

standpoint, I admire Reid Gustafson very much for this dedication to the people of Santa Clara County.

Mr. Gustafson's extensive community involvement includes serving as the current chairman of the Board of Directors of the San Jose Symphony. Mr. Gustafson also serves on the board of directors of the San Jose Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, and is a past chairman of the board of managers for the central branch of the YMCA in Santa Clara County.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to honor Mr. Gustafson for the very important role he has played in raising funds for many outstanding community based programs. Through Shea Holmes, Mr. Gustafson has played an integral part in supporting such worthy organizations as the Boy Scouts of Santa Clara County, the YMCA Current Support Campaign, the Crippled Children's Society and the new Children's Shelter of Santa Clara County.

Throughout his career, Mr. Gustafson has served on numerous building industry associations, and has helped to shape the planning of numerous homes and communities throughout California. He has served as the past chairman of the board of directors of the Building Industry Association of northern California, and has also served on the boards of both the State and National Homebuilders' Association. In addition, Mr. Gustafson has served as a commissioner on the Bay Vision 20/20 Taskforce, a key regional planning body in northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to invite you and my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in expressing gratitude and appreciation to Reid Gustafson for his efforts to make our community a better place. I also would like to thank the Santa Clara Council of the Boy Scouts of America for their outstanding leadership in our community, and for giving me the opportunity to share in their recognition of Reid Gustafson as the 1995 Distinguished Citizen Award recipient.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
HOLY CROSS POST NO. 417
CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Catholic War Veterans, Holy Cross Post 417 in Trenton, NJ on the 50th anniversary of their founding.

Mr. Speaker, in the fall of 1945, shortly after the surrender of Japan, the young men of Holy Cross Parish, like young men all across the country including my dad who was a combat veteran in the South Pacific began returning from the Armed Forces. At a young age they had stood up to aggression and prevailed. Now they were home, and anxious to get on with their lives that had been interrupted by tyranny. Monsignor Francis Kasproicz, pastor of Holy Cross Parish took a great interest and concern for the young veterans. So he granted permission to have a Catholic War Veterans Post formed in the Parish. This interest in our returning servicemen led to the founding of Catholic War Veterans, Holy Cross Post 417.

Over the years, Post 417 has opened membership to all those who served in the Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and beyond. During those years they have been honored for having the largest membership of any post in New Jersey. Others have fallen by the roadside, but Post 417 continues to serve the veterans, not only in Holy Cross Parish, but in all of Mercer County, NJ.

That service is found in the Post Catholic Action and Americanism programs which are year round efforts. Post 417's Palm Sunday Breakfast, Wafer Supper, Fifth Sunday Corporate Communion, Memorial Day Mass, Veterans and Pearl Harbor Day Services are annual events. A Christmas party and an Easter egg hunt are also held yearly for the children of members of the Post as well as the children of auxiliary members.

The Welfare Program also plays an important role in Holy Cross Post 417. Members give of their time to visit disabled veterans at the VA home in Menlo Park, NJ. Often they will play bingo and provide refreshments during their visits with the veterans. The Post holds an annual Cross of Peace collection and they send cards to sick veterans.

The Post organized a Ladies Auxiliary in 1949. They have grown to become not only the largest auxiliary in the State, but also the largest auxiliary in the Nation. The members of Post 417 are well aware that their programs would not be possible without the assistance of their impressive auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, many influential voices on the American scene today are of the opinion that the United States' greatest ailment is not a lack of wealth, or opportunity. Rather, they see a breakdown in the communal bonds that give people a sense of belonging in an otherwise uncertain and often hostile world. Few would argue with these voices that a sense of community is essential to a cohesive society. Obviously the family must provide the primary bulwark—grounding the individual with a sense that they are not alone in the world. But it is difficult for the family alone to enrich life with the kind of meaning and fraternity we all crave. Certainly careers and Government services can not fill the void either. It is precisely organizations such as Catholic War Veterans, Holy Cross Post 417 which best link us all with the larger community that exists beyond our homes and individual lives.

Post 417, by their long record of involvement in our community is a model of exactly the type of organization which brings us all together in a stable and free society. The service and fellowship they provide to each other, as well as numerous other veterans of our Nation's armed conflicts, certainly yield countless benefits to us all as members of the human family and residents of central New Jersey. We are all truly blessed for their 50 years of service to, as their motto proclaims, God, Country, and Home.

Catholic War Veterans, Holy Cross Post 417, I salute you and all your members both living and deceased on your first half-century of service and wish you the best of success for the many, many years your future surely holds.

FINALLY, BUSINESS AS UN-USUAL

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, let's cut right through the political fog and rhetoric and take a good, objective look at what is actually driving the budget impasse and showdown we are currently embroiled in with President Clinton. The heart of the debate boils down to ideology and principles. Are we going to reign in the role of the Federal Government or not? It has been 40 long years of Democrat rule in the House of Representatives. In that time, the welfare state has ballooned out of control because the answer to all the societal problems is to spend more, more, more.

Well, Mr. Speaker, all we need to do is look at the indisputable facts. As Federal spending skyrocketed, so too has crime and violent crime, drug use, illegitimate children, fatherless homes, and the number of welfare recipients. These trends are indicative of the degree to which the very fabric of American ideals have been shredded. But what was it that actually ripped and tore at the core principles and values upon which this Nation was founded? Clearly, the policies of the welfare state are at the root of this destruction. Now, the only questions that remain are what made the welfare state such a failure and how do we fix it.

This is the crux of the current debate and what makes this moment truly historic. The overwhelming majority of the American public can tell you that the root cause is the inherent message of the welfare state that people not only can get, but deserve, something for nothing. Even President Clinton knows this is the popular opinion. He campaigned on real welfare reform and being tough on crime and drugs yet this week he has said he will veto the Republican proposal to bring real reform to the welfare state and the facts show that drug use is on an undeniable upswing. He has said he is for a balanced budget but now he refuses to even commit to one, yet alone act on it. Why? Because in reality, he is entrenched in this failed ideology along with all the leftist leaders of the Democrat Party. He is entrenched in this bureaucratic mindset which resists change at all costs, even when the American public recognizes and has demanded such change. That's why people are leaving the party in droves.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed unfortunate that political pandering, class warfare and outright scare tactics are the only responses they have left because their only core principles are tax and spend. However, I would like to submit to the RECORD an editorial from the Wall Street Journal of November 13, 1995, which cuts right to the chase. I hope we can all take their lead and keep an eye on the real debate because it is a truly momentous period in American history.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Nov. 13, 1995]

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK—AT LAST, A CHOICE

So President Clinton vows to shut down the federal government tomorrow if Republican majorities in Congress don't bow to his budget will. Well, be our guest. By all means, let's shut down "non-essential" parts of the government and see if anyone cares.

At least a shutdown might focus Americans, and maybe even a bored media, on the

real stakes in this year's budget debate: Is the United States, for the first time since the 1920s, going to rein in the federal government, or not? This is the heart of the matter. The rest is political fog.

Republicans are close to putting on Mr. Clinton's desk a bill that does more or less what they promised to do last November. For the first time in decades, Congress would actually cut some spending. A few parts of Leviathan would even go out of business. The tax burden would ease. Welfare policy would be opened up to 50 state experiments. And so on.

Readers of these columns know we've criticized some parts of this GOP budget. We wish it cut more spending, especially on pet Congressional fiefs, and that it cut taxes in a way that better promoted economic growth. We wish a lot of things. But if this effort fails, the alternative isn't a better budget. The alternative is a victory for the Beltway status quo. That's why this budget fight really is a seminal moment in American politics.

Precisely because Bill Clinton knows this, he wants to delay or obfuscate the real choice. They very last thing he wants is to have to decide whether to sign or veto this budget. For months, ever since Dick Morris came back as his strategist, Mr. Clinton has had it both ways. He claims to be for all of the things the public wants—tax cuts, a balanced budget, welfare reform—but he hasn't had to do anything to prove it.

Meanwhile, his left wing has come down on him with a wrath usually reserved for Republicans. Marian Wright Edelman, Hillary Clinton's mentor and mother superior of the welfare state, wrote an open letter all but accusing Mr. Clinton of child abuse for endorsing a welfare bill that got 35 Democratic votes in the Senate.

So Mr. Clinton has, for now, dropped his compromise budget zig and adopted an opposition zag. His advisers are openly bragging that this will help him on the "character" issue. If he vetoes the budget, he'll lose his reputation for flip-flopping! At least, we suppose, until the Dec. 15 filing deadline for the New Hampshire primary, after which the left won't be able to field a challenger against him.

Which brings us back to the real issue of reining in government. On this score the GOP budget is hardly radical. Over seven years, it would shrink federal spending's share of the economy only slightly—to 18.5% of GDP in fiscal 2002, from 21.7% in 1995, says the Congressional Budget Office. Total federal spending would continue to rise.

We repeat: Total spending would rise—to \$1.844 trillion in 2002 from \$1.530 trillion.

Tax revenues would climb even faster—to \$1.853 trillion from \$1.355 trillion in 1995. As a share of the economy, taxes would fall only slightly—to 18.6% of GDP in 2002 from 19.3% this year. Taxation's share of GDP has stayed remarkably near 19% for 20 years now, so this is no great change either. Congress is merely bringing its spending into line with the maximum tax burden Americans seem willing to pay.

It's hard to know what Mr. Clinton means when he says this budget is "extreme." Does he want Congress to spend \$1.9 trillion a year, or \$2 trillion, or what? How much is enough?

The president has been most shameless on Medicare and Medicaid, which are growing by 10% a year. Under current law these and other entitlements plus interest are growing so fast they will consume all federal tax revenues by 2012. Every dime. There'll be nothing left for defense or education or anything else Mr. Clinton claims to value.

The logic of Mr. Clinton's demagoguery is that taxes will have to go up, sooner or later.

Medicare is financed in part by a payroll tax that in 1937 was 2% on incomes up to \$3,000. Today it is 15.3% on \$62,600 of income. How high does Mr. Clinton want the payroll tax to go if he doesn't want to accept Republican reforms? And by the way, where are the budget scolds (Warren Rudman, Pete Peterson, David Broder) who've griped for years that politicians lack the courage to tackle middle-class entitlements? When Republicans finally do it, they temporize.

These are the real stakes in this budget debate. They have been obscured by a president who wants to change the subject. And by a media class which decries political "bickering" while ignoring the substance of the debate. The shouting is so loud inside Washington this year precisely because this is the first budget in years that is not business as usual. Mr. President, it's time to choose.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

HON. SUE MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the RECORD:

In the United States House of Representatives November 18, 1995.

Whereas Temple Israel in Charlotte, North Carolina is celebrating its 100th Anniversary; and

Whereas Temple Israel is the oldest and largest Conservative congregation in the Carolinas; existing to strengthen Judaism through worship, study, celebration and the promotion of human well-being; and

Whereas Temple Israel has been an integral part of the Jewish community in Charlotte and surrounding areas, and has given her congregants a warm environment in which to expand their minds, hearts, and souls; and

Now, Therefore I, Sue Myrick, Member of Congress for North Carolina's 9th District of Congress, do honor the congregation and of the Temple Israel as it celebrates 100 years of spiritual growth; and heartily congratulate the entire synagogue family. Best wishes for continued success, health and happiness; and

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand this Seventeenth day of November, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Five.

OUTRAGE OVER CONTINUING RESOLUTION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage over the continuing resolution shutdown of the Federal Government and the furlough of 800,000 Federal employees nationwide. No American is being left unaffected. The House leadership is holding the American people hostage to a radical philosophy that has little credibility. Some of the services that all Americans depend upon are now unavailable. An example of these services include the following:

The Social Security Administration can no longer accept any new applications for benefits.

The Veterans' Administration is unable to issue benefit payments for December 1, 1995. Individuals cannot receive passports.

Federal Home Administration cannot make housing loans.

National parks and the Smithsonian Institution are closed.

In Houston, 2,200 Federal employees at Johnson Space Center have been furloughed.

The House considered another continuing resolution today that eliminates some of the extraneous provisions such as the increase in Medicare part B premiums that caused the President to veto the second continuing resolution. I still have some concerns about this new continuing resolution because of some of the assumptions used in drafting the bill. It remains to be seen whether President Clinton will veto this resolution.

The ironic aspect of this shutdown is that the Federal Government is not saving any money. When a budget impasse occurred in 1990 and the Government shutdown over the Columbus Day weekend, it cost \$1.6 million. According to White House Budget Director Alice Rivlin, the Government incurs expenses to secure vacant Federal buildings, pay penalties on contracts that cannot be honored and expenses to reimburse furloughed Federal employees since those employees that are usually paid for the time away from the office.

I would like to remind my colleagues that Americans are closely watching these deliberations. A USA Today/CNN? Gallup poll taken yesterday indicated that 49 percent of those individuals survey blame the Republican leadership for the shutdown.

Moreover, 61 percent of those individuals are angry about the impasse. Forty-nine percent prefer the Democratic Party's approach to reducing the Federal deficit and maintaining critical Federal programs. Finally, 48 percent of the respondents approve of the President's handling of the budget negotiations whereas only 22 percent of the respondents agree with the manner in which the Speaker of the House has handled the negotiations.

Therefore, we must end the political posturing and end the disruption of the lives of millions of Americans. Another issue is the impending default by the Federal Government on its debt obligations. A major interest payment on the Federal debt is due today. We like to boast that we are a superpower and that the world should look to us for leadership. We are a poor example for the rest of the world if we allow the Federal Government to be in default. This is unacceptable to the American people. It should be unacceptable to every Member of the House of Representatives. We must pass legislation to extend the debt ceiling without delay. And we should pass a streamlined continuing resolution to get America working again.

MONTEREY BAY AND LANGUAGE LEARNING

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on November 1, 1995, I had the honor of introducing a resolution heralding the Monterey Language Capital of the World initiative.