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House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. EVERETT].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 13, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable TERRY EVERETT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

For the beauty of life's gifts and for the splendor of Your grace, we offer our thanks, gracious God, for the new day. Though we must know the details of the particulars of each event, yet may we not only focus on what is in front of us, but lift our eyes to glimpse the vision of the opportunities You have prepared for each of us. O loving God, from whom has come our creation and the sustenance of the heavens and the earth, may Your strong arm support us along life's way and may Your spirit sustain us in all we ask or think or do. In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr.

KLINK] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KLINK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that he will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103 AND THEIR FAMILIES

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 21, 1988, Pan Am flight 103 was blown out of the sky by a terrorist's bomb. That brutal, cowardly act killed all 259 aboard, including 189 Americans, 1 of whom, John Cummock, was a constituent of my congressional district.

Months of detective work finally uncovered the hand of Libyan dictator Mu'ammar Qadhafi behind this tragedy.

Since the identification of the Libyan agents who committed this crime, diplomatic pressure has been applied in an effort to force the extradition of these murderers. Qadhafi has refused to surrender them for trial, in either the United Kingdom or the United States.

Today, this House will have the opportunity to allow the families of these murder victims a chance to seek justice against Qadhafi, by passing a bill that will allow these families the chance to present the facts of this crime in American courts.

I urge my colleagues to remember the victims of Pan Am flight 103 and

the need to seek justice for their families.

REPUDIATION OF EXTREMIST CUTS IN EDUCATION

(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, the other body yesterday by a vote of 86 to 14 handed out a repudiation of the extremist cuts in education that have been promoted by the Republicans in this House. Many schools are only a few weeks from notifying teachers that they will not be rehired next year. Local and State governments will have to eliminate needed education programs, or they are going to have to raise the property taxes on people who are already overtaxed, who are business owners or homeowners.

The 103d Congress was the education Congress. It passed Goals 2000, national service, school-to-work funding for students who are not going to college but need to be headed into a job. The 104th Congress now wants to cut those programs, along with title I, summer youth jobs, dislocated workers, Head Start, drug-free schools. It was the robber barons of the 1800's that did not want to fund education for the children of their workers, so the public funded education. Now the new robber barons of this generation want to take the public investment out of public schools. We should not let them.

THE ERA OF BIG GOVERNMENT IS ALIVE, WELL, AND LIVING IN THE WHITE HOUSE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, 50 days ago President Clinton stood before the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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American people right here behind me in this Chamber and said, "The era of big government is over." I am here to announce that, unfortunately, rumors of the demise of big government were premature. Big government is in fact alive and well, and living in the White House.

In case Members have not heard, Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton has requested billions more in spending on many of his pet projects and liberals' constituencies. The President wants more money for corporate welfare, more money for ineffective job training programs, more money for the National Endowment for the Arts, and more money for Goals 2000, and on and on and on.

Mr. Speaker, let us not delude ourselves into believing that big government is over. The President's pork barrel package proves that liberal Washington special interests and the bureaucrats still want big government. Let us continue the fight against big Federal Government, reduce the tax burden on hard-working Americans, and let us balance the budget.

THE WHITEWATER INVESTIGATION HAS REACHED THE FINAL FRONTIER OF JURISPRUDENCE

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, some people say that politics in America is getting real strange. Take Whitewater. Please, somebody take Whitewater. Whitewater has now gone where no man or woman has ever gone before, as evidenced by juror Barbara Adams, who shows up in a sleek red and black Star Trek uniform, complete with phaser and communicator. Adams said she is constantly prepared to be beamed up by Captain Kirk.

Surprised? Not me. I would not be surprised to see some of those witnesses show up wearing a beanie with a propeller on top. Mr. Speaker, this has taken American jurisprudence to a whole new dimension. Trial by a jury of your peers is getting a whole new definition, and I pronounce here today and acclaim that Whitewater has now entered the final frontier. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

THE PRESIDENT IS STILL TRYING TO INCREASE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, just this past January President Clinton stood on this very House floor and proclaimed that the era of big government is over.

Well, once again President Clinton's actions speak louder than his words. He's now threatening to shut down the Government again in an attempt to

bully Congress into giving him \$8 billion more in the appropriations bill to spend on his liberal agenda. Instead of working to balance the Federal budget, the President wants to increase spending in order to appease his liberal base of support in this election year.

Mr. Speaker, this is not what the American people want. They want a smaller, less costly, more efficient Government. They want their elected officials to represent their priorities and their values, not Washington, DC, values. And, once again, the President has let the American people down by trying to increase, not decrease Government spending.

BIG GOVERNMENT, NO; BUT EDUCATION, YES

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that big government is over, but I think my Republican colleagues think that opportunity for children is over as well. This Republican Congress is the bashing education Congress. They refuse to include in this continuing resolution resources for education. In fact, in my home State of Texas, we will lose \$97.8 million in title I funds, \$8.5 million in funds for the safe and drug-free schools program, and Harris County alone will lose \$7.9 million in title I funds.

Do my colleagues know what school boards around this Nation are doing? They are presently wondering whether we are going to be able to hire teachers to teach our children. Big government is one thing. We all agree we must reinvent government. But what do Members believe about educating their children and having Goals 2000 that emphasizes quality education? Republicans apparently do not believe in it. The Congress will not even fund good education programs—promoting computer and reading literacy among disadvantaged children.

The irony of it is that the Senate has agreed that we need job training and education. They voted 84 to 16 to put in some \$2.7 billion for education. We are not listening over here. What else do we not have? Summer job programs. We do not have summer jobs for our youngsters, the Senate agreed summer jobs for our youth should be funded. I wish they would listen. Education, yes; big government, no.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. We have led the President to at least agree to the principle of balancing the budget, but he just won't take the next step and do it.

No matter how hard we try to make the President understand the importance of a balanced budget, for our future and for the future of our children and grandchildren, he fights us at every turn.

As a new Member of the House of Representatives, I came here to get a job done.

The American people sent us here to put a stop to the reckless spending practices that have saddled us all with a mountain of debt.

But the Clinton administration fights us at every turn. Somehow, President Clinton wants us to believe that in a budget of about a trillion and a half dollars, we're still not spending enough.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are listening; they have a Congress committed to a balanced budget and a President that isn't, despite his rhetoric to the contrary. If we cannot convince him to do what's right, perhaps the American people will.

REPUBLICAN EDUCATION CUTS ARE WRONG

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the extreme agenda of House Republicans was repudiated by their own Republican colleagues in the Senate. The Senate voted 84 to 16 to pass a Democratic amendment that restored vital funding for education.

They restored \$2.7 billion in funding for education and job training programs cut by House Republicans. That means \$814 million more in basic skills training in reading and math; \$635 million restored for summer youth jobs; and \$200 million added for safe and drug-free schools.

Education is a priority for the American people. They understand that we live in an age when a good wage is tied to a good education.

Let us not turn our backs on the schoolchildren of America by cutting education funding so vital for them to live a secure and prosperous life in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my Republican colleagues in the House will hear the wake-up call from Senate Republicans, rather than blindly charging ahead with education cuts that are both wrong headed and hard hearted, and that will hurt working middle-class families of this country.

LIBERALS ARE ADDICTED TO BIG SPENDING

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, liberals like to wrap themselves in conservative roles, partially at election times. This was the case 50 days ago when Bill