The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God of new beginnings, who makes all things new, give us a viable hope and vibrant expectancy as we begin the work of the 105th Congress. On this day following the inauguration of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, as fellow Americans and patriots we ask for Your blessing on them. In the same breath, we renew our commitment to work together with them as we seek Your will for what is best for our Nation.

Endow our own Senate leaders, TRENT LOTT, TOM DASCHLE, DON NICKLES, and WENDELL FORD with a special measure of wisdom as they work cooperatively together to foster a spirit of oneness in the Senate. Help the Senators to delight in the diversity that sheds varied shades of light on the truth and debate that exposes maximum solutions. May this Senate be distinguished for its civility, creativity, and courage. Your spirit flourishes where men and women pray for each other, speak truth as they see it without rancor, and listen attentively to one another. When we all seek You and Your guidance, we find each other. The bond of our mutual love for You and for America will sustain us in the rough and tumble of political process. God, bless America and begin here in the Senate, through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE
Mr. LOTT. Under the order today, the time between now and 12:30 will be equally divided between myself and the Democratic leader. At 12:30 today, following our remarks, the Senate will recess until 2:15 for the weekly policy conferences to meet. When the Senate reconvenes at 2:15, there will be a period of morning business to enable all Senators to make statements and introduce legislation.

I anticipate that many of our colleagues will be making statements during the morning business period. Therefore, there will be no rollcall votes during today's session. It is my hope that during tomorrow's session the Senate will be able to consider the Executive nomination of Madeleine Albright to be the Secretary of State, and I anticipate a rollcall vote on Wednesday on the confirmation of that nomination.

I also announce to my colleagues that all Members will be notified as soon as the schedule is finalized with regard to a memorial service on Thursday in Lowell, MA, for our former colleague, Senator Paul Tsongas.

Again, I note as we come out of our policy luncheons, Senator DASCHLE and I will be introducing bills. I will introduce the first 10 bills on behalf of the Senate Republican majority, and Senator DASCHLE will introduce the next 10 bills. We will be hearing during the remainder of the day from the leading sponsors of those bills and others who will be introducing bills and want to make statements. We will go, I am sure, a while into the afternoon. It is hoped we will not begin this session by going late into the night on a Tuesday. We would like to quit at a reasonable hour, for all concerned.

INAUGURATION CEREMONIES
Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that yesterday's proceedings of the inauguration of the President be printed in today's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the proceedings were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE VICE PRESIDENT
JANUARY 20, 1997

Members of the House of Representatives, Members of the Senate, Justices of the Supreme Court, members of the diplomatic corps, the Governors of the States, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other distinguished guests assembled on the west front.

MRS. GORE
Mr. Martin Paone, Senate Secretary for the Minority, escorted Mrs. Gore, accompanied by Mrs. Lott and Mrs. Gephardt, to the President's platform.

MRS. CLINTON
Ms. Elizabeth B. Greene, Senate Secretary for the Majority, and Ms. Amelia Fields, Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, escorted Mrs. Clinton, accompanied by Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Gingrich, to the President's platform.

THE VICE PRESIDENT
Mr. John Chambers, Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies Deputy Director, Ms. Loretta Symms, Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms, and Mr. J. im Varey, House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, escorted the Vice President, accompanied by Senator Lott, Representative Gephardt and Representative Army, to the President's platform.

THE PRESIDENT
Ms. Susan Magill, J CCIC Executive Director, Mr. Greg Casey, Senate Sergeant at Arms, and Mr. Wilson Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms, escorted the President, accompanied by Senator Warner, Senator Ford, Representative Gingrich, Senator Lott, Representative Gephardt and Representative Army, to the President's platform.

THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY
Mr. WARNER, Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Majority Leader, Mr. Chief Justice, Members of the U.S. Congress, their families and guests—all one-quarter million who have joined here today on the grounds of their Capitol.
[Applause.]

Welcome to the 53rd Inauguration of the President and the Vice President of the United States of America.

[Applause.]

Across our Nation, and around the world, Americans join William J. Jefferson Clinton as he reconfirms the oath of office as the 42nd President of the United States, and Albert Gore, J. r., as he reconfirms the oath of office as the 45th Vice President of the United States.

Our first President, George Washington, was inaugurated in 1789.

Thereafter, every 4 years, our citizens have witnessed this transition of authority as required by the Constitution of the United States.

It is the conferring of this trust and authority—which has occurred without any interruption for 200 years—that is the cornerstone of our representative democracy.

It is a tribute to the providential vision of our Founding Fathers.

It is a tribute to the strength of character of the American people and the endurance of their institutions.

It is a tribute to successive generations of Americans who have guarded our most valuable heritage—our freedom.

And, Mr. President, may I say, on behalf of the millions of Americans, we express to you our gratitude for this past week, having invited to the White House a true man who fought for freedom, and you presented him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Senator Dole. Thank you, Mr. President.

[Applause.]

For centuries, the American Presidential Inauguration ceremony has represented both national renewal and continuity of leadership.

So it is altogether fitting that as the world’s oldest continuous democratic republic, we gather today to honor this historical triumph, and to recommit ourselves to keep our Nation strong for future generations.

Mr. President, prayer has been an essential part of all inaugural ceremonies.

As I was privileged to drive up with you from the White House, you held the Bible and read the passage that you will read today.

Therefore, we are honored today to have the Reverend Billy Graham to lead our Nation in prayer, as he has at seven previous inaugural.

Please stand for the invocation and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Graham.

INVOCATION

Reverend Graham. President Clinton, Mrs. Clinton, Vice President Gore, Mrs. Gore, I am going to ask that we all bow our heads in prayer.

Our Father and our God, we thank You today for the privilege of coming into Your presence on this historic and solemn occasion.

We thank You for Your gracious hand which has preserved us as a Nation. We praise You for the peaceful continuity of Government that this inauguration represents.

We recall that the Bible says, “Except the Lord build a house, they labor in vain that build it.” You also said that to whom much is given, much will be required.

We bow to the past, and thank You that from the very foundations of America You granted our forefathers courage and wisdom, as they trusted in You. So we ask today that we may be inspired by their example. Where there has been failure, forgive us; where there has been progress, confirm;

where there has been success, give us humility, and teach us to follow Your instructions more closely as we enter the next century.

Give to all those to whom You have entrusted leadership today a desire to seek Your will and to do it.

So today, we ask Your blessing on President Clinton and his wife, Hillary, and their daughters and granddaughters; on Vice President Gore and his wife, Tipper, and their children.

Give to all our leaders the vision of what You desire America to become and the wisdom to accomplish that.

And may the will of God cross the bridges into the 21st century.

We pray also for the Members of the House and the Senate and the Supreme Court and for all who bear responsibility of leadership in this Nation which is blessed with such ethnic diversity.

We have solved all the social problems of our times, such as drugs and racism. Technology and social engineering have not solved the basic problems of human greed, pride, insouciance, and selfishness. We need your insight, we need your compassion, we need your strength. As both President Clinton and Senator Dole urged us in the recent Presidential campaign, may this be a time of coming together to help us deal with the problems we face.

O Lord, help us to be reconciled first to You and then to one another. May Dr. Martin Luther King’s dream finally come true for all of us. Help us to learn true courtesy to our fellow countrymen that comes from a heart that says, “From every person, I wish you want me to do to you, do also to them.”

Remind us today that You have shown us what is good and what You require of us—to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God.

We ask that as a people we may humble ourselves before You and seek Your will for our Nation, for this great Nation. Help us in our Nation to work as never before to strengthen our families and to give our children hope and a moral foundation for the future.

So may our desire be to serve You and, in so doing, serve one another.

This we pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Reverend Graham.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. WARNER. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Eagle Scout David Morales, Boy Scout Troop 152, Vienna, VA. (The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eagle Scout David Morales, Boy Scout Troop 152, Vienna, VA.)

Mr. WARNER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to present the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable William H. Rehnquist, who will administer to the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the Honorable William H. Rehnquist, who will administer the oath of office to the President and President-elect of the United States, William J. Jefferson Clinton.

[Applause.]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST. Are you ready to take the oath, Mr. President?

Mr. CLINTON. Yes, I am.

Mr. WARNER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to present the President-elect, the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

“I, William Jefferson Clinton, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST. So help me God.

Mr. CLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.

[Applause.]

Jessye Norman sang a medley of American music entitled “O Freedom.”

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. CLINTON. Thank you, my friend, John Warner, President Clinton, Mrs. Clinton, Vice President Gore, Mrs. Gore, my fellow Americans, and my colleagues.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg administered to the President-elect, the oath of office from the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the Honorable William H. Rehnquist, who will administer the oath of office to the President and President-elect of the United States, William J. Jefferson Clinton.

[Applause.]

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. WARNER. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Eagle Scout David Morales, Boy Scout Troop 152, Vienna, VA.

Mr. WARNER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to present the Children of the Gospel Mass Choir, under the auspices of the Washington Performing Arts Society.

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. WARNER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to present the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who will administer the oath of office to the Vice President of the United States, Albert Gore, J. r.

[Applause.]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST. Are you ready to take the oath, Mr. Vice President?

Mr. Gore. Yes, I am.

Mr. WARNER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to present the Vice President-elect, the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

“I, Albert Gore, J. r., do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will faithfully execute the office of Vice President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, so help me God.”

Mr. WARNER. Mr. Gore.

Mr. FORD. Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States of America, William J. Jefferson Clinton, will now deliver an inaugural address.

President CLINTON. My fellow citizens; at this last Presidential inauguration of the 20th century, let us lift our eyes toward the challenges that await us in the next century. What are our greatest need and our greatest challenge? Are we ready to face them head-on, with courage, faith, and a fresh sense of purpose—and have put us not only at the edge of a new century in a new millennium, but
on the edge of a bright new prospect in human affairs. A moment that will define our course and our character for decades to come. We must keep our old democracy forever vibrant. We must do everything we need to save the essence of a promised land, let us set our sights upon a land of new promise.

The promise of America was born in the 18th century in the bold conviction that we are all created equal. It was extended and preserved in the 19th century, when our Nation spread across the continent, saved the Union, and abolished the awful scourge of slavery.

Then, in turmoil and triumph, that promise opened the road to stage to make this the American century.

And what a century it has been. America became the world’s mightiest industrial power. We fought two world wars and a long cold war, and time and again reached out across the globe to millions who, like us, longed for the blessings of liberty.

Along the way, Americans produced the great middle class and security in old age; built unrivaled centers of learning and opened doors to all; split the atom and explored the heavens; invented the computer and the microchip; and deepened the wellspring of justice by making a revolution in civil rights for African Americans and all minorities, and extending the circle of citizenship, opportunity, and dignity to women.

Now, for the third time, a new century is upon us. The time to come began the 19th century with a choice to spread our Nation from coast to coast. We began the 20th century, with a choice to harness the Industrial Revolution to our values of free enterprise, conservation, and human decency. Those choices made all the difference. In the 21st century, empowered by the digital age, free people must now choose to shape the forces of the Information Age and the global society, to unleash the limitless potential of all our people, and, yes, to form a more perfect union.

When last we gathered, our march to this new future seemed less certain than it does today. We vowed then to set a clear course, to renew our Nation.

In these 4 years, we have been touched by tragedy, exhilarated by challenge, strengthened by achievement. America stands alone as the world’s indispensable nation. Once again, our economy is the strongest on Earth. Once again, we are building stronger families and communities, better educational opportunities, a cleaner environment. Problems that once seemed destined to deepen, now bend to our efforts: Our streets are safer and record numbers of our citizens spread across the continent. We saved the Union, and abolished the awful scourge of slavery.

Our Founders understood that well, and they would say to you today: Our streets will echo again with the laughter of our children. Our kitchens will be those of a better home, not only to work, but to read and to play together, and the plans they make at their kitchen table will be those of a better home, a better job, a certain chance to go to college.

Our streets will echo again with the laughter of our children, because no one will try to shoot them or sell them drugs anymore. Everyone who can work will work, with today’s permanent underclass part of tomorrow’s thriving middle class. In the cities of medicine at last will reach not only those who can claim care now, but the children and hard-working families too long denied.

We shall stand mighty for freedom and maintain a strong defense against terror and destruction. Our children will sleep free from the threat of nuclear, biological, or chemical attacks and airports, farms and factories will thrive with trade and innovation and ideas. And the world’s greatest democracy will lead a whole world of democracies.

Our land of new promise will be a Nation that meets its obligations: A Nation that balances its budget, but never loses the balance of its values.

A Nation where our grandparents have secured retirement and health care, and their grandchildren know we have made the reforms necessary to sustain those benefits for their time.

A Nation that fortifies the world’s most productive economy, even as it protects the great natural bounty of our water, air, and lands.

And in this land of new promise, we will have reformed our politics so that the voice of the people will always speak louder than the narrow interests, regaining the participation and deserving the trust of all Americans.

Fellow citizens, let us build that America, a nation ever moving forward toward realizing the full potential of all its citizens. Prosperity and power, yes, they are important, and we must maintain them, but let us never forget: The greatest progress we have made, and the greatest progress we have yet to make, is in the human heart. In the end, all the world’s wealth and a thousand armies will sleep free from the threat of nuclear, biological, or chemical attacks.

Our streets will echo again with the laughter of our children. Our kitchens will be those of a better home, not only to work, but to read and to play together, and the plans they make at their kitchen table will be those of a better home, a better job, a certain chance to go to college.

This is the heart of our task: With a new vision of Government, a new sense of responsibility, a new spirit of community, we will sustain America’s journey. The promise we speak of today, a new land, we will find again in a land of new promise.

In this new land, education will be every citizen’s most prized possession. Our schools will have the highest standards in the world, igniting the spark of possibility in the eyes of every girl and every boy, and the doors of higher education will be open to all. The knowledge and power of the information age will be within reach, not just of the few but of the whole American family, every child. Parents and children who have time not only to work, but to read and to play together, and the plans they make at their kitchen table will be those of a better home, a better job, a certain chance to go to college.

This is the heart of our task: With a new vision of Government, a new sense of responsibility, a new spirit of community, we will sustain America’s journey. The promise we speak of today, a new land, we will find again in a land of new promise.
To that effort, I pledge all my strength and every power of my office. I ask the Members of Congress here to join in that pledge. The American people returned to office a President of one party and a Congress of another. Surely, they did not do this to advance the politics of petty bickering and extreme partisanship they plainly deplore.

[Applause.]

No, they call on us all instead to repairers of the breach and to move on with America’s mission.

America demands and deserves big things from us—and nothing big ever came from being small.

[Applause.]

Let us remember the timeless wisdom of Cardinal Bernardin when facing the end of his own life. He said, “It is wrong to waste the precious gift of time . . . on acrimony and division.”

Fellow citizens, we must not waste the precious gift of this time, for all of us are on that same journey of our lives, and our journey, too, will come to an end. But the journey of our America must go on.

And so, my fellow Americans, we must be strong, for that is much to dare. The demands of our time are great, and they are different. Let us meet them with faith and courage, with patience and a grateful, happy heart. Let us shape the hope of this day into the noblest chapter in our history. Yes, let us build our bridge—a bridge wide enough and strong enough for every American to cross over to a blessed land of new promise. May those generations whose faces we cannot yet see, whose names we may never know, say of us here that we led our beloved land into a new century with the American dream alive for all its children, with the American promise of a more perfect union for all its people, with America's bright flame of freedom spreading throughout all the world.

From the height of this place and the summit of this century, let us go forth. May God “strengthen our hands for the good work ahead”—and always, always bless our America.

[Applause.]

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we thank you for that strong and inspiring message at this very important time in our history.

Now ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to introduce the Immanuel Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra of Little Rock.

The choir and orchestra, under the direction of Reverend Lynn Madden, will present “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” (The Immanuel Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra sing “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”)

Mr. WARNER. Thank you for the singing of that most inspiring of American music. As he did for his first inauguration in 1993, President Clinton has asked a distinguished American scholar to compose a poem for this historic day.

Please welcome writer, editor, poet, Mr. Miller Williams. [Applause.]

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I suggest unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in recess under the previous order until 2:15 p.m. There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:20 p.m. recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the President [Mr. COATS].

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The majority leader is recognized.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I know of no Senator having indicated that he or she desires to make a statement at this time. No request being given to the Cloakroom, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in recess under the previous order until 2:15 p.m.

I do not believe there is a problem with this. We have cleared it with the other side of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SENATE REPUBLICAN AGENDA

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I think we have the opportunity here today to get off to a good start, a fast start. It is one about which we have communicated with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle. We have increased the number of bills that we officially introduce at the start of the