

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I have not been heard on the point of order. I have a right to be heard.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is acceding to the gentleman from California's points. The gentleman may proceed in that context.

Mr. MILLER of California. I only wanted you to do that after I presented the evidence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has ruled. The gentleman may proceed in order, with his 1-minute time limitation.

Mr. MILLER of California. Further, "The committee shall give the outside counsel full cooperation in the issuance of subpoenas.

"The outside counsel shall be free, after discussions with the Committee, to make such public statements and reports the counsel deems appropriate.

"The outside counsel shall have full authority to recommend what formal charges be brought before the Ethics Committee.

"The committee shall not countermand or interfere with the outside counsel's ability to take steps necessary to conduct a full and fair investigation."

The Speaker went on to say it was his impression from the press reports that "the Ethics Committee has specifically failed to meet the test that was set forth by Common Cause."

He says, "I would therefore like a copy of the resolution, the guidelines adopted by the Ethics Committee outlining the authority the committee has given the special counsel in order to carry out the responsibilities of the outside counsel."

Mr. Speaker, if it was good in 1988 for Speaker Wright, then it is good today for Speaker GINGRICH.

AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD DOLE'S MASSIVE TAX CUTS

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

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, 20 years ago a Republican President told the city of New York and, by extension, all American cities to drop dead. Now with Bob Dole, the Republicans are planning the funeral. It just takes simple arithmetic to know that his plan to cut taxes by \$550 billion just does not add up, especially for urban America.

Bob Dole says he would not put forward such a plan if it would mean massive cuts in Medicare and would hurt Social Security. He told a group of veterans last month he would not cut their programs. He also said he would increase defense spending. But he still says he can do all of this and balance the budget by 2002.

Now, this is not pie in the sky; this is a whole bakery in the sky. But for cities the big question is what is left to cut? The answer is programs that are

helping urban America, programs that are helping working families, cuts in Medicare, education, and health and environment.

But urban Americans just cannot afford Bob Dole's bakery in the sky. The difference between Bob Dole and Bill Clinton could not be more stark.

DEBATE SHOULD NOT BE STIFLED IN THE HOUSE

(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, I love this House of Representatives. I love what it stands for. And when there is a shadow cast upon the Speaker of the House of Representatives, there is a shadow cast upon this institution, there is a shadow cast upon the democracy that this institution represents.

As a reporter, I will tell you that many times I have seen myself in a position where I have been threatened by someone who was in authority, who did not want me to bring forward a certain news story, bring forth certain facts. But never in my life did I imagine it would be when I would leave the job of being a reporter and come to be an elected official on the floor, that my colleagues would say let us stifle the debate. Let us not talk about it. Let us not remove the shadow that hangs over the head of the Speaker and this House and this Nation by allowing sunlight to shine upon it. Let us stifle the people.

It was when the Democrats were running the House that then Congressman GINGRICH was allowed to say I think it is vital that we establish as a Congress our commitment to publish the report to release those documents so that the country can judge. Today the country cannot judge, Mr. Speaker.

A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS, NOT OF MEN

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, these 1-minutes opened with the Speaker talking about an ice bucket, and then we went to the gentleman from California talking about historically how this House was dealt with every single issue dealing with conduct, no matter who the Member was, that we treated ourselves as a group that abided by laws, because that is the tradition of our country, a government of laws and not of men.

But the one thing we have not seen and that we have now seen today is the Speaker forgot to tell us his recipe for ice, and that is to take anything that deals with him, add water, and freeze it, and you never let it come out.

□ 1045

Today free speech has been frozen on the House floor. I never thought I could

live to see that day. We have now had a ruling today that newspapers can discuss these issues, editorial boards can discuss these issues, but the Members of this body who are most affected are gagged and frozen.

URGING SUPPORT OF H.R. 4066, EMERGENCY DISASTER ASSISTANCE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

(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, I had not planned to speak on this issue, but what I would say is it is unfortunate we would want to use a rule to stifle an opportunity to have full discussion and we should find ways, whether we like what is going to come out on any given thing, to be able to discuss things with a certain amount of civility.

What I do want to say, to use the rest of my 1 minute, is that America has been struck by hurricanes and hurricanes, and certainly we are aware of the devastation that Fran has brought more than five States throughout this country, and the oncoming of other hurricanes is very present with us.

More than 800,000 people in my State were without electricity and water and now some one-third of them still remain without electricity or water. More than 26 people have lost their lives in this hurricane.

Yesterday, many of us introduced into the House a bill, H.R. 4066, an Emergency Disaster Assistance Supplementary Appropriation Act for fiscal year 1996. I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support that for the life and the protection and property of all the people who may potentially be hurt. FEMA needs our help. We need to act immediately.

WE MUST NOT SLASH MEDICARE

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

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Presidential candidate Bob Dole came back to Washington in an attempt to rally the troops around his tax cut proposal. It has become increasingly obvious, sadly, that the leadership of this House and the Presidential Republican candidate are capable of generating only one basic idea, and that basic idea is to cut taxes for the wealthy at the expense of every other American.

There is no way we can reduce taxes by \$550 billion, which is what Mr. Dole proposes to do, without slashing away at Medicare even more severely than was attempted by this House in the budget that was passed here and vetoed by the President. We saw an attempt to cut Medicare here by \$270 billion. The Dole plan will cut it, in all probability, by more than twice that amount.

Let us not slash Medicare. Let us be sensible about it and let us see this plan for exactly what it is: An attempt to deprive elderly Americans of the health care they so desperately need and the security that their families need as well.

PROPOSED REPUBLICAN CUTS WILL RESULT IN DEVASTATION OF MEDICARE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to follow up on what my colleague from New York just said. We know what happened in the last 2 years with the Republican leadership plans to cut Medicare and Medicaid.

If those plans had gone into effect, and thank goodness they did not because of the President and because Democrats in Congress constantly fought against it, if they had gone into effect what we would have seen is increased costs for senior citizens as well as the general population. We would have seen the actual costs for part B premiums under Medicare almost doubled. We would have seen copayments go up and deductibles go up for Medicare, and, at the same time, we also saw the proposal this year in 1996 that would basically have allowed doctors, if a senior stayed in traditional Medicare, to charge whatever they want over and above what Medicare pays the physician.

The bottom line is that there is no free lunch. If we impose these tremendous cuts in Medicare that were proposed by the Republican leadership in the past 2 years, and even more cuts that would be proposed because of what Presidential candidate Dole is saying, we will see devastation of Medicare.

JUST SAY NO TO "HEMP-DOPE"

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to know what these guys are smoking. The Hemp-Dope ticket expects to cut taxes by \$550 billion, increase military spending, balance the budget, and, at the same time, promises not to decimate Medicare and Social Security.

As always, their plan cuts taxes for the wealthy first, then leaves the hard spending cuts for future Presidents. That is what I would call a political hit and run.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, Hemp-Dope wants to abolish the Department of Education at a time when our young people will have to compete in a changing global economy. Simply put, our Nation cannot afford another decade of voodoo Reaganomics, which bankrupted us in the first place.

As the President said, we are on the right track to the 21st century. Just say no to Hemp-Dope.

ABIDING BY THE RULES OF THE HOUSE WILL MAINTAIN CIVILITY ON THE HOUSE FLOOR

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, in closing these 1 minutes this morning, I want to make the point that nobody here was gagged, nobody was prevented from speaking on a subject they wished to speak on. They can go outside these doors in the Speaker's lobby or upstairs and hold a press conference and say all they want to say about the matters they were referring to this morning.

What they cannot do is talk about matters before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on the floor of this House because it is against the rules of the House to do so. And that is the only point that was raised consistently this morning and was also being ignored, even ignoring rule after rule by the Speaker.

If we want to maintain some degree of civility on the floor of this House to engage in honest political debate, we should at least abide by the rules or try to change them and not continually ignore the Speaker's admonitions.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1996, TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3675, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House may have until midnight Friday, September 13, 1996, to file a conference report on the bill H.R. 3675, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year 1997, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I would urge that the gentleman withhold that request.

I do not personally have an objection to its being filed, I support the bill, but I have been informed by our leadership that another committee does, and absent their presence, I would feel obligated to object if the motion is made at this time.

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw it. I understood it had been cleared by the gentleman's side.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, it had been cleared as far as the committee is concerned, but we were just informed by our leadership that there is a problem with another committee.

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my unanimous-consent request at this time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 3816), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House today, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of earlier today.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MYERS] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. BEVILL] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MYERS].

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The conference agreement that we are bringing to the floor at this time for this next fiscal year is \$19.973 billion of new budget authority. This is \$562 million higher than the version passed by the House a few weeks ago and \$343 million below the Senate-passed level.

The greatest amount of this increase is in Defense—a \$449 million increase in Defense activities.

A lot of people do not realize that 57 percent of the energy and water bill—over half—is Defense related. Domestic discretionary programs have been reduced by \$48 million below last year. \$11.4 billion is in Defense. Of that amount, \$5,620,000,000 is for environmental restoration and waste management. No small amount.

That is the most rapidly growing account that we have. We are cleaning up the nuclear waste and other wastes that have been accumulating through the years.

Mr. Speaker, the bill has five titles. Title I is related to water resources. We have more than 25,000 miles of inland waterways. The deep ports of our country all come under the jurisdiction