

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, by Edward FitzGerald, he wrote:

The moving finger writes; and having writ,
Moves on: Nor all your piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,
Nor all your tears wash out a word of it.

Mr. Speaker, on this floor, the spoken word is just as indelible as the written word.

A Member may defame anyone he chooses—the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House, the minority leader—with total impunity. The offending party may have his words stricken and be prohibited from speaking for 24 hours. But the punishment is not commensurate with the crime, particularly when the words are perpetuated on C-Span and the nightly three major networks.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly recommend the majority party seriously consider amending its rules to have a more severe expedited penalty for the sake of civility and also for the sake of this body, particularly when abusive language can be repeated in lieu of an apology.

A LEGISLATIVE FOUR CORNERS

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. Speaker, instead of coming out and going head to head on the issues, a lot of our Democratic colleagues have decided instead to take the air out of the ball and go into a sort of legislative four corners.

You remember the four corners, don't you, Mr. Speaker? It is a stall-and-delay tactic that inferior basketball teams would often employ against better teams. The idea being if the better team never had the ball they couldn't score. Of course, that was before college basketball instituted the time clock.

And that is what we are seeing on the other side of the aisle, as Democrats offer one frivolous amendment after another in an attempt to derail not only the unfunded mandates bill, but the entire Contract With America.

I am afraid I really do not understand the Democrats' tactics. Do they really think their legislative four corners will make the American people yearn for bigger government? Will it somehow make Americans wistful for higher taxes?

Mr. Speaker, to my friends on the other side I say come on, get in the game.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHAMPION SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, picking up on the sports theme from our colleague from Arizona, Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride to praise the San Francisco 49ers organization, to Eddie DeBartolo, Carmen Policy, and Coach Seifert.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday California had a great day, it sent two great teams to the Super Bowl, where they were received magnificently by Miami. And, with all the admiration in the world for the San Diego Chargers, I say we are so proud of the San Francisco victory. It was a joy to see a litany of records broken one after another; five for five, five times at Super Bowl, five victories as six touchdowns by Steve Young, most post-season receptions by Jerry Rice, three touchdowns—you know the story—Ricky Watters. The list goes on and on. We are so proud.

The coach of the San Diego Chargers probably said it best when he said, "I think San Francisco is a great football team, maybe one of the best of all times. I don't know what we were—maybe we were awestruck." Awestruck for San Diego, awesome for San Francisco, all-time great team. I am very, very proud to join my colleagues. I see Congressman GEORGE MILLER and my other colleagues from the Bay Area to help salute the all-time great San Francisco 49ers.

REAL OSHA REFORM

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the main goal of the Contract With America is to make Government smaller, less costly and less intrusive. And there is probably no better way to do this than to address the question of OSHA. When OSHA first issued its safety regulations in the 1970's one provision required workers on bridges to wear orange life vests. As Dr. Kip Viscusi commented in 1983, "The ineptness of OSHA's enforcement is epitomized by the fact that one company fined for violating this standard maintained that this requirement was unrelated to worker safety because the channel under the bridge had been diverted." There was no water. It was dry. Yet the company was fined because these workers did not have life vests on. But they needed a trampoline, not a life vest. Some idiot at OSHA decided they should fine the company anyway.

Listen to the concerns of America's employers and workers, and it is obvious OSHA has not improved since Dr. Viscusi wrote those words.

In this Congress I introduced a measure in order to do this. It is time for real OSHA reform now.

A LOAN TO MEXICO: BAILING OUT EVERYONE BUT OUR CONSTITUENTS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, let us see if I understand this: Orange County, CA filed bankruptcy, the District of Columbia is technically bankrupt, and the President and Congress at the highest levels are talking about bailing out Mexico.

And Wall Street agrees and the banks agree. Would you not? Forty billion dollars for Mexico takes the banks off the hook, it takes Mexico off the hook, it takes Wall Street off the hook, and it puts your constituents and mine right on the platter, right in the frying pan.

That is good old American policy: "Take care of everybody overseas and forget our own."

I say, Members, let us not forget when Mexico nationalized the oil industry and screwed American investors. Man, and they did not even say "I am sorry."

Think about it, Congress. If we have got \$40 billion to bail out anybody, how about your city, my city, any city, U.S.A. How about good old America for a change.

IT'S TIME TO GIVE THE PRESIDENT THE LINE-ITEM VETO

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, the Chinese philosopher Lao Tsu said that, "the journey of a thousand leagues begins with a single step."

Last week this House took a giant step toward fiscal sanity by passing the balanced budget amendment.

Later this week, the House will begin debate on giving the President the line-item veto. This is, to be sure, a powerful tool in the hands of our Chief Executive. Some will argue the potential for abuse.

But, my colleagues, 43 Governors have similar authority.

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The real value of the line-item veto rests in the knowledge that the Executive has the power and will use it if he sees wasteful spending. Rather than see the line-item veto as a weapon, perhaps we should see it as a tourniquet, a tourniquet that will help us stop the hemorrhaging of red ink. With the national debt ballooning at over \$10,000 a second, it is time we attack this issue on every front. It is time to give the President the line-item veto.

WHAT A LIST

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Terry and Mary Kohler: \$715,457.

Richard Gilder, Jr.: \$310,000.

Roger Milliken: \$255,000.

These are but a few of the heavy hitters who have contributed to Speaker GINGRICH's personal political machine, GOPAC. Is it any wonder the Speaker wants to keep this list a secret?

The Los Angeles Times succeeded yesterday in doing what the Federal Election Commission is attempting to do in the courts, revealing the contributors to GOPAC and what their interests are in legislation before this Congress.

What does the contributor get for \$715,000? Only an outside independent counsel can tell us for sure.

The lists of questions about the Speaker's financial dealings get longer and longer. I ask, "Isn't it time we get an answer?"

We need an outside counsel. We need one now.

REPUBLICANS ARE KEEPING THEIR PROMISES

(Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, what a difference 3 weeks can make. Since January 4, the new Republican-led Congress, under the leadership of NEWT GINGRICH, has cut the number of committees and subcommittees, cut the number of committee staffs by one-third, limited the terms of committee chairmen, ended the dishonest practice of baseline budgeting, opened committee meetings to the public, banned the practice of ghost voting, and have voted to audit the books of this Chamber. But, Mr. Speaker, that was not enough. In addition to those reforms, we passed the Congressional Accountability Act which forces Congress to live under the same laws we make the rest of the country live under, and as an encore we passed the balanced budget amendment last week which will force this body to live within our means just like every American family must do everyday.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line here is that the Republicans, the people elected to take care of this Congress, are keeping our promises.

THE REPUBLICANS ARE NOT KEEPING THEIR PROMISES

(Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, they are not keeping their promises, and they are breaking the contract.

Prior to the election, Mr. Speaker, the Republicans said that they would support a true line-item veto which would give the President the authority to get rid of pork barrel projects and special tax breaks. In the bills before us now, Mr. Speaker, they want to give the President the power to take away the pork barrel spending, but they do

not want to give the President the power to take away those special tax breaks.

I ask, "Why don't they want to do it?" Because the Republicans like those special tax breaks. They like to give those to their wealthy contributors. They came up with that idea through the leadership of their former leader, Mr. Michel, who said quite frankly, "If you're for special interests, then vote against my amendment. If you are for a more complex Tax Code, then vote against my amendment."

The Republicans today and tomorrow are going to vote against Mr. Michel's amendment because they like special tax breaks for the wealthy. Mr. Speaker, give me a break. Let us do what is right for the people of this country and give the President the power to take away both pork barrel spending and special tax breaks for big contributors.

ALL THE DEMOCRATS WANT TO DO IS CHANGE THE SUBJECT

(Mr. TATE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, I am a little worried that my friends across the aisle just do not get it. While the Republican majority is working hard to revolutionize Congress, the Democrats keep trying to change the subject. It seems to be an epidemic across the aisle. We talk about the balanced budget. They change the subject. We talk about welfare reform. They change the subject. We talk about unfunded mandates. They throw up every blockade known to man. It is as if, gee, if they throw up enough roadblocks and change the subject enough, people might want big government again. I do not think so.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the Democrats to begin to work for a change in Congress and simply quit changing the subject.

MISGUIDED POLICIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE ARE THREATENING NATIONAL SECURITY

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, at this very moment the President of the United States is announcing yet another plan to bail out the Government of Mexico. He says it is an issue of national security. The President is wrong.

Meanwhile on the other side of town, Mr. Speaker, a secret meeting of the Federal Reserve Board to consider a policy change that will affect the security of every American family is going on with little notice. They may propose the seventh increase in 1 year to fight imaginary inflation. This act could raise the deficit by \$2.5 billion, drive up the costs of a hundred-thousand-dollar house by \$1600 a year, close

down home building, close small businesses, and it is designed to increase unemployment to 6 percent.

The misguided policies of the Federal Reserve are a real national security issue, and I would advise the President to drop the Mexican bailout and go after the no-growth policies of the Federal Reserve Board.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS ELECTED TO PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker and Members, I come here today to pay special honor to one of our Members, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT].

Over the weekend the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT] was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and it is a particular honor for me as STEVE is a Member of the new freshman class, as I am.

In 14 years with the Seattle Sea Hawks, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT] set six different career records and participated in seven pro bowls. On the gridiron he led the Nation in touchdown receptions in 1974 and 1975. In 1988, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT] was honored as NFL Man of the Year for his accomplishments on the field and off.

Mr. Speaker, he brings great honor and distinction to this body, and in particular I am proud to say he is a Member of our class and a Member of the House of Representatives. I say to the gentleman, "Congratulations, STEVE LARGENT, for being elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, a great honor for you and a great honor for all of us."

WE NEED TO BALANCE THE TRADE DEFICIT

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, we should remind ourselves as we deliberate and pass policy:

Who do we help and who do we hurt? How do we improve the quality of life?

This week we are considering legislation to curb unfunded mandates. Last week we passed the balanced budget amendment. How do we encourage and support economic development in our communities across the country?

Instead of fighting over whether the Federal Government or States for admittedly needed programs and services, instead of making knees buckle under the weight of cuts necessary to balance the budget, we should be looking for ways to balance the trade deficit with many of our foreign partners.

According to economists, Mr. Speaker, last year the ever-widening trade deficit resulted in a reduction of nearly