

I congratulate Elizabeth and Sadie, as well as all those students who participated in National History Day. Knowledge of our history as a nation is critical to our understanding of our present, and our future. They have both demonstrated tremendous dedication and commitment, and it is my hope that their achievements inspire others to learn more about our Nation's rich and storied history. I wish them much success in their studies and their future endeavors.●

HONORING ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE, SR.

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I say a few words to honor the extraordinary life of Robert M. La Follette Sr., on the 150th anniversary of his birth. Throughout his life, La Follette was revered for his tireless and deeply principled service to the people of Wisconsin and to the people of the United States. His dogged, full-steam-ahead dedication to his life's work earned him the nickname "Fighting Bob."

Robert Marion La Follette, Sr., was born on June 14, 1855, in Primrose, a small town southwest of Madison in Dane County. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1879 and, after being admitted to the state bar, began his long career in public service as Dane County district attorney.

La Follette was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1884, and he served three terms as a member of that body, where he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

After losing his campaign for reelection in 1890, La Follette returned to Wisconsin and continued to serve the people of my state as a judge. Upon his exit from Washington D.C., a reporter wrote, La Follette "is popular at home, popular with his colleagues, and popular in the House. He is so good a fellow that even his enemies like him."

He was elected the 20th Governor of Wisconsin in 1900. He served in that office until 1906, when he stepped down in order to serve the people of Wisconsin in the United States Senate, where he remained until his death in 1925.

As a founder of the national progressive movement, La Follette championed political reform, civil rights and workers' and women's rights throughout his career. As governor, he advanced an agenda that included the country's first workers compensation system, direct election of United States Senators, and railroad rate and tax reforms. Collectively, these reforms would become known as the "Wisconsin Idea."

His terms in the House of Representatives and the Senate were spent fighting for women's rights, working to limit the power of monopolies, opposing pork barrel legislation, and rooting out political corruption. La Follette also championed electoral reforms, and he brought his support of the direct

election of United States Senators to this body. His efforts were brought to fruition with the ratification of the 17th amendment in 1913. Fighting Bob also worked tirelessly to hold the government accountable, and was a key figure in exposing the Teapot Dome Scandal.

La Follette earned the respect of such notable Americans as Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington and Harriet Tubman Upton for making civil rights one of his trademark issues. At a speech before the 1886 graduating class of Howard University, La Follette said, "We are one people, one by truth, one almost by blood. Our lives run side by side, our ashes rest in the same soil. [Seize] the waiting world of opportunity. Separatism is snobbish stupidity, it is supreme folly, to talk of non-contact, or exclusion!"

La Follette ran for President three times, twice as a Republican and once on the Progressive ticket. In 1924, as the Progressive candidate for president, La Follette garnered more than 17 percent of the popular vote and carried the state of Wisconsin.

La Follette's years of public service were not without controversy. In 1917, he filibustered a bill to allow the arming of United States merchant ships in response to a series of German submarine attacks. His filibuster was successful in blocking passage of this bill in the closing hours of the 64th Congress. Soon after, La Follette was one of only six Senators who voted against U.S. entry into World War I.

Fighting Bob was outspoken in his belief that the right to free speech did not end when war began. In the fall of 1917, La Follette gave a speech about the war in Minnesota, and he was misquoted in press reports as saying that he supported the sinking of the Lusitania. The Wisconsin State Legislature condemned his supposed statement as treason, and some of La Follette's Senate colleagues introduced a resolution to expel him. In response to this action, he delivered his seminal floor address, "Free Speech in Wartime," on October 16, 1917. If you listen closely, you can almost hear his strong voice echoing through this Chamber as he said:

Mr. President, our government, above all others, is founded on the right of the people freely to discuss all matters pertaining to their government, in war not less than in peace, for in this government, the people are the rulers in war no less than in peace.

Of the expulsion petition filed against him, La Follette said:

I am aware, Mr. President, that in pursuance of this general campaign of vilification and attempted intimidation, requests from various individuals and certain organizations have been submitted to the Senate for my expulsion from this body, and that such requests have been referred to and considered by one of the Committees of the Senate.

If I alone had been made the victim of these attacks, I should not take one moment of the Senate's time for their consideration, and I believe that other Senators who have been unjustly and unfairly assailed, as I have

been, hold the same attitude upon this that I do. Neither the clamor of the mob nor the voice of power will ever turn me by the breadth of a hair from the course I mark out for myself, guided by such knowledge as I can obtain and controlled and directed by a solemn conviction of right and duty.

This powerful speech led to a Senate investigation of whether La Follette's conduct constituted treason. In 1919, following the end of World War I, the Senate dropped its investigation and reimbursed La Follette for the legal fees he incurred as a result of the expulsion petition and corresponding investigation. This incident is indicative of Fighting Bob's commitment to his ideals and of his tenacious spirit.

La Follette died on June 18, 1925, in Washington, D.C., while serving Wisconsin in this body. His daughter noted, "His passing was mysteriously peaceful for one who had stood so long on the battle line." Mourners visited the Wisconsin Capitol to view his body, and paid respects in a crowd nearing 50,000 people. La Follette's son, Robert M. La Follette, Jr., was appointed to his father's seat, and went on to be elected in his own right and to serve in this body for more than 20 years, following the progressive path blazed by his father.

La Follette has been honored a number of times for his unwavering commitment to his ideals and for his service to the people of Wisconsin and of the United States.

Recently, I was proud to support Senate passage of a bill introduced in the other body by Congresswoman TAMMY BALDWIN that will name the post office at 215 Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard in Madison in La Follette's honor. I commend Congresswoman BALDWIN for her efforts to pass this bill.

The Library of Congress recognized La Follette in 1985 by naming the Congressional Research Service reading room in the Madison Building in honor of both Fighting Bob and his son, Robert, Jr., for their shared commitment to the development of a legislative research service to support the United States Congress. In his autobiography, Fighting Bob noted that, as governor of Wisconsin, he "made it a . . . policy to bring all the reserves of knowledge and inspiration of the university more fully to the service of the people. . . . Many of the university staff are now in state service, and a bureau of investigation and research established as a legislative reference library . . . has proved of the greatest assistance to the legislature in furnishing the latest and best thought of the advanced students of government in this and other countries." He went on to call this service "a model which the federal government and ultimately every state in the union will follow." Thus, the legislative reference service that La Follette created in Madison served as the basis for his work to create the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress.

The La Follette Reading Room was dedicated on March 5, 1985, the 100th

anniversary of Fighting Bob being sworn in for his first term as a Member of Congress.

Across this magnificent Capitol in National Statuary Hall, Fighting Bob is forever immortalized in white marble, still proudly representing the state of Wisconsin. His statue resides in the Old House Chamber, now known as National Statuary Hall, among those of other notable figures who have made their marks in American history. One of the few seated statues is that of Fighting Bob. Though he is sitting, he is shown with one foot forward, and one hand on the arm of his chair, as if he is about to leap to his feet and begin a robust speech.

When then-Senator John F. Kennedy's five-member Special Committee on the Senate Reception Room chose La Follette as one of the "Five Outstanding Senators" whose portraits would hang outside of this Chamber in the Senate reception room, he was described as being a "ceaseless battler for the underprivileged" and a "courageous independent." Today, his painting still hangs just outside this Chamber, where it bears witness to the proceedings of this body—and, perhaps, challenges his successors here to continue fighting for the social and government reforms he championed.

To honor Robert M. La Follette, Sr., on the sesquicentennial of his birth, last week I introduced three pieces of legislation. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by the senior Senator from Wisconsin, Senator KOHL. The first is a resolution celebrating this event and recognizing the importance of La Follette's important contributions to the Progressive movement, the state of Wisconsin, and the United States of America.

We also introduced a bill that would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to commemorate Fighting Bob's life and legacy. Our third bill would authorize the President to posthumously award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Robert M. La Follette, Sr. The minting of a commemorative coin and the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal would be fitting tributes to the memory of Robert M. La Follette, Sr., and to his deeply held beliefs and long record of service to his state and to his country.

I thank the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee for their assistance in passing our resolution honoring Fighting Bob today, on the 150th anniversary of his birth. And I thank my colleagues for honoring Robert M. La Follette, Sr.'s character, his integrity, his deep commitment to Progressive causes, and his unwillingness to waver from doing what he thought was right. No one has fought harder for the common man and woman, and against corruption and cronyism, than "Fighting Bob" La Follette, and I consider it a privilege to speak in the same Chamber, and serve the same great State, as he did.●

TRIBUTE TO TIFFANY MASON AS A SENATE PAGE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tiffany Mason, the most recent Senate page from Michigan, for her hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm in carrying out her daily responsibilities over the last several months. It is, in part, through the efforts of our Senate pages that the Senate is able to efficiently carry out its important work, which includes receiving messages from the President and allowing for the introduction of bills. Pages are also asked to complete a variety of other important tasks when the Senate is in session.

Senator Daniel Webster has the distinction of selecting the first Senate page more than 150 years ago. In those days, as is the case today, a page was chosen and sponsored by a Senator. During his or her time in Washington, a page is not only expected to serve the needs of the Senate but also to attend school and complete the necessary requirements of high school juniors. Thirty pages from across the country serve as Senate pages each session. In May 1971 the first two female pages were selected to serve in the Senate.

Tiffany is a part of a fine tradition and a select group that has had the great privilege to serve as a U.S. Senate page. She has proven through her work in the Senate and through her many successes in the past that she, like many of her peers, are some of our Nation's best and brightest. Tiffany has received several awards and has participated in many different activities over the course of her high school career. These experiences have served her well and will continue to do so as she continues to learn, grow, and mature.

The work that has been done by this page class is valued by all in the Senate. I know my colleagues join me in thanking Tiffany Mason and the rest of the page class for a job well done. I wish her the very best in the future.●

DEPENDENCY COURT INTERVENTION PROGRAM

● Mr. NELSON Of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to applaud the work of the Dependency Court Intervention Program for Family Violence in Miami, FL. The Dependency Court Intervention Program for Family Violence is designed to break the cycle of violence that occurs all too often in families suffering from domestic violence.

Approximately 6 years ago, Judge Lederman, from Florida's 11th Judicial Circuit, proposed to the Justice Department a new approach to dealing with domestic violence and dependency court proceedings. This new approach was the Dependency Court Intervention Program. This court program, in addition to assisting victims of domestic violence through the legal system, provides assistance and support to a

parent attempting to rebuild his/her life and provides a secure home for their children.

Towards this end, the program has developed collaborative relationships between the child welfare system, battered women advocates, mental health and victim service providers, and law enforcement.

Again, I praise Judge Lederman and the other Floridians involved with the good work done on behalf of victims and families in the Dependency Intervention Program for Family Violence.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS J. ROMIG

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Major General Thomas J. Romig, The Judge Advocate General of the Army, for his many years of exceptionally meritorious service to our country. General Romig will retire from the Army on September 30, 2005, having completed a distinguished 34-year career. We owe him a debt of gratitude for his many contributions to his Nation and the legal profession, particularly during operations in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

As The Judge Advocate General since October 1, 2001, General Romig served as the legal advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Army and the Army Staff, as well as the military legal advisor to the Secretary of the Army and the Assistant Secretaries. As such, he has been at the forefront of the most pressing issues affecting our Nation and the military today.

General Romig's inventive and steady leadership is reflected every day in the superb legal services provided by each and every judge advocate, civilian attorney, legal administrator, paralegal, and legal specialist of The Judge Advocate General's Corps. His professional legal advice has demonstrated his abiding concern for the Army's mission and his sincere interest in the welfare of soldiers and their families. The Army and The Judge Advocate General's Corps have benefited immeasurably from his leadership.

General Romig was born in 1948 at Manhattan, KS. He graduated from Manhattan High School in 1966 and attended Kansas State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1970. He was commissioned through the ROTC program and entered active duty in October 1971. After graduating from the Infantry Officer Basic and Airborne Courses, he served almost 6 years as a Military Intelligence Officer at Fort Bragg, NC, and Fort Huachuca, AZ.

In 1977, General Romig was selected for the Funded Legal Education Program and attended the University of Santa Clara School of Law, Santa Clara, CA, where he graduated with honors in 1980. During his 25 years of distinguished service as a judge advocate, General Romig served in many positions of great responsibility, including service as a prosecutor with