

pioneering treatment of low weight babies, babies with congenital birth defects, and babies from all over the region who require specialized treatment that is not readily available at other facilities.

Shaare Zedek's program for ill newborns has built bridges between Israel and her Arab neighbors. Through this program, Muslims, Christians, and Jews have been able to transcend their differences in the interest of saving babies precariously on the border between life and death.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sharon Berkowitz for all of her charitable work, and especially her work with Shaare Zedek's Neonatology Department. The survival of the children treated there is often dependent upon her efforts and those of other humanitarian supporters of the neonatology program. I wish her many years of good health and success in all of her future endeavors.

"I DON'T CARE WHAT IT DOES—I LIKE THE CONCEPT"—WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE MAJORITY LEADER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following column by Rick Horowitz from the Palm Beach Post of September 29, 1995, describing the House majority leader's comments on the flat tax proposal.

According to the columnist, the gentleman from Texas admitted that his taxes as a Member of Congress would be lower under his flat tax than under current law, but that personal gain was not his motivation in proposing a flat tax:

Rep. Armey insisted that personal gain wasn't the motivation for his plan; he truly didn't know who would do better or who would do worse, or even whether the plan was revenue-neutral or would lead to major funding gaps. In fact—well, these are the words he used:

I don't care what it does—I like the concept.

Mr. Speaker, that pretty much sums up the Republican agenda this year. I don't know what it does, but it is a new idea and we like the concept. You can see it in the medical savings account idea in the Medicare Reconciliation bill—which CBO insists will cost the program money, not save money like the ideologies of the right proclaim. You can see it in the Members who've introduced bills to permit more CFCs, because most of the world's scientists are probably wrong when they say CFCs are destroying the ozone layer. You can see it in the family cap in the welfare bill, because teenagers will quit having sex if you starve the babies they have.

Concepts are wonderful, Mr. Speaker. Too bad the real world awaits.

[From the Palm Beach Post, Sept. 29, 1995]

THE GOP REVOLUTION IN A NUTSHELL

(By Rick Horowitz)

Such a reasonable question—two questions, really. And such an interesting reply.

At last week's annual convention of the National Conference of Editorial Writers in

San Antonio, it was conversation pretty much nonstop, with the occasional break for food and beverage, or to hear from some outside force with something to say: the majority leader of the House of Representatives for instance.

Dick Armey came home to Texas to share a meal, tell a few jokes, make a few points. He brought the latest news from Washington, where the dismantling of the welfare state was proceeding with vigor.

Rep. Armey methodically set out the accomplishments of the Republican Congress—the hardest-working, most effective, most revolutionary Congress in memory, he claimed—and the outlook for the closing days of the session.

He fired the requisite shots across the already listing Democratic bow. He talked philosophy. How the market, freed from government interference, can perform miracles. How, beyond a few insignificant exceptions, what a person earns in life squares almost exactly with how hard a person has worked. How, given their respective contributions to society, the high school football coach deserves to be paid more than the high school English teacher.

And he pushed one of his pet ideas: the "flat tax." Why should Taxpayer X and Taxpayer Y be treated differently by the IRS just because they earn different incomes? Let everyone pay the same rate—17 percent of wages, salaries and pensions, in Rep. Armey's version. People could figure their taxes in minutes. They could file their returns on postcards. What could be wrong with that?

Then came the post-speech Q&A—a clarification, here, a prediction there—and then one David Bowman was standing at an audience microphone. Mr. Bowman, the editorial-page editor of the Huntsville (Ala.) News, wondered if Rep. Armey might possibly tell the crowd how much he paid in taxes under the current laws. Rep. Armey, momentarily flustered, offered up an estimate.

Mr. Bowman then asked Rep. Armey whether he'd be paying more or less than that under his flat-tax proposal. Rep. Armey said he didn't know.

Was there a pocket calculator in the house? (Nope.) Could anybody divide his congressional salary by 17 percent? Finally, he grabbed a pen and did some quick math himself, right there on his speech text. And what do you know? Under the flat tax, his taxes would go down plenty—what a pleasant surprise!

As the giggles spread in the cheap seats, Rep. Armey insisted that personal gain wasn't the motivation for his plan; he truly didn't know who would do better and who would do worse, or even whether the plan was revenue-neutral or would lead to major funding gaps. In fact—well, these are the words he used:

"I don't care what it does—I like the concept."

Ladies and gentlemen, the Republican revolution in a nutshell. Concepts. Theories. A straight line on a piece of graph paper. Neat. Clean. Simple. Sterile.

In the real world—the messy, sloppy real world—"what it does" matters. "What it does" affects actual human beings, whether "it" is a new tax system or massive welfare reform, the overhaul of Medicare or the dismantling of environmental protections. Somebody might get hurt out here. Somebody might want to pay attention to that.

"I don't care what it does," says the majority leader of the House of Representatives. "I like the concept."

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. RUTH WOOD

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise before the House today, to recognize a valued member of my staff who will be retiring this year. Mrs. Ruth Wood has provided me with dedicated service for over 4 years. Mrs. Wood was an instrumental member of my election team in my first campaign for congress in 1992. After taking office in 1993, Mrs. Wood joined my congressional staff as a receptionist and as my military academy liaison. Mrs. Wood, who had previously served former Representative Jack Buechner, has provided my office with invaluable experience and professionalism.

Her work on the selection process of academy applicants has been outstanding. Her expertise in this area is unquestionable. Under her direction, 15 young people from my district received acceptance offers from the military academies in 1995. During her service with Representative Buechner, she had the distinction one year of placing more nominees in the service academies than any other House office. Her leadership in this area will be greatly missed.

Mrs. Wood has also distinguished herself with a lifelong commitment of service to the Republican Party, her efforts to assist numerous local, State, and national candidates, stands as a testament to her unselfish dedication to promote leaders to public office which exemplify the qualities and values of our great party.

Again, Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize her service to this institution, her country, and her community. I ask that we all join to offer our gratitude to Mrs. Ruth Wood for her many years of dedicated service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO BRYAN BALDWIN

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Bryan Baldwin.

On Tuesday, October 24, 1995, Mr. Baldwin will be honored at the annual conference of the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) as the 1995 Peter J. Salmon National Blind Employee of the Year.

After nine years at the San Antonio Light-house, Mr. Baldwin, who has been blind since birth, teaches computer skills to the visually impaired, enabling them to obtain more technologically advanced jobs. He exemplifies self-determination, demonstrated by remarkable job growth and commitment to help other live independently.

After high school, Baldwin worked in a plant nursery. Six years later, he was still earning minimum wage and had no benefits. Married and ready to start a family, Baldwin decided to seek a higher-paying job with more benefits that would better use his education and skills. Baldwin applied for an assembler's position at the San Antonio Lighthouse and was hired in 1985. He has progressed from general assembler to machine operator to quality assurance

lab technician and, finally, to his current position as computer trainer.

While a lab technician, Baldwin used computers to evaluate and document test results. He discovered that he had a natural talent and interest in how software programs could make many of his tasks easier. He bought a computer of his own and taught himself how to operate several programs. Encouraged by his supervisor, Baldwin then applied for a computer trainer position in a job skills training program at the Lighthouse's William Judson Career Guidance and Skills Training Center.

Through the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program, Baldwin now has the satisfaction of helping other people who are blind. Baldwin has returned to school at Palo Alto Community College, is active in his church, and spends most of his free-time with his two daughters.

Baldwin says of his success, "I was totally surprised when I heard I had received this award. It makes me feel so good because I'm really just doing my job. I'm fortunate because every day I help other people like myself realize that there are so many options available to them."

TRIBUTE TO ST. LUCIE COUNTY FOR BECOMING FLORIDA LEADING CITRUS PRODUCER

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to St. Lucie County, FL, for becoming the State's largest producer of citrus products. I am exceptionally proud to represent the fine people of St. Lucie County and today, they are deserving of national recognition. Besides being the home of the State's most fertile citrus land, St. Lucie County is also the home of some of the best fishing on the eastern seaboard, a center of marine research, an excellent example of intermodal transportation, and a diverse group of people representing all areas of the country who are proud to call St. Lucie County, "home."

Mr. Speaker, many in Florida are unaware that agriculture is an extremely important component of the economy of the State of Florida. Florida is the largest agricultural State in the Southeast and the eighth largest in the Nation boasting annual farm cash receipts of \$6.1 billion. In so doing it provides direct employment for more than 100,000 people and is an economic generator for an additional \$18 billion in economic activity.

At the backbone of this economic activity is Florida's world famous citrus industry. Florida is the overwhelming producer of all citrus in the United States, accounting for more than 81 percent of the national total annually. In fact, Florida is the world leader in the production of grapefruit, accounting for 32.3 percent of the world's supply annually. The quality of Florida's fresh citrus products like grapefruit are world renown, especially those of the Indian River Region of which St. Lucie County is a part.

In 1994-95, St. Lucie County became the State leader in citrus production by producing 32.4 million boxes of oranges, grapefruit and tangerines. This is a real tribute to the 500 growers of the 108,488 acres of citrus and the

hard working people in their groves, and the owners and employees of all the citrus related businesses. In St. Lucie County alone, citrus accounts for about \$1 billion in economic activity for the county, while employing 20 percent of the county's work force.

Previously, St. Lucie County had already ranked as the number one county in grapefruit production in the entire Nation. Because of the soil conditions that prevail on the eastern seaboard of Florida, grapefruit from the Indian River Region is the finest available in the world today. And now, this high quality high value crop is finding its niche world wide with millions of cartons of fruit exported annually.

Mr. Speaker, the investment in citrus in Florida is a long-term investment, and the growth of the St. Lucie County crop is a credit to the perseverance of those who make the citrus industry the basis for their livelihood. Florida's citrus growers, producers, and workers persevere elements unique to south Florida that range from hurricanes to frosts. Their work is not a part of an overnight operation but rather a commitment to the entire community, economy, and industry. This is evidenced by a new processing plant and packing facility currently in the works, therefore, by the year 2000 the crop is expected to expand another 25 percent.

I would like to extend my congratulations to everybody in St. Lucie County, this is an achievement that the entire county can take pride in. On behalf of the entire county I encourage everyone to drink more grapefruit and orange juice as it has been scientifically proven to better your health and state of mind, and that is something we all could use.

OXAPROZIN

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce a bill to restore some of the rights to market the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug oxaprozin, which were lost during the 21 years it took the Food and Drug Administration to approve this drug—a period that consumed the entire 17 years of the drug's patent life. This bill is necessary in order to remedy the unjustifiable delay in approving this important drug used to treat arthritis.

Oxaprozin, marketed by Searle under the name Daypro, was first patented in 1971, and an investigational new drug [IND] application was filed with the FDA shortly thereafter. Eleven years later, in August 1982, a new drug application [NDA] was filed, but FDA approval was not granted until October 29, 1992, over 21 years after submission of the IND application and over 10 years after the filing of the NDA. As a result of this delay, the patent for oxaprozin expired before Daypro could be brought to market.

While it is important that drugs meet Federal safety and efficacy standards, we should not lose sight of the fact that this review process comes at the expense of both those whose illness or suffering may be shortened or lessened, and at the expense of the rights of those to whom our laws have offered the incentives of patent protection for their investments. Patent protection is necessary for

pharmaceutical manufacturers to recoup their extraordinary development costs so that they may obtain funds to reinvest into new and more effective products.

The bill that I am introducing today does not grant full recovery of the time that was lost while oxaprozin was under review; it does not grant half or even a quarter of that time. This bill provides for an additional 2-year period of protection for oxaprozin. This 2-year period is based upon a thoroughly documented review of FDA inaction during the time the oxaprozin application was pending before the agency. I believe such relief is entirely fair, appropriate and equitable under the circumstances, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

TRIBUTE TO THE HARRISON POST

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the final issue of the Harrison Post, Fort Benjamin Harrison's weekly newspaper that published its last issue on September 28, 1995.

The Harrison Post was established in April 1966, by Ferdinand Stauch, a veteran of "Merrill's Marauders," and has well served the information needs of the military community at Fort Harrison for nearly 30 years.

Due to the closure of Fort Harrison, most of the soldiers have departed, and it was inevitable that the Harrison Post would have to stop the presses. Throughout the base closure process, the newspaper maintained its commitment to excellence. The Harrison Post has won 27 awards for excellence in journalism, and is considered to be one of the most honored newspapers of its type in the Army.

Throughout its history, the Harrison Post has provided timely, accurate, and reliable information to the servicemen and women, retirees, and civilians that have made up the Fort Harrison community. I take this opportunity to salute the Harrison Post, and those who have served on its staff, for their contributions and service to the Nation.

MANY FEDERAL PROGRAMS ARE UNNECESSARY AND BURDENSOME

HON. BILL ORTON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 1995

Mr. ORTON. Mr. Speaker, when I visited with residents of the Third Congressional District of Utah, I find that many want Federal programs streamlined and made more efficient. Many programs are unnecessary and burdensome. On other occasions, however, I am reminded that there are many Federal programs that make real differences in the lives of people and give us substantial return for the Federal dollar invested in them.

An article published in the September 27, 1995, edition of the Salt Lake Tribune highlights one such program in my district. West Valley City, UT, is one of five cities in the Nation to receive an Outstanding Community Service Award for its Green Thumb Senior