

them. And I thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry.

□ 1110

PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership has repeatedly said that when it came to cutting spending, everything was on the table except Social Security, and I agree wholeheartedly.

But now I find, to my dismay, that the Contract With America's balanced budget amendment does exactly the opposite. It leaves Social Security wide open to raiding. In addition, last week the Republicans voted down a proposal to show America exactly how they are going to balance the budget. They also rejected a proposal to apply the unfunded mandates bill to the Contract With America.

I think we should be honest with the American people. I think we should support honesty in budgeting and support a balanced budget amendment which protects Social Security.

The people who elected us have only our word to rely on. That is the real contract with our constituents.

URGING PASSAGE OF BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT WITH THREE-FIFTHS PROVISION

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on November 8, the American people sent Washington a message that the Federal Government is too big, too powerful, and spends too much money.

That is why they overwhelmingly support a balanced budget amendment. But not just any amendment.

The American people want an amendment that makes it more difficult to raise taxes and forces Congress to make tough spending decisions.

That is why it is imperative that the balanced budget amendment include strong taxpayer protection.

The three-fifths provision does just that.

It requires not just a simple majority, but a three-fifths supermajority to raise taxes.

If we do not ensure the inclusion of the three-fifths provision in a balanced budget amendment, then we are giving this body license to continue its cycle of wasteful spending and irresponsible tax increases.

Mr. Speaker, I want the Government's license revoked.

We must empower people, not Government. Passage of the balanced budget amendment with the three-fifths provision is the first step in the right direction.

THE PLOT THICKENS

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, the plot surrounding our Speaker's book deal continues to thicken.

We find that while the Contract With America is committed to open meetings that the Speaker is, in fact, committed to a series of closed meetings; first, the closed meetings between he and Rupert Murdoch at which \$4.5 million is on the table and the future of telecommunications policy and foreign ownership of our airwaves is also on the table, a meeting the Speaker said never took place, and now there are four or five versions of what took place at that meeting.

Now we see that the Republican leadership is now committed to a closed meeting between the heads of the telecommunications corporations in this country and the Republican membership, no cameras, no press, no Democrats, no balance, but to privately have a meeting because it is only in private that they could have an honest discussion about the future of America's airwaves and multi-billion-dollar decisions for the consumers.

Somehow the Contract With America's commitment to open meetings rings a little hollow when the real meetings are held in private and in violation of House rules. The plot thickens.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, 81 percent of Americans support a balanced budget amendment, but a few folks are trying to put on the brakes. They say they will not support a balanced budget amendment unless they know exactly how we are going to pay for it.

Mr. Speaker, when President Kennedy stood at this podium behind me here and said we needed to put a man on the Moon, Americans did not demand at the outset to know the type of launching pad or rocket that was going to be used. We set the goal first; then methods for achieving that goal evolved.

The truth is some in this Chamber do not want Congress to balance the budget and have to live with the same kind of fiscal discipline that every family in America experiences every day. They want to continue runaway spending while our constituents are balancing their checkbooks and working hard to make ends meet.

The American people have told us with a resounding voice they want us to balance the budget. For the sake of all our children, let us provide the

leadership once and for all to solve this problem.

Where there is a will, there is a way. We will find a way to balance the budget. What we need is the will now to honor our Contract With America.

TIME FOR FULL DISCLOSURE OF BOOK DEAL

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, this morning's Wall Street Journal discloses that the conservative Heritage Foundation is holding a closed-door, Republicans-only meeting to discuss changes in Federal telecommunications policy, changes involving billions of dollars.

The list of participants include Chairman Rupert Murdoch, owner of the same publishing company that has offered the Speaker a multimillion-dollar book contract.

Mr. Speaker, this closed-door meeting and the special interests attending it make it clear why your multimillion-dollar book deal is an issue which will not go away. It is time for at least full disclosure of your book deal, and as painful as it may be, it is time to realize good government may require you, Mr. Speaker, to end this book deal once and for all.

TAKING OUR STREETS BACK ACT OF 1995

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, the House Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime is scheduled to conduct hearings on the Taking Our Streets Back Act of 1995 later this week.

This bill, of which I am proud to be an original sponsor, is a crucial first step in restoring the right of the American people to be secure in their person and property. I say the first step because this bill cannot remedy all of the shortcomings now existing in Federal anticrime programs. A number of initiatives will be required, because unfortunately the Federal role in crime prevention has suffered misdirection by this body for decades. The most recent example is last year's crime bill which attained new heights in wasteful pork-barrel spending and social spending programs.

Crime is not reduced by expanding bureaucracies. Our first priority must be to remove the violent criminals so that we can reclaim our communities.

In the days ahead I will detail how our new bill delivers on the promise to reduce crime my colleagues and I pledged as part of the Contract With America.