

Winston Churchill told the British people, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

The liberals in this chamber have decided to put those two bold and spirited quotes together to come up with their new motto, "We have nothing to offer but fear itself."

Everyday we see a parade of liberals come down to the well, not to shed light and clarify, but to distort and sow fear.

They tell seniors we are slashing Medicare, when the truth is that we are increasing spending on Medicare by 33 percent per senior over the next 7 years.

They tell children we are going to take their lunches away, when the truth is we will spend more on them, 4.5 percent more each year.

They tell students we are going to cut student loans, when the truth is we are strengthening the student loan program.

All the liberals offer is fear. No ideas. No plans of their own. No leadership.

What would Franklin Roosevelt think.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over Monday's Supreme Court decision on affirmative action. I believe this ruling sends the wrong message.

I believe there is no justification in diminishing the power of the Federal Government in building a diverse workplace and ensuring opportunity for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the American people should know that affirmative action does not promote unqualified people and firms into jobs and institutions. Instead, it has provided minorities and women equal access to education, jobs, and contracts.

Affirmative action is an important tool to address the persistent dilemma of racial and gender inequality and discrimination. Now more than ever before, we need affirmative action because the scars and stains of racism and bigotry are still deeply embedded in the American society. We cannot go back and we must not go back.

MEDICARE IS IN DANGER

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Medicare is in danger. President Clinton's own trustees say Medicare will be broke in 7 years. Seven years. That means that if your parents, or grandparents, are 58 years old, there will be no Medicare for them when they become eligible at age 65.

Mr. Speaker, our senior citizens depend on Medicare for their day-to-day

medical needs. Republicans are determined to ensure that they can continue to depend on it by strengthening and protecting the current Medicare system.

We will cut the waste and fraud from Medicare and increase the amount we spend on each recipient. We will create a series of new choices within the current system so seniors are not forced into a system they do not want.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is, seniors want a Medicare system that offers the best care at the lowest cost and gives them maximum control over their own health care. Republicans will give them that system.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the Republican budget plan makes drastic cuts in high-tech energy research at our National Laboratories. It cuts the fossil energy and energy conservation research and development by more than half. This is shortsighted and wasteful.

These cuts will come at a time when Labs such as those at Las Alamos and Sandia in my home State of New Mexico are making critical breakthroughs in the civilian applications of research in areas such as energy production and conservation, pollution control, and pharmaceutical design.

In addition to their important work in technologies which provide for our national security, these research developments will make American industry more efficient and safer for the environment, as well as more competitive in the global market.

Competitive American industry means more jobs for Americans, Mr. Speaker. Our National Labs are essential to this goal.

EVEN THE PRESIDENT SAYS THERE HAVE TO BE SOME CHANGES

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

Mr. HOKE. Good news, America. We are finally going to get to the point in the Medicare debate where we are going to actually talk about the facts.

As you know, back in March the Medicare trustees said the fund is projected to be exhausted in 2001, and yet we have heard repeatedly the big lie, that Republicans are slashing Medicare. In fact, finally the President has said just yesterday—well, it was on Sunday that he said, "No one seriously believes that the budget can be balanced unless we can reduce the rate of increase in Medicare costs," and then he went on to say, "As you know, I believe—well, let me say there are going to have to be some changes. We cannot

leave the system the way it is. There have to be some changes."

Thank goodness. Finally we are going to be able to talk rationally about this, come up with solutions, work together in a bipartisan way and stop throwing stones, as we have seen in the well here for the past several months on Medicare. It is not a political issue; it is a policy problem for the senior citizens of this country and for the next generation as well.

WHY I OPPOSE THE KASICH AMENDMENT

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

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in very strong support of the funding provided in the House Committee on Armed Services bill for long-lead funding for three additional B-2 bombers. I served on the Defense Subcommittee for 17 years and remember well when President Carter and Secretary Brown made the decision to go ahead with the stealth bomber.

I am convinced that in the Gulf War one of the reasons that we were able to win the war quickly and convincingly is the effective work of the F-117, the stealth attack aircraft. It was able to go into the most heavily defended areas and with 2,000 pound precision-guided munitions take out enemy surface-to-air missiles. That is an amazing capability.

The B-2 has 8 times the carrying capacity of the F-117. It can go 6 times as far. I am convinced that in the future it presents us with the potential of a conventional deterrent. If we load it up with smart conventional weapons, we can stop an enemy division from invading in the future into Kuwait.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope we will support the committee and oppose the Kasich amendment.

REPUBLICANS PLEDGED TO SAVE MEDICARE

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

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, here is a quote from the Medicare trustees report: "Under all sets of assumptions, the trust fund is predicted to become exhausted even before the major demographic shift begins."

In other words, the trustees have considered the impending bankruptcy of Medicare from many different angles and have concluded that, no matter what calculations are used, Medicare is going broke. Not only is Medicare going broke, it will go broke even before the baby boomers begin to retire. In fact, it will be bankrupt in about 7 years, if nothing is done.

Mr. Speaker, saving Medicare is not about calculus. It is not about numbers. It is about people who are 58

years old today who will not have the benefit of Medicare when they retire in 2002. It is about our parents and grandparents whose health care needs are met today because of Medicare.

Republicans will not let Medicare go broke. We are acting to protect, preserve, and save Medicare. And, we will not break faith with the generation that guided America through the Depression, a world war, and the cold war.

CHANGING THE DIET THAT IS POISONING THE MINDS OF OUR CHILDREN

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, Americans have been reading much about the violence, the sex, the vulgarity that is on the media today. It is a constant diet, and it is children that are consuming that diet.

We will offer legislation to the telecommunications bill when it reaches the floor, and I would hope that my colleagues would support that legislation because what it does is to empower parents to block out programs that contain explicit violence, gratuitous sex and vulgarity, even when those parents are not able to be home looking over the shoulders of their children to see what they are watching.

We require that a V chip be inserted in all new manufactured television sets. This is not a burdensome requirement when produced in quantity. It is only about \$5 per television set, but it is the kind of technology we ought to use to change the diet that is poisoning the minds of our children day in and day out.

Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate my colleagues' support for this measure.

INCREASES IN MEDICARE AND MEDICAID WHILE REDUCING THE RATE OF GROWTH

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the words of President Bill Clinton:

Today Medicaid and Medicare are going up at three times the rate of inflation. We propose to let it go up at two times the rate of inflation.

That is about 6 percent. The House bill is 5 percent, the Senate is 6 percent, the same exact thing as Bill Clinton said.

That is not a Medicare or Medicaid cut. So, when you hear all this business about cuts, let me caution you that that is not what is going on. We are going to have increases in Medicare and Medicaid and reduction in the rate of growth.

And the President said, "Well, I tied that to a health care bill." Well, remember the President's health care bill got zero votes from any Democrats or Republicans?

We need to save the health care system, revise insurance and tort reform and others but, yes, we are going to increase the amount of Medicare spending from \$4,800 to \$6,400 per person, and they said, "Well, is there pain?"

Think about the pain of a senior citizen on a fixed income having to increase their Medicare premiums by 300 percent. They cannot do it. We need to protect the system.

WHITE HOUSE WEATHER VANE HAS SHIFTED AGAIN

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, meanwhile, back at the White House, the weather vane has shifted again. After months of silence, inaction and a game of where is Bill, the President has decided to enter the balanced budget debate.

I ask, "Well, isn't that a risky thing to do? The House has already passed its balanced budget, the Senate has already passed its balanced budget. Why not go ahead and place a bet on the Houston versus Orlando game while you're at it, Mr. President?"

But, as my colleagues know, it is going to be typical, a 5-minute speech to balance the budget, no words, no chart, no math, no particular plans, just words, words from this administration.

Well, that is reassuring. But I welcome his reemergence. We need to have a debate, and, even if it is after the fact, let us get on with it.

RESTORE AMERICAN PATENT RIGHTS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, unbeknownst to most Americans and many of my colleagues, a provision was snuck into last year's GATT implementing legislation that dramatically reduces the certain patent protection enjoyed by Americans, American inventors and American inventors for over 100 years. It was a rip-off of the control and benefit of technology that was created by our own people and by the technology that was created by the investors who helped finance that technology.

I have a bill, H.R. 359, with 168 cosponsors, to restore America's patent rights before the damage is done. Well, while my bill is being held hostage and prisoner by the subcommittee, and no one has been able to hold a hearing on my bill with 168 cosponsors, adding insult to injury, another bill has been heard, and what does this bill do?

This new piece of patent legislation, and get this, Mr. and Mrs. America, said, "If our inventors file for a patent,

18 months after they file, whether they are issued or not, the patent, the patent is published, meaning the whole world is going to get to see what our inventors and investors have come up with even before the patent is issued." It is a come in here and steal our technology bill.

That piece of legislation has to stop. Restore American patent rights to the American people.

OUR PILOTS ARE WORTH IT

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

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, today we are going to be voting on a very important measure, the measure offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS] and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] to cut the B-2 bomber, and that vote, I think, is very much related to an incident that happened just a few days ago, and that was the shooting down of the F-16 aircraft that was carrying our pilot, Scott O'Grady, over the skies of Bosnia.

During Vietnam, Mr. Speaker, we lost 2,300 aircraft, shot down, most of them picked up on SAM radar, surface-to-air missile radar, made in the Soviet Union, and hit by SAM missiles. So we developed a new technology, an ability to evade radar. That is a stealth technology that is embodied in the B-2 bomber.

If we deny the B-2 bomber to our pilots, we are going to be doing something we never did in the history of American aviation, and that is tell our pilots and the crews that we had a system that could have protected them, but we did not do it. We did not buy it because we thought it was too expensive and they were not worth it.

THAT IS THE REST OF THE STORY

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I have waited and heard a lot about Medicare, people saying there are distortions coming from this side of the aisle and so on. As noted radio commentator Paul Harvey says, "Let's hear the rest of the story."

For those who say the President's remarks the other day with the Speaker said there must be Medicare cuts, the President has always said that Medicare must be restructured, but in the context of total health care and bringing total health care costs down.

To those who keep holding up the bloody shirt of the trustees' report, but let me say that that trustees' report, and indeed one of the trustees, has said, "You can solve Medicare's problems by cutting far less than what the Republican balanced budget proposal does."

For those who say that it is really we who are talking about increases in