

year that they try to carry on to the next generation, and it is no different with a farmer than it is with a small businessman on Main Street who has invested a lifetime of work.

That is who we are talking about, people who have worked all their lives, have paid their taxes, been responsible in this society, and we have a punitive tax system today to punish them for saving and working hard all their lives, and to me it is simply outrageous.

I think it is important too, and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. CHAMBLISS] had talked earlier about the excitement back in January passing the balanced budget amendment in the House here, and it failed over in the Senate, and I keep going back to the scary thought that, because we do not have a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution in this country, that 2 years down the road, 4 years down the road, that the Republicans will lose one of the Houses up here. What will happen? Everything that we have worked for this year will be down the tubes because we will be back in the status quo—

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. If the gentleman will yield, I think there is a lot of hope for America, because frankly I think what the public may not know is that most Members of this House in a bipartisan fashion really joined the Republican lead on balancing the budget, of reducing Government wasteful spending, of the line-item veto, which will eliminate pork-barrel legislation, and also reforming regulations and therefore costing less for individuals and businesses. So I think there is great hope and I think it is a bipartisan effort that we may have led, but it is a bipartisan effort.

One of the items the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. CHAMBLISS] is involved with is the downsizing, privatizing, consolidation of Federal agencies will also reduce the costs, because there has been such a great deal of bureaucracy in Washington, and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. CHAMBLISS] I know has been fighting for this as a champion to try to make sure we get every dollar worth for our constituents.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. You know again I alluded earlier that we all come from different backgrounds. Another thing that we do have in common though is the fact that all of us came out of small business backgrounds, whether it was farming, or real estate, or dentistry, and I know the gentleman from Arizona was in county government, but we all had to worry about finances, we had to worry about making sure that at the end of the month when we went to the bank we were in the black, and we had to tell that banker why we were not in the black if we were not in the black. And one way that we have gone about approaching the fact of getting the Federal Government's bottom line in the black at the end of our term in Congress is that we have looked at every single way that we can cut expenses, and we talked about cutting out departments, we have talked about

the fact that the Federal bureaucracy is bloated, and it truly is. Again it is something you cannot really appreciate until you are here in the position that we are in. But again, President Clinton talked about this during his campaign in 1992, and what did he do about it? Nothing. We talked a lot about downsizing the Federal Government as one of the basic philosophies of the Republican Party. What did we do about it? In our budget reconciliation package we are going to completely cut out the Department of Commerce. We do not need it over there. We are going to cut it out. That is another way we are going to go about downsizing the Federal Government to make sure that at the end of our term in Congress that we are moving toward balancing the budget of this country so that in the year 2002 we will not have to worry about how much money we were spending in Congress, we know that is going to be taken care of because we are going to eliminate it, and it is just simply another way that we are moving toward balancing the budget of this country and being responsible and being reactive to why the people send us up here.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. If the gentleman will yield, I would like to engage, if I could, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH], who has been a deficit hawk and a budget hawk in making sure that his constituents in Florida as well as those who are here across the country, that, you know, we do not have waste here, let us bring some semblance of what the values of America are out there in our neighborhoods, and I would ask the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH] to give us his impressions of what he hears in his district.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. It really started back during the August recess that I really began to get a good feeling of what the constituents in my district felt we needed to do, and the thing I heard time and time again from my constituents, and I held 25 town hall meetings over 30 days in August, despite all the rhetoric that they heard that we were being mean-spirited and going too far, everybody I talked to at those 25 townhall meetings told me the same thing. They said:

You will not fail if you have the guts to step up to the plate and balance the budget. You will fail if you lack the courage, and if you come up short, and you decide to keep going on with business as usual. You need to stay true to your course. Do not be like everybody else in Washington over the past 40 years. You make sure that Washington lives by the same rules that all Americans have had to live by for the past 200 years where we take in only as much money and spend only as much money as we take in.

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It is an absolute necessity. I have to tell you something, I have concerns about this budget. It is not a perfect budget, but let me tell you something, it does something that we have not

done in Washington, DC, in a generation. It balances the budget. That is absolutely essential.

For those who think that it goes too far, I have to tell you this. How can we go beyond 7 years? How can we trust Congresses 10 or 20 years down the road to continue to have the guts to do what all Americans know we have to do today? As so many people testified before the Committee on the Budget, from talking to the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. SHADEGG] and others on the Committee on the Budget, and the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS], they have had an avalanche of witnesses who have said even though every American does not focus in on deficit issues, they will understand a few years down the road why this is so important, because if we follow through on the Republican plan to balance the budget in 7 years, Americans will see unprecedented growth, more growth than they have seen economically since World War II, since the ending of World War II.

What does that mean? That means interest rates on your car loan go down, that means interest rates on your house loan go down. It means that middle-class Americans get the break that they deserve, get the break that they have not had for the past 40 years, and we bring sanity back to the process.

Mr. SHADEGG. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask you quickly if you happened to hear the four Wall Street economists who came before the policy committee today and who testified that we had already, by what steps we have taken, brought interest rates in America down by 2 percent since we took office in January. They compared that 2 percent reduction in interest rates here in America with other comparable economies, where interest rates have come down 1 percent, and they said, "The policies you have adopted have already had the effect of reducing the interest rate here in America by 1 extra percentage point below what it had been before you got here." That is a real savings in car loans and home mortgage loans across the board.

Now if we go the next step we will see a real dramatic impact, and they predicted 2 more percentage points' drop in the interest rates.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Reclaiming my time, it was a very interesting hearing today. I know everybody that was there had to feel good about what they were saying, because we were sending the signal across the world that we were finally going to get America's House in order. Interest rates have dropped. That has meant more money for middle-class Americans all across America.

They said, and this is the final point I will make before yielding back my time, they said, "The danger lies in us not having the guts to finish what we

start. The danger does not lie in having a showdown with the President, if that is required, and possibly having government shut down for 12 hours or 24 hours." They said, "The real danger in the market lies in us continuing to throw away money like we have thrown away for the past 40 years."

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN].

Mr. DORNAN. I just wanted to make an observation while the distinguished gentleman from New York, BILL PAXON, is in the Chamber, what a great piece of work he helped to form on November 8 of last year, a year ago this coming week.

I know a fully matured lion, like the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS] will not mind an aging lion who came here out of the bicentennial election of 1976, to notice that we have Pennsylvania, we have Arizona, we have Iowa, a very important State, at least until Lincoln's Birthday, February 12, we have Minnesota, we have Georgia, we have the beautiful panhandle of Florida, the most beautiful beaches in America. And I am telling you, if this freshman class had not come along, there were some of us who would have turned in our spurs by now and said that there were other things to do, like enjoy our grandchildren.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that one of the unsung heroes in this Congress is the gentleman from New York [Mr. PAXON], because he has made all the difference in our having a Republican majority and the opportunity to save this country and to turn it from the direction it has headed. I would applaud, if I was allowed to.

Mr. DORNAN. He has made you a chairman, he has made me a chairman, but here is the point, if I may mention the House of Lords, the other body.

I just did a radio show in San Diego and a questioner of no known ideology said, "What are you people accomplishing? Suppose you have a great freshman class. So what? It is all dying in the Senate, is it not? You are not going to get anything done." I think what we have to keep reminding our worthy colleague, including some old long-in-the-tooth lions over there, is that they enjoyed chairmanships and the chance to creatively write American history for 6 years, thanks to Ronald Reagan and the great election victory in 1980.

But in this Chamber, the people's House, the money House, the appropriations bill House, the first among equals by the writers of our Constitution, the Framers said that we were to be first among equals over the Senate, over the Supreme Court, and over the White House, and we have not had a

chairmanship in this place for 40 years in the political desert.

So not only did all of you give me a chance over the last 10 months to sit on a Committee on Armed Services, a subcommittee chairmanship, and one on the Permanent Select on Intelligence, but you gave back to the U.S. Senate all of those chairmanships that they are enjoying, and they had better remember the gift that you have given them for some fulfillment in life, this opportunity to craft American history, and that you are going to keep the promises you made, and it is promises that the whole Republican Party is going to be held accountable for on November 5, in 1 year and 4 days from All Saints Day, today.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] obviously talked from a Republican standpoint, but what is exciting to me when I go home is that it is not a Republican issue, it is an issue that all Americans have united on, and it is something that I am extremely proud of. I am in a district that is 60 percent Democrat, and they love what we are doing up here.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman talked about promises made, promises kept, and a Governor from Minnesota once observed that politics is a promising profession. In the last several years we have heard a lot of campaign promises.

I want to remind the gentleman of some which were made by a gentleman who was elected to the Presidency several years ago. He was elected promising to downsize the Federal Government, to end welfare as we know it, to reform welfare, to save the Medicare system, and to give a tax break to the middle class while balancing the budget within 5 years.

Those are the same kind of promises that we made, and the difference is that we kept our promises; he broke his. What makes me so angry is that now he is trying to keep us from keeping our promises to the American people. We are not going to stand for it, and neither are the American people.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. I thank my colleagues.

JIMMY RYCE AND MISSING CHILDREN IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AL-LARD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you, this Congress, and those watching at home, about an endangered innocent, a constituent of mine, Jimmy Ryce. Jimmy is a 10-year-old boy from Miami, FL, who was abducted 51 days ago, on September 11, 1995. He was last seen getting off the

school bus less than four blocks from his home in the Redlands, an agricultural, quite spacious community just southwest of Miami.

Jimmy is an A student enrolled in an honors-gifted program at his school. Everyone who knows him is attracted to his goodness, sweetness, and intelligence. He is a very trusting child. Jimmy loves to read. He has a habit of reading a couple of books at the same time, leaving the books scattered throughout the house with bookmarks in each of them.

Jimmy loves baseball and football. Some of the family's happiest memories are going together to Dolphins and Marlins games at Joe Robbie Stadium. If I may ask the cameras to just focus in on Jimmy, and I will talk about the picture in a couple of seconds, but if they can leave the focus on him. Since learning of Jimmy's kidnapping, the reaction in south Florida is one of outrage, anger, and shock. The response from authorities has been swift and professional. The media in south Florida have been exceptional. But where is Jimmy?

The television coverage has been extensive, over and above the magnitude of other such kidnapping incidents. Newsrooms and reporters have taken the Ryce case to heart and have made it their station's commitment to cover the case down to the latest findings. As we all know, when faced with adversity good things do tend to happen. People have volunteered tirelessly their time, services, and assistance, unconditionally. Wal-Mart is displaying Jimmy's posters in their 2,000 stores nationwide, as is Albertson's grocery outlet, and the list is endless.

Most of these efforts were something solicited from volunteers, unbeknownst to the Ryces. Not only have State officials, including Governor Chiles, been involved, but Federal officials, too, including the FBI and Attorney General Janet Reno. What we are hoping is that the more people who see Jimmy's face, the more likely it is someone who has seen him will recognize his face from these posters. This is not a city problem or a State problem, not the abduction of a child in a custodial battle or a runaway, but who, taken from his family by a stranger, is a national problem. As I said, let me ask the camera again to focus on the picture.

What I have learned in the last several weeks with the FBI missing persons, Missing Children Division, is that of the cases that have been solved, they are really solved by people in the community seeing these pictures, seeing the pictures on "America's Most Wanted," seeing the pictures on milk cartons or on postcards.

The case that very recently got national publicity, I just found out today the way it was solved. Two young boys who were kidnapped in Minnesota and found in Louisiana, in New Orleans, it was just a chance sighting by someone in a restaurant, calling the FBI through the 800 number that I will give