

in the last several weeks where the scientists predicted that our irrigated agriculture in the State of Washington, upon which our apple crop, the best apple crop in the world, depends, will be jeopardized because the snow pack is disappearing. It is projected we will have less than half the snow pack we have had historically in the next several decades, which jeopardizes our apple industry in Washington State and many of our irrigated products. So the disturbing fact is that the scientific evidence is becoming overwhelming.

By the way, it is just not Glacier. I will show you a picture of Argentina, one of the large ice sheets. In 1928, this photograph is of this enormous ice sheet down in Patagonia, in the southern tip of South America. You see in the same picture in 2004, and I was there several months ago, where you can see where these glaciers have been. This enormous ice sheet that existed in 1928 is now essentially gone, replaced by water where the ice sheet has melted.

These are in very blinks of geologic time that we are seeing these changes take place, in one lifetime seeing these changes take place, and this has never happened before at these rates. We have had ice ages and had melts, but scientists will tell you this has never happened before in world history, as far as we know, with this rapidity to have this enormous change.

Very briefly, the reason it is occurring is that we are putting into the atmosphere gasses that trap infrared radiation. Light comes in. As ultraviolet radiation it can pass through the atmosphere. When it bounces back it is at a different spectrum, at infrared frequencies, and carbon dioxide and methane that comes out of our tailpipes and smokestacks trap ultraviolet radiation.

We look at this chart and it shows levels of COG. These are parts per million, the amount of COG in the atmosphere. We go to pre-industrial times in 1000, it was about 240 parts per million. When we started to burn coal and gas in about 1800 it starts to go up, and in the 1800s and 1900s it goes up dramatically. Now in 2000 we see it is going up like a rocket, and it is projected that by the close of this century we will have parts per million in the 780 to 800 range, at least two times higher than it has ever been in human history. It is predicted to continue to skyrocket after that.

This is a fact. No one, no scientist in the world, disputes these conclusions. Global warming is a fact, and it is a fact that we are responsible for and need to act as leading the world to deal with this problem, to adopt energy technological solutions to this problem, which we can do if we have the same vision that John Kennedy had when we had the first Apollo project. I have introduced a bill to do that.

But in light of this science, what has the Bush administration done? In light

of this cavalcade of information demanding a response, what has the Bush administration done to fulfill our destiny to be the leader in the world when it comes to technological innovation?

Well, what it did is it sent an emissary named Watson to Montreal last week to basically tell the rest of the world, when the rest of the world is working together to try to find a solution to global warming, to try to come up with a post-Kyoto agreement that is better than Kyoto, that is fairer, that is more effective than Kyoto, what did the President send our emissary to do? The greatest country in the world, the most technologically-oriented country in the world, the country that has led in the growth of democracy, that led in the effort to solve the problem of the ozone layer, which we have done some very good work in on a bipartisan basis, what did the President's emissary do?

He went to Montreal and told the rest of the world essentially to go fish; the United States was not going to participate in any meaningful discussion to come up with a global solution to this global problem. This is most embarrassing for our country, the greatest country on Earth, to refuse to take any meaningful position to advance some global solution to this problem.

In fact, the President sent our emissary to adopt the posture of the ostrich with the head in the sand and the tail feathers in the air. We should be adopting the posture of the American eagle, leading the rest of the world to a solution of this problem by using the technological creativity with which America has been blessed with for centuries. Instead, our emissary went there like this, where over 200 countries agreed to continue discussions about how to deal with this known problem.

Now, I have to admit there was some small success. The President's emissary on the last day of the conference picked up his papers and literally walked out on the rest of the world, literally walked out on the rest of the world, making this comment which no one to this day understands about walking like a duck, and, frankly, it was relatively embarrassing.

The good news is the administration was so embarrassed by the world's reaction to that and by America's reaction to that following an address by President Bill Clinton suggesting that we need to work in a bipartisan fashion on this issue that the next day apparently they got a cable from the White House, I am assuming, and the emissary walked back and said, well, now, we will at least agree to continue some informal talks. Not real talks, not formal talks that could actually lead to an agreement, but something called "informal talks," which would at least not allow the administration to be humiliated.

This is not good enough to fulfill our mandate as the greatest Nation on Earth. This is not good enough. It does not respect the ability of the geniuses

in America who are going to adopt the new energy technologies so that we can continue to grow our economy and solve this problem at the same time. It is well below what we should expect of ourselves and it is well below what we should expect of our President.

We are calling on the President of the United States to finally adopt some measure of teamwork with the rest of the world to solve this problem.

Now, why should we do that? Well, one reason is we put 25 percent of all the carbon dioxide on this graph, where we see it is now skyrocketing, we in America put it in the atmosphere. We are a very small percent of the world's population, but 25 percent of all the COG in the atmosphere comes out of our pipes. So that is one reason why we really as a matter of moral responsibility need to be part of this solution, as does China, and we need to demand that China participate in these talks as well.

But as important, we are the country who is going to develop the new energy sources, clean energy, renewable energy, that are going to solve this problem and not destroy the climate of the Earth, because, frankly, we are the great tinkers. We invented the light bulb, we perfected the Internet, the jet airplane, a man on the moon. The list needs to go on when it comes to clean energy. If we have leadership we will get that done.

So tonight I would like to say the science is clear, the destiny of this Nation is clear. We need to lead the world forward on global warming, rather than hiding from it. This is not a Nation that cowers in fear and from challenges. And this president ought to understand the confidence that this American country has in doing something about global warming. We hope that it will have a new attitude beginning tomorrow.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. ISTOOK (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) for today and the balance of the week on account of attending his daughter's wedding.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) for today from 6:00 p.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m. December 17 on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DEFAZIO) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. ROSS, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BISHOP of Utah) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and December 17 and 18.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under this rule, referred as follows:

S. 2120. An act to ensure regulatory equity between and among all dairy farmers and handlers for sales of packaged fluid milk in federally regulated milk marketing areas and into certain non-federally regulated milk marketing areas from federally regulated areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4324. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to reauthorize the predisaster mitigation program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4340. An act to implement the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement.

H.R. 4436. An act to provide certain authorities for the Department of State, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at midnight), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Saturday, December 17, 2005, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5693. A letter from the Regulatory Analyst, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Export Inspection and Weighing Waiver for High Quality Specialty Grains Transported in Containers (RIN: 0580-AA87) Received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5694. A letter from the Chief, Electronic Benefit Transfer Branch, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Stamp Program, Reauthorization: Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)

and Retail Food Stores Provisions of the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002 [Amendment No. 397] (RIN: 0584-AD28) received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5695. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Minimal-Risk Regions and Importation of Commodities; Unsealing of Means of Conveyance and Transloading of Products [Docket No. 03-080-8] (RIN: 0579-AB97) received December 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5696. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Flag Smut; Importation of Wheat and Related Products [Docket No. 05-058-3] received December 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5697. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Fruits and Vegetables [Docket No. 03-048-2] received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5698. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Karnal Bunt; Addition and Removal of Regulated Areas in Arizona [Docket No. 05-078-1] received December 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5699. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Whole Cuts of Boneless Beef from Japan [Docket No. 05-004-2] (RIN: 0579-AB93) received December 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5700. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a copy of draft legislation, which would provide that the preparation of certain reports required by the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), are deemed to fulfill the requirements for similar reports under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5701. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Food Additives Permitted for Direct Addition to Food for Human Consumption; Vitamin D3 [Docket No. 2004F-0374] received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5702. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of the intention to use funds provided in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, FY 2001, for improvements to the White House Situation Room to enhance the capabilities of the White House in the war on terrorism; (H. Doc. No. 109-75); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5703. A letter from the Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting a position paper concerning S.A. 2160 which is an amendment to H.R. 3058; to the Committee on Appropriations.

5704. A letter from the Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) Program Acquisition Unit Cost

will exceed the Acquisition Program Baseline values by more than 15 percent, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433(e)(1); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5705. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Socio-economic Programs [DFARS Case 2003-D029] received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5706. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Environment, Occupational Safety, and Drug-Free Workplace [DFARS Case 2003-D039] received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5707. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Contract Period for Task and Delivery Order Contracts [DFARS Case 2003-D097/2004-D023] received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5708. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Free Trade Agreements — Australia and Morocco [DFARS Case 2004-D013] received December 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5709. A letter from the Assistant Inspector General, Communications and Congressional Liaison, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the implementation of a comprehensive and reliable system to track and assess the cost and quality of the performance of functions of the Department of Defense by service contractor; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5710. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of the enclosed list of officers to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5711. A letter from the Under Secretary for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the restructuring of the Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) High Program, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5712. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Collection of Checks and Other Items by Federal Reserve Banks and Funds Transfers Through Fedwire and Availability of Funds and Collection of Checks [Regulations J and CC; Docket No. R-1226] received December 15, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5713. A letter from the Legal Information Assistant, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Office of Thrift Supervision [No. 2005-48] (RIN: 1550-AB99) received November 18, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5714. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Manufactured