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House of Representatives

The House met at 9:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. HASTINGS of Washington].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 16, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable RICHARD "DOC" HASTINGS 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:

O gracious God, from whom we have come and to whom we belong, we place before You in this our prayer, our ambitions and our hopes, our dreams and our desires, asking that You bless that which is good and faithful and correct and amend what is selfish or unkind. We have so many plans for our lives and ideas for what ought to be and yet many of our wishes are not accomplished and we feel discouraged. May Your good spirit, O God, that gives life to each new day, refresh us and inspire us to go forward knowing that Your power will bless us and make us whole. 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 Texas [Mr. DOGGETT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DOGGETT 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House to return to the Senate the bill (H.R. 2202) "An Act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes", including the Senate amendment thereto.

The message also announced that in accordance with sections 1928a-1928d of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. BROWN and Mr. AKAKA as members of the Senate delegation to the North Atlantic Assembly during the 2d session of the 104th Congress, to be held in Vouliagmeni, Athens, Greece, May 16-20, 1996.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 102-246, the Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, appoints Julie Finley, of Washington, DC, as a member of the Library

of Congress Trust Fund Board, effective June 30, 1996, vice Edwin L. Cox.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 94-201, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints James F. Hoy, of Kansas, and Charles E. Trimble, of Nebraska, as members of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minutes on each side.

A POP QUIZ

(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, it is the end of the week, and in that great American school yard tradition it is time for a pop quiz. This might be hard for those suffering from left-wing brain deficiency disorder, but let us give it a go anyhow. Which sum is greater, \$190 or \$304 billion? On the Republican side, \$304 is greater than \$190 billion.

Now, if Mr. KASICH's budget increased Medicare spending from \$190 to \$304 billion, would he be doing, A, cutting Medicare; B, increasing Medicare; C, I am sorry, what was the question?

The answer is, of course, Mr. KASICH's budget increases Medicare from \$190 to \$304 billion. It is an increase. Excellent job. A little quiet over here on this side.

Student loans are increasing, Medicaid is increasing, Medicare is increasing under the Kasich budget. Yet we are going to hear over and over again cut, cut, cut. The only thing I would like for y'all to cut out today is the line. Let us be honest; both budgets increase the spending. Let us have a good dialog on this.

□ 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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CONTINUING THE QUIZ

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE took the same quiz and he had a different answer: D, leave school before finals are over.

Desperate times demand desperate actions, and it is little wonder that Mr. DOLE would decide to distance himself from this Gingrich Congress. After all, this is a Congress that does not seem to learn its lessons. It is a Congress that has failed, that failed last year when it set out to cut Medicare in order to provide tax breaks for the rich. It failed last year when it got government shutdown fever and took its political shenanigans to the extreme of costing taxpayers \$1.5 billion.

It failed even yesterday when once again it refused to give America a raise. Today the failure is that it has not learned those lessons, and it is back with a bad old budget that proposes to cut Medicare, that still has tax breaks, that still has cuts in education. The real failure is the failure to learn, and it is little wonder that BOB DOLE left.

PASS THE KASICH BUDGET

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, listening to my colleague from Texas brings to mind his first comment with reference to the majority leader in the other body. I think that the President should follow Senator DOLE's example and he too should resign so we could have a good campaign.

My good friend from Texas in his litany, in which he got a little bit tripped up, still follows this simple philosophy: If the Federal Government takes more of the everyday American's paycheck, it is good. If the Washington bureaucrats have more and more and more of your money, Mr. Speaker, it is good. To our friends on the other side, that is justice.

Mr. Speaker, nothing could be further from the truth. In the midst of all the arcane arguments offered by the liberal side, remember one thing. We have to save this country for today's seniors and for generations yet unborn, and we do not do so by engaging in playground taunts and failing to own up to the serious problems we confront as a nation. Pass the Kasich budget. Reject the old-style order.

DOLE LEAVES EXTREMIST CONGRESS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I heard what my colleague from Arizona just said. The bottom line is the President is not leaving. He is not going any-

where, because he has to stay here and protect the average American from the hurt that is being inflicted by this Republican extremist Congress. What BOB DOLE knew and we all know is that he could not stick around because, after this budget was unveiled again last week, the one we are going to be voting on again, he realized that the same old song, if you will, of cutting Medicare, cutting Medicaid, trying to cut back on education and also on environmental protection was not something that the American public wanted to hear. They realize that they are being hurt severely by this Republican plan.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is environmental enforcement is going to be cut back. Educational programs are not going to be cut back. Educational programs are not going to be available to the average American. Of course, for seniors, they have to suffer once again under the Republican proposal to cut back on Medicare and change Medicare so they will not have choice of doctor. They will be paying more out of their pocket or maybe they are going to be forced into a managed care system that they do not like.

So BOB DOLE had to leave; he could not live with the extremist agenda. The President will stay and protect the average American.

PROMISES KEPT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton is fooling the American people by saying that he is reforming the Government and cutting down on big Government spending.

By Clinton's own numbers, he would increase discretionary spending next year by \$8 billion. Bill Clinton is increasing the size of the Government, increasing its power over your life, and he's paying for it with the taxpayer's own money.

Bill Clinton has vetoed tax cuts for working families and vetoed welfare reform twice. He claims to be for working families and for tax relief. He vetoed both of these when he vetoed the balanced budget.

Mr. Speaker, the next time you hear Bill Clinton talking about balancing the budget and cutting taxes, he is not doing this. His 1997 budget is proof that he is increasing Federal spending and raising taxes. He increases Washington bureaucracy and creates 14 new Federal programs. Bill Clinton is protecting big Government and the status quo. Whose promises has he kept?

DOLE LEAVING SCENE OF THE CRIME

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE can run but he cannot hide. For

the last year and a half, BOB DOLE has led this Congress to cut Medicare, cut education, destroy the environment, attack a woman's right to choose, and pander to the gun lobby.

Why is BOB DOLE leaving the scene of the crime? Because he is getting caught in the crossfire, minimum wage, health care, Medicare. He knows what he should do but he cannot. The Republican right will not let him. Senator DOLE is caught in the right wing's claws, and the reach of the right is long, and their hold is tight. Make no mistake about it. Leaving Washington will not break the Gingrich grip, BOB DOLE. BOB DOLE can run but he cannot hide.

MEDICARE

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, this is not about the left wing, this is not about the right wing. Today as we stand here, it is not about BOB DOLE or NEWT GINGRICH or Bill Clinton. This is about Medicare; not mediscare, Mr. Speaker, but Medicare. We are not taxing Medicare, we are not cutting Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, let us tell the truth about Medicare. We want to stand up for the seniors because the system is going bankrupt. This debate has been so politicized and that is so wrong. We have to stand up for seniors in our country. We have to make changes in the system because it is going bankrupt.

The President just this week said, well, the press made me do it. The press made me say cut. Finally it has been acknowledged by the President we are not cutting the system. We need to change the system. We need to put aside politics. We need to quit talking about the Speaker or the majority leader or the President and stand up for senior citizens in this country, do the right thing, make some changes in the system to protect seniors.

We are increasing Medicare. We said that last year; we were telling the truth. People can distort and lie louder. We can tell the truth longer.

CORRECT THE TRADE IMBALANCE

(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, last year over trade ripoffs the White House threatened Japan. After the smoke cleared, Japan laughed all the way to the bank. In fact, Japan now owns all of the top 10 banks in the world. This year the White House is threatening China. The soap opera continues. Threats to Japan, threats to China.

The truth is the White House is talking like John Wayne and performing like Barney Fife. There is only one way to get the attention of these Chinese dictators that are destroying American