

On Nov. 18, Sotheby's in New York will auction the equivalent of 14,000 bottles from Mr. Smith's private collection—including 50 cases of coveted 1982 Mouton Rothschild—in a sale estimated to bring in up to \$4.8 million. His proceeds will go to build new athletic facilities at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. He's also planning a \$25,000-a-plate dinner at his New York restaurant, Veritas, to benefit Holy Cross.

The Sotheby's auction represents a rare mix of beneficence and big auctioneer. In a more typical charity wine auction, non-profits enlist local auctioneers to sell bottles donated by wineries or collectors. This season brings a range of such events: In Chicago, Hart Davis Hart Wine Co. is holding a Sept. 28 auction at Tru restaurant (\$1,500 a plate) to help children with spina bifida. In Harrisburg, Pa., 600 people will bid to benefit the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts. In California, Napa Valley winemaker John Schwartz, of Amuse Bouche, says he gets 25 letters a week from charities requesting wine. Mr. Schwartz is organizing his own Oct. 27 wine auction, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to benefit a Cambodian orphanage.

Mr. Smith, known in the home-furnishings industry for his namesake line of draperies and bedspreads, says he hopes to capitalize on the marketing muscle of Sotheby's to reach top connoisseurs. He also moved the auction date up a year to take advantage of the strong wine and art market. Mr. Smith is betting a high-profile sale will bring high prices, but by going with a big auctioneer he is also subject to its seller's commission rates (20 percent is standard, though Sotheby's says it will charge less because it's for a good cause). And he'll have to pay higher capital-gains taxes, as much as 28 percent, because the wine will be sold rather than given outright.

Mr. Smith started drinking wine while serving in the Marines (an early favorite was 89-cent bottles of Beaujolais) and has since gained a reputation for collecting top wines. One reason he isn't donating cash: His 65,000-bottle Connecticut cellar is at capacity. "I'm raising money for Holy Cross but I'm also making more room," he says.

Mr. Smith, a 1954 graduate and trustee of the Jesuit liberal-arts college, has given the school \$20 million over the years. Now he wants to fix its "disgraceful" field house. Father Michael McFarland, college president, says he's awed by Mr. Smith's generosity—and relieved he can accept auction proceeds rather than thousands of bottles: "We don't even have a wine cellar—just a couple cases stuffed under a sink."

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, in early August, I was unable to be in Washington for the cloture vote on the so-called trifecta bill, which so insidiously tried to hold hostage a necessary increase in the minimum wage and necessary extensions of tax credits important to American families and business to an excessive and unjustifiable reduction in the estate tax paid by the richest families in our country. I want to make clear that I would not have voted to allow this bill to proceed and that my inability to cast a vote in no way undercut the effort to stop this outrageous legislation. Since it was necessary for proponents of the legislation to find 60 votes irrespective of the number of votes against cloture cast by those of us in opposition, the very act of not voting for the cloture motion

was, in effect, a vote against the motion.

At the time of the vote, I issued a press statement expressing my disappointment over the Senate's failure to enact a minimum wage hike and my dismay at the Republican proponents' tactic of linking the wage hike to an estate tax giveaway that would have increased an already out-of-control Federal budget deficit. In that statement, I rejected the Republicans' hollow claim to favor a minimum wage increase. In fact, they have actively opposed a minimum wage increase for years; in this trifecta bill, they were using the wage hike only as a cynical ploy to attract votes for the estate tax rollback.

In my statement, I noted that the failure of the trifecta bill, though a victory for fiscal sanity, was no cause for rejoicing. An inappropriately low national minimum wage has been a big part of the problem of working-family poverty for many years. It is a problem for workers in Connecticut where the State minimum wage is higher, since a low national minimum wage creates pressure for companies to move Connecticut jobs to low wage States. The minimum wage was last raised almost 10 years ago. We need to act this year to pass a minimum wage increase—without tying it to an excessive cut in the estate tax. It is also essential that we pass the tax "extenders" which will support families paying college tuition, promote work opportunities for low-income Americans, and give incentives to businesses pursuing important research and development. These and other important tax extenders were also taken hostage by the Republicans' irresponsible estate tax scheme.

I have cosponsored a separate bill that would raise the minimum wage and extend these important tax incentives for middle-class families and businesses. I will continue to work with my colleagues to accomplish these goals without paying the high cost of excessive estate tax cuts to the wealthiest sliver of the population.

Mr. President, I also wish to express my support for the pension reform legislation which passed the Senate on August 2. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the conference report.

While we all recognize that the legislation that passed was not perfect, it marked the end of a long and difficult legislative process that necessarily involved a great deal of compromise on all sides. It represents a success in terms of bipartisan cooperation in the Senate, something we need to see much more of in the future so we can truly begin to address many of the serious and complex problems our nation faces.

Senate passage of the pension reform bill was the culmination of more than a year of work by lawmakers concerned about record unfunded liabilities at the PBGC—which is supposed to be the bulwark against pension collapse—as well as what had become a widespread epi-

demic of chronic underfunding of pension plans.

The legislation as passed by the House and Senate, and now signed by the President, would require companies to fund 100 percent of their plan liabilities, up from 90 percent under current law. Those with funding shortfalls generally would have 7 years to make up the difference. Companies at risk of default would be subject to other restrictions and would have to make accelerated contributions.

The legislation provides specific relief for financially troubled airlines, giving up to 17 years to fully fund their plans. Some airlines were given more relief than others, so there may be an effort to pass a technical corrections bill to address this issue.

Also included in the legislation are provisions aimed at encouraging workers to make contributions to retirement savings plans, including allowing companies to automatically enroll employees in a 401(k). This will accomplish a relatively simple but tremendously effective change to ensure that more Americans are saving for their retirement.

The legislation also contains many other improvements and protections to the necessarily complex system we have constructed to address the retirement security of tens of millions of our citizens. The bill would provide needed reforms to both single employer and multiemployer plans; to defined benefit as well as defined contribution plans; and to hybrid "cash balance" plans. It also provides greater security to spouses with respect to their share of a spouse's retirement plan after death or divorce.

Further, the bill includes tax incentives for charitable giving. Many of these incentives were in the CARE Act which I have sponsored in this as well as previous congresses.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE GLEN MORGAN WILLIAMS

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a wonderful gentleman and a respected judge who has served our country with distinction and also helped start my legal career, which has ultimately led to where I stand today: Judge Glen Morgan Williams.

As a newly minted graduate fresh out of the University of Virginia Law School, I had the honor of serving as a clerk to Judge Williams, an experience that had a profound affect on me. I was privileged to see first hand how Judge Williams' legal knowledge and fairness—as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia—has served the people of Virginia and America. I also had the unique privilege of hearing his stories of life, his commonsense wisdom and special humor and laughs.

Prior to serving as a Federal judge, Glen Williams served with distinction in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Judge Williams served as a minesweeper in the Atlantic, Pacific and Mediterranean theaters and was decorated for his service with the Commander's Citation. Judge Williams participated in the invasion of Southern France and thereafter commanded the USS *Seer* in the Pacific until 1946.

Upon returning from the war, Judge Williams entered private law practice where he quickly became one of the leading trial lawyers in Virginia and one of the Nation's leading experts on Social Security, where he testified before Congress on Social Security reform.

Judge Williams began his tenure on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia, serving as a magistrate from 1963 to 1975.

On September 8, 1976, Judge Williams was nominated by President Gerald R. Ford to serve as a judge on that distinguished court and ultimately won Senate confirmation on September 17, 1976.

During his time on the court, Judge Williams has been instrumental in reestablishing the Big Stone Gap division of the court and the opening of the clerk's office down there in the far southwest part of Virginia.

During his 30 years of service on the bench, Judge Williams has written more than 300 published opinions in every area of Federal law. Judge Williams' opinions have been particularly influential in the coal mining industry weighing the rights of coal miners, operators and landowners and interpreting the constitutionality of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

Judge Williams' 30 years of service have been instrumental in shaping jurisprudence in the Western District of Virginia and has been an admired, outstanding and loved mentor for scores of Virginia lawyers who have had the privilege of learning from his experience. Besides myself, former clerks also include a member of the Virginia Supreme Court and many of the best lawyers in Virginia and throughout the country.

I have the ability to speak today about this magnificent wonderful gentleman, lawyer and judge who has been so positively influential in my life and career. On behalf of all his clerks and staff throughout the years, I thank Judge Williams for his 30 years of exemplary service to our country on the Federal bench.

Moreover, I thank God for sending into our world and my life a character of a man with truly unmatched wit and wisdom, the truly honorable Glen M. Williams of Lee County, VA.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, it is my privilege today to speak in honor of a longtime servant to the Federal judiciary, the Honorable Glen Morgan Williams, U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

I have been in the Senate now for 28 years. During that time, I have participated in the Senate's advice and consent process more than 2,000 times with

respect to Federal judges. In fact, of all active Federal judges on the district court bench in Virginia, I have had the distinct privilege of voting for every single one.

There are two judges whose chambers exist in Abingdon, VA, whose service predates mine: Judge H. Emory Widener, Jr., and Judge Glen Morgan Williams. Judge Widener was confirmed to the district court in 1969, and then to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in 1972. Judge Williams received his first judicial appointment, that of Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia, in 1963. Following 12 years as a magistrate, Judge Williams was nominated to be a district court judge by President Gerald R. Ford in 1976, and he was confirmed for this position by the Senate on September 17, 1976. Both judges are distinguished fixtures in the Virginia legal community, admired and respected by all who are fortunate enough to know them.

Because this year marks the thirtieth year that Judge Williams has served as a Federal district judge in the Western District, I join with my colleague from Virginia, Senator GEORGE ALLEN, in commending this exceptional jurist for his efforts.

As a young man, Glen Williams answered his Nation's call to duty in World War II. Earning a commander's citation, Mr. Williams served with distinction in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1946. Remarkably, his experience included the Atlantic, Pacific, and Mediterranean theaters and the Allies' invasion of southern France.

Mr. Williams and I followed similar paths to our respective careers after our naval tours in World War II; like me, he also received his training in law from the University of Virginia. Starting out as a sole practitioner after law school, Mr. Williams began his career in civilian public service as a Commonwealth's Attorney, followed by a term in the Virginia State Senate. During his career in private practice, he established himself as a leading expert on Social Security law, and Mr. Williams' testimony on this subject was sought by the Congress.

During his career on the bench, Judge Williams has produced more than 300 published opinions on a number of matters of great importance for our country, and certainly for those who live and work in the coal-mining regions of Virginia's beautiful Western District. In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court cited Judge Williams' opinions with respect to the funding of health care for beneficiaries of the United Mine Workers Health and Retirement Funds in its interpretation of the Coal Act.

While Judge Williams assumed senior status in the Western District in 1988, he remains active in both the Abingdon and Big Stone Gap divisions through the present day. In particular, he is to be commended for his diligence in reestablishing the Big Stone Gap division

and for the reopening of both the clerk's office and the courthouse in this division.

Judge Williams remains an asset for our Federal judicial system, for his knowledge and insight as well as for his mentorship of the many judicial law clerks who have had the opportunity to work with him, including Senator ALLEN. In honor of his 30 years of service to our Federal judiciary as a Federal district court judge, I simply say to Judge Glen Williams, "Well done, Your Honor." Your longevity and commitment to our Constitution, to our third branch of government, and to those four words that are forever engraved into the marble at the United States Supreme Court—"Equal Justice Under Law"—remain the hallmarks of your remarkable career.

HONORING CAROLE GRUNBERG

Mr. WYDEN. Today I honor Carole Grunberg for her years of service to me and to the Senate. Carole is retiring after serving as my legislative director for more than 10 years. In total, she has 16 years of Senate service along with more than a decade in the House of Representatives. I want to take this opportunity to talk about Carole and how much I appreciate everything she has done for the Nation, the State of Oregon, and me.

When it comes to legislative directors, Carole was truly the gold standard. Her skills and ability to get things done were unsurpassed. She was a master at designing strategies to take a concept, develop it into legislation, and guide it through Congress to become law. And she pursued each of these efforts with passion and commitment until the legislation made it into the statute books.

Known by many as one of this Nation's top ranked squash players, Carole brought that same competitive passion to the Senate's competitive marketplace of ideas and legislation. Keeping the Internet free of discriminatory taxes, recognizing electronic signatures as legally valid, protecting Oregon's vote by mail, retraining service workers displaced by trade, and our ongoing effort to end secret holds are just a few examples of initiatives Carole made into her personal quests.

Carole also brought out the best in our entire legislative team, using an approach that was part den mother and part drill sergeant. She proudly described our legislative staff as the best on Capitol Hill and pushed them to meet that standard every day. But the same big, competitive heart that made Carole expect the best from herself and her staff also filled her with enormous compassion and a burning desire for justice.

Carole always viewed the entire Wyden staff, from the most senior to the newest intern, as part of one team—Team Wyden. And she successfully marshaled all our staff in efforts ranging from shutting down Admiral