

The Members of the President's Cabinet.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess until 12 noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. CAMP] at 12 noon.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3396. An act to define and protect the institution of marriage.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3230) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1669. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center"; and

S. 1918. An act to amend trade laws and related provisions to clarify the designation of normal trade relations.

The message also announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendment of

the House to the bill (S. 640) "An Act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SMITH, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. MOYNIHAN, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minute speeches on each side.

EXPORTS, JOBS, AND GROWTH ACT OF 1996

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, today we are going to have a very important vote. Yesterday, under suspension, we debated H.R. 3759, and I ask my colleagues to pay attention to this bill. It is the Exports, Jobs, and Growth Act. It adds \$38 billion in exports. It adds some 123,000 new American jobs, and it cuts the deficit by \$600 million. Fifteen unions have endorsed this legislation, business has endorsed this legislation, people all across America are asking for this bill.

With all the emphasis today on the negative things in politics, let us do something positive for America. Let us vote for H.R. 3759 when it comes up today.

RELEASE THE OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S REPORT ON NEWT GINGRICH

(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, a month ago James Cole, who is the special counsel investigating our Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH, filed a report with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. It cost half a million dollars of taxpayers' money.

What has happened to it? Well, it has been submerged by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. They are not going to release it, it appears.

Well, what did NEWT GINGRICH say about these kinds of reports? Back in March 1989, he said in regard to the report of the special counsel on our former Speaker, Jim Wright:

Now that report is secret; I don't know what's in it. I don't know of anybody other than the committee members and Mr. Phelan, who was special counsel, who know what is in it—except Mr. Wright's lawyer. And I think that report and the back-up documents have to be published.

I cannot imagine going to the country—tell them we've got a \$1.6 million report—and, by the way, there's nothing in it, but you can't see it, but clearly that report is going to have to be published.

Well, Mr. Speaker, why don't you tell your Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to release the report? They are meeting today at 1:30. Let every Member have it. I would like to have a copy of that report. Every Member of this House by tomorrow should have a copy of that report. I do not know what is in it. I do not know if it exonerates you, but let us release the report.

VOTE "YES" FOR THE EXPORTS, JOBS, AND GROWTH ACT

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

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, today we will vote on the Exports, Jobs, and Growth Act. This bill is divided into three parts, first the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, which helps to ensure against long-term political and commercial risk.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that OPIC will lower the deficit by \$600 million over the next 5 years. OPIC is not corporate welfare because companies pay, I will repeat, pay for the services they receive.

Second is the Trade Development Agency. This small 38-employee agency designs in-U.S. specifications into foreign infrastructure projects so American companies can gain valuable contracts overseas.

Finally is the International Trade Administration division of the Commerce Department. Within this division is the United States and Foreign Commercial Service which operates 83 field offices in the United States. They primarily serve small business exporters in the search for export opportunities.

If Members vote against this legislation, it will unilaterally disarm American workers in the global trade war. Our European and Asian competitors spend much more on these programs. It is time to wake up to the imperfect reality of the global trading system and support this legislation. The Clinton administration supports it; business groups support it; labor unions support it. Vote for H.R. 3759.

TIME FOR ETHICS COMMITTEE TO QUIT STALLING

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, revise and extend her remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, today the New York Times lead editorial talks about this House and its stalling on ethics. This is shameful. The New York Times points out that the Committee on Standards of Official

Conduct is supposed to meet today, and it goes on to say: If after all this time, Mrs. JOHNSON and her colleagues cannot rise above partisanship to act promptly on Mr. Cole's findings and make them public, then they will demonstrate that this is little more than a charade and not the principled committee upholding the traditions and honor of this House.

Mr. Speaker, I hope everybody looks at this and everybody in this body realizes we will all be tainted if we do not get this report out. It has taken 2 years, it has taken half a million dollars, and they are trying to hermetically seal it down there, say none of us can see it, but then pronounce that it says nothing. If it said nothing, I would think we would be able to see it.

Mr. Speaker, I include the New York Times article for the RECORD.

[From the New York Times, Sept. 11, 1996]

STALLING ON ETHICS

Crowning two years of partisan gridlock, the House Ethics Committee seems determined to sacrifice whatever little is left of its credibility by letting Congress adjourn without resolving any of the pending ethics complaints against Speaker Newt Gingrich. The committee's present plans do not even call for making public the lengthy report filed last month by James Cole, the special counsel belatedly hired by the committee to look into tax law charges against the Speaker.

By stalling so long to shield him, the committee's Republican chairwoman, Nancy Johnson of Connecticut, has left the panel little time to resolve all allegations against Mr. Gingrich. But the two weeks or so before Congress adjourns is surely ample time to bring at least this phase of the case to an honorable conclusion.

Mrs. Johnson and her G.O.P. colleagues succumbed to public pressure last December and finally agreed to retain an outside counsel, Mr. Cole. They gave him a limited mandate to examine whether Mr. Gingrich had violated tax laws by using tax-deductible donations to finance a college course he taught in Georgia in 1993. It intentionally omitted a range of questions involving Gopac, Mr. Gingrich's aggressively partisan political action committee, which helped to develop the course. These questions, which are the subject of a complaint filed by the House minority whip, David Bonior, also need review by an outside counsel, but Republicans on the committee are resisting.

It is not known whether the evidence gathered by Mr. Cole exonerates the Speaker on the tax charges, or suggests he behaved either improperly or unethically. Committee members have said the report simply lays out the facts while failing to make any recommendations. But the issue at this point is not just Mr. Gingrich's conduct, or the thoroughness of Mr. Cole's work, but the efficacy of the committee itself.

The Ethics Committee is scheduled to meet today. If after all this time Mrs. Johnson and her colleagues cannot rise above partisanship to act promptly on Mr. Cole's findings and make them public, they will demonstrate that this supposedly principled panel is little more than a charade.

OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER THAN DRUGS

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse has released some survey information on teenage drug activity that is absolutely shocking.

The researchers found that by the time a teen reaches the age of 17, 68 percent of them can buy pot within a day; 62 percent have friends who use marijuana; 58 percent have been solicited to buy marijuana; 58 percent know someone who uses acid, cocaine, or heroin; 40 percent have personally witnessed the sale of drugs in their own neighborhood; and less than one in three attend a drug-free school.

Mr. Speaker, this country is losing the war on drugs. We are literally losing a generation of children to hopelessness, to shattered dreams, and eventually to a loss of their freedom.

Our children deserve better. Every child should have a strong family, a drug-free school, and safe streets. And we must do all we can as leaders to make this a reality for all children, before it's too late.

Mr. Speaker, where is our President on this?

ETHICS COMMITTEE SHOULD RELEASE COLE'S REPORT

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

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, 7 years ago, the current Speaker of the House of Representatives stood on this very floor and said I think that it is vital that we take as a Congress our commitment to publish that report and to release those documents so that the country can judge whether or not the man who is second in line to be President, the Speaker of the House, should be in that position.

Of course, that was NEWT GINGRICH talking about then Speaker Jim Wright. But Speaker GINGRICH's words are as true today as they were 7 years ago. And now we have another report, this one not by Mr. Phelan, but by James Cole, that cost the taxpayers of this country a half million dollars, and every Member of the House of Representatives should know today what is in that report. The people of this Nation who paid for that report need to know what is in that report.

Again the words of then Member GINGRICH, now Speaker GINGRICH, who said I cannot imagine going to the country to tell them that we have got \$1.6 million in this report, and, by the way, there is nothing in it. You cannot see it. We must let the American people and this Congress see this report.

TWIN DISASTERS HIT EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from the second dis-

trict of North Carolina. The devastation to people, property, and crops is overwhelming. We are moving to assess the damage and provide relief to the human suffering caused by Hurricane Fran. I delivered a check to the American Red Cross from U.S. Tobacco to help alleviate the budgetary strain that Fran has placed on the Red Cross. Today, I am joining my colleagues from eastern North Carolina in introducing a bipartisan bill that will provide emergency appropriations to agencies that may run out of money due to the devastation from the hurricane and ongoing flooding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the President for visiting eastern North Carolina this coming weekend to assess the damage on a first-hand basis. He will see the extent of the devastation from Hurricane Fran. Hopefully, he will stop to speak with the tobacco farmers in my district who have suffered a major blow from this natural disaster. But as Bill Clinton flies over the destruction to the people and property of North Carolina, he might ponder about the man-made disaster he helped create—FDA regulation of tobacco—and the devastation it will bring to the tobacco farmers in my district.

RELEASE ETHICS REPORT ON SPEAKER

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

Mr. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH is absolutely right. He said, "The 435 Members of the House should look at all the facts, should have available to them all the reports and all the background documents and the American people should have the same."

NEWT GINGRICH said that in 1989 about the ethics report on then Speaker Jim Wright. And what he said then about the need for full disclosure is equally true today about the outside counsel's report on NEWT GINGRICH's own dealings.

Don't just take my word for it. Today's New York Times calls upon the House Ethics Committee to release the report. The Times says "If after all this time, Mrs. Johnson and her colleagues cannot rise above partisanship to act promptly on Mr. Coles' findings and make them public, they will demonstrate that this supposedly principled panel is little more than a charade."

Stop the coverup. Release the ethics report on NEWT GINGRICH.

EXPORTS, JOBS, AND GROWTH ACT OF 1996

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, if Members want to send high-paying export-related jobs to Japan, Germany,