

seem to me that the majority would acknowledge that they have accomplished what they said was their greatest goal. Moreover, the leverage has gone as far as it can go, if I may say so, because, to use the words of the gentleman from Texas, Mr. DELAY, from your side, he was talking about Mr. DOLE: The President can't cave, because to simply give in is to reinforce a part of his reputation that he is trying to live down. It is time for the majority to declare victory and let the Federal workers come back to work, because the leverage rationale has been spent. It is over. Declare victory.

Indeed, it is worse than that. The leverage has yielded a boomerang crisis, if you will, my friends, an in-your-face crisis. In the beginning the most visible victims were Federal workers, and people shrugged. They had not felt it themselves. Now we are beginning to get great sympathy for Federal workers and no wonder. When a GS-2, to cite a specific example, opens up her paycheck, as she did this week, and finds in it \$4, then of course you are going to get sympathy from all across the country. She is a hapless victim. By the way, the IRS and the Social Security did take their share. They left her \$4.

About half of those who do contractual work for the Federal Government are out of work. The trade-off that has now become the mantra of the other side simply does not work and is itself an outrage. Well, we may have to leave these workers at home in order to save our children. Let us not talk about trading off one group of innocent victims for another. But the boomerang crisis that we better see, my colleagues on the other side, very quickly, is a service crisis, not a worker crisis. Let me document that.

On January 2, the States lost \$74 million in quarterly grants that they use to confront the crisis with abused children, and there are 2.5 million of those children. By the end of the week, 11 States and 2 of the territories, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia, which of course is the District and not a territory, will run out of funds for Federal unemployment insurance. Do my colleagues think they are going to get off scot-free as their constituents confront that?

Twenty-three thousand Americans per day are unable to get passports. Many of them are going abroad for business. Twenty-four thousand contract Medicare claim workers are not being paid. They will not be on the job very long. Your State is going to run out of Medicaid funds in January. Are you prepared to take the responsibility for that? One thousand workplace safety complaints per day are going unanswered. The FBI has ceased to train local law enforcement officers.

Employment discrimination complaints are no longer being investigated. Twenty thousand foreign visitors per day are unable to get visas for a loss here of \$60 million per day. Do

my colleagues really mean to inflict this kind of pain on their constituents and mine? I think not.

My colleagues have replaced the main course, the balanced budget, with a side dish, and that is the crisis my colleagues have left us with. Let us get back to the balanced budget. Let the workers come back to work.

TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I did not come to the Congress until I was 66 years old. There is some advantage in coming here at that age. If you come here younger, if you have spent much of your life here, I think that you miss some opportunities, some insights into relevance, time and perspective and things like the tyranny of the urgent.

Let me give my colleagues two examples from my past. I had the great privilege of working for 18 years in several different capacities for the military. In one of those capacities, I was working, for part of my time at least, out of the Navy Yard in Philadelphia. There we had the responsibility for two things: One was for supporting the fleet. When they had problems with their life support equipment, with oxygen equipment and so forth, we had to go out to make sure that those problems were fixed. We also had the opportunity, the responsibility there for developing new equipment that would be better, that would have less problems, and we would have to spend less of our time going out to support the fleet.

This was an excellent example of the tyranny of the urgent. When we had a call from the fleet that was an urgent problem and we had to go out to address it, the really important thing that that facility was charged with doing was developing new equipment so we would not have those problems in the future. But the tyranny of the urgent frequently got in the way of developing the new equipment.

In 1954, in another experience, I was coming back from California from teaching medical school there to teach medical school here in Howard University. I was in the middle of Missouri with my family with young children and a 1941 Cadillac and a big trailer on the back that had in it all of my worldly possessions. A tire blew out on the Cadillac and the trailer turned over. I stood on the road there in the summertime in the hot sun in Missouri, and I thought, gee, if you put yourself 10 years in the future from this and look back, this is not going to be a big deal. It was not. I did step back, and really, as I look back on it now, it was not a big deal.

Let me apply these two things to our partial shutdown of Government now. We must be very careful that we do not permit the urgent to take precedence

over the important. The really important thing now is that we balance this budget. We have an urgent problem with a partial shutdown of Government. There has been enough talk from both sides as to how we got there from my perspective and I think the perspective of most Americans, the President has failed to keep his promise to submit a balanced budget.

You cannot negotiate, you cannot negotiate when there is only one budget to negotiate. He needs to submit a balanced budget. The urgent thing is somehow to get around this problem, but the way to get around that is not to have another continuing resolution that is going to take the pressure off to do the important thing. And the important thing is to balance this budget.

I was talking about the time and perspective. If we put ourselves down the road 10 years from now and look back, nobody hardly is going to remember this partial shutdown of government. But they are going to remember and they are going to thank us for holding tough and balancing the budget. We must be very sure that we have a perspective of the relevance of what we are doing. We must make very sure that we do not permit the tyranny of the urgent over the important.

Our constituents understand that. I had a letter during our first brief partial shutdown. It was the kind of letter that just about brought tears to your eye. It was a Federal worker who said he did not know he was going to get paid when he was furloughed.

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He said he was probably going to lose \$500. But that was a small enough price to pay for what this balanced budget would do for his children and his grandchildren.

Here I have some constituent opinions from phone calls from five of our constituents. We have had many, many like this. This one is from Hagerstown, MD, the Federal employee who was furloughed, but he thinks that I should stick with the Republican plan to balance the budget.

Here is another one. These are parents of, and these are from Flintstone, way out in western Maryland. They are parents of five children and grandparents of 11, and he is disabled, but they want the Congressman, their Congressman, to vote only on a balanced budget. They are proud of what we are doing for them here. They want me to hang tough.

Here is one from New Market, MD. Keep the Government closed. This is a Federal worker with 22 years of experience in the Federal Government. He says, "Don't buckle, stand fast."

Here is another one from Ellicott City, just south of Baltimore, just north of here, a furloughed Federal District employee. He wants the RGB to stay the course.

Another who congratulates on our budget stand: Do not support a continuing resolution.

Our people understand better than we do the real important thing here and the relevance of what we are doing. They want us to stand firm, stay the course, balance the budget.

IN 1 YEAR REPUBLICAN MAJORITY BRINGS CRISIS TO GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. METCALF). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Oregon [Ms. FURSE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I think that the people who are not able to pay their rent this month or maybe the ones who are not going to make their mortgage payments are going to remember this time. As my colleagues know, a lot of speakers have talked from this side about this balanced budget. Well, I think we have to separate the balanced budget from keeping the Government open. I want to talk a little bit though about this balanced budget.

When Ronald Reagan became President of this country, the deficit was \$74 billion. When President Bush left office, the deficit was \$300 billion. When Bill Clinton became President, it was \$300 billion, and today, thanks to the President's budget of 1993, the deficit is half, is \$161 billion, half what it was then. But it is very interesting because there was not one Republican vote for that budget, that budget which has reduced the deficit by half.

OK, now they say to us, especially the new Republicans—well, they have not been here very long so I understand they are not sure of all the things that are going on, but let me tell you. They say we are going to keep this Government closed unless we have a balanced budget. Well, their memories are very short because there was a balanced budget offered on this floor, a 7-year balanced budget, a 7-year balanced budget with CBO scoring. They did not vote for it. Why? Because it did not have that \$245 billion tax break for the wealthy.

So yesterday we asked if that budget could come back up, could we vote for a balanced budget, 7 years, no tax break for the wealthy. Well, the Republican leadership would not let us vote on it.

So it is not the balanced budget they care about. They want to keep this Government closed down because, like the former speaker, they do not seem to understand that individual Americans are hurting, people have to pay their rent, people have to make a mortgage payment.

Senator DOLE, who is the head of the other body, got together with the Democrats and the Republicans on the 21st, and that was just Tuesday. They passed a continuing resolution, get the Government back. We begged yesterday, please bring that continuing resolution up that the Senate has passed, let us get the Government back to work. But, no, we were not allowed to

vote on that, just as we were not allowed to vote on the real balanced budget.

Now I have heard people here say this is an inconvenience, the Government shutdown. They will not remember the Government shutdown. Well, let me tell you just what is happening to seniors in Oregon, and it is happening to seniors across the country.

Meals on Wheels. We have two Meals on Wheels places in Portland. They serve seniors every day. Well, they are going to be out of business by the end of next week. Too bad, seniors, no meals for you because the Republicans say they want to balance the budget but they will not vote on a balanced budget.

There is very important research going on right now on a disease that affects seniors: Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's research has been stopped in the National Institute of Health because they say we do not care if the Government is shut down.

Medicare contractors who pay the health care claims of our elderly; they are being asked to use their own funds to operate because the Government is shut down. What a disgrace.

Federal investigators who investigate fraud that affects all of us, but particularly seniors, they are not being paid, they are not being paid.

Now what I want to say to my colleagues is that for 40 years you have tried to be in the majority. All right; now you are in the majority. But you know what? You were not able to do the simple work that was required to get the appropriation bills to the President so the Government would keep working. In 1 year this Government had been brought to a crisis. It is time to stop that, it is time to go with the Senate version, have a continuing resolution, and later today someone will come forward and suggest we all go home for a vacation. Well, I am not going to go home for vacation until the Government is back on its feet, and none of us should.

It is a shame, it is a shame.

THE PRESIDENT DID NOT KEEP HIS WORD

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

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I happen to have been sued very often in my life. I dislike all of that because it just seems to take everything out of your hands, and pretty soon a judge is telling you how you have to live, and why, and what, and where. And the greatest lesson I—one of the greatest lessons I ever got was when I was sued for indentured servitude, white slavery, and it got all throughout the press, and all the press read it, and it described me as a Svengali and that I controlled this person's life. Then it got to court, and it was thrown out because it was ridiculous. But that

stayed with me for many, many years, until eventually people found out the truth.

So my point is that you sit here and try to find out what all of this means and what all this dialog is about, and people tell you different stories about different situations, and they say, well, if the Republicans would just sign a CR, they would not inflict pain. Well, you know that depends on if the glass is half empty or half full.

If the President had kept his word—now understand this, which I think is far more important: Our President should keep his word. He said, "I agree to a balanced budget, scored by CBO, within 7 years, by a certain date." When that date came and went, he did not perform, and we gave him a CR, taking his word, and he violated his word. So now they are saying, well, give us another CR.

So, you know, if you get burned once, then you are a little reluctant to keep playing the same game over and over. So when you say there is pain inflicted, look at the President and ask him why he said he would do something, and we all agreed, and everybody was happy, and then refused to do it.

So you know this notion that there is just one party to blame, and that is why I go to this other story about myself, is that I did not do anything wrong, but the perception was that; and we have not done anything wrong, but they are trying to give you that perception that we do not care.

I am very sensitive to seniors, I am very sensitive to people who do not get a paycheck. I spent many months not getting a paycheck.

But that is not the point. The point is I came here, and I said to my constituents and you Americans, "You know, we must balance the budget. You don't have an imbalanced budget at home, and we have got to balance it for you." I promised to do that. So all year I have been working to balance the budget.

Now we are here, we are at this critical confrontation, Mr. Speaker, and this is why we have fought so hard over this issue, and here we are with a confrontation.

Now, does it make any sense to say, OK, here we are with this issue, now let us back all the way off and do everything back on the President's terms? Not to me it does not. Because he does not keep his word I have a very hard time trusting what he will say in the future, and so I think now we have to, of course, stand tough, but certainly we are not insensitive to this, and if there is an insensitivity, look at the person that did not keep his word.

I just want to say to you, things are not always as they appear, and rhetoric is rhetoric. Always try to find out the facts, and the facts are the President did not keep his word.