

Negro in North Carolina, 1790–1860,” which explored slaveholders’ hatred and fear of the quarter-million free blacks in the antebellum South. His 1947 “From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African-Americans,” remains a classic and one of the most definitive explorations of the American Black experience. Dr. Franklin once said, “One might argue that the historian is the conscience of the nation, if honesty and consistency are factors that nurture the conscience.” While many of these studies may have been of the past, they inevitably shed light on the struggles we continue to face as a nation.

Dr. Franklin led a life of firsts, and President Clinton awarded him the Medal of Freedom, the Nation’s highest civilian honor, in 1995 for his life’s work. Today, I honor his life and ask that all Americans join me in remembering this truly great visionary who never stopped working for change. ●

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ARKANSAS

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, tomorrow, April 1, 2009, four Arkansas universities—Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, and the University of Arkansas at Monticello—will celebrate 100 years of commitment to higher education. On their centennial anniversary, I want to recognize the enormous contributions these institutions have made to Arkansas and our Nation.

In 1909, during the 37th session of the Arkansas General Assembly, Representative J.J. Bellamy of Lawrence County introduced Act 100, a bill to create four agricultural schools in Arkansas, one for each quadrant. The locations of the schools were to be chosen based upon “the nature of the soil, healthfulness of location, general desirability, and other material inducements offered, such as the donation of buildings, land or money.” The legislation was signed on April 1, 1909, by Governor George Donaghey.

The four agriculture schools were to teach agriculture, horticulture, and textile making. Although they were secondary schools in their early days, these schools added additional curriculum to better serve their communities and soon were offering junior college classes. In 1925, the state legislature changed the names of the schools to better reflect their new role and the unique status of each school.

The former First District Agricultural School is known today as Arkansas State University. A farm just east of Jonesboro was selected as the location for the school. With enrollment down due to World War I, the school obtained a Student Army Training Corps—SATC—on its campus. Since only junior colleges could participate in the SATC program, the school added faculty and improved its curriculum. It

soon became known as the First District Agriculture and Mechanical College; the school received accreditation as a 2-year junior college and conditional status as a 4-year institution in 1925.

In 1931, the A&M College awarded its first baccalaureate degree, and in 1933, the legislature once again changed the name to Arkansas State College—ASC. In fact, Arkansas’s first female U.S. Senator, Hattie Caraway, was awarded the school’s first honorary doctorate in recognition of her support. The university continued to grow over the decades, and on January 17, 1967, Arkansas Governor Winthrop Rockefeller signed legislation that gave the school its present-day name, Arkansas State University—ASU.

Today, the ASU system serves approximately 18,900 students and includes campuses at Beebe, Mountain Home, and Newport. It also includes degree centers in Heber Springs and Searcy as part of ASU-Beebe; a technical center in Marked Tree; and instructional sites in Paragould and at Little Rock Air Force Base.

On the occasion of the centennial, ASU Chancellor, Robert L. Potts, offered the following thoughts:

From our origins as an agricultural school serving the First District, we have matured into a comprehensive university offering 42 degrees through the doctoral level in 170 fields of study and ten colleges. Since 1909, we have prepared our students to meet the challenges of their lives by Powering Minds—providing a university experience that educates, enhances, and enriches. We look forward to this Centennial Celebration as a time to focus on our heritage and build upon our successes.

The former Second District Agricultural School is presently called Arkansas Tech University. The location of Russellville was chosen because the town agreed to pledge a minimum of \$40,000 and a site of not less than 200 acres. In addition, it offered free electricity and water for three years. In 1925, the state legislature changed the school’s name to Arkansas Polytechnic College to accurately reflect its move away from an agriculture curriculum to teacher training and the liberal fine arts.

The school was officially accredited as a junior college in 1929 and remained a 2-year college until 1951. The school continued to grow and in 1976, it officially became Arkansas Tech University. It awarded its first graduate degrees 1 year later. Today, Arkansas Tech includes approximately 7,480 students at its Russellville and Ozark campuses.

After 100 years, Arkansas Tech Chancellor, Robert C. Brown, noted:

For the last one hundred years, Arkansas Tech University has educated students and prepared them for a successful future. Today, we are uniquely positioned to continue preparing our students for what lies ahead. Because of our commitment to educational excellence and our emphasis on teaching and learning, we are producing what the state and region need the most—college students ready to shape the future for the next one hundred years.

The Third District Agricultural School is now known as Southern Arkansas University. Local farmers in Columbia County ensured that Magnolia was chosen as the site for the school. It became officially known as Magnolia A&M in 1925 and was fully accredited in 1929 with an emphasis on agriculture and home economics.

In 1950, it became a 4-year institution and was renamed Southern State College—SSC—the following year. For 25 years, the school’s enrollment and size increased, and in 1976 it was approved for university status. Renamed Southern Arkansas University, it is now a multicampus system with more than 5,000 students and locations in El Dorado and Camden.

For the 100-year celebration, Southern Arkansas University Chancellor F. David Rankin had this to say:

As the former Third District Agricultural School, Magnolia A&M, and Southern State College, Southern Arkansas University has served its region with a Tradition of Success since 1909. Although our name has changed, our commitment to higher education has not. SAU has roots that run deep in agriculture, but it has grown into a regional, comprehensive, four-year institution with a broad curriculum and a quickly expanding graduate school. As we begin our second century of service, we invite you to be a part of history as we pay tribute to our own.

The final school created by Act 100 was the Fourth District Agricultural School. Monticello was chosen as the site thanks to the donation of land by the William Turner Wells estate. A former plantation, it included 900 fruit trees, a house, and a pond. In 1923, junior college classes were added. It formally changed its name, as the other schools did, in 1925 and became known as the Fourth District Agricultural and Mechanical College. By 1928, it was fully accredited and became a 4-year institution in 1933.

In 1935, the school began unofficially calling itself Arkansas Agricultural & Mechanical College. It remained Arkansas A&M until 1971 when Governor Dale Bumpers signed legislation merging the school with the University of Arkansas. On July 19, 1971, the University of Arkansas at Monticello—UAM was established. Although it is the smallest school in the University of Arkansas system at nearly 3,000 students, the Monticello campus owns the most land of any UA school with 1,036 acres devoted to forestry research and instruction and 300 acres for agricultural teaching and research. In 2003, UAM added campuses and now includes the College of Technology at McGehee and the College of Technology at Crossett.

University of Arkansas at Monticello Chancellor, H. Jack Lassiter, said the following for the centennial celebration:

As we approach our 100th Anniversary, we are constantly reminded that we have always represented opportunity to generations of people seeking a higher education and a better life. That message resonates as clearly today as it did in 1909. Many of our students are the first in their families to attend college. Others are non-traditional students

who have decided to take advantage of the opportunity to change careers or complete a dream that began years ago. The university is constantly exploring and developing new opportunities to help students open doors to a better life. UAM is truly celebrating a century of opportunity.

Mr. President, what wonderful gifts to the people of Arkansas that our legislators bestowed upon us a century ago. As each university celebrates this year, I want to add my voice to the chorus of Arkansans who celebrate this milestone. We have so much of which to be proud. As we move forward in the 21st century, I know that these four institutions will continue to stand ready to prepare our citizens to compete in the global marketplace for the next century.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 and a withdrawal 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 12:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, 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. 20. An act to provide for research on, and services for individuals with, postpartum depression and psychosis.

H.R. 479. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a means for continued improvement in emergency medical services for children.

H.R. 756. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to pain care.

H.R. 1171. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program for fiscal years 2010 through 2014, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1246. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of hearing loss.

H.R. 1377. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand veteran eligibility for reimbursement by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for emergency treatment furnished in a non-Department facility, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1513. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2009, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1777. An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 60. Concurrent resolution supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that, pursuant to section 1101 of Public Law 111-5, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the HIT Policy Committee for a term of 3 years: Mr. Paul Egerman of Weston, Massachusetts.

The message also announced that, pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 51312(b), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York; and Mr. KING of New York.

At 3:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R.1388) entitled "An Act to reauthorize and reform the national service laws".

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 20. An act to provide for research on, and services for individuals with, postpartum depression and psychosis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 479. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a means for continued improvement in emergency medical services for children; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 756. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to pain care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1171. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program for fiscal years 2010 through 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1246. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of hearing loss; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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H.R. 1513. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2009, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1777. An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 60. Concurrent resolution supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1146. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Quinoxifen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL-8405-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 27, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1147. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prothioconazole; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL-8403-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 27, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1148. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bacillus subtilis MBI 600; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL-8408-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 27, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1149. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Filing of Disclosure Documents" (RIN3038-AC67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 28, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1150. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1151. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1152. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1153. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Program to Implement the DTV Delay Act" (RIN0660-AA19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 27, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1154. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting,