

Congress, whether it was on June 20, whether it was on June 22, or whether it was on September 6, our Republican colleagues have thus, with the exception of I think two of them, refused to join us in that kind of bipartisan clean-up. What better day than Halloween to say it is time to stop tricking the American people and stop taking treats from the lobby. It is time to get about cleaning up this House and doing the business of the American people.

PRESIDENTIAL TRICK OR TREAT?

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, tonight is Halloween and Americans want to know if they will get a trick or treat from their President.

The President has told Americans that he wants these four things in the Federal budget:

No. 1, a plan that will balance the Federal budget in 7 years.

No. 2, a plan that will save Medicare from bankruptcy.

No. 3, a plan that will end welfare as we know it.

No. 4, a plan that will cut taxes for families and reduce the capital gains tax to spur job creation and economic growth.

Madam Speaker, the President has never presented such a plan. But the House and the Senate have passed and will shortly send to the President a budget reconciliation plan that will achieve all four of the President's goals.

The question is: Will the President trick Americans and veto the only budget plan that will achieve his goals or will the President treat Americans and just sign the balanced budget?

Madam Speaker, Americans want to know what their President will give them this Halloween, trick or treat.

YESTERDAY'S VOTE ON BOSNIAN RESOLUTION A MISTAKE

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN. Madam Speaker, the vote that we took yesterday on Bosnia, even though it was overwhelming, was a mistake. It undermined the American President, and it undermined America's position as the leader of the free world. I think we will live to regret it.

If you talk the talk, you have got to be willing to walk the walk. We have poured billions of dollars into NATO to protect the integrity of Europe's borders, to promote democracy, and to make good on our vow after the holocaust of World War II that it would never happen again. The Bosnian war is a reflection of the fact that we have allowed it to happen again. If it happens here, it can happen in other places.

The fact is that the war in Bosnia occurred because of a violation of

Bosnia's borders by Serbia's invasion with soldiers and armaments. The fact is that the massacre of Bosnian Moslems is the worst holocaust to occur in Europe since World War II. The fact is that America needs to be a leader in securing peace in that area of the world and in fact throughout the world, and we cannot assume that mantle of world leadership if we deliberately prevent our President from acting responsibly and effectively.

KEEPING PROMISES

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Madam Speaker, approximately a year ago, the American people spoke loud and clear when they elected a Republican majority in Congress for the first time in 40 years. They wanted us to come to Washington and keep our promises to cut spending and reform the way Washington works. We have kept our promises.

We have passed a balanced budget. We have passed real welfare reform. We have passed tax cuts for middle class families and small businesses, and we have downsized the huge Federal bureaucracy.

Madam Speaker, the new Republican majority has kept our promises we made last year. We have delivered what the people want. Now it is time for President Clinton to keep his campaign promises, too.

STEALING ALL BUT THE FAMILY JEWELS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, documents now reveal that Alan Greenspan misled us, the Bush White House used phony numbers. NAFTA is Halloween all right, inside out. It is a trick. Certainly not a treat.

The news that breaks today might be good for the South if you think about it. You already lost in the first 9 months of this year 100,000 textile jobs. Fruit of the Loom is laying off 3,200 people and moving to Mexico.

I have heard about people stealing your pants. This is the first time somebody has stolen our goochies, ladies and gentleman.

While Congress is debating 4-year deals, 5-year deals, 7-year deals, I predict in 1999 Congress will be debating a 10-year deal. The reason is very simple. America will never balance the budget, let alone pay one dime off on this massive debt without jobs. As long as the good-paying jobs are going overseas, we will continue to lose our pants.

Thank God it could have been worse. They could have stolen our family jewels.

CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN ALL YEAR

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Madam Speaker, as many other colleagues of mine who come to this well have noted, today is in fact Halloween. In listening to the Clinton liberals here on the other side talk over the past several months, I have come to the conclusion that they have really been trying to celebrate Halloween all year long.

Madam Speaker, it really makes for perverse verse. Because when we talk about Medicare, the liberals howl about Mediscare; and when we speak of Medicaid, the liberals moan of Medifraid; and when we pass the Balanced Budget Act, the liberals scream, "Give us your tax dollars, Jack;" and when we discuss welfare reform, the liberals bitterly cry, "Oh, please keep the norm."

Madam Speaker, the liberals have tried their fear tactics, and they have cried wolf once too often. The American people want us to balance the budget, reform welfare, and preserve and protect Medicare and Medicaid.

Madam Speaker, let us get serious. Friends, join us and let us give the American people what they really want.

104TH CONGRESS SCARIEST ON HALLOWEEN

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, the scariest things this Halloween are the tricks and treats being doled out by the Republican-led Congress. The problem is that the American people get all the tricks, while lobbyists get all the treats.

When lobbyists come knocking on the doors of this House there are plenty of GOP goodies to go around. If you come dressed as a golfer—you will be treated to a gift ban bill that does not ban lobbyist-paid golf trips.

If you come dressed as a corporate big-wig or millionaire—you will be treated to more than your share of the Republican's \$245 billion tax cut. And, if you come dressed as a doctor—you will be treated to 3 billion dollars' worth of goodies in the GOP Medicare bill.

But, if you come dressed as a senior citizen, a student or a veteran, a working man or woman, there are no treats, only tricks. The scariest thing this Halloween may just be the 104th Congress.

GO BIG RED

(Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to settle a bet.

About a week ago, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] challenged me to a small wager on the outcome of the Colorado Buffalo-Nebraska Cornhusker football game. I accepted that challenge, and the Cornhuskers did not let me down.

The decisive score: Nebraska 44, Colorado 21. Nebraska apparently is well on its way to defending its national championship, and perhaps another national championship game in Arizona in the Fiesta Bowl.

This is the cap that the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] will be wearing around Capitol Hill today. I want you all to take a good look at it, and I hope that you will all take the time to congratulate him on the victory of the team whose cap he is sporting.

I know, Madam Speaker, that this time is devoted to serious issues affecting each of our districts, but football is serious in Nebraska as well as Colorado. I can think of few things of any more interest or that unite people more than football.

Go Big Red.

KILLING MEDICARE

(Mr. OLVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, the Republicans are cutting Medicare by \$270 billion. Why such an extreme cut?

The Republican Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, tells seniors he wants to save Medicare. The Republican Senate leader says he wants to save Medicare. But what do they say when they are not talking to elderly voters?

Last week the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] said, "We don't get rid of Medicare in round one because we don't think that's politically smart."

Mr. DOLE told a large group from the insurance industry, he is proud of his 1965 vote against the creation of Medicare.

The Republicans are not saving Medicare, they are making extreme cuts in Medicare to pay for the tax cuts for the wealthiest of Americans.

They have made it clear, in their own words, this is only round one. The Republicans intend to kill Medicare.

CORNHUSKERS TOP BUFFALOES

(Mr. ALLARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a frightening performance by the Nebraska Cornhusker football team this past Saturday, October 28, against the University of Colorado Golden Buffaloes.

Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier and his Cornhuskers bedeviled

and bewitched the CU team, proving to the Nation why Nebraska was the national champion last year, and why the team is ranked No. 1 this week.

The Buffs are still haunted by a fumble that was ruled dead, and which cost them a touchdown. And although the Buffs fought a hard battle, they jinxed themselves with untold penalties.

I will be doing my Halloween bit today by wearing a Nebraska football cap, as I promised my good friend, Congressman BILL BARRETT of Nebraska. And I am giving that Cornhusker a sack of candy corn, in the hopes of sweetening Nebraska's chances to repeat as national champs.

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MEDICARE: SAVING IT OR DESTROYING IT?

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, last week the Gingrich plan passed Congress. If you make \$20,000 a year, your taxes will go up. If you make 10 times that amount of money, you will get a several thousand dollar tax break.

The Gingrich plan cuts student loans to middle class families and cuts Medicare \$270 billion in order to pay for a tax break for America's wealthiest people.

Why do they want to destroy Medicare? Listen to Speaker GINGRICH's own words when he spoke to a group of insurance executives:

Now, we didn't get rid of it in round one because we don't think that that's politically smart and we don't think that's the right way to go through a transition. But we believe it's going to wither on the vine because we think people are voluntarily going to leave it.

Madam Speaker, that is wrong to want to destroy Medicare, particularly at the same time that you say you are trying to save it.

STOP SUBSIDIZING LOBBYISTS

(Mr. WICKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WICKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today as an advocate for the taxpayer whose hard-earned dollars are going to subsidize Washington lobbyists. The lobbyists I speak of directly benefit from the Federal grant system, designed to help people and charities, not line the pockets of inside-the-beltway lobbyists.

When I tell my constituents that the Federal Government gives away over \$39 billion per year in grant money with little or no strings attached, they tell me to stop this business-as-usual attitude in Washington.

If these groups were not spending money on political and partisan activi-

ties, they would have much more money for the services they are intended to perform and they would not have to take as much—or any—money from hard-working Americans.

The Istook-McIntosh-Ehrlich amendment to the Treasury-Postal conference report would require Federal grantees to open their books and be accountable to the taxpayers who fund them. Sunshine, Madam Speaker. Let us show the taxpayers how their money is being spent. It is only fair and the right thing to do.

As President of the freshman class, I can tell you that this is the kind of reform we promised the American people last November—let us deliver in the 104th Congress.

MEDICARE

(Mr. THOMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to convey the frustrations that so many senior citizens expressed to me while I was in my district the past weekend. I can picture one of the seniors who approached me and begged, "please do not let them take my only source of medical insurance away, I can't afford to pay a dime more." This little lady was talking about the increase in her Medicare premiums that is being proposed by the Republican Congress.

Madam Speaker, this lady's request resonated throughout the Second Congressional District in Mississippi. These seniors cannot afford to pay more so that those wealthy Americans can receive a tax break. Can you imagine a poor senior citizen, receiving only \$400 a month in Social Security income, who currently spends \$46.10 a month for health care premiums now having to pay \$97.70? That's over a 100-percent increase in premiums. That's outrageous. That's cruel. Is this the Government that was created by the people and for the people? The question now is, which people? Ask a low-income senior citizen and they will tell you: the rich people.

How can we, as responsible Members of Congress, advocate raising a poor senior citizen's premium to pay for a tax cut for those Americans who can live without it. This is not democracy but hypocrisy.

The Republican plan to cut \$270 billion out of Medicare is a cruel and devastating attack on our mothers and grandmothers. Do you really think that your rich friends need a tax cut this much? I do not think so. Republicans please think about what you are doing and spare the pain that you are causing our seniors with your tax hike on their Medicare. The over 388,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Mississippi beg you not to jeopardize their health insurance. Let us not make these seniors choose between food and medical care.