stand adjourned until 9 a.m., Tuesday, October 12, 1999.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:05 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, October 12, 1999, at 9 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate October 8, 1999:

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ALAN PHILLIP LARSON, OF IOWA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS), VICE STUART E. EIZENSTAT.  
CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NEW ZEALAND.

##### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

AMY L. COMSTOCK, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE STEPHEN D. POTTS.