

Cardinal Kung was the first native born Chinese Bishop of Shanghai. Cardinal Kung was a genuine man of faith, possessing deep conviction and a vital moral character—attributes that enabled him to endure some 30 years in prison. He was a man who inspired millions of faithful in China and throughout the world.

After his arrest by the Chinese Communist Government in 1955, Cardinal Kung was forced onto a stage before thousands of people and was pushed forward to a microphone to publicly confess for his supposed "crimes". Dressed only in pajamas and with his arms tied behind his back, the Cardinal defied Beijing saying instead, "Long live Christ the King; Long live the Pope!" The Chinese police quickly dragged him away and Cardinal Kung was not heard of until he was brought to trial in 1960.

Throughout his leadership, Cardinal Kung refused to compromise or cooperate with the Communist Chinese Government. The night before his public trial, the Cardinal rebuffed the chief prosecutor's attempts to have him lead the government-backed Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association. The next day, Cardinal Kung was sentenced to life in prison.

The Cardinal spent the next 30 years behind bars, spending much of that time in isolation. He was not permitted to receive visitors, including his relatives, or receive letters or money to buy essential items—rights which other prisoners usually received.

After intense international pressure, in 1985 the Chinese Government released Cardinal Kung to serve another term of 10 years under house arrest. After 2½ years under house arrest, he was officially released.

He spent most of the rest of his life in the United States receiving medical treatment and in 1998, the Chinese Government confiscated the passport of this elderly man.

Cardinal Kung will be remembered as a hero to millions of faithful Chinese for his determination against the Chinese Government that refused to allow him and millions to freely worship.

Cardinal Kung stands out as one of the great religious figures in the 20th century—a standard-bearer and a vigilant witness for those who have been persecuted during the reign of the communists in China.

HONORING MIDLAND
COGENERATION VENTURE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Midland Cogeneration Venture, which is celebrating its 10th Anniversary.

Located in Midland, Michigan, the Midland Cogeneration Venture was established in 1987 and operates a natural gas-fired combined-cycle Cogeneration facility. For ten years, the facility has served the community and helped build a better Midland. The facility commenced commercial operation in 1990 with a capacity of about 1,370 megawatts of electricity and approximately 1.5 million pounds of processed steam per hour. The Midland Cogeneration Venture continues to sell electricity under long-term contracts for more than 1,300 megawatts of electrical capacity.

Electricity and energy generating permeate every part of our daily lives. The Midland Cogeneration Venture utilized natural gas to produce electricity and process steam and is the largest facility of its kind in the United States. It represents a unique partnership and is responsible for meeting the community's needs. Through this partnership, local companies have helped build a solid foundation which not only provides power to the community and jobs, but which also helps make Midland a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, for ten years the city of Midland and the surrounding areas have benefited from the Midland Cogeneration Venture. Moreover, under Mr. James Kevra's guidance, the facility has enjoyed tremendous success. I look forward to another successful decade in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me in congratulating the Midland Cogeneration Venture and its employees on its successful operation over the last ten years.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF GARY EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Gary Educational Development Foundation on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. Founded in 1975, the Gary Education Development Foundation is committed to enhancing learning within the Gary Schools. Various external resources are utilized to help ensure that students of every level acquire the skills, knowledge, and vision needed for success in careers and as citizens.

Though the Gary Educational Development Foundation is celebrating its 25th anniversary of service, the seed for this revolutionary initiative was planted four decades ago with the idea of a fund to expand educational opportunities beyond those provided by tax dollars.

In December 1950, Gary College was dissolved. After the passage of a resolution offered by Dean Fertsch, the College Board of Directors donated its remaining fiscal assets to public school officials to be used by Gary students. The grant remained dormant until June 1956, when Acting Superintendent of Gary Public Schools Clarence Swingley assembled a group of high school principals to determine the disposition of the Gary College assets. The committee of principals divided the \$11,153 of assets into a \$10,000 scholarship endowment and left the remainder in an expendable account to be used for annual scholarship awards. The endowment fund was named the William A. Wirt Scholarship in memory of the first superintendent of Gary public schools.

The idea of the business community participating in the program evolved during the 1969-70 school years, when Frederick C. Ford was a member of the Gary School Board. The notion was warmly received by the business sector, and a steering committee was formed. It consisted of Superintendent Gordon McAndrew; board members Ford, YJean Chambers, Joe Torres and Montague Oliver; schools business manager Richard

Bass; attorney Fred Eichorn and Assistant Superintendent Haron J. Battle. The committee established the Gary Educational Development Foundation as a not-for-profit corporation. In September 1970, Urban Ventures, Inc.—a non-profit corporation in Chicago with which Ford was involved—made the first donation of \$28,000. The money was earmarked for the Foundation, but placed in escrow with the Gary Community Schools until the organization was fully established. In January 1977, the Gary School Board passed a resolution that recognized the Foundation as an operating entity, and pledged to it the support of the board and school system.

The school board then transferred several trust fund assets to the Foundation and encouraged gifts, bequests, legacies and other donations from varied sources. The trust funds included the assets for the Wirt and Urban Ventures scholarships. It also included two other "identified" funds: William Titzel contributions to assist primary teachers through workshops, and gifts toward a scholarship in memory of Catherine Hughes who served as supervisor of Foreign Languages for Gary schools. The foundation grew considerably from the modest nucleus of a \$28,000 endowment, and exceeded \$1.4 million in assets by 1990. The money continues to address the educational needs of Gary students—beyond those provided by tax dollars—and promises to benefit our community for generations to come.

Beyond the distinguished alliance with the education community, the Foundation has collaborated with other community organizations and programs that share the Foundation's commitment to the learning needs of Gary students. This year over sixty students in Gary will receive scholarships from the Foundation to help defray college costs.

The Gary Educational Development Foundation will hold an anniversary reception at the Genesis Center in Gary, Indiana on March 24, 2000, and a formal banquet will occur at St. Timothy's Church the following day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Gary Educational Development Foundation on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. The hard work and dedication of everyone involved with this distinguished organization is truly inspirational.

CONGRATULATING MILLWRIGHT LOCAL #548'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Centennial anniversary of the Millwright Local #548 in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Unions have become a key element in the strong economy and culture of Minnesota, and the Millwright Local #548 is no exception. In fact, chartered on December 4, 1900, Local #548 is the oldest organization in the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America, and the oldest Millwright organization in the country. The Millwrights currently are 600 members strong, serving the needs of industry, improving the quality of life and maintaining high standards for their families in our area.