

more like the St. Valentine's Day massacre.

We had 10 hours, 10 hours over 2 days to debate a \$30 billion crime bill. The majority called that debate an open rule.

An open rule in this body means Members come to the well of this institution, offer an amendment. It is freely debated and it is voted on, not at the end of 10 hours we cap it off and say that is it, we are going home, we are going home on the crime bill.

Crime is the No. 1 issue across this Nation. People feel insecure in their homes. They are insecure when they walk the streets. They want Congress to provide some leadership.

So what leadership did we provide them tonight? Ten hours worth of debate; 10 hours worth of debate. In that 10 hours, you had to get your amendment accepted. I was one of the fortunate ones. I had an amendment that was accepted by both sides of the aisle, because it made a lot of sense. But I also had amendments for the Byrne grants. I was given 1 minute and 15 seconds to debate a Byrne grants amendment. Byrne grants, a program that has been around for a long time, we wanted to fight crime for more than 1 year. We wanted to provide steady funding for Byrne grants over 5 years. That funds our DARE programs, multijurisdictional undercover drug teams, and even Alabama used Byrne grants to run the prisons. One minute and 15 seconds.

I had another one, another amendment, for rural communities to share in some of this \$30 billion. We wanted 30 percent, and other Members had good amendments that were never offered. They were denied the opportunity to offer their amendments. They were denied the opportunity to debate, because we had 10 hours of debate.

Members come from all walks of life, like myself, having been a police officer for 12 years. I have some ideas on how I think crime should be fought in this country. You know, when I was a police officer, I went to work knowing that I had to put in my 8-hour shift, but many times that shift would go 10 hours, 12 hours, 16 hours. I could not stop at the end of 10 hours when I was fighting crime or doing a investigation.

At times there were major incidents that occurred in my State of Michigan; I was mobilized. I was gone for days from my home. I could not say it is 10 hours, I want to go home. Crime knows no time limit. Crime does not stop for Valentine's Day. You do not fight crime for 10 hours and then you go home because of St. Valentine's Day.

Crime occurs on Valentine's Day. Remember back in the thirties, the St. Valentine's Day massacre? Well, the old saying is history repeats itself. That is what we had here again today, Saint Valentine's Day massacre.

Let me ask the majority party who pushed through this rule on a party-line vote, when you have a missing child, are you going to stop missing that child after 10 hours? When you

have a bank robbery or breaking and entering, do you stop that investigation at the end of 10 hours? If you have a kidnaping, do you stop at the end of 10 hours? If you are getting close to the end of your shift, do you stop because you cannot go past 10 hours? You cannot apprehend a criminal because you are at that time limit?

Well, that is what happened here today. We should have stayed on the job, debated each and every amendment, and there were some of my friends on the Republican side of the aisle that never had an opportunity to offer their amendments or have them debated. We stopped at 10 hours because the majority said, "We have a Contract on America. We have to get it done."

You heard tonight they are going to start the national security debate. And guess what, we have 10 hours to debate national security. That is the kind of Contract on America they have, and they want for this country.

I want to move forward, and I want to debate these issues in an open and free rule where there are not time caps.

So remember, when crime strikes your family, when crime strikes in your community, you can thank the other party, because instead of doing something about crime tonight, we ended up going out to dinner because it is Valentine's Day.

We have more important things to do. We have plenty of amendments. Let us not run out on America. Let us not run with a contract that cannot be debated, a contract that cannot be amended, and the only value that we place on crime and national security is 10 hours.

Ladies and gentlemen, unfortunately the Contract on America has turned into another St. Valentine's Day massacre.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE FDA DOES ITS JOB

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of debate in Washington about the role of the Federal Government. You hear a lot said about Federal agencies and what they do.

Let me tell you a little story about one Federal agency. Two weeks ago this agency got a phone call and a tip, and the tip was that some people in northern California shopping at a major supermarket chain had bought some infant formula, and the color of it did not look right. So they called this Federal agency in Washington, DC, which thought it was serious enough to launch an investigation.

The net result of that investigation was the discovery that someone was counterfeiting baby formula. In fact, they were taking the label that everyone might recognize of one of the most popular brands of infant formula in America and filling the contents of the can with something other than that infant formula. As a result of that discovery and the investigation, last Friday this Federal agency turned over information to the Department of Justice and an individual was arrested in Mission Viejo, CA, and charged with trafficking in counterfeit goods, and a warrant was issued for a second person.

That Federal agency discovered that this conspiracy to release these counterfeit baby formulas involved people not only in California but also in Maryland. This agency seized 38,000 pounds of fake infant formula and recovered another 6,000-plus pounds that had already been put on grocery shelves.

The agency believes that they have now confiscated all of the phony formula and they have told consumers not to be worried.

No details of the arrests have been made, because, of course, the investigation is ongoing. It turns out these counterfeiters had purchased bulk infant formula that had been manufactured for export overseas, and it turns out that infant formula manufactured for export does not have to meet the same criteria in terms of nutritional value as the infant formula does in the United States.

My kids are all grown up, and I have not bought infant formula for a long, long time, but these cans of infant formula were selling at \$10 a pop, so the folks who were out there with the counterfeit formula had a lot of money to be made if they just could have pulled this off.

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They did not get the job done.

I might mention one other thing. This agency also discovered that the plastic scoop that was enclosed in the infant formula can—everybody is familiar with it, where you take a certain measure, put a number of scoops in the bottle before you add water for

the baby—and it was in the counterfeit baby formula can, the scoop was too small.

So I said to the person at the Federal agency, "What difference would that have made?" He said ultimately the mother would have wondered, "What is going on? Why isn't my baby gaining weight as he was supposed to?"

Counterfeit formula, not enough nutritional value, an incorrect scoop. The Federal agency moved in and did its job. Which Federal agency? The Food and Drug Administration.

Most Americans do not know much about the Food and Drug Administration, but in terms of the health of our family, it may turn out to be one of the most important. Virtually all of the food, all of the drugs, our Nation's blood supply, and so many other things depend on the watchful eye of the Food and Drug Administration.

I did not come here tonight to just tell you an interesting and positive story about that agency but to tell you there are forces afoot in Washington, DC, and around the Nation that are literally attacking the Food and Drug Administration, and in fact some of them have gone so far as to suggest this agency should go out of business.

Now who in the world would do that? Well, it turns out it is a coalition of very conservative groups, radical right-wing groups that are coming together who want to turn out the lights at the Food and Drug Administration.

Who are these folks? Well, if you peel back the cover and look inside, they have all sorts of high-sounding names, names like the Competitive Enterprise Institute, Citizens for a Sound Economy; all of these different names. It turns out you look inside and you find out a very interesting story. The political groups that are trying to put the Food and Drug Administration out of business, the agency that is responsible for protecting us, turns out to include some of the most radical right-wing interests in America: the David Koch Foundation, the Koch Family Foundation, created from the oil fortunes of Fred Koch, founder of the extremist ultraconservative John Burch Society.

They put in \$1.7 million to close down the Food and Drug Administration. And a lot of companies that are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration and are sick and tired of having that agency look over their shoulders, they want to close them down, too.

The Smith, Richardson Foundation, with money from the Vicks Vaporub and Smith Bros. Cough Drops, fortune, as well as the Merrell Pharmaceutical Company, contributed \$500,000 to this effort to close down the Food and Drug Administration.

The information I am sharing with you is published in the New York Times of last Sunday in an article by Phil Hiltz, in a special to the New York Times.

It reaches, unfortunately, to the House of Representatives, NEWT GING-

RICH, has called the Commissioner, the head of the Food and Drug Administration, David Kessler, Mr. GINGRICH has called him a thug and a bully. He says the Food and Drug Administration is a job killer.

It turns out that a foundation which the Speaker is using to finance his college video courses has received contributions from a number of businesses regulated by the same Food and Drug Administration. I think it is important that people all across America, when they hear folks criticize Federal agencies, Washington bureaucracies, stop and ask a few questions about which ones and why would you happen to be criticizing them? There are too many regulations coming out of this town, certainly, too many bureaucrats. We have to do our best to make sure that we keep those on the job who are doing the job properly, and those who are not have to be relieved of their responsibilities.

But be careful when you hear these charges made about the Food and Drug Administration. Recall for a moment that if that agency had not been on the job and doing it right, that counterfeit baby formula would have been sold, perhaps, across the Nation to the detriment of infants and to the detriment of the families who unwittingly would have been purchasing these goods.

This is not the first time the Food and Drug Administration stepped in. Do you recall a few years ago when the syringes were popping up in Diet Pepsi cans? The Food and Drug Administration stepped in. They proved it was a hoax. They saved the Pepsi Cola Company a lot of grief and put them back on their feet.

It is an important agency, and let us not be too quick to do away with them.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HERBERT VENEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). Under the previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Black History month, I rise to pay tribute to a prominent black community leader who played an important part in the local history of Virginia's Northern Neck area, the late Dr. Herbert L. Veney.

Like many physicians in rural areas, Dr. Veney was called upon to use his medical training in diverse ways. In addition to his family physician private practice, he served as consultant to a local mental health facility, medical director of a community nursing care facility, and as county medical examiner.

Dr. Veney was active in several organizations that supported human services, education and civil rights causes including the Richmond County Community Services Association, St. Pauls College Board of Trustees, the American Cancer Society, the Black History

Museum Board and the NAACP—just to name a few.

One of Dr. Veney's unique contributions to the community was founding the Black Business and Professional Coalition. Chaired by Dr. Veney from 1985 until his death last October, this organization assists minority owned businesses in the northern neck area with management skills training in addition to providing college scholarships for minority youth.

Each year the BBPC holds an Unsung Heroes Awards Ceremony to honor the efforts of local citizens who have, in the words of one of its members, "made our way easier by blazing trails for others." And to raise funds for scholarships. These words aptly describe the man whose persistence and dedication to minority youth made this scholarship fund possible. Dr. Veney is the kind of unsung hero who serves as a role model not only to others in the black community, but to the community at large.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR], the minority whip, is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, on the way over to the floor from my office, I happened to gaze out one of the Capitol windows, and full view there was quite a magnificent sight. It was a full winter moon that was highlighting a bank of clouds. And I thought to myself how wonderful it must be to see the Capitol outside, to see this structure, with people like myself and others who are in it and to bathe in the glory of this institution and what it represents. It was a stunning view, and I was moved by it this evening.

Mr. Speaker, we are beginning to see a crack with this Contract With America, or on America, however you want to phrase it. I know that my colleagues on this side of the aisle believe it is indeed the Contract With America. We believe, in fact, on our side of the aisle, there are some problems with what Republicans have proposed.

We saw it tonight. We passed a bill tonight called the Local Government Law Enforcement Block Grants Act of 1995.

Let me give you my perspective of what that is. We passed a major crime-fighting bill at the end of the last Congress, \$30 billion. The centerpiece of it was to put police officers on the streets of our cities and our villages, our county roads all across America. 100,000 police officers.

Republicans came here today, and their goal was to roll that back, cut the funding level, put it in a block grant and ship it off to local units of government or the State Government, primarily, and let them decide what to do with it.