

the pollution that we are both trying to get at? Well, it just doesn't work that way.

CONCLUSION

The fact is if we accept this theory of man-made global warming, we will be focusing our activities on trying to eliminate CO₂ rather than on eliminating toxic substances from our air, land and water. I am concerned about my children, my three triplets, Christian, Anika and Tristan; I am concerned about their health, which is something that I think I share with every parent. Their health is not in any way threatened by CO₂.

Carbon dioxide is, in fact, like the penguins and the Styrofoam ice caps. It's being falsely pictured. It is being portrayed as a pollutant; in fact, it makes things grow, and it is not toxic to humans. In the distant past the earth had much more CO₂ in the air, perhaps as a result of volcanoes, but at that time we had abundant animal life, dinosaurs and lots of plants for them to eat. CO₂ is today pumped into greenhouses to make tomatoes grow bigger and better.

Nevertheless, we are now presented with ideas like sequestration or carbon credits that serve only to enrich the alarmists and impoverish our people. This is only possible with a public that has been frightened into accepting totally false information about CO₂. Let me state that I do support efforts that reduce pollution, particulates that do have a negative impact on the environment and human health. I support technologies that reduce these materials. If we are to save the environment for the people of the planet, that is what we should be focusing on.

Mr. Speaker, this old world has had many cycles of warming and cooling, influenced by solar activity, volcanoes, even forest fires and many other natural factors. The ice caps on Mars and Jupiter go back and forth, just as glaciers have gone back and forth. But such a powerful and mysterious force as the weather can be frightening. We need not fear the thunder, and we need not fear climate cycles.

We need not be frightened, hoodwinked into giving away our own freedom. Not to our own government, much less the U.N. or a global power—the power to control our lives in the name of man-made global warming, or climate change, or whatever they want to call it. We cannot allow the alarmists to take this country down the wrong path. Let us pass on to the children of this country and the planet, let us give them the freedom and prosperity we enjoyed. We must not allow our future to be stolen by hucksters who would frighten us into giving up our birthright in the name of saving the planet. It sounds good and noble, as most scams do, but it is just a trick, a hoax. Let's not get taken in by the greatest hoax of all.

Mr. POE of Texas. I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) for his insightful evaluation of the entire global warming concept, and I appreciate the research that he has done.

It is important that we have a debate on this issue because our entire energy policy under this administration is based upon the myth that there is global warming. It has been pointed out that the Earth goes through cycles of different climate changes—it gets cooler, it gets warmer—and whether man is at fault or not, I think not.

I would like to enter into the RECORD the Newsweek article I referred to ear-

lier from April 28, 1975, the article that says we are all going to freeze in the dark.

[From Newsweek, Apr. 28, 1975]

There are ominous signs that the Earth's weather patterns have begun to change dramatically and that these changes may bring a drastic decline in food production—with serious political implications for just about every nation on Earth. The drop in food output could begin quite soon, perhaps only 10 years from now. The regions destined to feel its impact are the great wheat-producing lands of Canada and Russia in the North, along with a number of marginally self-sufficient tropical areas—parts of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indochina and Indonesia—where the growing season is dependent upon the rains brought by the monsoon.

The evidence in support of these predictions has now begun to accumulate so massively that meteorologists are hard-pressed to keep up with it. In England, farmers have seen their growing season decline by about two weeks since 1950, with a resultant overall loss in grain production estimated at up to 100,000 tons annually. During the same time, the average temperature around the equator has risen by a fraction of a degree—a fraction that in some areas can mean drought and desolation. Last April, in the most devastating outbreak of tornadoes ever recorded, 148 twisters killed more than 300 people and caused half a billion dollars' worth of damage in 13 U.S. states.

To scientists, these seemingly disparate incidents represent the advance signs of fundamental changes in the world's weather. The central fact is that after three quarters of a century of extraordinarily mild conditions, the earth's climate seems to be cooling down. Meteorologists disagree about the cause and extent of the cooling trend, as well as over its specific impact on local weather conditions. But they are almost unanimous in the view that the trend will reduce agricultural productivity for the rest of the century. If the climatic change is as profound as some of the pessimists fear, the resulting famines could be catastrophic. "A major climatic change would force economic and social adjustments on a worldwide scale," warns a recent report by the National Academy of Sciences, "because the global patterns of food production and population that have evolved are implicitly dependent on the climate of the present century."

A survey completed last year by Dr. Murray Mitchell of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reveals a drop of half a degree in average ground temperatures in the Northern Hemisphere between 1945 and 1968. According to George Kukla of Columbia University, satellite photos indicated a sudden, large increase in Northern Hemisphere snow cover in the winter of 1971-72. And a study released last month by two NOAA scientists notes that the amount of sunshine reaching the ground in the continental U.S. diminished by 1.3% between 1964 and 1972.

To the layman, the relatively small changes in temperature and sunshine can be highly misleading. Reid Bryson of the University of Wisconsin points out that the Earth's average temperature during the great Ice Ages was only about seven degrees lower than during its warmest eras—and that the present decline has taken the planet about a sixth of the way toward the Ice Age average. Others regard the cooling as a reversion to the "little ice age" conditions that brought bitter winters to much of Europe and northern America between 1600 and 1900—years when the Thames used to freeze so solidly that Londoners roasted oxen on the ice and when iceboats sailed the Hudson River almost as far south as New York City.

Just what causes the onset of major and minor ice ages remains a mystery. "Our knowledge of the mechanisms of climatic change is at least as fragmentary as our data," concedes the National Academy of Sciences report. "Not only are the basic scientific questions largely unanswered, but in many cases we do not yet know enough to pose the key questions."

Meteorologists think that they can forecast the short-term results of the return to the norm of the last century. They begin by noting the slight drop in overall temperature that produces large numbers of pressure centers in the upper atmosphere. These break up the smooth flow of westerly winds over temperate areas. The stagnant air produced in this way causes an increase in extremes of local weather such as droughts, floods, extended dry spells, long freezes, delayed monsoons and even local temperature increases—all of which have a direct impact on food supplies.

"The world's food-producing system," warns Dr. James D. McQuigg of NOAA's Center for Climatic and Environmental Assessment, "is much more sensitive to the weather variable than it was even five years ago." Furthermore, the growth of world population and creation of new national boundaries make it impossible for starving peoples to migrate from their devastated fields, as they did during past famines.

Climatologists are pessimistic that political leaders will take any positive action to compensate for the climatic change, or even to allay its effects. They concede that some of the more spectacular solutions proposed, such as melting the Arctic ice cap by covering it with black soot or diverting arctic rivers, might create problems far greater than those they solve. But the scientists see few signs that government leaders anywhere are even prepared to take the simple measures of stockpiling food or of introducing the variables of climatic uncertainty into economic projections of future food supplies. The longer the planners delay, the more difficult will they find it to cope with climatic change once the results become grim reality.

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 Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALOMAVEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TAYLOR, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. FOX, for 5 minutes, March 23.

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, March 25.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, March 25.

Mr. GOODLATTE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. REICHERT, for 5 minutes, today. (The following Member (at his request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. COHEN, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 303. An act to reauthorize and improve the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

S. 620. An act to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress; to the Committee on House Administration in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S.J. Res. 8. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

S.J. Res. 9. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of France A. Córdova as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

911. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's 2009 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency's current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix, in accordance with section 1206 of the Financial Institutions, Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989; to the Committee on Agriculture.

912. A letter from the Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting notification of two violations of the Anti-Deficiency Act, as required by 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

913. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of an Antideficiency Act violation, Army case number 08-01, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

914. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a letter maintaining that there is at least a 75 percent spend-out rate for the economic recovery package as a whole as the legislation moves through the Senate and House and into conference; to the Committee on Appropriations.

915. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's annual report for 2008 on the STARBASE Program, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2193b(g); to the Committee on Armed Services.

916. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) program, pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 355(h); to the Committee on Armed Services.

917. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Manpower & Reserve Affairs, Department of the Army, transmitting the Department's annual report on recruiting incentives, pursuant to Public Law 109-163, section 681; to the Committee on Armed Services.

918. A letter from the Chair, Congressional Oversight Panel, transmitting the Panel's report, pursuant to Public Law 110-343, section 125(b); to the Committee on Financial Services.

919. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Refinement of Income and Rent Determination Requirements in Public and Assisted Housing Programs; Final Rule [Docket No. FR-4998-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AD16) received March 3, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

920. A letter from the Director, United States Mint, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Annual Report for 2008 from the United States Mint; to the Committee on Financial Services.

921. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report to Congress on Renewable Energy Resource Assessment Information for the United States," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 15851(b), section 201(b); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

922. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report describing the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska natural gas pipeline and describing any issue impeding that progress, pursuant to Section 1810 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

923. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, Transmittal No. 01-09 informing of an intent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the United States of America and Australia concerning Cooperation in the P-8A Poseidon Spiral Development One Development Program; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

924. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's weekly reports for the December 15, 2008 to February 15, 2009 reporting period on matters relating to post-liberation Iraq, pursuant to Public Law 105-338, section 7; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

925. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting A MEMORANDUM OF JUSTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION AND CERTIFICATION ON THE MAJOR METHAMPHETAMINE PRECURSOR CHEMICAL EXPORTING AND IMPORTING COUNTRIES, pursuant to Public Law 109-177, section 722; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

926. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of

State, transmitting the Department's annual International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, prepared in accordance with section 489 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

927. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2008," pursuant to Sections 116(d) and 502B(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

928. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

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