

knows that that deal was done by a liberal Democrat in the other body on behalf of the Chicago Tribune. It is shameful to suggest that it has something to do with Republicans in this institution. It is in fact a liberal Democrat who did it.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to a Democrat attack on Republican leaders and policies, there is only one victim, and that victim is the truth.

BUSINESS AS USUAL IN CONGRESS

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress this January 4 with the hope I could change things, but it is business as usual here in Congress. Last week on a voice vote the House passed a bill that would allow tax deductions for health insurance for the self-employed, something I support. But hidden in the conference report, unknown to me, was a very special provision that will give tens of millions of dollars in tax breaks to one very rich publisher.

There is an old saying that says to the winner goes the spoils, and if that saying is true, then Mr. Rupert Murdoch, the Speaker's own publisher, made out like a bandit. While the Republican Congress has been busy cutting student loans and school lunches, Mr. Murdoch's friends have been cutting him a sweet deal, to the tune of \$63 million.

But the sweet deals do not end there. If you are a billionaire, then this 100 days have been better than the Twelve Days of Christmas. The Republican Santa Clauses have been busy giving away tax presents to the few dozen wealthiest people in this country. If you have the means to leave the country, renounce your citizenship, move to a mansion, you can save on U.S. taxes. Must be nice, huh? Only middle-class families have been saddled with the bill to pay for these billionaire tax breaks.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFICIT

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

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, well, as one of my heroes once said, there you go again. I think this is all in the definition. We have heard from the Democrats that we intend to give the tax cuts to the rich. The problem is your definition of the rich is anybody that works for a living.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot from the limousine liberals on the other side of the aisle about fairness. What they need to explain to us is what is so fair about the current system. The Clinton administration's own statistics show that Americans are working harder and getting less for it.

Is that fair? Is this what the President meant when he talked about his comprehensive plan to get our economy moving again?

We are going to begin working this week to restore fairness to the Tax Code. We will restore \$25 billion in Social Security cuts engineered by Clinton and the Democrats, make it easier to buy that first home, or put your children through college, make it easier to adopt, and encourage capital formation. And we will pay for these tax reductions by cutting wasteful and unnecessary government spending. Our philosophy is simple: The taxpayer is not responsible for the deficit; Washington is. Let us face up to it.

A MIDDLE-CLASS TAX CUT?

(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, \$200,000. \$200,000. \$200,000. \$200,000. Is that middle class? Is that the middle-class tax cut we are talking about? No, that is the Republican tax plan we are talking about. To help families who make \$200,000 because they are middle class and they need a tax cut.

Well, I can tell you, you can buy a lot of hamburger helper and generic cereal if you make \$200,000 a year. But we are going to pay for it. We are going to pay for some of it by going after the kids on school lunch programs. We are going to pay for some of it by going after students who get college loans. We are going to pay for most of it by sticking it on our children and our grandchildren because we are going to let the deficit grow, and this tax cut is going to explode to nearly \$700 billion over the next 10 years so people in this House can go to the American people and say yeah, we do not like taxes.

I do not like taxes either. I hate taxes. But even worse than tax and spend politicians are borrow and spend politicians, because at least people who pay their bills now can look you in the eye and say I am not going to stick it to your son and daughter. The Republicans will.

SUPPORT H.R. 2115, THE TAX RELIEF BILL

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I am here to speak in favor of H.R. 1215, the tax relief bill, because of an individual named Don Bulaski from my district. I think it is important we get money back into his hands, back in the hands of Americans and out of the hands of the bureaucrats here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I think we need to restore the penalty on Social Security that was put on by the big government party last August in the world's largest

tax increase. One way we can do that is raise the earning limits. Don Bulaski is a retired Boeing engineer and he wants to get back active in the community and participate, but he cannot take a paycheck over \$940 without having his Social Security benefits penalized. Under the H.R. 1215, the tax relief bill, we would raise that earnings limit, allowing him to be more productive, to take the wisdom he has learned with 35 years of work and bring it into the community, helping other people get their job better.

How many other Americans are out there that want to contribute to this society, that want to make America better by being better, by working, by restoring the reason and wisdom that we need?

So I stand in support of H.R. 1215, the tax relief bill. Mr. Speaker,

FIFTY-THREE PERCENT OF THE REPUBLICAN TAX BREAKS IN 10 YEARS BENEFIT BIG BUSINESS, CORPORATE AMERICA

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

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, who gets the benefits in the tax bill? Well, in 10 years 53 percent of the benefit goes to big business and corporate America. The Republicans under the guise of rhetoric say its for the American family, the working family, in 10 years over half of benefits are going back to corporate America. This constitutes the shift of tax liability.

Thirty years ago corporations paid nearly 25 percent of the total tax bill in this country. Today they pay less than half that amount. And with this Republican bill, with the next \$638 million in tax breaks over 10 years, will provide big business with 53 percent more of the tax cuts in H.R. 1215, the GOP tax bill. The tax bill before the House this week will shift the taxes to the middle income and poorest families in America. This is why people are angry. That is why they are mad as hell and are not going to take it anymore. And under the rhetoric to protect families the GOP, have been force feeding legislation through this session which takes away the ability of working families to help themselves and to get benefits when they are down and out and transferring tax breaks to the big corporations. And, to top it off, the lions share of the individual tax breaks go to the wealthy.

Who is responsible for Rupert Murdoch last week? I do not know, candidly. But I can tell you who is responsible for what is happening this week, and that is the radical Republican majority in this House.

THIS IS THE WEEK FOR ADDRESSING TAX INEQUITIES

(Mr. ALLARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1