

tempore; the oath was administered to him by the Acting President pro tempore.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NOTIFICATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. DASCHLE. I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 102) notifying the President of the United States of the election of a President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the resolution?

The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 102) reads as follows:

S. RES. 102

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of Robert C. Byrd, a Senator from the State of West Virginia, as President pro tempore.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I move to reconsider and move to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion was agreed to.

THANKING AND ELECTING STROM THURMOND PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS

Mr. LOTT. I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 103) expressing the thanks of the Senate to the Honorable Strom Thurmond for his service as President pro tempore of the United States Senate and to designate Senator Thurmond as President pro tempore emeritus of the United States Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. There being no objection to the consideration of the resolution, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 103) reads as follows:

S. RES. 103

Resolved, That the United States Senate expresses its deepest gratitude to Senator Strom Thurmond for his dedication and commitment during his service to the Senate as the President pro tempore, further as a token of appreciation of the Senate for his long and faithful service Senator Strom Thurmond is hereby designated President pro tempore emeritus of the United States Senate.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I move to reconsider and move to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion was agreed to.

ELECTION OF MARTIN P. PAONE AS SECRETARY OF THE MAJORITY

Mr. DASCHLE. I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 104) electing Martin P. Paone as secretary for the majority of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate will proceed to the immediate consideration of the resolution.

Without objection, the resolution is agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 104) reads as follows:

S. RES. 104

Resolved, That Martin P. Paone of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, elected Secretary for the Majority of the Senate, effective June 6, 2001.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I move to reconsider and move to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

ELECTION OF ELIZABETH B. LETCHWORTH AS SECRETARY OF THE MINORITY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send another resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 105) electing Elizabeth B. Letchworth as secretary for the minority of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate will proceed to the immediate consideration of the resolution.

Without objection, the resolution is agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 105) reads as follows:

S. RES. 105

Resolved, That Elizabeth B. Letchworth, of Virginia, be, and she is hereby, elected Secretary for the Minority of the Senate, effective June 6, 2001.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I move to reconsider and move to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion was agreed to.

SERVING IN THE SENATE

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the distinguished Senator from South Carolina, STROM THURMOND, for his service to our country and to this body as President pro tempore.

I offer my hearty congratulations to Senator ROBERT C. BYRD in returning to this high position this morning. Between these two men, the Senate enjoys 90 years of service. The wisdom they have given Members is beyond measure.

I thank my partner, my counterpart, Senator LOTT. This is the second time this year Senator LOTT and I have switched roles. To us, this is just another in a series of challenges he and I have faced already this year. Every time we have been presented with these challenges, we have come through with our working relationship and our friendship not only intact but, in my view, strengthened. It is my hope and my expectation that we will continue to be able to work together in this manner.

Finally, there is another person who deserves special recognition. That is Senator JEFFORDS. Last week, I was deeply touched by Senator JEFFORDS' courageous decision and his eloquent words. The Senator from Vermont has always commanded bipartisan respect because of the work he does. Regardless of where he sits in this Chamber, his work will continue, and America will be better for it.

This, indeed, is a humbling moment for me. I am honored to serve as majority leader, but I also recognize that the majority is slim. This is still one of the most closely divided Senates in history.

We have just witnessed something that has never happened in all of Senate history—the change of power during a session of Congress.

At the same time Americans are evenly divided about their choice of leaders, they are united in their demand for action. Polarized positions are an indulgence that the Senate cannot afford and our Nation will not tolerate.

Republicans and Democrats come to this floor with different philosophies and different agendas, but there are beliefs we share. Both Republicans and Democrats believe in the power of ideas. Both Republicans and Democrats believe in fashioning those ideas into sound public policy. The debate on that policy is what I like to call the noise of democracy. Sometimes it is not a very stereophonic sound. Sometimes there is too much sound from the right or from the left. But it is a sound that, in my view, is beautiful—especially in comparison to the noise of violence we hear in so many places all over the world today.

In this divided Government—in spite of the passion with which we hold these ideas, in spite of the fervor with which we come to the floor to represent them—we are required to find common ground and seek meaningful bipartisanship. As I have said before, real bipartisanship is not a mathematical formula; it is a spirit. It is not simply finding a way to reach 50 plus 1. It is a way of working together that tolerates debate. It means seeking principled compromise. It means respecting the right of each Senator to speak his or her mind and to vote his or her conscience.

In this Senate, at this time, on this historic occasion, each Member has something to prove. We need to prove

to the American people we can overcome the lines that all too often divide us. We need to prove we can do the work the American people have sent us to the Senate to do.

I came to the Congress 22 years ago. I have had the good fortune of having many mentors. My friends know that I often speak of one, in particular, whose advice continues to guide me. His name: Claude Pepper. He was a Congressman from Florida and at one time a Senator in this body. He told me once that, as fervent and as passionate a Democrat as he was, it wasn't really whether one was a "D" or an "R" that mattered; it was whether one was a "C" or "D"—it was whether one was "constructive" or "destructive" in the political and legislative process.

I hope I can prove to my colleagues on this side of the aisle that I can be a constructive leader. I hope we all recognize the difference between constructive and destructive politics and legislative work. I hope that we can live up to the expectations of the American people and people such as Claude Pepper.

As we address the agenda this body has before it, I hope we can be constructive Republicans and constructive Democrats.

I thank my colleagues for their trust. I thank my colleagues for their friendship. I am prepared to go to work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me first join Senator DASCHLE in expressing my personal appreciation and great admiration to Senator THURMOND, for the job he has done for so many years for the people of South Carolina and, yes, the people of America. Today he is with the President of the United States, in Bedford, VA, for the dedication of a memorial to those who lost their lives in Normandy. As our colleagues know, Senator THURMOND landed at Normandy and served so honorably there. The energy and strength he exhibited in Normandy continues to this very day in the Senate. He is a legend in his own time. We all admire him and appreciate him so much.

Also, I congratulate Senator BYRD for assuming this position of President pro tempore of the Senate. He certainly is going to need no briefing on the rules. He is the paragon regarding the rules of the Senate. He is the guardian of the rules. He certainly knows the rules, and he will administer them fairly and reside in the chair in a way we all will appreciate and admire.

So to you, Senator BYRD and Mr. President, thank you for what you have done and what I know you will do as President pro tempore of the Senate.

I also thank our staff members. There are so many people to recognize who have served the Senate during the period of time I have been majority leader. The officers, those who are here day in and day out, into the night, do such a great job for the Senate, for the

Senators, and for our country. To all of you, I express my appreciation. I particularly express appreciation to our staff assistants, Elizabeth Letchworth, who has been secretary of the majority, now secretary of the minority; and to Marty Paone, who has served as secretary of the minority and will be secretary of the majority. They have the answers that we need in the Senate. We can always rely on them as to what the schedule may be, based on what the leaders have told them, and when the votes will occur. They do so much to make our life and our job easier.

But primarily I want to extend my congratulations to my partner and also my friend, TOM DASCHLE, as majority leader. I also extend to him my hand of continued friendship and commitment to work with him for the interests of the American people. I know he will do an excellent job. I think he has set a very positive tone in his opening remarks and I told him so when I congratulated him as we shook hands.

We have worked together over the past 5 years when I have been the majority leader, through some good times and some tremendous legislative achievements and through some tough times. Sometimes we have been criticized for that, but most of the time I think people understood we maintained a working relationship and we did the best we could as we saw our jobs and what we thought was right for the Senate and right for the American people. The good times we will remember and try to repeat. The bad times have already been forgotten. But there have been clear examples of where we have worked together in a bipartisan way for the interests of the American people. It covers the gamut.

It has been on financial issues, on transportation, and on trade. There have been times when we had opposition in our own parties, but we came together because we thought a result was very important.

I know Senator DASCHLE will find, sometimes, the weight of this job will be as heavy as the weight of the Earth Atlas carried on his shoulders. I hope on occasion I can help make that weight a little lighter.

Of course, at some point, he tricked Hercules into assuming that burden, and Atlas was at last relieved of the weight of the world.

I know how he felt. I mention this by way of congratulating Senator DASCHLE on his assuming the august responsibilities that come with being the majority leader of the U.S. Senate.

Perhaps I should mention the remainder of that old story: Hercules managed to trick Atlas, so the poor giant wound up, once again, carrying the Earth as he was fated to do. There probably is a moral in there somewhere about how things not only change, but keep on changing. Things certainly have changed for the better since the American people elected Republican majorities to the Senate and the House in 1995. Back then, deficits stretched

further than the eye could see, and Social Security was used as a government piggy bank. The welfare system hurt more people than it helped, high taxes prevented families from enjoying the fruits of their labor, and military readiness was seriously in question.

Those problems were magnified by a bureaucracy that diverted education dollars from our children's classrooms, putting their futures at risk. Today, our hard work enables us to boast of a different story—the story of how Republican initiatives have made a difference by changing things for the better:

Republicans became the catalyst for balancing the budget. We stopped the raid on Social Security. We moved people from welfare to the dignity and independence of work. We lowered taxes for families and for job creation. We began to restore America's military strength. And, we returned education dollars to parents, teachers and communities.

The result? A record-setting economy, higher-paying jobs, record low interest rates, greater investment, more opportunity, and more parents involved in schools. Many landmark achievements were accomplished through bipartisan cooperation: the balanced budget, welfare reform, the Soldiers' Bill of Rights, juvenile justice reform, education reform, safe drinking water, a minimum wage increase combined with small business tax relief, and ISTEA—the legislation that is dramatically modernizing our transportation infrastructure, Air 21, and financial services modernization.

Add to that our defense modernization, the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the Africa Free Trade bill, and telecommunications reform. We accomplished many difficult things together in a bipartisan way—in good times, as well as in seemingly impossible times of gridlock. I am hopeful that there will be more of those good times when we can do so again. I know that the distinguished majority leader does not need any advice on this occasion. But I do remember that I never believed as majority leader I could work my will with the Senate, unless it was a coalition of wills.

From the very first, I have never gotten all that I asked for: I certainly did not get all the tax cuts we wanted for the American people. But I accepted what we could get and determined to come back and try again for more the next time. It is true that Senate Democrats will now set the schedule for this body. But any group of 49 Senators is an exceptionally strong minority. Each of those Senators looks forward to exercising all the rights of the minority to advance President Bush's and the people's agenda in the months ahead.

We will be vigilant in protecting and improving social security and medicare. We will craft an energy policy to respond to the crisis that threatens our economy and quality of life. We will create the world's best schools by empowering local school districts which

are accountable to parents. Too much money still is being wasted in Washington's education bureaucracy. We will confirm the President's nominations to enable him to run the government he was elected to administer and to provide for a fair and impartial judiciary. We will work to rebuild our nation's defenses because our military is still stretched way too thin for comfort in a dangerous world.

Finally, taxes are still too high, and there is still too much waste in Federal spending. We will continue to work to bring both under control. Our minority status in the Senate—albeit temporary—neither dampens our enthusiasm for building upon our successes, nor excuses us from embracing the challenges ahead. For we did not come to Washington to be caretakers of power. We were sent to the Senate for a specific purpose, as reflected in President Bush's agenda, to: move America forward again by putting people back in charge of their own country; promote economic growth; give all individuals the opportunities to reach for their dreams; strengthen our bedrock institutions of family, school, and neighborhood; and make the United States a stronger leader for peace, freedom, and progress abroad.

For too long, government has supported itself by taking more of what people earn, preventing them from getting ahead, no matter how hard they work. President Reagan called it "economics without a soul" and taught us that the size of the federal budget is not an appropriate barometer of social conscience or charitable concern. And that is why the ultimate goal in everything we are working with President Bush to do is to give this economy back to the American people.

Some say it is dangerous to push for dramatic reforms in a period of economic instability. But I believe it is dangerous not to. There may not always be an opportunity. Along with all my fellow Republicans, I say: Our goals have not changed. Neither has our resolve to rally around President Bush to meet them. Our opportunity is today. To my friends on the other side of the aisle: We are here and ready to go to work for the people who elected us to represent them.

Now we have a challenge before us that is different for me and will be different for Senator DASCHLE. Can we come together? Can we find a way to work with this President, President Bush, and find common ground even on the bill that is pending before us now, education? We have said we want education reform and we want a responsible increase in education spending. The American people said they want it, people in every State, as did the President, and so do we. Yet we have not gotten it done.

Can we come together on education? I think we can. It is going to take work. It is going to take some sacrifice. Senator KENNEDY is going to continue to push it aggressively, and

he is probably going to have to cast votes he doesn't particularly like, and so am I, and so will Senator GREGG. But can we do any less? Can we afford not to, finally, make progress on education reform and take some steps for the Federal Government to be of help in improving education in America? I believe we can do it. It may take a little more time, but that will be our first test. I pledge to work with the managers and with Senator DASCHLE to make that happen.

We have a lot of other important issues we are going to have to deal with this year. Senator DASCHLE noted yesterday we have 13 appropriations bills and supplemental appropriations bills to do to keep the Government operating, and we have 59 days—estimated I guess—to get it done. It is going to take a pretty good lift. I hope we don't have 100 amendments on every appropriations bill, as we had last year. I hope we can find a way to show fiscal restraint and get these bills done.

Obviously, there are going to be health-related issues. How do we deal with Patients' Bill of Rights? How can we deal with this important question of prescription drugs, to make sure elderly poor get the help they need? Can we come together on Medicare reform? Can we take the lead from Senator Moynihan, the former Senator from New York, on Social Security? Will we be able to really address the energy needs of this country? Will we be taking partisan positions and trying to assess blame? Will we be trying to find how little we can do or can we come together and have a real national energy policy that will, hopefully, help this year but, more importantly, will make sure we do not have this problem in 5 years or 10 years? Defense continues to be something on which we are going to have to focus.

So we have a full agenda. I do not think a lot will change. Senator DASCHLE will get recognized. He will be the majority leader, and I will be minority leader, the Republican leader.

He will call up the bills, and we will take advantage of our rights in the minority to offer amendments, as certainly the other side has. Sometimes we will offer substitutes. But we commit and pledge our best efforts to finding a way to make it work and to pass important legislation to address these issues and find the solutions that are needed by the American people.

It is not about personalities. I still believe that government is about ideas, about issues. So it is not really that important in what role we serve. What is important is what do we do for the people we serve, what legacy will we leave for the next generation.

I believe we can get it done. We have a lot of work to do. Let's get started. I again pledge to you my support and cooperation, Senator DASCHLE. I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, it is my expectation and hope we can resume the consideration of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. As some of my colleagues may recall, under a previous order there will be 20 minutes of debate remaining on the Wellstone amendment regarding testing and then we expect a vote at the expiration of that period of time.

Senator COLLINS has an amendment regarding a study which will be considered after the Wellstone amendment. The Collins amendment will not require much debate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. May we have order in the Senate.

Mr. DASCHLE. It is my expectation the Collins amendment will not require a great deal of debate, so Members should be alerted that a second vote will be expected shortly after the Wellstone vote.

Yesterday the managers made some progress on the bill. At least 10 amendments were cleared by unanimous consent, and I understand the managers expect to clear other amendments today.

I also say to my colleagues who have amendments to this bill to contact the bill managers so they can continue to move forward in working through the remaining amendments. My hope and expectation is that we can complete action on this bill next week.

At some point—preferably this week—we will take up the organizing resolution. But I will have more to say about that at a later date.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADERSHIP TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum for just a few minutes, and I ask unanimous consent that the time be charged to the other side.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. GREGG. No.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LINCOLN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BETTER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows: