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Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, January 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Richard C. Halverson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.—I Corinthians 13:1.

Loving God, let Thy love be shed abroad in our hearts. Thy Word declares that love is the fulfilling of the law. Help us to love Thee with all our hearts and our neighbors as ourselves.

As the Congress settles down to the demanding work of legislation, energize them mentally and physically and emotionally. Deliver them from discouragement and frustration. Help them in their deliberations and debate to distinguish between substance and semantics—between rhetoric and reality. Free them from personal and partisan preoccupation that would defeat their aspirations and deprive the people of just and equitable solutions.

Lead us, O God of Love, in the way of peace and unity. Bind us together that we may be strong as a nation and provide for the world the leadership which the Divine economy intends. Guide us in Thy way and in Thy will.

We ask this for Thy glory in the name of Thy Son whose love and sacrifice encompasses all people. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the time for the two leaders has been reserved, and there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to but not to exceed 5 minutes, with the following Senators recognized for up to the designated time: Senator GRASSLEY for up to 5 minutes; Senator ROTH for 5 minutes; Senator CAMPBELL, for up to 10 minutes.

At 10 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1, the unfunded mandates bill, and the Senators will be on notice at this time that there are five consecutive rollcall votes scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. today. No further rollcall votes are anticipated after this series. Senators are reminded that we have until 3 p.m. today to offer their amendments for S. 1 to qualify under the unanimous-consent agreement.

The Senate will recess between the hours of 12:30 and 2:15 for the weekly party luncheons to meet. Also, a reminder to our colleagues that the Senators will assemble at 8:30 this evening in the Senate Chamber so we may proceed at 8:35 to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the State of the Union Address.

Mr. President, just one note. We will, as I indicated, be returning to the unfunded mandates bill at 10 a.m. this morning. There will not be any recorded votes until 4 o'clock. I hope the Senate will now really move forward in dispensing with amendments and getting to the point where we can pass this legislation this week, hopefully by Thursday night.

I think there is an outstanding bipartisan support for it. I think any further delays or unnecessary distractions would reflect very poorly on the Senate. I hope that we will move forward on this very important piece of legislation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor at this time.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Iowa is recognized to speak for up to 5 minutes.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 262 are located in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. CAMPBELL pertaining to the introduction of S. 262 are located in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator may proceed for 5 minutes.

UNFUNDED MANDATES BILL

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I simply rise to express my concern about the lack of progress that we have made

● This ''bullet'' symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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in the last several days on a bill that I think is generally supported in this body, certainly is supported by me and I know is supported by almost all of the leaders in local governments throughout the country.

I have watched the progress or, indeed, the lack of it on S. 1 for 7 or 8 days now. I have listened with a good deal of interest and watched the process, and I must tell you that it is an exasperating process. We have had, I think, more than 100 amendments, many of which were not germane to the issue that is before us. They certainly have to be considered as stalling tactics. I have heard Senators review endlessly the same kinds of issues on the floor which leads one to conclude that nothing more than stalling is happening.

We have heard discussions about previous years and the things that have happened in previous bills that have little, if any, relevance to what we are doing here.

I support the unfunded mandates bill. I think most people in the Senate support this bill, and I think the American people generally support this bill. I have come, as others have, from the House. I served in the Wyoming Legislature, and I have not seen a process which has no apparent purpose or goal be executed as has this one over the last several days.

I do not fully understand yet all of the intricacies, of course, of the U.S. Senate, but I do understand that there is a need to have a process by which people can insist upon more detail, can insist upon more time being taken so that everyone does understand, so that everyone has an opportunity.

But I must tell you that I have not been able to detect that there is any particular goal, that there is any particular purpose being served by the time we have taken here.

I think it is very important that we come to this place after having been through an election recently in which people in this country expressed themselves, I think, very clearly, expressed themselves in terms of wanting this Government to proceed, wanting this Government to move forward, wanting this Government to deal with the issues that are there, that are so apparent.

I think people are tired of unproductive maneuvers throughout the Congress, stalling tactics, and I think this is an example of that.

Mr. President, it seems to me that this delay over unfunded mandates is ultimately useless. The bill will ultimately pass. This will not change the outcome.

The bill is a flexible bill. It does not simply impose unfunded mandates on issues or on people, but it simply says there will be an accounting for what the impact of these proposals will be. It simply says that when there is an accounting that demonstrates an expenditure of over $50 million, that there will be cause for a point of order and a vote so that this Senate will take a look at it. Processwise, if the Senate continues to lag, action will be criticized.

Again, make no mistake, the bill will eventually pass. Changing Washington and changing the way we do business has been called for. It is a long process, but it is happening and it is happening now. Indeed, it should happen. Procedural changes such as a balanced budget amendment, such as limiting unfunded mandates, such as line-item veto, and, indeed, term limits are the kinds of procedural changes that will have an impact over time on the way we govern.

So we are witnessing the first protests of a huge change, and I understand that. Unfunded mandates will be banned. Washington will change. Some will not like it but the people in the country will. I urge us to move forward. I urge us to move forward and do the business of the people of this country.

I thank the Chair. I yield the remainder of my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEATH OF THOMAS YAGI

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I want the people of this Nation to know about the passing of Thomas Yagi, a caring and passionate man who sparked Maui's labor movement nearly a half century ago. He was a good friend and one of Hawaii's great native sons. I ask unanimous consent that the following editorial from the Maui News, dated January 12, 1995, entitled ''Tom Yagi: A True Giant of His Times,'' be submitted for inclusion in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[The Maui News, Jan. 12, 1995]

TOM YAGI: A TRUE GIANT OF HIS TIMES

In the past decade alone Maui County's population has grown by more than 40 percent, which means a good many people living here now don't know just how big a figure Tom Yagi was in Hawaii's labor movement. Without question, he was as big as they come.

Mr. Yagi, who died Monday at the age of 72, remains unchallenged as Maui's most esteemed labor leader. Through sweat, persistence and undying commitment to his cause in the face of powerful opposition, he rightfully earned that status. No part of his struggle came easy.

Back in the 1940's the word ''union'' was a dirty word to the owners of the giant plantations and their pawns in state government. Tom Yagi was a plantation warehouseman with a young family determined to make a better life for himself and those workers like him. He knew that wasn't going to happen on paychecks of a dollar a day.

He linked up with the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and began to organize meetings, although most had to be held in secret, shielded from the vengeful plantation supervisors. The enemies of labor tried to equate the word ''union'' with the word ''communist,'' and congressional committees attempted to summon Hawaii's ILWU leaders to testify about their ''subversive'' activities. Tom Yagi, like his union colleagues, refused.

The success of the labor movement in Hawaii stands among the most significant social revolutions in this country's history, and it's not possible to overstate the role Tom Yagi played in it. For 30 years he led the Maui division of the ILWU, and never during that time did he change the focus of his mission—better wages, better health care, better education and a better life for the working class.

And he did it all in a rather mysterious fashion, commanding respect even from those on the opposite side of the table from him. While many union activists embraced militancy, Mr. Yagi somehow managed to achieve his objectives more so with diplomacy. He never shied from confrontation, no. But most often his keen ability to see more than one side to every dilemma led to solutions that averted conflict. For this he was as revered by those he fought against as by those he fought for.

Despite all his many accomplishments in the labor movement, the greatest source of pride for Tom Yagi was his family. In addition to his wife Miye, he also leaves behind two sons, six daughters, 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. That the Yagi family has long been synonymous with community service on Maui is yet another testimony to the greatness of the man, Thomas Seikichi Yagi.

Maui has truly lost one of its most favorite sons.

SPEECH OF JACK VALENTI

Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, I recently read a speech that I believe deserves the attention of all Senators. Jack Valenti, the president and chief executive officer of the Motion Picture Association of America, a former aide to President Lyndon B. Johnson, and one of the most articulate and thoughtful people I know, delivered the speech in New York City, as the first in the Louis Nizer lecture series.

Jack Valenti's words that evening carry a special resonance for me and I think they will for others. They are words of optimism about our future, in a time when too many in our country do not feel optimistic. But they are also words of caution, directed toward all of us in this body and all of us in this city, who create the policies under which Americans live. They stress the importance of the family, of education, of appropriate moral conduct, of individual—not governmental—responsibility.

They are words to which we should all give careful consideration.

I ask unanimous consent that, following my remarks, the full text of Jack Valenti's speech be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.