

While I do so, I do not anticipate that possibility.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I just have one other concern that I wish to discuss with the distinguished majority leader.

As the gentleman knows, and we have discussed before, there is a crisis in our country, and it is the confidence in our markets that we want to restore. One way we can do that is by taking up the Sarbanes accounting reform bill and the conference report before going home for recess. I would hope that this bill would be coming to the floor next week.

Does the majority leader have any plans to bring the conference report to the floor?

Mr. ARMEY. Well, again, I want to thank the gentlewoman for that inquiry, and as the gentlewoman knows, we will always make available time on the floor for conference reports as soon as we can obtain them. I have had, just in the past hour, a very encouraging conversation with Chairman OXLEY about that conference. It meets tomorrow morning at 10:30.

It is clear that the conferees from both bodies are committed to getting this work done as quickly as possible, and I daresay we might hope and expect possibly to see that work. It will certainly be, I believe I am clear in my understanding, the desire of these conferees to complete that work as soon as possible. They are quite concerned and committed to it.

Ms. PELOSI. Of course, Mr. Speaker, one important option that we have, in order to restore confidence to the markets and diminish the crisis, is to bring the Sarbanes accounting reform bill directly to the floor for consideration. I hope that the majority leader will consider that option, because time is of the essence. We must move quickly.

As the gentleman knows, every day is a problem for America's families with their savings, hopes and aspirations for their children and the retirement of their parents. So I appreciate the gentleman saying it may be possible we would bring a conference report. I hope it is also possible we would bring the Sarbanes bill directly to the floor.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JULY 22, 2002

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business

in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHUSTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HINCHEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.)

ON THE CHIEF OF THE S.E.C.

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

Mr. DEFazio. Mr. Speaker, we usually do not think about The New York Times like we would The Onion, providing humor for America, but today there is an extraordinarily humorous story on the front page. It says, "Chief of S.E.C.," the Securities and Exchange Commission, "Is Set to Pursue Former Clients."

Now, let us think about that for a minute. This gentleman, who made a career out of lobbying for the securities industry and the accounting industry, opposing reforms, representing them in their misdeeds, is now going to pursue them. He is the best we can do in a country of 270 million people. The President cannot find anybody who knows about securities, who is not totally ethically and morally compromised from being the chief watchdog.

Here is the vision of Mr. Pitt as the pit bull. Of course, that is a toy poodle, but it says he is going to get tough. Well, if anyone believes that, I have several bridges I would like to talk to you about afterwards.

Now, here are some quotes from the story. This is Mr. Pitt talking to The New York Times. "This will inevitably sound self-serving, but the fact is it is

an enormous advantage to the public to have somebody who knows about the securities business and the securities law as I do, and it would be unthinkable to deprive people of my expertise." That was Mr. Pitt.

So the man who represented these miscreants, the man who lobbied against the tougher rules for accounting firms, the man who has had to recuse himself as the chief law enforcement officer of the Securities and Exchange Commission appointed by George Bush, and basically George Bush has continually expressed his utmost faith in Mr. Pitt, he has had to, 29 times in 10 months, in enforcement actions, recuse himself.

That means that people did not pay fines or get prosecuted by the SEC. In one case, unfortunately, both Mr. Pitt and one other Bush appointee both had to recuse themselves. So only one commissioner, who is a Clinton holdover, was left. He voted to fine the company, Ernst & Young, but an administrative law judge threw it out because they had to have two votes. Well, they could not have two votes. Is this not a wonderful Catch 22? The agency that is supposed to get tough and clean this up cannot even vote to prosecute or fine people because they are so compromised, the appointees of President Bush are so compromised because these are their friends, they are their clients, they are their benefactors, and they have worked for them and represented them for years. It borders on being humorous.

But, actually, it is quite sad. It is quite sad for the millions of Americans who have lost money in their stock funds, their 401(k)s, their retirements; the thousands who have lost their jobs when these firms were bankrupted. It is an incredible tragedy. This is the best that President Bush can do. Tell me that out of a country of 270 million people the best he can find is someone who lobbied for and put in place the policies that brought about these scandals and this fraud on the American people. Since he knows how to trick people, how to defraud people, and how to, in fact, make sure there is no real regulation, he is the best man for the job.

He also said in one of his earliest speeches, he fully intended, as head of the SEC, to make it a place that was kinder and gentler for accountants. Does that sound like a pit bull? He went on to say that he thought a regulatory agency was best that regulated least. Does that sound like a pit bull? And he had to recuse himself 29 times from voting because these were his former clients. They are the people he goes to lunch with. They are the people he goes down to visit their \$10 million, \$20 million homes in Florida, that are exempt under the bankruptcy laws, even if they got the money by fraud, taking money from the stockholders, the pensioners and the employees who were defrauded.

We know in America we can do better than this, and President Bush should

do better than this. Mr. Pitt should be removed and we should put in place at the Securities and Exchange Commission someone who will provide justice to American pensioners, stockholders, and employees.

GEORGE WASHINGTON AND THE HAND OF PROVIDENCE IN AMERICA'S HISTORY

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, in the next few moments this evening, I want to share a story about a remarkable act of providence in American history. By remarkable providence, I mean an example of one of those small twists and turns in history that could have turned out otherwise but did not. And as a function of that, in so many ways, we are gathered here today in a city that bears the name of a man named Washington.

It was the year 1755, 20 years before the American Revolution. The British were fighting the French over territory along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. And I think of a 23-year-old soldier who found himself in the midst of a conflagration.

The Americans were sided, Mr. Speaker, with the British, and most of the Indians sided with the French. Tensions grew, diplomatic solutions failed, so Great Britain sent 2,300 soldiers to join the rugged untrained American militias to fight the French.

A 23-year-old colonel led the Virginia militia, about 100 buckskins who had volunteered to fight. The British soldiers joined them, and over a thousand men made their way north toward Fort Duquesne, now known as the City of Pittsburgh. It was a long march in the summer, a few hundred miles along wooded paths. The Red Coats and militia could not have been more different; one orderly and disciplined, dressed in red wool and uniforms, another a ragtag bunch of young farmers, driven by passion, adventure, and a love of freedom. The differences would be important in what was about to confront them.

Seven miles from the fort on July 9, 1755, the soldiers were ambushed in a wooded ravine. They were trapped on every side. The French and Indians fired shots from behind rocks and deep in the woods from high in the trees and behind the brush. The British tried to line up in traditional military lines, shoulder to shoulder, but the shots came from behind them and above them. They were familiar with open field fighting, not ambushes deep in the woods.

Over 700 British and American troops died, compared to only 30 French and Indians. Eighty-six officers fought in the battle, according to historian David Barton, and only one of those officers remained unhurt after the ambush, and still bestride his horse. It

was that 23-year-old American leader from the Virginia militia.

The colonel assembled what remained of his men and retreated to Fort Cumberland on the western side of Maryland. There he wrote a letter to his family explaining what had happened. He recounted the battle, the death of his men, the British officers, and how he had removed his jacket after the battle and found four bullet holes in it. Four horses had been shot out from underneath George Washington that day. Bullet fragments were in his hair. And he wrote a letter to his family that he was completely unharmed, and said, "By the all powerful dispensations of Providence I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation."

Fifteen years later, in a time of peace, he would return to that same battlefield, and an Indian chief traveled a great distance to see him. That Indian chief had preyed upon those Virginia militiamen that day. He had ordered his men to shoot every officer. But as Washington would recount many times later in life, the Indian chief had sat him down and told him that he had come to meet him to pay homage "to the man who is a particular favorite of heaven; a man who could never die in battle."

Mr. Speaker, George Washington's life would lead him from those humble 23-year-old miraculous events in battle to greater things. He always understood throughout his life, with a deep Christian humility, that he was part of a grand design. A grand design for America.

□ 1815

A design yet to be fulfilled. That made him humble and grateful to be one such man that would shape the lives of millions to come. Like George Washington, I believe that every one of our lives is guided by that invisible hand, that everything happens for a reason. That in every moment from our greatest trials to our greatest triumphs, from small unanticipated events can come the great unimaginable feats of history, discovering land, freeing slaves, defeating tyranny, and maybe even defeating the mindlessness of terrorism. Behind each great turning point in history, I will always believe, as George Washington did, that there is a providential hand leading willing hearts.

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

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING SYD FINLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago a good friend of mine, Syd Finley, died at the Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois. But before his death, his life personified that of a premier activist. He made effective use of himself to bring about positive and progressive change.

After graduating from high school and Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, he began work as a recreational therapist for the State. He served in the military and fought in the Korean War and was awarded the Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Combat Medic Badge, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Merit Unit Citation.

In 1961, he was appointed Midwest director of the NAACP and moved his family from Galesburg to what was then segregated Wheaton. Real estate brokers only took him to the parts of town where African American families lived, and African American children were not bused to school like white children, and businesses would not consider hiring blacks.

Therefore, Syd started meeting with the school board and city council members. Mr. Finley's style of operating proved to be quite effective; and he not only brought about change in his neighborhood, but he also brought about change for thousands of others through his work at the NAACP.

Mr. Finley took his children to civil rights marches in Selma, St. Louis, Milwaukee, and Washington, D.C. As a leader of the NAACP's Fair Program in the 1980s, Mr. Finley got hundreds of people hired into management jobs at Fortune 500 companies and was appointed Illinois Governor Jim Thompson's Assistant for Minority Affairs.

Syd worked at Argonne National Laboratory from 1973 to 1980; and under his leadership, minority employment increased from 9 percent to 14 percent and female employment from 12 percent to 24 percent.

Mr. Finley joined Medical Management of America in 1994 and became vice president of Community and Media Relations for Doctor's Hospital of Hyde Park. He was a founder of the DuPage African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1979. He led a full and complete life.

He leaves to mourn and cherish his memory his wife, Mary Lou; three children, Sidney Finley, III; Robin Hines; and William Christopher Finley; two sisters, Dorothy Newman and Delores Ford; and two grandchildren.

Syd Finley was indeed a unique person and able to influence the thinking and behavior of others. He was an effective leader and a great American. We revere his life, mourn his passing, and shall cherish his memory.

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