

Except for a very few of the top graduates from the most prestigious schools, or the very few who have good family connections, most find out they could make more money managing a McDonald's or driving a truck.

We possibly should require colleges and universities to put warning labels on some of their degree programs such as "There are currently almost no jobs available in this field" or "This degree will do you absolutely no good whatsoever in obtaining employment."

If you think I am exaggerating, listen to these two letters in the April 24 issue of U.S. News & World Report:

Thank you for including "Gypsy Profs" with your rankings of liberal arts programs. It should give pause to anyone misinformed enough to think a graduate degree will guarantee a chance to teach. Like those in your article, I have a Ph.D., which entitles me to drive 480 miles each week to teach five courses for two community colleges. Each semester is an employment uncertainty. But I love what I do—something not true of most people—and I don't see a great deal of employment security anywhere. I knew what I was getting when I entered graduate school. Still, I dearly wish that the future looked more promising. There's no dignity in being a mercenary teacher-for-hire; last week my father-in-law described me as "unemployed" at a family gathering.

MICHAEL J. BOOKER.

KNOXVILLE, TN.

I received my Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago in 1993, and after two years in the job market and well over 100 applications for employment, I have yet to be called for my first interview despite my teaching experience and track record of publishing in professional journals. The time I spent working toward my doctorate would have been better utilized in almost any other career, where I would have been earning money and accruing seniority. The "gypsy profs" may not realize it, but they are the lucky ones in the fraud America's graduate schools are perpetrating on their students!

JONATHAN R. DEAN.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN.

Now, I hope I will not be misunderstood. A college education is a good thing.

I am not saying people should not go to college.

I am saying that many college graduates cannot find jobs today, particularly in fields like law and in teaching school.

There is a huge surplus of lawyers—and a huge surplus of teachers—and a huge surplus of people who want jobs in law enforcement or other Government jobs.

All I am really saying is that we need to do everything possible to encourage young people to go into fields where they are needed more—where the future is brighter.

We should also do a better job promoting what used to be called vocational education, but which in most places today is called technology education.

We need more young people today with technical training.

It is sad to see so many young people today getting college degrees, and par-

ticularly graduate degrees, which really do them no good.

It is just wrong to continue perpetrating fraud on our Nation's young people so some universities can make more money or so that some colleges can continue to employ professors who are teaching in fields in which there are almost no jobs.

Fortunately, our unemployment is low; but our underemployment is great and, unfortunately, is growing. Many colleges and universities are helping to make this situation worse.

IN HONOR OF FALLEN SECRET SERVICE AGENTS

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise as the ranking member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government. I rise today to pay a solemn tribute to the six employees of the U.S. Secret Service, one of whom is missing and five of whom we know have lost their lives as a result of the heinous attack on the Federal building in Oklahoma City. I rose yesterday in the context of the Oklahoma City resolution to talk about all the Federal employees.

I want to express my deepest sympathy to all the families, friends, and neighbors, but particularly, at this time to the family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues of the brave six Secret Service employees who we lost at Oklahoma City. This is a time of deep anguish and pain for the families of those killed, those injured, and those whose loved ones are still unaccounted for as they were doing the business of the people of the country.

Today we remember Assistant Special Agent in Charge Alan G. Whicher, who served as part of the detail protecting President Clinton, and then was transferred to what I am sure he and his family thought was a more tranquil environment in Oklahoma City. He lost his life.

Special Agent Cynthia L. Brown, appointed a special agent only a little over 1 year ago. She lost her life.

Special Agent Donald R. Leonard. His career assignments included the Vice-Presidential Protective Division. He lost his life.

Special Agent Mickey R. Maroney, who served with the Secret Service since 1971. He lost his life.

An investigative assistant, Kathy L. Seidl, appointed to the Secret Service in 1985, to the Oklahoma City office; and the office manager, Linda McKinney, who was recovered from the rubble only yesterday. She was the one I said was missing, and I was in error. She has been located.

I cannot say that I know the pain the people of Oklahoma City are experiencing. I do know very well the feeling of loss that communities all across this country feel for the people of Okla-

homa City and for the loved ones of those who lost their lives.

Mr. Speaker, God blesses America, and he does so through the services of so many, and particularly through the service of those who are fallen but not forgotten. Let us, Mr. Speaker, resolve at this moment to embrace the wives and the children, the mothers and the fathers, the sisters and the brothers, the fellow colleagues, all those who love them dearly, in the fellowship of love and compassion. While they have lost an important part of their families, we must assure them they will always be a part of our larger family.

To the family and friends of those brave U.S. Secret Service agents and employees, my words today, of course, cannot express the sorrow for the loss of this Nation's best, and the gratitude for their sacrifice. I recall the words of President Lincoln, and I quote:

I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming, but I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and the lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

President Lincoln, of course, spoke of those who lost their lives in the preservation of the Union; those who lost their lives in Oklahoma City did so as well.

As a father, a husband, and as a child of God, my heartfelt sympathies go out to each of the families. May they, too, find comfort in their sorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I know that every colleague joins me in expressing our sympathy and our sorrow, and our wishes that God will bless Alan, Cynthia, Donald, Mickey, Kathy, and Linda.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE HOUSE AS IT DEALS WITH THE BUDGET ISSUE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to talk a bit about some of the things that are in some of the newspapers today about the difficulties this House is facing as it forces itself to deal with the budget issue. For the last 4 years, we had the budget done on time. That was before April 15. This year, for all the magic done and all the things that got going, guess what, we do not have a budget, and everybody is saying "Just do it. Where's the budget?"

I think the budget happens to be the most important thing, and we should have done that first, before we did all the giveaways and all the tax cuts and all the other goodies, but the goodies have been given out, and now it is time

to take the medicine. The first issue that I thought was so interesting was the Hill newspaper, which said, guess what,

The Republicans are having trouble with their own appointed head of the Congressional Budget Office.

Luckily, the Congressional Budget Office is there. When the Democrats appointed the head of the Budget Office, we had trouble. Mr. Reischauer pointed out that we had underestimated the cost of the health care proposals that were out there. Thank goodness he did that, because I think he brought real reality.

Now they are very angry because the new head that they appointed is telling them their Medicare stuff does not add up, that they have put in all sorts of little amendments, and they want to tinker a little bit with it, and it is going to be a whole lot more costly than they thought. That is not the news they want to hear, but Americans want to hear what is really going to happen to the budget, so I am glad that both under Republicans and Democrats that Budget Office has worked to be nonpartisan and look at the numbers, not poll numbers, but budget numbers.

This budget fight goes on and on and on because, as you see in the other newspaper, you see both Republican leaders out pleading with the President to join them in the rescue of Medicare. They want the President to join them in the rescue of Medicare after they have proceeded to raid Medicare. What a deal. They get to raid it, we get to rescue it. There is something wrong with that picture.

The President and his administration were very responsible in the last 2 years. They have dealt with Medicare in our last budget. We bailed it out for the next 3 years, added solvency to it. We did it without one Republican vote. We have been talking about how not only Medicare but all health care should be looked at, because of the rising costs. We have had many proposals. Guess what, we didn't get a lot of bipartisan help.

In this last election people went out and said, "It is so easy. Those silly Democrats, they just mess everything up. Just give it to us. We can do tax cuts, we can balance the budget, and we can increase defense." I guess people forgot they had heard that once before in 1981. It didn't work then, and we see it isn't working now.

I really hope we get on with business, we get a budget out here. The No. 1 issue people want is doing something about that deficit, doing something about that deficit as rapidly as possible. All the other stuff was frill. We got the frill out of the way. We still don't have the main course, the budget. I hope we don't see politicization of the budget office.

We saw earlier this year the Speaker taking on his own budget nominee, saying he didn't like the way that they were responding. They are supposed to respond neutrally and according to real

numbers. That is the way it should be. I salute Director O'Neill for continuing that tradition, and I must say, let's stop whining about that and let's get on with the real budget. Just do it. Let's stop whining about how the President should rescue them from their own raids that they made to do tax cuts for the wealthy. Hey, they gave it away, now they have got to figure out how they pay. I don't think they should blame it on the President. He didn't get the credit for giving it all away.

Let's get on with it, let's see that budget, and let's get on with the real hard tasks of government.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I think I have heard some speculation that the Republicans want to cut somewhere in the neighborhood of \$350 billion out of Medicare spending, which would mean, of course, that there would either be higher payments by senior citizens, or lower reimbursement to hospitals and doctors and clinics and the like.

What I find curious about this is that \$350 billion figure is very close to the figure that we hear will be the cost of the tax cut bill, which was part of the Republican Contract With America. So this tax cut that took the money out of the Treasury is obviously being plugged with some cuts in Medicare. Maybe I have missed something here, but the two figures are very similar.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. The gentleman from Illinois listened very properly and very correctly. That is exactly right. They raided it, they gave it away, and now they are screaming to the President, "Rescue us, rescue us from our own craziness." If you remember, when these tax cuts went into effect, the Speaker attacked the same budget director who came out with this analysis on what those tax cuts were going to cost: "Did you write the numbers the same," and said it looked like she had socialists doing the analysis. Really.

That is why I think the rhetoric has gotten too high on this, and the gentleman has gotten right to the core of the problem, as he usually does.

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MEDICARE AND THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REGULA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, many of our colleagues on this side of the aisle have raised the question about exactly what is going on with the Republican budget process where we are now a month late in meeting the deadline, a deadline that we have not missed over the last 4 years.

I guess the answer is in the daily press. That is, that the Republican leadership is having a terrible time with now trying to figure out how to connect all of the dots in what they have promised in their budget to the American public. That is, that they would provide a huge tax cut to the wealthiest people in this Nation, they would balance the budget, they would add money to the military, and they would not touch Social Security.

Of course, what we now find out is that they cannot meet those targets without touching Social Security, and they plan to do more than just touch Social Security. The speculation runs from cuts of somewhere around \$200 billion over the next 7 years to Senators estimating as high as \$400 billion. What that means, if you just take an average, if you just save \$250 billion, you are talking over that 7-year period of asking senior citizens to pay somewhere between \$3,000 and \$3,700 more for their health care.

The problem is that many, many of these senior citizens simply have no way to replace that income. They have no way to replace the money that they would have to pay out for the additional cost of Medicare. They have no ability to go back to work. They cannot get a job. They cannot lean on their children any harder. So those cuts are immediately translated to the declining assets and the financial well-being of the senior citizens.

The Republican leadership has run around the last couple of days trying to explain that this is really about their saving Medicare, this is about reforming Medicare. But it is interesting, as each objective observer who has looked at this says that this continues to translate into cuts to Medicare that must be made up by the beneficiaries of that plan, the senior citizens of this country, the \$3,000 that I just talked about.

It is also interesting to note that when you get into a discussion of rural hospitals, we find out that there are 10 million Medicare beneficiaries who live in rural America, where often there is only a single hospital available to service that population and the rest of the community, and that these kinds of cuts, the hospital association tells us, translate into a serious threat of these hospitals closing, and not only the senior citizens losing access to that hospital but the entire community losing access to that hospital.

We also know that these rural residents very often are more likely than urban residents to be uninsured. So the ability to offset these cuts would then be shifted in rural areas, perhaps to those who have less access to insurance.

It is interesting also to note that the plan of just cutting across the board in Medicare is resisted by the National Association of Manufacturers, companies like Eastman Kodak that say if you do that, once again you are taking