

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, with daily speeches, repeated requests for recorded votes, motions to adjourn, and objections, we are attempting to convince the Republican leadership that it is less trouble to schedule a vote on campaign finance reform than to not schedule one. With a motion to adjourn, we are saying adjourn the special interests that corrupt the political process. With a motion to approve the Journal, we are saying approve a Journal that reflects real campaign finance reform.

The announcement of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] yesterday that in response to these Democratic procedural moves he would schedule something sometime on this issue I suppose is a step forward. It has taken 9 months, but we finally appear to have moved the Republican leadership from "definitely no" to "maybe sometime on something."

House Republicans should now give us a specific time and should work out the terms of debate. Only then will we have a true "yes" to real campaign finance reform. To clean up the campaigns for 1998, we must act now.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY ANSWERS?

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I have been following these accusations of campaign finance scandals and reform and outrageous political corruption with great interest. But I must admit, I am having an awfully hard time keeping up.

My Democrat friends insist that it is just political and that there is really nothing to them. Since my good friends on the liberal side of the aisle have such a sterling reputation for fairness and their own ironclad commitment to nonpartisanship, I would like them to clear up a few questions I have, questions I am sure they are just as eager to have answered as I am.

So, who did hire Craig Livingston at the White House? You know, the former bouncer put in charge of security at the White House and who somehow ended up with 900 FBI files on us Republicans?

Another question I have is, what is the difference between a fund-raiser and a finance-related event? I would like to know so that I too can get around the same laws which restrict such activities.

Why did John Huang hide for several days from a Federal judge in order to keep embarrassing fund-raising revelations quiet until after the 1996 election?

Does anyone have those answers?

MAJORITY LEADER ANNOUNCES CONSIDERATION SOMETIME THIS YEAR OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, the House of Representatives must be allowed to debate and vote on substantive bipartisan campaign finance reform. The question is, will the Republican leadership allow this to happen?

The press is reporting today that the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], majority leader, has said that there will be consideration sometime this year. I am encouraged by these comments. The time has come now for the majority leader and the minority leader to sit down and work out the terms of these debates, just as the majority leader and the minority leader in the Senate sat down and discussed how debate will be conducted later this year.

When that is done, the House can go back to business as usual and the country can receive the debate that it is entitled to. I encourage the majority leader to sit down with the minority leader and work out the terms of a bipartisan debate and legislation on campaign finance reform.

CAMPAIGN FUND-RAISING INVESTIGATIONS

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Madam Speaker, liberals are calling congressional investigations in the White House fund-raising scandals and political corruption a partisan witch hunt. Does anyone take this accusation seriously?

The fact is, the only thing we are hunting for are the 6 foreign nationals that fled the country, the 10 foreign witnesses refusing interviews by the Thompson Committee and the 31 witnesses who have pled the fifth amendment.

The same administration that claims to be cooperating fully with investigators has got a list of noncooperating witnesses that grows daily. They have a very strange notion of cooperation indeed.

I am beginning to think that the liberal idea of campaign finance reform is to pass a law that says these crimes should not be investigated, political corruption should go unpunished, and lawbreaking should be overlooked if it involves foreigners of any kind, especially if those foreigners are from Communist countries.

One wonders if the 50 fugitive friends of Bill are what the President had in mind when he pledged to have the most ethical administration in history.

THE IRS IS BEING PICKED ON

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, former IRS commissioner said, "Congressman Traficant for years has

worked to turn the American people against the IRS." He said, "It is unfair, and the IRS is not a two-headed monster."

The IRS is being picked on. How about a pity party. Do I hear violins? Let us tell it like it is. If the IRS is not a two-headed monster, why are American citizens literally wearing bags over their heads afraid to death to tell the Government how they feel about the IRS? The truth is, the American people know the IRS, the Congress knows the IRS, and the IRS knows the IRS.

I want to say one last thing. I am going to advise IRS spokespeople to stop mentioning my name on national television. I yield back the balance of their abuses.

ELIMINATE IRS CODE

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

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, as I was walking out of the revolving door here yesterday after what I think was our fourth vote to adjourn, I was reminded of that Bill Murray movie "Groundhog Day." Here we are again, right back in the same day, voting to adjourn, voting on the Journal, voting on the Suspension Calendar, and not doing the business of the American people.

Yesterday, we also announced an effort to abolish the IRS Code, I say to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT], by December 31, 2000, abolish the Code, end the IRS as we know it, end those abuses, end the constant harassment of Americans by an agency that is out of control.

The Declaration of Independence has 1,300 words. The Bible has 73,000 words. The IRS code has 2.8 million words. It needs to be eliminated.

LORETTA SANCHEZ IS HERE TO STAY

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

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, let me see if I get this straight. The gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] wins an election in California, she is certified by a Republican Secretary of State, she comes to the House and takes her seat, and she begins to do her district's work. Then all of a sudden Republicans launch an unprecedented attack not only on the Hispanic voters in her district, but on Hispanic voters throughout the Nation.

This is the same party that is telling us that they want to bring Hispanics into their party and invite them in. Well, they must have hired the same consultant to do this advice that told them to close down the Government a couple years ago.

I suggest they are getting ripped off. Let the gentlewoman from California

[Ms. SANCHEZ] go. Stop harassing Hispanic voters. She is here, and she is going to stay.

EPA NEW CLEAN AIR STANDARDS

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, well, it is lawyers over lunch buckets once again for EPA and this administration. Secretary Browner and the EPA have proposed new clean air standards so complicated and so cumbersome that they will employ many more lawyers and lay off working men and women.

Where is the scientific data that supports this need for these choking regulations? We have not seen the data. If it exists, it must be hidden under the mountain of draft proposed regulations.

History tells us that new regulations also drive up the cost of transportation, the cost of the production of goods, and in the trade world of NAFTA and GATT, that will cost working men and women their jobs. This loss of jobs is simply a natural product of an economy that has more government bureaucrats than manufacturing workers. Too much regulation not enough work.

It is somewhat like EPA's Superfund, badly in need of reform, which spends over half of its budget on lawyers instead of cleaning up the mess. The new clean air standards will enrich the lawyers at the cost of working men and women.

Yes, Madam Speaker, it is lawyers over lunch buckets for the EPA and this administration.

MOVE FORWARD ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Madam Speaker, as one who has worked tirelessly for fiscal responsibility in a bipartisan effort to balance the budget and bring taxpayer relief, I am outraged by the millions of tax dollars being spent investigating past campaigns, while no House action is allowed on reforming the campaign finance system for the future.

Why are Republican leaders in the House continuing to look backward, indeed, closing their eyes to what is so obviously a priority with the citizens of this Nation?

In my district they want us to move forward, reform a system that is in dire need of change. Our President is ready. Congressional Democrats on both sides of the aisle, both sides of the rotunda are ready, as well as even some Senate Republicans are calling for reform.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House Republican leadership to get on board with a bipartisan, bicameral effort to fix this system.

□ 1100

IMAGES OF PROGRESS

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Madam Speaker, for many people across this country, Little Rock's Central High School brings a searing image to mind when 1,000 armed men were forced to escort nine African-American children through the doors of the high school. It is an image in this Nation's past, one of hostility, fear, and resistance to change.

However, Madam Speaker, I would suggest that other images survive, too, images of courage, hope, and perseverance; the image of the young Elizabeth Eckford, an image of personal strength and character. I am also inspired by the courage of those students who stood firm in support of their new classmates. As Melba Patillo, another of the students seeking entrance to Central High School said, "Each time as I was about to give up exhausted from the jeers and insulting remarks, some kind face would come up and say: 'I want you here.'"

Madam Speaker, we have not eliminated intolerance in our country, but this weekend, marking the 40th anniversary of the Central High conflict, individuals who once confronted one another during those angry days will come together. Even as I speak, buses filled with a new generation of Freedom Riders from the University of Arkansas are arriving in Little Rock to help shape the united future for our Nation. Madam Speaker, these images all of them should be remembered. They are images of progress.

CELEBRATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE ROCK NINE

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

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues from Arkansas in celebrating today the 40th anniversary of nine black students entering Central High School. The President is there today to walk in the school with the Little Rock Nine. Who can forget this unforgettable picture of courage on the part of one 15-year-old and racism on the face of the other.

Today it is a celebration of heroes. Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Minnijean Brown Trickey, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls Lanier, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Melba Patillo Beals, Thelma Mothershed Wair. We learned from their courage in the past. Today we learn from their wisdom.

This is a picture taken just this week of these same two 15-year-old girls. Forty years ago we learned from their courage. Today we learn of the ability to forgive and move on and learn from the mistakes of the past.

SAVE AMERICA, STOP LAWSUIT ABUSE

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I commend the Members of the Western Maryland Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse [WMCALA] for joining thousands of Marylanders in declaring this week of September 21 through September 28 Lawsuit Abuse Awareness Week.

This group points out that we all pay for outrageous punitive damages and settlements from excessive and frivolous lawsuits. They note that this results in higher prices on goods and services, higher prices for medical care and equipment, loss of safety improvements or product innovations for fear of lawsuits, jobs lost, and businesses forced to close to pay judgments.

Congress passed comprehensive legal reform and product liability reform. President Clinton vetoed both. We are all paying a heavy price for the \$2.5 million in contributions from trial lawyers to President Clinton's 1996 campaign. We commend Western Maryland Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse.

WORKING TOGETHER ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE ROCK HIGH SCHOOL CRISIS

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

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, it is fitting that we rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Little Rock high school crisis. I remember that time well. I was in high school myself at that time. There was much unfairness, and there was much courage.

I believe that the world has changed a lot since that terrible time. Today just about every student who would like to has the opportunity to get a college education. Because of recent actions of the Congress, we will be able to even help more of the young people that want to achieve their goals.

But we look back on the year 1957 with much sadness. We also face the future with much hope. Today we celebrate how far we have come. We also recognize how far we yet have to go. Most of all, we remember the lesson that it has taught us. We all do better when we work together.

CALL FOR MORE TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, what a difference 4 years makes. In 1993 President Clinton and a Democrat Congress rammed through a budget that contained the largest tax increases in the history of this country