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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Teach us, O gracious God, to be responsive to the prayers and blessings and support that other people share with us. When we truly examine our lives, we see how those about us have favored us with both material and spiritual gifts and we, too, often only accept the gift and never offer our appreciation to the giver. Remind us always, O God, to be grateful for the support and advocacy of other people in our daily lives so we will respond with a true spirit of thanksgiving. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VOLKMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION OF THE MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the provisions of 22 U.S.C. 276h, the Chair appoints the following Member of the House as a Member of the United States Delegation of the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group for the 1st session of the 104th Congress:

Mr. KOLBE of Arizona, chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize Members for 20 1-minute speeches on each side.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman for Ohio [Mr. HOKE].

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states the following:

On the first day of Congress the Republican House will require Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else, cut committee staffs by one-third, and cut the congressional budget. We have kept our promise.

It continues in this way. That in the first 100 days we will vote on the following items:

A balanced budget amendment; we kept our promise, we passed it.

Unfunded mandates legislation; we kept our promise.

Line-item veto; we kept our promise.

A new crime package to stop violent criminals; we kept our promise.

National security restoration to protect our freedoms; we kept our promise.

Government regulatory reform; we are doing this right now.

Welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence; family reenforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and to protect our children; tax cuts for middle-class, middle-income families; Senior Citizens Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; common sense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits; and term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

Mr. Speaker, this is our Contract With America.

QUESTIONING THE CREATION OF A FREE TRADE ZONE IN ISRAEL AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SPEAKER'S WIFE

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, just last week one of our colleagues gave much needed criticism to several former higher ranking Government officials who now represent foreign interests. I rise today to protest the job given to the wife of our Speaker by a group of American investors who want to create a free trade zone in Israel. What does a free trade zone mean? It means companies operating within the zone can import duty free and then export to the United States duty free. In other words, export American jobs to Israel so they can produce products that can come back to the United States to compete with American made products.

The Speaker's wife, Marianne Gingrich, reportedly is paid \$30,000 annually plus commissions on each American company she convinces to leave the United States. For instance, a 10-percent commission on a \$100 million factory would be \$10 million to the Speaker's wife. Why did this job go to the Speaker's wife? Four and a half million

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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here, 10 million there. How many millions before an independent counsel is named to investigate the Speaker's shady deals.

INCREASES, NOT CUTS, CLAIMED FOR THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have been falsely accused by our opponents and by the media of cutting nutrition programs through the Contract With America. The GOP has developed a plan, and it is a good plan. I have a graphic representation of that here. It talks about proposed spending.

In fiscal year 1995 for the school lunch program we are increasing spending from \$4.5 to \$4.7 billion. That is a \$200 million increase in spending on nutrition programs. Yet we have been accused of trying to starve children.

Under the Women and Children's Nutrition Program we are increasing from \$3.47 to \$3.68 billion. This is a \$200 million increase.

I just want to tell the people in America that the Contract With America is not a contract on America. We have a plan to feed those who are truly in need. We have a plan to cover those who have problems in our society. I think it is a good plan. I intend to support it, and I encourage others to support it.

CHINA POLICY RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT INTELLIGENT LIFE IN WASHINGTON

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, everybody knows that China is ripping America off. They now enjoy a \$38 billion trade surplus, laughing all the way to a Chinese bank.

To me that is unbelievable, but what is more unbelievable is that China is then rewarded with most-favored-nation trade status.

But what can even be more troubling in all this is that with that \$35 billion, China builds Silkworm missiles. Then China takes those Silkworm missiles and sells them to Iran. Then Iran takes those Silkworm missiles and threatens the gulf, and then the Pentagon says to Congress, "We need more money to protect the gulf from those Silkworm missiles that Iran has that were made in China."

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Now NASA is on an unmanned space mission to the moon. I think NASA should redirect and have an unmanned space mission to Washington, DC, and try to find out if there is any intelligent life left in the Nation's Capital.

A LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, why the Democratic love affair with the bureaucracy? What motivates the Democrats to fight so hard to save it?

As part of our welfare reform package, we Republicans have proposed increasing money for school nutrition programs and giving it directly to the States, thereby cutting out the bureaucracy. Yet, the Democrats have lied about the Republican plan to save the bureaucracy. Why?

Well, a good investigator always follows the money. When we do, we find that the eight largest Federal Government employee PAC's in the last five election cycles contributed \$17.1 million to Democratic candidates, but only \$1.9 million to Republican candidates. That is about a 9-to-1 ratio favoring the Democrats.

Could this be why the Democrats fight so hard and misinform so much? Are they really committed to the children, or to the bureaucracy that fills their electoral coffers?

The Republican plan, Mr. Speaker, will put more money where it is needed most.

WELFARE—A COLOSSAL FAILURE IN THE WAR ON POVERTY

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, with all the distortion, deceit, and deception coming from the other side of the aisle on the issue of welfare reform, I think it is time to remind my Democrat colleagues that welfare has been a colossal failure.

Since 1965, we have spent \$5 trillion on welfare, an amount greater than our total national debt. An amount greater than the cost of winning World War II—even in constant, inflation-adjusted dollars.

But far from winning the War on Poverty, we have spent \$5 trillion and poverty has won, or at least is winning.

Consider the sad facts. Since the end of World War II, poverty in America had been declining at a rapid and steady rate. But as welfare spending increased in the late 1960's and early 1970's, the poverty rate leveled off and began climbing, reversing a decades long trend in the other direction.

So why do the Democrats fight so hard to preserve a system that has been such a failure? Why do they want to perpetuate a system that has trapped so many in a cycle of dependency? Why are they so wedded to the old order?

SCHOOL LUNCHES

(Ms. ESHOO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, it is said in every war the first casualty is the truth and this is certainly the case in the Republican revolution.

While the GOP claims that its budget cuts will not hurt American children, the truth is that children are the ones in the direct line of fire.

Mr. Speaker, 43 percent of the children in my district—18,625 children—will be impacted by the Republicans' cuts in the School Lunch Program.

A lunch may be something my colleagues on the other side of the aisle take for granted, but for some of these children it is their only meal of the day.

This meal provides the nourishment they need to learn and perform better so they can become productive citizens.

The mantra of the day is block grants. Well this one needs to be closely examined. The truth is there will be less money in the block grants and the Governors don't have to use this money for school lunches.

To make matters worse, the Republicans have eliminated national nutritional standards which prevented ketchup from being counted as a vegetable.

Mr. Speaker, the mean-spirited attacks on our children must stop. I urge my colleagues to oppose these devastating cuts—for our children and for the future of our country.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS FEED CHILDREN, NOT BUREAUCRATS

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

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, to listen to the Democrats speak, one would think the Republicans are ogres, taking food out of the mouths of babes. They have called us cruel; they have called us despicable.

Mr. Speaker, what is despicable is their tactics. They are deceiving the American people, and they know it. There are absolutely no cuts in the School Lunch Program under the Republican welfare plan. Let me say that again. There will be no cuts in the School Lunch Program.

As a matter of fact, the funding for the program will actually increase by \$203 million, an increase of 4.5 percent. Furthermore, the Republican plan guarantees that 80 percent of the funds will actually go to feed hungry children, while 2 percent can be spent on administrative costs.

Our proposal will make sure that the money will go where it is needed, into