

I think the Committee on the Budget, really, over the years, has been a place where we have been able to fight it out, yet still be collegial at the same time.

□ 1930

So I want to thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT); the members of his staff; my staff, in particular Mr. Struble, and all the folks under him; the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS); the members of the Committee on the Budget; and the members of the Republican Conference; and the Whip team for their work.

IN APPRECIATION OF MINORITY STAFF OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to echo the remarks of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH). He and I came here together in 1983. We have been great friends since then, and that friendship is carried over to the work on the committee together. We disagree strongly, but we do it in an agreeable way continually, and it is because he is a gentleman, he is affable, he is wonderful to work with. And I say the same for his staff, particularly Wayne Struble.

I would like to say something for our staff on the minority side, because we in the minority have a small staff and we have to really put out to put a product together. But they have done a gargantuan job over the last several weeks, and I want to mention them individually.

Susan Warner, Medicare. Richard Kogan; I do not know anybody in town who knows the budget better than Richard, number cruncher super. Pepper Santalucia, she just joined us. Sheila McDowell. Linda Bywaters. Hugh Brady on defense and discretionary spending. Lisa Irving. Sara Abernathy. Dale Coldwell. Jim Klumpner, who just joined us, our chief economist. Andrea Weathers. Marian Worthington. Craig Bomberger. Sandy Clark, who is on maternity leave, about to have twins, but nevertheless is connected with us by modem. And, above all, my friend, my colleague, and my tireless worker, our chief of staff on the minority side, Tom Kahn.

They have put in a Herculean job over the last several weeks. We did not win but we came to the floor in fine fashion because of the work they did.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, APRIL 9, 1999, TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 851, SAVE OUR SATELLITES ACT OF 1999

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask consent that the Committee on Commerce be permitted to file its report on the bill, H.R. 851, no later than midnight, April 9, 1999.

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

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 23) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives:

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 23

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, March 25, 1999, Friday, March 26, 1999, Saturday, March 27, 1999, or Sunday, March 28, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, April 12, 1999, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, March 25, 1999, or Friday, March 26, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 1999, for morning-hour debate, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate concurrent resolution is concurred in.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DESIGNATION OF HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA OR HON. FRANK R. WOLF TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH APRIL 12, 1999

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 25, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CONSTANCE A. MORELLA or, if not available to perform this duty, the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through April 12, 1999.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designation is agreed to. There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Joint Economic Committee:

Mr. Stark, California;
Mrs. Maloney, New York;
Mr. Minge, Minnesota; and
Mr. Watt, North Carolina.

There was no objection.

H.R. 45 IS A FAIRY TALE

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, April 1, April Fool's Day, is less than a week away, literally just around the corner. But the jokes, yes, the jokes are already here.

The nuclear power lobbyists are trying to pull the wool over the eyes of Members of Congress. They want us to believe that if we support H.R. 45, the nuclear waste problems at 72 nuclear power plants will just disappear, puff, gone. Well, I am not sure how many of my colleagues believe in fairy tales. But that is exactly what it is, a fairy tale of monumental proportions.

The truth is that there are 72 nuclear waste sites around the country and if H.R. 45 is passed, we would have a total of, let us see, 73, not less but more. And it would take 30 to 40 years and a thousand mobile Chernobyls going through your neighborhood to take this waste to the site.

Let us not get caught up in the April Fool's joke or succumb to the attitude of "Don't worry, be happy." Remember something my mother told me. When the circus is in town, beware of the clown.

H.R. 45 is nothing more than a fairy tale, and I am sure my colleagues heard it before. Do not believe it again.

YEAR 2000 BUDGET

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, we have now finished the debate, a hot debate that has taken place on the floor of the House of Representatives about the budget for the year 2000. And for the American people that are watching, I want them to know that what has occurred is that the Republican plan has been victorious.

But it is more than just a Republican plan. It is a plan that is based upon principles of the marketplace. And those principles of the marketplace are, among other things, living within the budget that we have, doing what we said we would do, and doing things for the middle class of this country.

The budget that was passed tonight, the resolution, is for the middle class

of this country and for us to live with in the means that we have. We, I think, can be proud of the work that was done today; and it was done for each and every one of us, Republican principles following market-based ideas.

BUDGET BREAKS CONTRACT WITH U.S. VETERANS

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I was very happy to hear that the principle on which the Republican budget was based was helping the middle class. I want America to know that the budget that just passed broke the contract with our Nation's veterans.

The motion that was just passed cut \$3 billion over the life of that resolution from our veterans' programs. Under that budget, veterans' hospitals can close, our veterans with Persian Gulf War illness will not get treated, those with Hepatitis C will not be treated, our national cemeteries are in danger of being vastly undertreated.

I am very glad to hear the principles under which this budget was passed. This budget breaks the contract with our Nation's veterans. This budget is unconscionable, it is shameful, and America ought to reject it.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET KEEPS FAITH WITH VETERANS

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, I must lament the fact that there are those who feel they must come to the floor and, amidst partisan vitriol and venom, misrepresent what was done for the Nation's veterans. Because, Mr. Speaker, I too have the honor and privilege of serving on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and it is time for some facts.

President Reagan said, "Facts are stubborn things." It is important for my friend from California and all those who would lampoon and lambast this budget to understand this: An additional \$1 billion was added for the Nation's veterans. \$1,000 million, \$1 billion, was added for our Nation's veterans. That is a fact.

The sad fact is the President of the United States came to the well of this House a few months ago and in the span of 77 minutes made over 80 promises, but he failed to answer to the call of the Nation's vets. That is why a version of his budget today received only a handful of votes.

And I would just hope, Mr. Speaker, that my friends on the minority who say they want to help veterans will extend that help to young men and women in the service now, giving them the proper equipment and training.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Is it appropriate when announcing the orders of the day to provide certain editorial comments?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is not appropriate.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, point of order.

Is it appropriate when the gentleman makes remarks on the floor that they read the budget with—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will advise the Member that the gentleman is not stating a point of order.

AUTHORIZING SPEAKER, MAJORITY LEADER, AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR BY THE HOUSE NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Monday, April 12, 1999, the Speaker, majority leader and minority leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1999

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that business in order under the calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, April 14, 1999.

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

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of the special order by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

NATIONAL HOLIDAY TO HONOR A NONVIOLENT FIGHT FOR JUSTICE; THE LIFE OF CESAR CHAVEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, a number of us are rising this evening to commemorate the birthday next week of Cesar Chavez, a great national hero whose March 31 birthday we believe should be recognized as a national holiday.

This Nation and the world lost a great civil rights leader nearly 6 years ago when Chavez died after a tireless struggle for social change. March 31 is a State holiday in my State of California; and countless schools, roads, libraries, and other public institutions have been named after Cesar Chavez. It is now time that the entire Nation honor his enduring legacy with a Federal holiday.

From humble beginnings in 1927 on a small farm near Yuma, Arizona, Cesar Chavez rose to be a major force in American history, leading millions of people to better lives, inspired by his message of a nonviolent fight for peace and justice.

As the son of migrant farm workers, he knew well the oppression these hard-working laborers faced. Influenced by the writings of Ghandi and other proponents of nonviolence, he began to register his fellow farm workers to vote and then to educate them about their rights to a safe workplace and a just wage.

In 1962, Cesar Chavez and his family founded the National Farm Workers Association, which organized thousands of farm workers to confront one of the most powerful industries in our Nation. He inspired them to join together and nonviolently demand safe and fair working conditions.

□ 1945

Through the use of a grape boycott, he was able to secure the first union contracts for farm workers in the United States. These contracts provided farm workers with the basic services that most workers take for granted, services such as clean drinking water and sanitary facilities. Because of Cesar Chavez' fight to enforce child labor laws, farm workers could also be certain that their children would not be working side by side with them and would instead attend the migrant schools that he helped to establish. In addition, Cesar Chavez made the world aware of the exposure to dangerous chemicals that farm workers, in fact all consumers, face every day.

But his influence extended beyond agriculture. He worked in urban areas, organized voter registration drives, brought complaints against mistreatment by governmental agencies. He taught community members how to deal with governmental, school and financial institutions and empowered