

time President Clinton stopped talking, and start delivering on his promises.

Where is your pen, Mr. President? The country needs welfare reform.

THE SPECULATORS VERSUS THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, it is the speculators versus the people. The bear is on Wall Street. A good example of what is happening to this country occurred last Friday when the country received good news: Unemployment had dropped to 5.3 percent; a quarter of a million new people were added to the payrolls in America; the average hourly wage, biggest increase in 1 month in recorded history, 9 cents in that 1 month. And what happens on Wall Street? Pandemonium breaks loose. The Dow Jones average goes down 114 points, 30-year Treasury bonds leap a quarter of a point.

The bears on Wall Street make their living by betting on the next Federal Reserve decision. The Federal Reserve needs to hold the line on interest rates so that we can have true welfare reform, so we do not lock in 5 to 6 million people on unemployment because of decisions that are made to benefit speculators in this country.

WISCONSIN IS WAITING FOR WAIVER ON WELFARE

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

Mr. KLUG. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, President Clinton went on national radio and called Wisconsin Works a solid, bold welfare reform proposal. Several days later he repeated the same line in the State of Wisconsin. When Governor Thompson submitted Wisconsin's bold welfare program to the bureaucrats here in Washington, they said they needed 1 month to review it. Guess what. One month expired yesterday, and we are not in month No. 2. In Wisconsin we have a rather simple idea. We think you should replace welfare with work.

How much longer will we have to wait for the bureaucrats in Washington to give us their stamp of approval to finally put in place what the President called a solid, bold welfare reform plan. Am I optimistic that the approvals just around the corner will consider this fact? There are 28 welfare waiver applications currently pending from 19 different States, some dating back almost 3 years. Mr. Speaker, how long will the State of Wisconsin have to wait? One more month? Three more months? One more year? Three more years?

Mr. Speaker, we should ask the President, where is the waiver application the State of Wisconsin needs for its bold welfare reform proposal?

MINIMUM WAGE IS A MORAL ISSUE

(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, I rise today to urge my Republican colleagues to stop blocking action on the minimum wage. I have said it before and I will say it again here today: Raising the minimum wage is not just an economic issue, it is a moral issue; it is the right thing to do.

The Republicans in this House tried to block an increase in the minimum wage and failed. The Republicans in the Senate tried to block it and failed. Having lost on the floor, Republicans now are holding the minimum wage hostage. The Republicans in Congress will do anything to deny hard-working people a small raise.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Majority Leader, I know you vowed to fight an increase in the minimum wage with every fiber in your being, but you cannot fight the will of the American people forever.

One thing is for sure, come November, working people will remember.

WELFARE REFORM

(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, again, President Bill Clinton has dropped the ball on welfare reform. During his 1992 campaign, Bill Clinton promised to end welfare as we known it. But when given the opportunity, Bill Clinton broke his promise—he vetoed welfare reform, not once, but twice.

Thirty days ago, Bill Clinton promised to take action on Wisconsin's welfare waiver request. Well, the 30 days are up, and again we see that Bill Clinton cannot be trusted to keep his word. Again, he has broken his promises and again he has done nothing about one of the most pressing problems in this country.

Mr. Speaker, what is it going to take? Why can't Bill Clinton keep his promises?

Millions of Americans are stuck in a cycle of welfare dependence and poverty, and all the White House can do is worry about its poll numbers and play partisan political games. Bill Clinton should keep his promise to reform welfare and finally begin showing leadership.

SAFE DRINKING WATER

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans seem to be obsessed with this welfare business but there are some issues that are much bigger than welfare. Clean drinking water in this

country is something that everybody needs, whether you are Republican or Democrat.

The front page of the Washington Post has a story that you cannot drink the water in Washington, DC.

Now, if you look at USA Today they are talking about Washington State and the problems with drinking water there.

Yet this House dawdles and does not appoint the conferees to deal with the Safe Drinking Water Act. Now, it is amazing to me that you can sit here and talk about some welfare waiver when, in fact, this city, the capital of the United States, the most powerful country in the world, if you come to my office or come to the Speaker's office or any other office, they will not get you a glass of water from the tap.

Every one of us drinks bottled water in this building. You go in those Cloak-rooms, both sides, you have bottled water.

The American people are entitled to safe drinking water. Appoint the conferees, Mr. Speaker.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION ECONOMIC POLICY EFFECTS

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, many Americans feel that under the Clinton administration economic policies, they are worse off. The reason why they feel that way is because they are worse off.

Under Clinton administration economic policies, real median family income has had a zero annual growth rate. That compares with a 1.7-percent annual growth rate between 1983 and 1989.

Under Clinton administration policies, wages and salaries declined by 2.3 percent between March 1994 and March 1995, the largest drop on record in the post World War II era. Under Clinton administration policies, real average weekly earnings fell in 1995 by three-tenths of 1 percent. Under Clinton administration policies, the median household has lost eight-tenths of 1 percent of their purchasing power.

The Nation has seen the GDP grow at 1.4 percent. That is one-third of the economic growth during the Reagan years.

Under Clinton, had normal recovery circumstances applied, 11.2 million jobs would have been created. Clinton only got 7.7 million jobs. We have had a bad economic performance under this President.

STRIKING THE ERGONOMIC RIDER

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, later this morning the House will vote on my amendment to the Labor, HHS bill which would strike the extreme rider which ties OSHA's hands on repetitive

motion injuries and prohibits them from even developing voluntary guidelines.

This extreme rider prohibits even, as I say, voluntarily guidelines requested by many concerned businesses and would prohibit the collection of data on the frequency of such injuries.

Mr. Speaker, repetitive stress injuries are the fastest growing health problem in the American workplace. This year 2.7 million workers will file workers compensation claims for repetitive motion injuries costing Americans employers at least \$20 billion. Nonetheless, OSHA would be prohibited from even answering questions about how to prevent these injuries.

Adopting my reasonable amendment would help businesses reduce their workers compensation costs, reduce injuries to the American worker and increase U.S. productivity in the workplace. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment on ergonomics.

BOB DOLE'S AMERICA

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

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, what is Bob Dole thinking? What is his vision for America?

The answers to those questions are slowly coming out.

First, we are told that America is a place where cigarette smoking is not addictive. He lectures all of America and experts like C. Everett Koop on the issue and says he opposes President Clinton's efforts to take cigarettes out of the hands of our young people.

Now we are told that the Brady bill was not a good idea and that he would repeal the law's reasonable 5-day waiting period. That should not be a big surprise, because he led the fight against the law as the Senate Republican leader. This comes at a time when President Clinton is leading the fight to end gun killing violence. He announced a program this week to disarm America's kids.

The visions of the two candidates is clear and distinctly different. Bill Clinton sees America where our children are healthier and safer. Bob Dole sees an America where kids have a non-addicting cigarette in one hand and a pistol in the other. Lucky for us that kids do not have three hands. What's next, Bob Dole?

WISCONSIN WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I just thought I would take 1 minute because I do have a revelation here. When I was a kid going to school, the Jesuits used to say that not even God can square a circle. There are some things that God cannot do.

I got a really nice letter from the President in Wisconsin in regard to the

Wisconsin reform plan. And the President said, and I quote, "I am pleased that you have joined me in expressing support for Wisconsin's effort to reform welfare." But then he went on to say, "but we are currently reviewing the State's waiver request and we look forward to possibly, you know, getting it done." He says, getting it done.

And on one hand he is for the program and on the other hand he is against the program. I cannot quite figure this out. So I got news for the Jesuits: God may not be able to square a circle, but I think Bill Clinton can.

I want to be fair with the President. Let us ask the President to give Wisconsin their waivers so we can move forward with this Wisconsin reform plan.

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

Mr. MCINNIS. 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:

Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Committee on Commerce, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on National Security, Committee on Resources, and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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

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

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3396, DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 474 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 474

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3396) to define and protect the institution of marriage. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. No amend-

ment shall be in order except those specified in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be considered only in the order specified, may be offered only by a member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as specified in the report, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments specified in the report are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1045

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], pending which I yield myself such time as I might consume. During the consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

(Mr. MCINNIS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 474 is a straightforward resolution. The proposed rule is a modified closed rule providing for 1 hour of general debate divided equally between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

After general debate the bill shall be considered under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read. The proposed rule provides for two amendments to be offered by the ranking member of the Subcommittee on the Constitution, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. FRANK]. The first amendment made in order under the rule is an amendment to strike section 3 of H.R. 3396. This amendment is debatable for 75 minutes. The second amendment made in order under the rule is an amendment to suspend the Federal definition of marriage under certain circumstances.

The Committee on Rules recognized that these two amendments go to the core of the bill, and by making them in order the committee ensures that full consideration will be given to the important issues raised by this legislation.

Finally, the proposed rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules reported House Resolution 474 out by unanimous voice vote.