

Basil L. Whitener Works Hard To Strengthen Furniture Industry

North Carolina produces more fine furniture than any other state in the Union. The heart of the furniture manufacturing industry in the state is located in Basil Whitener's Congressional District.

Over 20,000 of his constituents are directly employed in furniture plants. Additional thousands are engaged in logging and other wood industries dependent upon the manufacture of furniture.

Basil Whitener is aware of the importance of the furniture industry and of the employment opportunities it offers to the people he represents in the Congress. As a Congressman whose record has been characterized by a determination to protect the jobs of the people he represents from foreign imports, he has consistently supported proposals to strengthen the domestic furniture industry and to provide more job opportunities for persons employed in furniture plants.

One of the principal efforts Basil Whitener has made to keep the wheels of industry humming has been to insure that an adequate supply of hardwood is available for the plants. While all fine hardwoods are becoming scarce, there is a critical shortage of high-grade walnut timber. Walnut is fast disappearing from the American scene, particularly by reason of high prices offered for the timber by mills in Germany, Italy, and other furniture manufacturing countries abroad.

Basil Whitener has urged that controls be placed on the export of walnut timber and other hardwoods essential to domestic furniture manufacturing. In calling on the Senate Commerce Committee to take protective action on behalf of the furniture industry he said: "I represent one of the largest furniture manufacturing districts in the Nation. My constituents are greatly concerned over the present and

future supply of walnut logs. It is my earnest hope that the Senate Commerce Committee will take action to prohibit the export of walnut logs until such times as our present and future domestic demand for the timber can be met."

Basil Whitener has also requested the Secretary of Commerce to prohibit the export of walnut logs. "We have a great concentration of the furniture industry with thousands of our citizens earning their livelihood in the production of furniture," Whitener said to the Secretary. "It is my hope that you will bring into play the provisions of the Export Control Act by granting the relief sought by the American Walnut Manufacturers Association by imposing an embargo on walnut veneer log exports."

The furniture and wood-working industries have a strong, dependable friend in Washington. Basil Whitener is that man.

What Colleagues Say

WHAT CONGRESSMAN WHITENER'S COLLEAGUES THINK ABOUT HIM AND HIS SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE:

"I have known Basil since he first came to the House in 1957. In these 10 years, Basil has become widely recognized as one of the outstanding constitutional lawyers in the House. In addition, Basil has the enviable reputation of being one of the ablest, most conscientious, and hardworking men in Congress."

--REP. GEORGE ANDREWS, ALABAMA
"In his long illustrious record of service in the U.S. Congress he has demonstrated to his colleagues and to his constituents an outstanding quality of good citizenship. He is a conscientious legislator, extremely reliable and dependable. The words of the poet who described Lincoln as "soft as velvet, yet hard as steel" comes to mind as I contemplate Basil Whitener's attributes as a legislator."

"I have had the opportunity to observe at close range the work of many Congressmen from all sections of the Nation during the seven terms that I have been in the U.S. Congress, but I have seen many able and patriotic men come and go, but I want you to know that I have never seen any member of Congress in all my years here who has been more energetic, more helpful and more conscientious or who has contributed more effectively or in greater measure to the welfare of the Nation as a whole and to the progress and prosperity of our country."

--REP. WALTER S. BARING, NEVADA
"He is one of the hardest working and most respected members of the House, and always commands attention when he speaks on any subject."

"In addition to this, he is a true gentleman and a student of government, who is constantly constructive in his service."

--REP. ED EDMONDSON, OKLAHOMA
"As the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, I have worked closely with Congressman Whitener over the past ten years and regard him as an outstanding, dedicated and very able member of Congress. Above all else, he is a man of character and high principle with complete devotion to the best interests of his constituents and to the welfare and security of our Nation. He enjoys the respect and esteem of his colleagues in Congress where he has distinguished himself by intelligent and forthright leadership."

--REP. MICHAEL A. FEIGAN, OHIO
"Basil is unquestionably one of the leaders in the Congress. There are few people who have come here during the years I have been here who have grown in the esteem of their colleagues on both sides of the aisle as has Basil Whitener. He is what we term here a "working Congressman." Unfortunately, there are quite a few who don't deserve that description."

"I have found him to be so thorough in the work that he does that when a bill comes from either of his committees, I don't go any further than to ask him what his views are on it and follow his leadership. There are not many people in the Congress that I can say this about."

--REP. A. SYDNEY HERLONG, JR., FLORIDA
"Congressman Whitener is one of the ablest and most dedicated Members of the Congress of the United States, and a Member who is thoroughly conversant with pending legislation, and who represents the people of his district with great ability, courage, and distinction."

"He is one of the best versed Members of the House of Representatives on the Rules of the House and on parliamentary procedure, devoting himself entirely to his Committee work and to the consideration of Bills on the floor of the House of Representatives. He is very highly respected by his colleagues. Congressman Whitener enjoys my deep friendship, as well as my respect and admiration."

--REP. JOHN M. MCCORMACK, MASSACHUSETTS
"I am winding up my eighth year in the Congress and have known Mr. Whitener very intimately, both personally and officially, during those eight years. I can say without any reservation that Congressman Whitener has one of the finest legal minds in the Congress. He is a real leader on the Judiciary Committee and has time and time again made important contributions during consideration of legislation, not only in his Committee, but on the House Floor."

"Congressmen Whitener is a Congressman who works at his position; he understands people and, above all, he understands our Government. He is a man who expresses restraint and responsibility."

--REP. THOMAS G. MORRIS, NEW MEXICO
"No Member of Congress is more highly regarded than my close friend Basil Whitener. His courageous, learned and level-headed participation in the Civil Rights debate on the side of the defenders of Constitutional Law earned for him the respect of all."

--REP. MASTON O'NEAL, GEORGIA
"I would also like to say one further thing -- that always on the Floor of the House he conducts himself in the manner of a great gentleman. It is always my feeling, after he has concluded his remarks, that he has contributed good will, an intelligent approach, and the grace of good manners. On two specific occasions when the temper of the House was charged with anger, Congressman Whitener rose, and with his gracious courtesy, 'changed the entire mood in the tradition of a great Congressman and certainly reflecting one of North Carolina's magnificent contributions to democracy."

--REP. JULIA BUTLER HANSEN, WASHINGTON
"He has rightfully earned a reputation as a statesman of unimpeachable integrity and a lawmaker of rare skill and ability."

Above all, he has been an outspoken champion of constitutional principles and fiscal responsibility in government. The magnificent fight he has waged on behalf of States' Rights in opposing the arbitrary attempts of the Federal government to usurp from the States unwarranted authority has established him as one of the truly great public officials in the nation today. Indeed, every parent in America owes him a real debt of gratitude for the courageous dedication to principle he has displayed in exposing the ill-conceived attempts of the U.S. Office of Education to encroach upon the rights of State and local school officials.

--REP. JOHN BELL WILLIAMS, MISSISSIPPI
"I, as a colleague, have been particularly impressed by his efforts to protect the textile and furniture industries in North Carolina and his district, and his continued and stalwart defense of Constitutional principles."

--REP. CLAIR A. CALLAN, NEBRASKA

Rep. Whitener Speaks Up For The People

Excerpts from Speeches of Basil L. Whitener in the House of Representatives during 1966, January 2, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, I am very much concerned over the proposed reduction in funds in the 1967 Budget for the National School Lunch Program, particularly in funds for the purchase of milk for school lunches."

In North Carolina more than 900,000 children each day receive nutritious but inexpensive lunches through the School Lunch Program. I have always supported the program as I have felt that it has been one of the most effective means of improving the health of our country."

February 7, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, I commend the Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee in bringing to the Floor of the House for early action H.R. 12410. I strongly support the enactment of this bill to grant educational and other benefits to the young men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States since January 31, 1955."

The assistance they will receive under this bill will enable all of them to be better prepared and more productive citizens of tomorrow. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 12410."

February 22, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, during my service in the Congress I have been greatly interested in transportation and its impact upon the economy and national security of the United States."

As the representative of a highly industrialized district I have been particularly concerned over the problems existing in connection with rail and highway freight transportation. The severe shortage of boxcars in the country is causing undue hardship on the shippers and manufacturers in my Congressional District."

I am hopeful that the appropriate committees of Congress will look into this matter and report legislation that will bring relief to the railroads, the manufacturers, and, above all, to the average American whose security and economic well-being is vitally affected."

March 9, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, all the Nation is troubled over the crime problem and its effect upon society. I know that our colleagues join me in our concern at the alarming crime statistics which were recently reported."

I am sure that they are equally concerned about the

social losses to our Nation represented in the lives of numerous individuals who have taken to crime and drug addiction."

March 16, 1966
"Mr. Speaker, the National Defense Education Act has been helpful to thousands of college students in America. The way and manner in which it has been administered through the procedure of permitting the individual college to determine its policies has been desirable."

To change this policy abruptly would in my judgment bring hardship upon many worthy students. As one who found it necessary to borrow money in order to attend college and law school, I can appreciate the value to the individual student of the availability of loan funds."

August 5, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, the recent tragedy in Austin, Texas, has revived the demand for the passage of legislation to restrict the sale and possession of firearms by the American people."

I feel that every effort should be made, of course, to keep firearms out of the possession of criminals and the mentally deranged. The problem will not be solved, however, by the passage of hastily and ill-conceived legislation which would seriously restrict the constitutional right of millions of law-abiding Americans to purchase and keep firearms. Firearms legislation must not be approved in an atmosphere of emotion."

February 16, 1966 (in support of establishment of Cape Lookout

(N.C.) National Seashore)
"Mr. Speaker, I look forward not just to having 16 million people visit our National Parks in North Carolina in the future, as we had in 1965, but I would rather suspect that with this addition to our fine park system we can expect many more millions of people to come to Variety Vacationland."

August 10, 1966

"Mr. Speaker, I share the concern which has been expressed by many members of Congress over certain statements that have been made recently by Commissioner of Education Howard Howe, II. I have always felt that massive Federal aid to education would result in destroying local control and administration of public education in the United States. Commissioner Howe's recent statements on the role of the Federal Government in education convinced me that my position has been correct."



THE WHITENER FAMILY — Pictured above is Congressman Whitener's family, who bring much joy into the life of our Congressman and all who know them. They are exemplars of the fine heritage of the Christian household. Left to right is Morgan, 21, Laura Lee, 16, Congressman Whitener, Mrs. Whitener, Barrett, 6, and Basil Jr., 14.

A Typical American Family

Let's Meet The Whitener Family

Harriet Morgan came to Gastonia 25 years ago to teach at the high school.

Fresh out of college, she had left her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J.S. Morgan, in Union, S.C., to pursue a career as an English teacher at Gastonia High School.

As fate would have it, she met a young attorney on the first day she arrived in Gastonia.

His name? Basil Whitener. Little did pretty Harriet Morgan know it at the time but this tall, handsome man was soon to become her husband.

The war, as it did in many other cases, perhaps hurried matters along because in 1942 Basil Whitener and Harriet Morgan were married. He left soon thereafter for service in the United States Navy. An ordinary woman perhaps might have found it difficult to keep pace with a husband on the go -- on the way up. But Harriet was no ordinary woman. She was the wife of Basil Whitener, sharing his successes, his failures, his inner-most thoughts.

She launched immediately into community and church activities while building a strong and loving family-life for herself and her husband. They were blessed with four lovely children. Morgan, the oldest, is now 21, Basil Jr., is 14, and Laura Lee is 16. The baby is Barrett, six.

Because of his early love and devotion to his family, and through the influence of his Christian mother, Basil fell naturally into family life as a devoted father and responsible breadwinner. While his family is his pride and joy, he counts numerous kinkfolk in the 10th Congressional District.

If you're an Abernathy, a Brackett, Bland, Blanton, or Barrett, chances are you are related to Basil Whitener. The same goes for folks with the name of Davis, Currence, Ervin, Francis, Gardner, Holland, Holmes, Jenkins, Leonard, Lee, Peters, Patterson, Pyron, and Peeler.

These are important attributes in a day and time when foreign ideologies seek gradually to encroach upon the American way of life and to sap America and its people of their vigor.

And, there are others connected with Representative Whitener either by blood or marriage. Others, who can't claim kinship, count it a privilege to claim friendship with Whitener. That's the way he has always wanted it.

His friends run literally into the thousands. Some run-twisters in textile mills, others are bank executives, school teachers, clerks, factory workers, domestic workers, doctors, civic leaders, religious leaders, etc.

Above all, Basil Whitener has a real kinship with all the men and women of his district who believe in the common opportunity to work and be paid a fair wage for their labors.

He is close to all who educate their children in wholesome surroundings under good government and in a religious atmosphere.

Young Basil Whitener Inspired By His Mother

The childhood of Basil Whitener was shortlived, for he assumed the responsibility of "A Man of the Family" at the age of seven.

While other boys his age were playing at games, he was at work assisting his widowed mother. There were two other children in the family, his brother, Lester, and his sister, Inez.

Born of humble financial circumstances, Whitener was always aware of the necessity for a family to "pull together," at first, for the mere survival of a fatherless household, then later in order to get an education.

His mother instilled in Basil a good religious foundation, and made it possible for her son to

Although the duties of a busy congressman are demanding, Basil recognizes the responsibility and the privilege of being a

good father and husband. He is a devoted family man.

succeeded in preparing himself to care for his own family, and help others as well -- despite great odds.

In a great country where a man can raise his family according to his own standards, we look at them as representative of the man himself. Here is an American family of which any man can be proud!

What Editors In Our District Have To Say About Whitener

CHERRYVILLE EAGLE
June 22, 1966

Those of us who have followed Congressman Basil L. Whitener's record of strong opposition to Federal interference with the constitutional rights of the average American were not surprised at the statements he made in his Flag Day speech at Statesville on June 12. In his Statesville appearance he sharply condemned the extension of Federal control over the daily lives of the American people.

Whitener has consistently supported constitutional government and the free enterprise system during his service in the Congress. In Statesville he reaffirmed his dedication to the fundamental principles so essential to the success of the American system.

SPINDALE SUN
Sept. 29, 1966

Congressman Basil Whitener is completing 10 years of outstanding service to this county and others in his district. This year marks at least a temporary end to an era; for Rutherford county, in the re-districting, was taken out of Whitener's district.

Coming from Gaston county, Congressman Whitener knows and understands the problems of the textile industry as well as other developments and issues, peculiar to this immediate section.

He has represented his district with pride and influence, based on knowledge and understanding, for the past 10 years. Like others, we want to express our thanks for a job well done.

HICKORY DAILY RECORD
Sept. 30, 1966

Congressman Basil L. Whitener, of the Tenth North Carolina District, is entitled to high praise for having taken prompt issue with Cong. Thomas Curtis, of Missouri, who is urging that import quotas covering foreign textiles, be lifted.

The Missouri Representative in a one hour speech addressed to members of the House, advocated that the long-term arrangement by eighteen textile-producing nations be abandoned, in the interest of free world trade.

In his reply, Congressman Whitener asserted that "If the gentleman from Missouri were to have his way, West Virginia would look like an economic paradise compared to the area of North Carolina that I represent after four or five years of the so-called Curtis philosophy."

KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD
March 31, 1966

The Herald and other newspapers would have done well perhaps to omit a paragraph in a recent Republican 10th district news release in which it was said the three GOP aspirants for the dubious distinction of losing to Congressman Basil L. Whitener agreed: 1) Mr. Whitener is a rubber stamp congressman and 2) Mr. Whitener is the choice of party bosses.

On canard 1, the House of Representatives tally clerk has recorded Mr. Whitener's vote on as many issues as any member of the body during the nearly ten years he has served, with many against administration proposals. "The President wouldn't agree," Mr.

Whitener commented.

On canard 2, Mr. Whitener must laugh, since everyone knows it's a free country and anyone and everyone wanting to pay the \$300 filing fee and add a "D" beside his name would have appeared on the ballot against him in the May Democratic primary. He can get a second and better laugh from the Republicans waxing holier-than-thou at this, only their second primary contest for Congress in many years.

The Republican party is quite wise in contriving a primary at this time, a prelude to the general election.

As an aside, such statements remind that Bill Cobb, of Morganton, the onetime GOP chairman, is back in harness, as district chairman.

There is always partisan ammunition aplenty in fighting moot issues, and Mr. Whitener is on the record.

Chairman Cobb's speech here during the '60 campaign, except for being longer, was of the same strident, careless-with facts stripe.

HICKORY DAILY RECORD
May 9, 1966

We'll hazard a guess that voters of Iredell county, who are just beginning to get acquainted with Congressman Basil Whitener (whose district has been revamped to include that county) were favorably impressed with the views he expressed last week.

The Tenth District Congressman, appearing before the Kiwanis club of Statesville in observance of Law Day, vigorously denounced those who would eschew legal machinery in solving issues -- and instead, demonstrate and conduct sit-ins. Mr. Whitener condemned these tactics and other forms of civil disobedience as practices that "can only bring chaos, confusion and the ultimate destruction of the rights of everyone."

We are sure that most sensible people agree to the extent that such statements may appear trite-but judging from the advocacy of these policies by some racial leaders, there are those who disagree.

The observance of law-and court decrees-is the only hope minority groups have in improving their status, other than the good conscience of the public.

The Whitener Sentinel

Published in the interest of the re-election of Basil L. Whitener to Congress

Publishers Friends Of Whitener
Editor John Brock

The policy of THE WHITENER SENTINEL is to give voters in our District a true picture of the outstanding job Congressman Whitener has done for the people of our District, our State, and our Nation, and to urge the re-election of this distinguished American to Congress.