

some cases) dismal news indeed. But that is yesterday's laundry list. Our summing up of the Ford presidency draws us only to the overriding legacy he leaves.

Will this city under the Carter Democrats be able to preserve that political and personal civility that Gerald Ford did so much, so unexpectedly, to revive? The Carter administration, more activist and energetic, we would guess, than its predecessor, faster-paced, more intellectually self-certain and combative, is almost by nature destined to put some of these homely, but hard-won virtues at risk. We can only hope the new administration will understand their indispensability. Mr. Ford has left it an incomparable gift in the detoxified political atmosphere of the place and the institutions it is about temporarily to inherit.

The outgoing President has also done a great deal for the honor of his party, although you wouldn't necessarily know it to listen to the samurai-like grunts and howls coming out of the struggle for party control. But Gerald Ford did in fact redeem the Nixon moral disaster. His two-and-a-half years gave point and purpose and respectability to the efforts of those innumerable straight-arrow Republicans who had come to work in Washington and who had been let down, in fact betrayed, by their own White House. And the exceptional quality of most of Mr. Ford's own high level appointments—John Paul Stevens, Edward Levi, William Coleman, to name just a few—went a long way to erase the memory of earlier indictment and disgrace.

We will leave it to others to tote up the pluses and minuses of the Ford administration in strict program and/or policy terms. We can frankly do without reviewing it ourselves. We think it is enough to point out that Gerald Ford had an all but impossible assignment—and that he did a hell of a job.

BIRTHDAY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. BARBARA JORDAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 17, 1977

Ms. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 15 we celebrated the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We celebrated in his absence. His absence is a constant reminder of his exhortation:

Sooner or later, all the people of the world will have to discover a way to live together in peace and thereby transform the pending cosmic elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. If this is to be achieved, men must evolve through all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.

We have tried to do our best since Dr. King's assassination. We have made some progress. But the road ahead stretches farther than the road we have traversed.

A concrete example of the progress we have made is the participation of blacks in the last election. Six million black Americans voted last November. That is 64 percent of the registered black voters. Massive voter registration drives increased the number of black voters by 1 million last year. The black vote proved to be the margin of victory for Governor Carter in 13 States.

Dr. King fought hard for the ballot box. He said:

Give us the ballot and we will transform the salient misdeeds of bloodthirsty mobs into the calculated good deeds of orderly citizens.

I think he would have been pleased with the turnout of voters last November. But at the same time he would have reminded us of the work that remains to be done. He would have pointed to the registered voters who did not vote. He would have pointed to the citizens who did not register. He would have urged repeal of the statutory barriers to registering and voting.

We may glory in our triumphs. In the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it is the work ahead of us to which we must dedicate our full energies.

PHILIP HART: A LEGISLATOR FOR PEOPLE

HON. WILLIAM S. BROOMFIELD

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 17, 1977

Mr. BROOMFIELD. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Senator Philip Hart of Michigan, we have lost one of the truly great Americans who served in the other body during this century.

I knew Phil Hart for more than a quarter of a century, and I knew him well since his election as Lieutenant Governor of Michigan in 1954 when I was serving a fourth term in the Michigan Legislature. He lived in Birmingham, Mich., which I represented in the State legislature.

From the beginning and throughout his political career, Phil was a dedicated public servant whose sympathy and commitment was with people, especially the plight of working people. The driving force in his activity involved issues and legislation that touched people's lives. During his 18 years in the Senate, he was involved in nearly every major legislative effort affecting civil rights, consumers, and antitrust policy.

In addition to his substantial and enduring record of legislation to better the lives of people, the three-term Senator, who did not seek reelection this year, had enviable personal qualities. He was gentle, just, and compassionate. He had a Puritan's sense of duty. What he believed was right, he would fight for to the very end. No one was more loyal to his ideals than he was to his. He was "loyal to the royal within." Although he was completely dedicated to his own beliefs, he respected those whose views differed from his. He had the unique gift of being able to separate the person from the views. He believed in principle over expediency which was especially evident in his political campaigns. He personified truth, dignity, and integrity.

Senator Hart served the people of Michigan and the Nation with great distinction. The American consumer, working persons, and the people of Michigan have all lost a strong and tireless advocate with Senator Hart's passing. He will long be remembered and revered for his courageous efforts in behalf of

people's causes. To his widow, Janey, and his children, my wife, Jane, and I extend our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy.

ALONG THE ST. JOHN VALLEY

HON. WILLIAM S. COHEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 17, 1977

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation in the House to extend Federal educational and cultural programs for ethnic minorities to Franco-Americans. As I state in my discussion of this legislation elsewhere in today's RECORD, Franco-Americans constitute the United States' sixth largest ethnic minority, and yet this large and deserving group is seldom recognized outside its areas of greatest concentration, in New England and Louisiana.

In the January 9 edition of the Boston Sunday Globe's New England magazine, there appeared a story by the Globe's distinguished New England correspondent, Richard H. Stewart, on the largely French community along the valley of the St. John River in northern Maine. Mr. Stewart's article captures the unique spirit and character of a part of our country that is rarely visited by outsiders.

I hope many of my colleagues and their staffs will take the time to read this excellent story, and to learn about northern Maine's Franco-American community.

The story follows:

ALONG THE ST. JOHN VALLEY

(By Richard H. Stewart)

"If you answer me that you would come for a nice mess of fiddieheads cooked with salt pork, a thick stack of buckwheat 'playes' with 'griades' or chicken stew, I'll say: 'My lad, my lass, you come from the valley of the River St. John.'"—An Acadian Heritage.)

For nearly 100 of its 400 miles, the St. John River forms the natural boundary that separates the United States and Canada and traces the outline of New England's northern frontier.

Sometimes called the Rhine of North America, its waters, in apparent conflict with nature, flow north out of Maine's vast Allagash wilderness and then easterly across the top of the state before turning sharply south and spilling through New Brunswick Province to the Bay of Fundy.

In the wide valley that is its domain, the St. John courses its way in sweeping turns past plantations, tiny villages and towns unknown to and unseen by most New Englanders:

Dickey, Allagash, St. Francis, St. John, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Madawaska, St. David, Lille, Notre Dame, Keegan, Van Buren, Hamlin.

Under the bright sun, whether attired in the green vestments of summer or laden down with winter's mantle of powdery snow, the sweep of the river valley from its bordering heights offers a majestic view.

By virtue of a treaty (Webster-Ashburton) with Canada, the south side of the valley is part of New England, but it contrasts markedly from the rest of the region.

Throughout the centuries it has been isolated by distance (more than 500 miles from Boston), a vast natural forest barrier, and a heritage that links it more closely to Normandy in France than to England.