

government through the increased sales of appreciated assets. 10 or 15 percent of something is a lot more than 28 percent of nothing.

Another of our opportunities is an increased estate tax exemption. The 600,000 dollar exemption currently in the law hasn't been changed for a decade. We must work to obtain an exemption that will allow farm operations to pass from generation to generation with minimal disruption and dislocation.

A fifth area of opportunity would be obtaining legislation requiring risk assessment and cost/benefit analysis. A sixth is legislation limiting the creation of unfunded mandates.

And a seventh is granting compensation for victims of takings. That's the key in our private property battle. Make government pay for what they take and they'll take less or, better yet, they'll stop taking. Or, if they take, we get fair market value.

That's seven goals for us to shoot for, by Easter. And we'll work to get a 100 percent income tax deduction for health insurance premiums paid by the self-employed and adequate funding for new farm programs.

That will be enough on our plate for now, for these 100 days. Challenge and change. Opportunity and good fortune. The future is exciting. We are creating our own breaks. Better prosperity beckons. But there's more, much more.

Innovations overtake us with dizzying speed. And we accept and adapt them to our advantage. About the only thing old-fashioned about farmers today is our adherence to our traditional values.

I recently came across a paragraph from the Durants' 11-volume "Story of Civilization." I'll quote the paragraph, not the 11 volumes. "Civilization is a stream with banks. The stream is sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting and doing things historians usually record * * * While on the banks, unnoticed, people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry and even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happened on the banks. Historians are pessimists because they ignore the banks for the river."

Sometimes, we get awfully close to being like those historians. Still, even though agriculture is so enmeshed in executive orders, legislation, regulations and court rulings, we know there's a lot more to life than making a living.

It's seeing seedlings push through the crust * * * to unfold in a burst * * * Green rows stretching to the horizon. It's seeing a cow nuzzle and nudge her calf, to stand on its own. It's going to Saturday night church service so on Sunday morning we can see dawn break and contemplate God from our deer stand. It's hurrying to finish chores so we can go to another Farm Bureau meeting. It's seeing the kids beam with pride as they see their hog take a fourth-place ribbon, even if there was only a class of four.

There's more to life than making a living. Winston Churchill said we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. We know life and we call it farming. And it's what Farm Bureau is all about. We work to preserve the ideals we cherish, the life that others only dream about.

You and I, working together, can keep this nation the country we want, the country we fought for, the country we will always fight for. Our future is bright because of our faith, our families and Farm Bureau.

As the country prepares for the 21st century, let us keep our principles in place for the 22nd. We face a different world, and you, working through Farm Bureau, can make a difference.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity, the gift, of serving you. God bless you. God bless America. God bless Farm Bureau.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 2, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2) to make certain laws applicable to the legislative branch of the Federal Government.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Ford/Feingold amendment No. 4, to prohibit the personal use of accrued frequent flyer miles by Members and employees of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Now pending before the Senate is amendment No. 4.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, we had this legislation on the floor last week, of course, and continue it today. We will continue it tomorrow. The time is limited on this.

I wanted to rise and let all the people watching in the offices, all the different staffs, as well as the individual Senators, know that it is my understanding—and I ask my distinguished colleague from Iowa to comment on this, too—it is my understanding that the majority leader has indicated that he wished to end this bill, if at all possible, by 7 o'clock tomorrow evening, Tuesday evening.

Now, I presume that is correct. I know we will try to end by a certain time. I was just told a few moments ago that the time expressed is 7 tomorrow evening.

That being the case, there are no amendments on the Republican side. They are all on the Democratic. If we are to meet that deadline, it means that people had better get their amendments together and get them over here. We have no time agreements at this point, so anyone can take up as much time as they want on the floor.

But we do have a number of amendments still pending, and if people expect to make certain of not getting frozen out with their proposals, then they better get over here this afternoon. We will have some tomorrow morning. But people should be cognizant of the fact that tomorrow is conference day also where we will be out of session temporarily, or in recess, from about 12:30 to 2:15, so we lose a block of time in the middle of the day.

As I see it right now, with the number of amendments still left, there is not going to be time for getting them all in right now even if people started

coming to the floor now. I hope people are not going to wait until late tomorrow afternoon and then bump up against the 7 o'clock deadline and then want the floor managers, Senator GRASSLEY and myself, to try to make some special arrangement for them, because that is not likely to be possible. I encourage people who have amendments to get them together, get them over here and consider them this afternoon while we have time. We have quite a bit of time. It is 20 minutes to 4. We can consider several amendments. We have nothing pending at the moment. I urge my Democratic colleagues to get them together and get over here. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, let us take a look at the amendments that might be brought up. I hope they will not all be brought up:

One by Senator BRYAN dealing with pensions. One by Senator BYRD that is described as a relevant amendment. We have four by Senator FEINSTEIN dealing with campaign finance reform. We have one by Senator FORD that is an amendment pending dealing with frequent flier miles. Also, another one described as a relevant amendment. We have a manager's amendment by our friend Senator GLENN. Senator GRAHAM, of Florida, has an amendment that is in the process of being drafted of which we have no description. Senator KERRY has an amendment dealing with leadership PAC's and campaign fund conversion for personal use. Senator LAUTENBERG has an amendment that is described as a relevant amendment. Senator LEAHY dealing with employment rights. Senator LEVIN, another one described as relevant. Senator REID, described as relevant. And Senator WELLSTONE has several, two that deal with gift ban, three that deal with campaign finance reform, one with health care, and two described as relevant.

I think that anybody in this body or anybody listening throughout the country would probably realize that each of these amendments, at least those that we have a description of, are legitimate subjects for discussion within this body. Most of them—not all of them—but most of them have already been alluded to by the Senate majority leader by his saying that before just a few short months are up, all of these issues will be discussed. The issue of gifts and the issue of lobbying reform have all been described by Senator DOLE, the majority leader, as issues that he intends to give any Member of this body an opportunity to go as in-depth as they want to on any of these issues.

So there is not any issue on this set of pending amendments that will not have an opportunity to be discussed; in other words, it will have an opportunity to be discussed the first half of this year, for sure.