

price if we do not balance the budget. They will pay the price for this fiscal irresponsibility.

Unless we take steps now to balance the budget, our children will look forward to higher taxes, as much as 82 percent of their income; higher interest rates; fewer opportunities; a lower standard of living.

Mr. Speaker, we will have to balance the budget soon. We will do it for our children; we will have to do it for our grandchildren. We will fight to see that they will not be the only generation that has a lower standard of living than their parents.

Mr. Speaker, we should save our children by balancing the budget.

CONGRESS IS JACK THE RIPPER TO AMERICA, BUT PLAYS SANTA CLAUS TO THE WORLD

(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, the American people are frustrated, and it is not hard to figure out. Congress cuts housing in America but gives a \$50 million gift to Jordan. Congress cuts jobs for American kids but gives \$20 billion to Mexico. Congress cuts money for schools in America but gives \$12 billion to Russia. Congress cuts health care for America's veterans who fought in our wars, but pays for the defense of Japan and Germany.

The record speaks for itself. When it comes to America, Congress is like Jack the Ripper. When it comes to the rest of the world, Congress is Santa Claus. The truth is, the American taxpayer has the best government that Japan and Germany ever wished for or ever thought they could get.

Beam me up. This is a sad day. How about some more cuts for America?

KEEP THE REPUBLICAN PROMISE: CONTROL BOTH TAXING AND SPENDING

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, in the last few weeks, the other side of the aisle has engaged in such heated and hysterical rhetoric that it has reached meltdown levels. Their leadership and their President can no longer be thought of as sober or rational, and their hysterical and pathetic claims reveal a total lack of reasoned analysis of the facts.

They are slaves to a welfare state that insists on high taxes and bigger bureaucracies. They fail to see the disastrous consequences of welfare, and they are blind to the out-of-control spending that may yet put us all in the poor house.

Last November, the American people short-circuited the tax-and-spend Democrats. They said no to deficit

spending and yes to accountability and responsibility. Republicans will keep our promise to cut wasteful Federal spending and to let Americans families keep more of what they earn. It is only right that we gain control of our taxing and spending, so that future generations may enjoy a decent way of life. Surely the alternative is budgetary chaos.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, 14,355 students participated in the national school lunch program on Guam. In 1994, 18,000 students participated. If the Republican School Lunch Program had been put into effect on Guam in 1991, even with their 4.5-percent increases, by 1994, over 3,500 children would have been without school lunches.

In the same time period, throughout the United States this would have meant 1.1 million students without lunch every day. These are the facts. This is the reality behind the rhetoric. The Government pays 4.5 percent now and the children pay later.

If the majority has their will, they will in fact have increased funds for school lunches for next year, and it is likely that few children will go hungry in 1996, but will the number of children eligible for the School Lunch Program remain the same in 1997 and 1998 and beyond?

This blockhead grant will simply not keep pace with the growing number of kids, nor will it help them wherever they go. What price is the majority willing to pay to block grant school lunches? Mr. Speaker, as far as I am concerned, they are not paying any price. Our children are.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION IN SHAMBLES AS DEMOCRATS OPPOSE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Attorney General Janet Reno recommended appointing an independent special counsel to investigate the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Henry Cisneros. It seems that Secretary Cisneros may have lied to the FBI during his background check regarding payments he has made over the years to his mistress. Reports suggest that the payments he made to his mistress are much larger than he originally reported to the FBI.

Mr. Speaker, let us review the names of President Clinton's closest advisers that have resigned or are under a cloud of suspicion: Jocelyn Elders, Mike Espy, Les Aspin, Webster Hubbell, Rob-

ert Altman, Ron Brown, and now Henry Cisneros.

Mr. Speaker, who is next?

It is no wonder the President and his Democrat colleagues are spending so much time distorting the facts of our Contract With America. They have no ideas of their own, and their own administration is in a shambles.

THE VOTE ON H.R. 1158 AND 1159 DEFINES HOW MANY PRO-LIFE HOUSE MEMBERS HAVE BACKBONE AND HOW MANY ARE SPINELESS

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Contract on America we all know, through cuts on the school lunch program and other programs, has been hard on the kids. Today we are finding that the leadership of the Republican Party in the House is not only taking it out on kids, they are now going to take it out on the unborn.

Under H.R. 1158 and 1159, there is language in there that will protect the unborn throughout this country. The leadership of this House, the Speaker, has now required the Committee on Rules to issue a rule that, under adoption of that rule, it automatically takes the Istook language out of the bill.

I have talked to the right-to-life forces here, and they are telling me that this vote will be counted. This is the pro-life vote. We are going to find out what Members will kowtow to the leadership in the Republican Party when they put the pressure on, when they tell them there will be retribution if they do not vote for this rule.

We are going to find out how many pro-life people in this House do have backbone, and how many are spineless.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, as we take up the debate over the reauthorization of the Environmental Protection Act, we hear claims there is no need to preserve less well-known, often unglamorous species. It is easy to call for preservation of charismatic species like the bald eagle, the grizzly bear, and the sea turtle.

Some of today's most important medicines, as well as the keys to future medical crises, come from a wide range of animals, plants, molds, invertebrates, and other obscure wild species. In fact, more than 40 percent of the prescriptions sold in the United States today are derived from these organisms.

For instance, one of our most effective treatments for heart and circulatory disease was derived originally from chemicals produced by the purple foxglove. In 1991, more than 923,000 Americans died of heart disease or stroke. That statistic would be higher if it were not for the purple foxglove, the plant which produces digitalis, a drug that is taken by 3 million Americans annually to combat high blood pressure. Digitalis is frequently used to improve circulation in patients with congestive heart failure.

Only 5 percent of known plant species have been screened for their medical purposes. Let us continue to look for more.

THE REAL REASON FOR CUTTING PROGRAMS FOR THE NEEDY: TO GIVE MONEY TO THOSE WHO DO NOT NEED IT

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker before we start on a rampage of spending cuts, I thought we might like to consider the following multiple choice question: If you were trying to pay for over \$1 billion in tax cuts for the wealthy, would you, A, cut funding from nutrition programs for pregnant women and infants; B, eliminate funding for low-income fuel assistance for older Americans and working families; C, take money away from low-income students trying to work to pay for a decent education; or D, all of the above?

If you answered D, you should have no problem with the Republican leadership's rescission bill. But before we even start debating the specifics, let us get the facts straight. There are plenty of other places to cut welfare spending.

Just take a good look at some of the special subsidies we give to animal damage control programs, tobacco giants, and corporate welfare. Do not be fooled by the Republican leadership's cosmetic attempt to use the balanced budget as an excuse to cut these programs.

It is a sham, because it has nothing to do with deficit reduction. It is all about taking money away from people who need it and giving it to people who do not.

SALVAGE IS NOT A ZERO-SUM GAME

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

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, last night I and my colleagues, Mrs. CHENOWETH of Idaho and Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, presented a special order on timber salvage and its benefits to our environment and economy.

What should be abundantly clear from the statistics and facts that were

presented last night is that salvaging timber is not a zero-sum effort.

The environment does not suffer at the expense of the economy when we allow dead timber to be harvested.

We can encourage a mutually beneficial relationship between the economy and environment, and, in fact, we have a responsibility to do so.

Today we will begin debate on a bill that will allow over 6 billion board feet in timber salvage. This means jobs, revenue, and forest health.

Join me and rise above the environmental hysteria surrounding timber salvage, and pass this rescission bill. Do what is right for the environment and the economy.

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FEDERAL FOOD ASSISTANCE

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, this last Saturday morning in my congressional district, some 500 people gathered together. They gathered at the J.H. Rose High School in Greenville. Some who gathered were men and some who gathered were women. Some who gathered were older and some who gathered were younger. Some who gathered were black and some who gathered were white. Not all were poor. In fact, the majority of them were not poor. But they all gathered with one purpose in mind. They all gathered to demonstrate their presence that hunger in America is unacceptable and cannot be tolerated.

Those who gathered and gave up their Saturday morning said they wanted to send a message. They asked me to deliver that message to you, Mr. Speaker. The message is very simple, it is plain and it is reflected in their signatures on the silhouette which I brought back to Washington for your observance.

The message, Mr. Speaker, is that Government should make sure that people who are hungry do not go unfed.

This Nation is a strong nation, Mr. Speaker, not because of its technology and its defense. It is because of its compassion. We must not let the folks go hungry.

TIME FOR TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of burning in tax hell. For a generation now, American families and businesses have become virtual money trees for liberal Democrats. In order to finance their loony leftwing redistribution programs, Democrats have left no area of American life untouched. Virtually every facet of life is now taxed.

Americans today face Federal, State, and local income taxes and they have

to pay tolls, fees, FICA, social security, capital gains, sales taxes, and on and on. On top of all this, Americans get very little in return, except a request for more, and a warning from Democrats that they are insensitive to the plight of others.

No wonder Americans are fed up with Government. Most Americans now pay 25 cents to 40 cents out of every dollar that they earn and if we do not do something about this soon, they will be paying 84 cents out of every dollar in taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the American people voted for the Republican majority to reduce taxes and cut spending and we are going to do it.

THE SPEAKER AND ETHICS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, we learned this week that Speaker GINGRICH failed to disclose GOPAC's involvement in his college course when he asked for Ethics Committee approval.

Mr. GINGRICH's spokesman said that GOPAC's involvement was irrelevant. But that is not what Mr. GINGRICH's colleagues at Kennesaw State College were saying.

In a letter to Kennesaw president Betty Siegel, Robert W. Hill, the chair of the English department, put it best:

Because of Mr. Gingrich's congressional incumbency and because of his direct statements against inviting opposing viewpoints into his course and now with the evidence of GOPAC's direct and improper involvement, I do firmly object to its bearing academic credit.

Mr. Speaker, GOPAC's involvement in Mr. GINGRICH's college course appears to be in violation of the ethics rules and tax laws and underscores the need for an outside counsel to investigate this mess.

RELIEF IS ON THE WAY

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

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, today is the birthday of Andrew Jackson, our seventh President. One of his most memorable accomplishments is that he was the only President to actually pay off the national debt.

Where have you gone, Andrew Jackson? Our President today on the other hand thinks that \$200 billion deficits as far as the eye can see is just OK.

Well, I just wish the President and House Democrats cared enough about our children to actually balance the budget. This week we begin to change the way Washington works by sending Washington home, back to the people. We will start by passing a bill to reduce the onerous tax burden that has