

## RUBBER PRESIDENT

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I bring to your attention an editorial which appears in today's New Hampshire Union Leader entitled, Rubber President, Here's Bill Clinton, Contortionist Extraordinaire.

The editorial discusses the fact that the President has twice vetoed welfare reform and yet, if I may quote, it says, "Knowing BOB DOLE has scheduled a major speech today on the subject of welfare, Mr. Clinton did an about-face over the weekend to declare his support for Wisconsin's Republican welfare reform plan. Unbelievable."

Governor Tommy Thompson's innovative Wisconsin Works program embodies more reform, a lot more reform, than either of the two bills Mr. Clinton vetoed. But now the President says he thinks Governor Thompson's approach is just peachy.

Republicans should call Mr. Clinton's bluff. They should not let him get away with telling the voters he is for welfare reform while vetoing sensible reform bills. Congress should present him with a welfare reform bill based on the Wisconsin plan and dare him to veto what he says he supports.

That is what we will do today, Mr. Speaker. We are going to introduce a sensible welfare reform bill.

## ROLLING BACK THE CLOCK

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, the entire Gingrich-Dole Congress that we have seen for the last year and a half has been about one thing: rolling back the clock. Whether it is on Medicare, the environment, educational assistance that we give from the Federal Government, it has been about rolling back the clock.

Here we go again. Now under the guise of raising the minimum wage, which is at a 40-year low in purchasing power, they are in fact going to repeal the minimum wage for millions of American workers.

□ 1030

Just think of the cynicism that reflects, the opportunity of helping people who are trying to get ahead, people who are playing by the rules and trying to stay off welfare. They are using that as an opportunity to take millions off the protection of the minimum wage.

We only need to remember what the Gingrich-Dole leader of the Congress said. "I will resist a minimum wage increase with every fiber of my being," he said. And do my colleagues know what? What they are doing today makes me sick.

NO MFN FOR BARBARIC PEOPLE  
LIKE THIS

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I have a picture here showing Chinese security forces lining men up and putting pistols in the back of their heads and shooting them, and then they take their kidneys and their cornea for transplantations and sell them to people in the West.

We are going to give MFN to a country like this?

What baffles me is, as a Member who has served in this body during the 1980's when Sakharov was under house arrest, and it was his 75th birthday yesterday, and Sharansky was in Perm Camp 35, no Member of the Congress would have had the courage to come to the well of this House and ask for MFN for the Soviet Union, and yet this administration and this Congress are really going to consider doing that.

Members may not want to hear this, and the administration may not want to hear this. This may be the fundamental moral human rights issue that this Congress has to deal with.

Take a look, Members, and I have the film, the 13-minute film. Call my office, we will bring it by. Lining men up, putting pistols in the back of their head, shooting them, and then taking their kidneys and corneas for transplant. No MFN for barbaric people like this.

REPUBLICAN EXTREME AGENDA  
CONTINUES TODAY ON THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today we are going to see the rest of the story, the rest of this extreme agenda that the Republican leadership has been playing out all this term of Congress. We have seen it in Medicare, we have seen it in an erosion of occupational safety, we have seen it in an effort to allow the big cats to raid pension plans, we have seen it in wage and hour laws changes, and today we see the rest of the story: They are coming today to try to do away with the minimum wage.

Now they are talking about giving a minimum wage increase, but the truth of the matter is this bill will attempt to repeal the minimum wage for three-fourths, 75 percent, in fact, of the companies in this country, and that is outrageous and unacceptable and extreme.

The rest of the iceberg will be seen today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BREAST  
CANCER DETECTION ACT

(Mrs. VUCANOVICH asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, what is pink, round, was stalled at FDA for 10 years and now can be obtained only by prescription? No; it is not a funny riddle. The sad truth is it describes the sensor pad, an important tool which could be used to aid breast lump detection.

While the FDA has finally approved this product, it is available only by prescription. Instead of paying only \$21.95, women must first go to a doctor to get a prescription, making costs rise substantially. FDA's action restricts access to women who simply cannot afford to go to the doctor unless something is truly wrong.

This year it is expected that 184,300 women will find out that they have breast cancer. Since there is no cure for breast cancer, we must continue to give women encouragement to perform breast self-examinations and take part in other early-detection practices. Today I am introducing the Breast Cancer Detection Act to make this examination aid available. I urge Members to cosponsor this important bill.

GIVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
WHAT THEY NEED: A RAISE

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

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, this GOP minimum wage bill is a hoax; it is really indecent. All year long the Republican House and Senate have refused to raise the minimum wage, even to have a vote on it. Now we know why: because Republican leadership, between GINGRICH and DOLE, are devising an excuse, a scheme really, to gut and repeal the existing minimum wage. One step forward, two steps back, a measure which would give a license to the Republican corporate friends to exploit the work force, working families. Working families do not need bait-and-switch. They need, working families do not need, political games. They need a raise. They need empowerment, a wage that takes them above the poverty level, and a Congress that votes for a minimum wage on the level.

Mr. Speaker, the best welfare program is a job and a job that pays a living wage. Let us vote for a clean minimum wage bill and give the American people the type of empowerment that working families need: self-sufficiency with an adequate living wage so they can take care of themselves.

PRESIDENT OUTRAGEOUSLY  
CLAIMS HE IS COVERED BY THE  
SOLDIERS AND SAILORS RELIEF  
ACT

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

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this story should be in Ripley's Believe It Or Not. Lawyers for the President of the United States, Bill Clinton, who has been sued by a former Arkansas State employee, have now asked to postpone the lawsuit claiming that the President, who is the commander in chief, should be covered by the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act of 1940, which means they are claiming that Bill Clinton should be protected as a uniformed service member.

Mr. Speaker, this is outrageous. On the eve of Memorial Day, this man, to avoid a lawsuit, would claim he is protected because he really is wearing the uniform of this country.

Mr. Speaker, how outrageous can we get? In Ripley's could we find such a story.

Please join me and sign the letter authored by our colleague, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP], to this President asking for some civil decency.

#### FIFTEEN PERCENT RAISE FOR CORPORATE EXECUTIVES; REPUBLICANS ATTEMPTING TO REDUCE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, Harry Truman used to say the Republican Party supports the minimum wage. The lower the minimum, the better.

In today's Forbes magazine, the bible of the Republican Party, we find that the 800 top chief executives in the United States averaged \$1.5 million last year, up 15 percent. But for the minimum-wage workers in this country, the Republican Party wants nothing for them, no increase whatsoever, and the proposal they are bringing out here will lead to a reduction in pay for millions of these working people.

The Republican Party has had two responses so far this year. First, like Oliver Twist, when he held up his empty bowl and said "More," the workhouse master said, "Too much," and the second Republican response has been revolutionary, as in the French Revolution when the starving French citizens pleaded for bread and Marie Antoinette said, "Let them eat cake."

#### REPUBLICANS AND THE MINIMUM WAGE—THEY OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH and BOB DOLE oppose an increase in the minimum wage. The Republican leader has said he will fight the minimum wage with every fiber in his being and the Republican whip has said in regard to families living on the minimum wage, they do not exist.

Today, the Republicans in this House are pulling one of the dirtiest and most despicable deceptions I have seen in my 10 years in this House. They say they support an increase in the minimum wage, but today they will vote to repeal the minimum wage for nearly two-thirds of the people earning that wage. That is right, repeal the minimum wage.

Unbelievable, Mr. Speaker. Extreme in the extreme. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves, Mr. Speaker, you ought to be ashamed.

#### PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule: The Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on National Security, the Committee on Resources, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

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

There was no objection.

#### PRAIRIE ISLAND INDIAN CHARTER REVOCATION

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 3068) to accept the request of the Prairie Island Indian Community to revoke their charter of incorporation issued under the Indian Reorganization Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Mr. KILDEE. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I will not object, I yield to the gentleman from Washington [Mr. HASTINGS] to enable him to explain the legislation.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of H.R. 3068, authored by the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT], is to accept the request of the Prairie Island Indian Community to revoke their charter of incorporation issued under the Indian Reorganization Act. The Federal charter of incorporation for the community contained a provision which requires that it can only be revoked by an act of Congress.

The revocation was requested by the community because the community

has never used it in the management of its enterprises, finding it to be outdated, ineffective, and cumbersome. Instead, the community relies on provisions in its constitution.

A similar revocation relating to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe was included in Public Law 104-109. I ask for the Members' support for this non-controversial measure.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KILDEE. Further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to offer H.R. 3068, a bill to repeal the corporate charter of the Prairie Island Dakota Community in Welch, MN.

The tribe contacted me last June requesting revocation of their 1934 charter. By law, revoking this 62-year-old document can only be done by an act of Congress.

In its entire tribal government history, the Prairie Island Community has never used its corporate charter in the management of its enterprises. Additionally, with this outdated and paternalistic charter, the tribe is restricted from doing many of the things necessary to carry out business activities.

For example, the community cannot sell or mortgage property, lease land for more than 10 years, or contract for work without approval from the Interior Department.

This legislation acknowledges that the people of Prairie Island know best how to handle their business. It is another example of this Congress sending control back to local communities, and I am proud to be a part of that process.

My colleagues, I and the good people of the Prairie Island Community would appreciate your support for this important legislation.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, further under my reservation of objection, like many tribes, the Prairie Island Community has realized the many shortcomings of the BIA's 1930's policy of encouraging tribes to incorporate under the Indian Reorganization Act. I think that it is a good thing that we are finally beginning to shed some of the paternalistic vestiges of those times. I hope that we keep this in mind as we deal with future legislation affecting Indian tribes.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 3068

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*