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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, June 19, 1995)

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

A contemporary rendering of the 23d Psalm provides a prayerful confession of faith as we begin this day:

The Lord is my strength, I shall not panic;
He helps me relax and rest in quiet trust.
He reminds me that I belong to Him and restores my serenity;
He leads me in my decisions and gives me calmness of mind.
His presence is peace.
Even though I walk through the valley of the fear of failure,
I will not worry, for He will be with me.
His truth, grace, and loving kindness will stabilize me.
He prepares release and renewal in the midst of my stress.
He anoints my mind with wisdom;
My cup overflows with fresh energy.
Surely goodness and mercy will be communicated through me,
For I shall walk in the strength of my Lord, and dwell in His presence forever.
Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, this morning leader time has been reserved.

The Senate will meet in executive session to begin 3 hours of debate on the nomination of Dr. Foster.

At 12 noon, or right around 12 noon, there will be a cloture vote on the Fos-

ter nomination. If cloture is not invoked the Senate will resume consideration of S. 440, the highway bill.

I just suggest that Members can expect votes. We hope to complete action on the highway bill today. I understand there are only one or two major amendments and many others are in the process of being worked out, or may not be offered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Under the previous order, the Senate will now go into executive session to proceed to the consideration of the nomination of Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., of Tennessee, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, on which there shall be 3 hours of debate.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the time will be under the direction of the chairman of the committee, Senator KASSEBAUM, and the ranking Democrat member, Senator KENNEDY.

I just want the RECORD to reflect before the debate starts that this nomination came on the calendar on May 26. That was followed by a recess. It was June 5 when we came back. This Senator and Dr. Foster tried to get together in 1 week. He was not available. The next week I was not available. But the RECORD should reflect that it has only been really since June 5 to June 21.

So there has not been any delay as far as bringing the nomination to the floor. There was a lot of research and investigation done prior to the hearing. But I listened to some comments last night on television. I had the impression that many in the media thought

this had been pending on the Senate floor for months and months, which is not the case. It is barely a little over 2 weeks.

NOMINATION OF HENRY W. FOSTER, JR., TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The nomination of Henry W. Foster, Jr., of Tennessee, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, for a term of 4 years.

Mrs. KASSEBAUM addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, first I would like to ask unanimous consent that Dr. Jim Wade, a Robert Woods Johnson Fellow of the staff of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, be allowed the privileges of the floor during the consideration of the nomination.

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

Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, the Senate is now considering the nomination of Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., to be Surgeon General of the United States. At noon today, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture, which would limit debate on this nomination.

Mr. President, I oppose this nomination, for reasons that I will briefly explain, but I will vote for cloture so that

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



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