

done at Brigham and Women's Hospital because he preferred their operating room. And when the hospital refused to take Mike because he was underage and underweight, Gene went before the hospital board to get permission.

The day of the operation, the procedure took much longer than the family expected. But at 7 o'clock, Gene Rossitch came out to tell them everything had gone perfectly. Gene also told the family that the x rays had not shown how serious the problem had been and how glad he was that he had performed the operation before leaving on vacation. Mrs. O'Loughlin says, "I absolutely believe Gene Rossitch saved Mike's life."

A few days later, Gene's last heroic act was to save his own son from drowning in choppy ocean waters near Ft. Lauderdale. I find Gene's last, heroic act a fitting one because Gene Rossitch's lifework had been saving the lives of others.

And since his death, his colleagues have seen fit to honor the life and work of Gene Rossitch. The Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has honored Gene with their silver medal and has donated \$2,500 toward a children's fund named in honor of Dr. Rossitch that has been established at Brigham and Children's Hospital. On June 27, there will be a dedication of the Eugene Rossitch, Jr., M.D. Residents' Library at the Brigham and Children's Hospital in Boston, MA. And finally, on November 22, the Duke Medical Alumni Association will honor Gene Rossitch by posthumously awarding him its Humanitarian Award.

Literally thousands of people enjoy more fulfilling lives because they were touched by the life of Gene Rossitch. And on this Father's Day, I will join Gene's family, his colleagues, his patients, and his community in thanking God that I was fortunate enough to come into contact with the remarkable life of Dr. Gene Rossitch, Jr.

□ 0915

DOLE LEAVING THE SCENE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, today is the day of the "great escape." The presumptive Republican Presidential nominee, ROBERT DOLE, is leaving the U.S. Senate after 35 years of service on Capitol Hill.

As a loyal Democrat, let me first salute Mr. DOLE. His service to his country, both in World War II and since, has been exemplary. He has been a legislative leader, one that is virtually unparalleled in terms of his own party's leadership, and he has been at the table when many of the most important legislative achievements of the last several generations have been enacted, and I salute him for that.

But I certainly do understand why he wants to escape from the 104th Congress, the Congress which the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] called his "revolution."

Take a look at what Mr. DOLE is leaving behind as he leaves Washington, DC. First, the failure of this 104th Republican Congress to enact meaningful health insurance reform. Families that I speak to across the State of Illinois and around the country are justifiably concerned about the availability and cost of health insurance. There is a bipartisan bill, the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill, that is languishing now between the House and the Senate waiting for enactment. Mr. DOLE will be leaving Washington without the enactment of this important health insurance reform legislation to help working families.

Second, Mr. DOLE is leaving town without a minimum-wage increase. That is something that is long overdue. Fortunately, 30 or 40 Republicans broke from Speaker GINGRICH here in the House of Representatives and joined the Democrats in passing minimum-wage increase legislation just a few weeks ago, but Mr. DOLE will be leaving town without this bill being enacted into law.

He came into Chicago a few weeks ago and took off his tie, and put on a sports coat and said, "I'm just a plain individual out here running for President, just one of the people." I hope he gets a chance in that capacity to meet some minimum-wage workers, and I hope they get a chance to ask Mr. DOLE why he left town without helping them and their families cope with the increasing cost of raising their families and providing for a sound future.

He will be leaving town without a balanced budget, and that is something which could have been achieved with bipartisan cooperation.

Mr. DOLE will be leaving Washington without this 104th Congress having acted to expand access to educational opportunity. Instead, the Gingrich-Dole agenda cut back on college student loans for kids from working families. I do not understand that. I would not be standing here today if it were not for a college student loan through the Federal Government. My story has been repeated millions of times over in the United States: kids from working families who could not afford college tuition turn to the Government for a helping hand. Instead of providing that hand, the Gingrich-Dole Congress has basically cut off educational opportunity for so many kids, not only at the college level but also at the lower levels.

There has been no real welfare reform when there should have been. We ought to be able to agree that this welfare system can be reformed meaningfully, that we can, in fact, have provisions that are tough on work but not tough on kids, and unfortunately the Gingrich-Dole proposal was not one that really would reform welfare and

help people come off of welfare and become taxpayers.

There are no tax cuts for working families that Mr. DOLE can point to from the 104th Congress. The Gingrich-Dole Republicans have wanted to make tax cuts for the wealthy, to cut Medicare to come up with money to give to wealthy individuals.

But what the President has proposed is much more sensible: Let us give working families a helping hand to pay for the college education of their kids. Now, that is something that families all over America can identify with. People, when they have a new baby in the family, go over and greet the new baby and congratulate the new parents, and after a few minutes inevitably the conversation turns to, well, we better start saving some money for this little boy or this little girl and their college education.

President Clinton has a proposal to give working families a helping hand, a tax deduction or a tax credit to pay for college education expenses. Mr. GINGRICH and Mr. DOLE will hear nothing of this, and, as a consequence, Mr. DOLE will leave Washington without having done anything in the 104th Congress to help expand that opportunity.

There have been no improvements in pension security. A lot of workers across America are paying into pension funds wondering if the time comes when they retire that the money will be there. The gentleman from Georgia [GINGRICH] has provided in his own bill opportunities for corporations to raid these pension funds. The people that I speak to, the workers I speak to, want security in those pension funds. It is a shame that Mr. DOLE is leaving Washington without the 104th Congress having addressed that.

And, finally, no improvements in environmental protection. In fact, the Republican budget that Mr. GINGRICH and Mr. DOLE worked on would cut the number of Superfund sites that will be eradicated in this country.

It is understandable that Mr. DOLE is leaving Washington. Certainly we can understand why a presidential candidate would want to leave the scene of this political accident known as the 104th Congress.

IT IS TIME TO FACE OUR REAL PROBLEMS IN THIS COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, I picked up this morning's newspaper with dismay and read about the President of the United States traveling across the country. I guess he was in Las Vegas yesterday looking for answers to some of the problems facing our Nation. In particular he said he is obsessed with the juvenile crime problems. So he is wandering around the country trying to find out what has caused juvenile crime.

I submit, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, he does not really have to look too far. All he has to do is look at his policies and see what has generated crime particularly with our juveniles in this country. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that if we look at the policy of the past 40 years—the policy of the other side of the aisle, we will see what they have sown we are now reaping with our children.

I submit that people who laughed at Dan Quayle when he talked about family values are now having a sober moment, and all we need do my colleagues, is look at what we have legislated in this country to see what our children are doing. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the President of the United States can offer curfews, he can offer uniforms, he can offer to regulate cigarettes, he can offer to put v-chips in televisions, and those are not the answers of what is wrong or what will cure the problems with our young people.

I say to my colleagues that what this Congress has done, creating a system of dependency, creating a system of welfare, creating a system where a child has not seen a parent work, where we have lost the work ethic, where the answer is that government should come up with another program, another credit, another directive from Washington; that is what the answers have been, and this is what we receive.

And then we look at the problems. The President is meeting with local law enforcement agencies' officers and agencies, and I have met with them, and they tell us that 70 percent of the crime in this country is related to drugs. We spent, during the Reagan and the Bush administration, years getting drug use to go down, telling students just say "no," and what did this President do? First he fired just about everyone in the drug czar's office. What was his next step? He hired a chief health officer of the country, who turned into a farce, Jocelyn Elders, and what did she say? She said, "Just say 'maybe'." Our kids are not dumb; they saw what this meant: Try it. And they are trying it, and we are reaping the harvest of this administration.

And then he cut interdiction, interdiction, 70 percent of the drugs coming through Mexico, and rewarded Mexico. This is the policy that we have seen. We know we can legislate, and unless we pass legislation that encourages families to care for their own, unless we return to Judeo-Christian values, until we have a tax policy that does not take away opportunities for our young people to work with minimum wage, unless we say that, "Children, yes, you have to work and you will receive. We must stop asking what Washington can do for you. It's what you can do for yourself."

Until we get back to some work ethic in this country, until we stop forcing people to live in public housing—I saw on television where a little girl choked to death on a roach in public housing

and last night watched on TV the public housing that we would not put our dog in, and that is the alternative that is offered by the other side, these old ideas, and that is what we are seeing in our public housing facilities.

So the problem is here in Congress. We have created the problem. And we will have a choice, the American people will have a choice. Do we continue down the path of the last 40 years, do we continue with ignoring the drug policy? The President mentioned children in one speech 46 times, but he rarely mentions the drug problem in this country: heroin on the increase, methamphetamines, designer drugs, cocaine, marijuana that is frying the brains of our young people, and he will not mention it, and the media will not mention it.

Someone has got to mention it because this is destroying this generation, and I have had it with this administration, I have had it with this President, and I have had it with the solutions of the other side of this aisle, and it is time we got serious and answered the real problems facing our children and our country.

AMERICAN WORKERS NEED PORTABILITY IN HEALTH INSURANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized during morning business for 4 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today is a very sad day from the point of view of the Nation's health insurance needs, and I say that because later on this morning there will be a motion to go to conference on the health care insurance reform bill, the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill as it is known, and will also be dealing with a budget that has come back from a conference between the House and the Senate which makes major negative—has a major negative impact on the Medicare and Medicaid Program. And it really did not have to be this way, but unfortunately the Republican leadership keeps insisting on raiding Medicare and Medicaid primarily to pay tax breaks for wealthy Americans and also insists on putting in what I call, and the President has called, I think, the poison pill into the Kennedy-Kassebaum health care reform legislation of medical savings accounts.

If I could just take a minute, Mr. Speaker, to explain why I think that there are some very bad developments that are occurring today primarily because of the Republican leadership's insistence on catering to special interests. The Kennedy-Kassebaum health care reform bill was basically put forward by the two Senators on a bipartisan basis because they recognized that increasingly it is difficult for many people to get health insurance in this country. People who were working, people who are out there who are employed have a difficult time getting

health insurance or transferring their health insurance if they lose their jobs or they go to a new job. And so on a bipartisan basis the Senators, Senator KENNEDY and Senator KASSEBAUM, said that they would like to make some changes, relatively minor changes, but still significant for a lot of people in this country, that would allow people, when they lose a job or change jobs, to take their health insurance with them, this so-called portability concept, and also that people who have preexisting conditions, who have had handicaps, who have operations or whatever, who oftentimes find it difficult to buy health insurance would not be short-changed, would still be able to buy health insurance because preexisting conditions, health conditions, could not be a basis, in many cases, for denying them coverage.

Well, we were all very much in favor of that. But here comes the Republican leadership, specifically Speaker GINGRICH, that want to attach to that very good legislation what they call medical savings accounts, which I call nothing more than a way for the healthy and the wealthy in this country to take advantage of health insurance at the expense of everyone else. What medical savings accounts do is basically allow people to opt for catastrophic coverage, and they pay out of pocket for the coverage for other daily expenses that are not part of that catastrophic umbrella policy.

The problem with it is that it breaks the health insurance pool. The reason why health insurance stays at a certain level and the price does not go up even more is because everyone is in the insurance pool. But if we take the healthy and wealthy out of the pool and we give them a catastrophic umbrella policy, then the people that are left in the insurance pool end up paying more because they are poorer and less healthy. And that is what the medical savings accounts seek to do. They are healthy, wealthy savings accounts essentially, and we know that the consequence of them is that the average costs of health insurance will go up for those people who are employed and in the work force.

□ 0930

So I once again say today, we must put a stop to this Republican policy. Essentially it is an effort to act for special interests. There is the Golden Rule Insurance Co. that has contributed a lot to the Republican Party over the years that has been advocating these special type of accounts for the healthy and the wealthy and until we put a stop to it we are not going to see the basic health insurance reforms that are important as part of the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill. We also have the budget coming up today which once again makes deep cuts in Medicare and Medicaid to pay primarily for tax breaks for wealthy Americans. On Medicare what we are seeing is cuts of about \$168 billion and also major restructuring of