

working farm families across the country who throughout our nation's history have worked relentlessly to ensure the food security of our nation and to eliminate hunger around the world.

Some of my colleagues may believe I sound like a broken record when it comes to my advocacy for the nation's mid-section and its hard-working food producers. But I like to remind them about an old saying: "We're only nine meals away from a revolution." In other words, empty stomachs can prompt a traditionally law-abiding populace to mob hysteria and mayhem. A stable food supply brings social stability.

For seven decades the Federal Government has recognized the importance of maintaining a farm safety net to ensure America's homegrown food security. The tragic event of September 11 underscored the significant responsibilities the Federal Government must undertake to protect our national security interests at home and abroad.

Safeguarding the American public and shielding the U.S. economy, transportation infrastructure, health care delivery systems, energy supplies, natural resources and production agriculture from the threats of 21st century terrorism have become Washington's top priority. This effort must include a farm safety net that works to ensure our farmers and ranchers are able to continue feeding America by making a decent living off the land. Otherwise, American consumers could well find themselves at the mercy of foreign suppliers at the grocery store much like we are today at the gas station.

We must not forget our nation's long agrarian heritage. In 1790, ninety percent of the nation's labor force were farmers—feeding a population of only 4 million.

Today, with less than 2 percent of our population actively engaged in agriculture, our nation's family farmers feed a U.S. population of 265 million, along with millions of others around the world.

The contributions of the agriculture industry on our economy are many. Agriculture is the largest positive contributor to our nation's balance of trade. Last year, American farmers exported \$53 billion worth of commodities. The State of Iowa alone exported more than \$3 billion worth of corn, soybeans, live animals, and red meats.

Moreover, according to the Department of Agriculture, each dollar from agricultural exports generates another \$1.47 in additional economic activity. Twenty-four million Americans depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Despite the enormous contributions of farming to our country, today, fewer and fewer people have direct ties to life on the farm, and fewer still depend solely on farming for their livelihood. Technological efficiencies and mechanical advances on today's farm require less labor to produce more food. While

fewer hands may be needed on the farmplace, new opportunities exist in food production and value-added agriculture to keep future generations of Iowans productive contributors in the food chain.

In conclusion, farming has come a long way over the last 100 years. The horse-drawn plow has turned into a tractor-drawn, fully-computerized farm implement. In the next 100 years, farmers will again serve as pioneers in newly-tilled fields of emerging technologies.

The world's food producers will not only feed the world but expand their traditional contribution to humanity as advances in agricultural sciences allow raw food to carry health, disease-resistant benefits for consumers.

Whatever the future may hold, I will keep my nose to the grindstone in Washington to help Iowa's century farms and farm families enjoy another 100 years of prosperity.●

IN RECOGNITION OF BEATRICE CORBIN

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of one of my constituents, Mrs. Beatrice Corbin of Vineland, New Jersey. She truly exemplifies a life, selflessly dedicated to service, and she is held in the highest regard by the members of her community. As evidence of Mrs. Corbin's widespread admiration and appreciation, she has been honored with the Alzada Clark Community Activism Award by the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists in New Jersey. This award is a magnificent recognition of an individual who has tirelessly given of herself throughout her career, and it is my privilege to acknowledge her today in the United States Senate.

In her capacity as Commissioner of the Vineland Housing Authority, she has brought hope to an entire community through her leadership and dedication. Indeed, her career is marked by an unyielding commitment to young people and uplifting those living in poverty as she has served as an advisor to the Martin Luther King Academy for Youth and Center and Field Director for the Southwest Citizens Organization for Poverty Elimination.

Her outstanding record of service is also distinguished by a long list of prestigious awards including the Harriet Tubman Award, the Liberty Bell Award, the National Political Congress of Black Women Award, the NAACP and Bridgeton African American Award and an induction into the Comberland County Black Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Corbin has met every challenge, every task and every duty with unwavering faith and an unflinching commitment to the people she serves. I am proud to recognize her today as one of New Jersey's Best.●

IN RECOGNITION OF MELVIN R. SCOTT, JR.

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Melvin R. Scott, Jr., who will be receiving the Nelson Mandela Education Award from the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Scott has served his fellow Americans in two vital capacities, serving in the U.S. Army and as an educator. After serving as a Training Officer at Fort Campbell and undertaking advance training at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, he went overseas and served in the Korean War. During his service in Korea, Mr. Scott was honored with the Bronze Star, a Medal of Commendation, and an Expert Infantry Badge with clusters.

After Mr. Scott's tour of duty in Korea, he returned to the United States and began his career in education. He began as a substitute teacher in Pittsburgh and through hard work became a member of the Vineland Board of Education in New Jersey on which he still currently serves. As a member of the board, Mr. Scott has overseen all federally funded programs since 1965. He has also been named Teacher of the Year and served in interim capacities as Principal of the Bridgeton Summer Program and Vice-Principal at Bridgeton Elementary School.

In addition to his military service and time as an educator, Mr. Scott has also been an active member of his community. He was President of the Health Service Committee for the City of Vineland for eleven years, is a member of the South Jersey Umpires Association, on the Red Cross Advisory Committee for the City of Vineland, and is a member of numerous other organizations.

Mr. Scott is truly a distinguished American. We are all better off for the dedication he has shown to protecting his nation and to bettering the lives of his fellow New Jerseyans.●

IN RECOGNITION OF ERNEST D. COURSEY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, today I rise to honor Ernest D. Coursey, a true citizen and servant of Atlantic City, New Jersey. As a leader of the City's Council, he has worked diligently to improve the daily lives of his neighbors and bring opportunity and hope to the thousands who call Atlantic City home. For his work and commitment, Mr. Coursey will receive the Charles A. Hayes Award, named for an outstanding public servant, a veteran of the United States Congress, and passionate defender of civil, human, and worker's rights.

First elected Third Ward Councilman on the Atlantic City Council in 1991, Mr. Coursey quickly emerged as a leader. He rose first to Council Vice President and later to Council President, while never forgetting his constituents,

focusing on the needs of children and Seniors. His annual holiday events, food drives and Senior and Youth Days united the entire city and increased the sense of community.

After serving on the City's Council, he was appointed Confidential Aide to the Mayor. This new role has enabled Mr. Coursey to bring his considerable leadership skills and knowledge of the residents' needs to the entire City. As a life-long Atlantic City resident, Ernest D. Coursey has demonstrated his commitment to public service and to the citizens of his hometown. His receipt of the Charles D. Hayes Award is not only a fitting recognition of his many accomplishments, but is also an appropriate tribute to the legacy of Charles Hayes. It is my privilege to acknowledge Mr. Coursey today.●

TRIBUTE TO LEAMON HOOD

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Leamon Hood, who will soon receive the Nelson "Jack" Hood Award for his commitment to the labor community, and his political and social activism.

Leamon was born in 1937 in Jackson Georgia, a small town outside of Atlanta. The fifth of seven children to former sharecroppers, Leamon lived there for the first 15 years of his life, before moving to Atlanta after the death of his mother. In his senior year in high school, Leamon dropped out to join the United States Navy, where he subsequently earned his G.E.D. and was trained as a Certified Air Mechanic.

It was after he left the Navy in 1960 that Mr. Hood first experienced the string of job discrimination, when racist hiring practices prevented him from getting employment as a civilian aircraft mechanic. As a result, Leamon went to work as a janitor in a paint manufacturing company. However, he again was confronted with discrimination when in 1962 he was fired from his job as a janitor after refusing to join the Teamsters Union, which at the time contractually restricted blacks to jobs in the service department. Ultimately, Leamon became a school custodian in Atlanta and helped organize the Classified School employees into AFSCME. Yet even though he helped to organize his peers into AFSCME, Leamon himself refused to join again as a result of the persistent segregation and discrimination he found in the union.

That finally changed in 1964, when the new President of AFSCME, Jerry Wurf, removed all official racial barriers of segregation and discrimination. Leamon joined the union, and became one of its most active members, at one point even seeking to become President of his local. Though he lost that bid, Leamon remained active and in 1967 he became one of the charter members in the Union's Staff Intern Program, which trained members to organize.

Since 1970 Leamon has served as an organizer throughout the country, in-

cluding stints as an Area Director in Michigan, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, and several other states. In 1999 he was appointed a Regional Director responsible for Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, where he currently serves.

It is my firm belief that Leamon will continue this fine tradition of service in the years to come, and will remain a tireless advocate on behalf of those in the labor community. I congratulate him on receiving the Nelson "Jack" Hood Award, and consider it a privilege to honor him today on the Senate floor.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the presiding officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:04 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 706. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain properties in the vicinity of the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir, New Mexico.

H.R. 1712. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make adjustments to the boundary of the National Park of American Samoa to include certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2509. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments on a reimbursable basis.

H.R. 2804. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse."

H.R. 3928. An act to assist in the preservation of archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts through construction of a new facility for the University of Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City, Utah.

H.R. 3985. An act to amend the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the leasing of restricted Indian lands for public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, and other purposes requiring the grant of long-term leases," approved August 9, 1955, to provide for binding arbitration clauses in leases and contracts related to reservation lands of the Gila River Indian Community.

H.R. 3986. An act to extend the period of availability of unemployment assistance

under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in the case of victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2019. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 706. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain properties in the vicinity of the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir, New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1712. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make minor adjustments to the boundary of the National park of American Samoa to include certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2509. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments on a reimbursable basis; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3928. An act to assist in the preservation of archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts through construction of a new facility for the University of Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake city, Utah; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2804. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as the "James R. Browning United States Courthouse."

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, March 20, 2002, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 2019. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until April 30, 2002.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-5829. A communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, the Report on Health Care Resources Sharing for Fiscal Year 2001; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-5830. A communication from the Acting Associate Deputy Administrator for Management and Administration, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to