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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, September 25, 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].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by a guest Chaplain, the Reverend Dr. George Gray Toole, Towson Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, MD.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, the Reverend Dr. George Gray Toole, offered the following prayer:

O God, You who have created the nations and so richly blessed our Nation and its people, we acknowledge Your presence and ask for Your guidance for the U.S. Senate. As it meets under the pressure of time and with so many crucial issues before it, we ask You to minister to its Members and support staff. Where weariness prevails, give them strength. Where matters become complex, give them discernment. When hard choices are to be made, give them integrity. Cause them to work in such a way that, when all of this is past, they may be content with the work they have accomplished. We do not ask that all of them be of one opinion, but that they be of one heart in their commitment to the people and principles of this Nation and to the way You have set before each and all of us. That this may be done, we come to You now, that You may lead them first before they seek to lead the people of this Nation. Use their gifts and talents, which are great in number and variety, and have them serve in a manner that will cause the citizens of this Nation to honor them. And in all things, let all that they do praise You. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader, Senator DOLE, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, there will be a period of morning business until 9:15. At 9:15, as I understand—and we do not have staff around—there will be four votes. There will be a vote in relation to the amendment offered by the Senator from West Virginia, Senator ROCKEFELLER; one vote on an amendment offered by the Senator from Montana, Senator BAUCUS; and on one amendment offered by the Senator from Maryland, Senator SARBANES.

Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to morning business, which shall not extend beyond 10 minutes, under the control of the Senator from Alabama [Mr. HEFLIN].

The able Senator from Alabama [Mr. HEFLIN] is recognized.

A BRIGHT STAR IN AMERICA'S CONSTELLATION OF RESTAURANTS

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, whenever I have the pleasure of traveling in north Alabama, I try to visit Bessemer, AL, about a 15-minute drive from the city of Birmingham. One of the many attractions in Bessemer is the Bright Star, one of our Nation's very best family-owned restaurants. Its reputation has been built over the course of this century, with fresh seafood transported from the gulf coast daily, the finest cuts of meat available, and the freshest vegetables and produce.

Actually, I have dined at many fine restaurants during my lifetime, but I consider the Bright Star one of the world's very best. It is certainly on a par with the finest restaurants in New Orleans, San Francisco, Washington, New York, Paris, London, Athens, Vienna, Rome, Budapest, and Copenhagen. At one time, it had Alabama rivals in Montgomery's Elite Cafe and Mobile's Constantine's, but these are unfortunately no longer in existence.

The Bright Star is well-known for its many specialties, but its Greek-style red snapper is truly one of the most superb seafood dishes I have ever tasted. There are also a variety of steaks featured, and the beef tenderloin—which is marinated in special herbs that the Greeks know how to combine and cook in a Mediterranean style—is simply delicious. There is a variety of broiled and fried fish to choose from, as well as giant seafood platters. One of the specialties is a combination lobster and crab meat au-gratin. The broiled seafood platter is widely considered one of the very best to be found anywhere.

One can also enjoy Italian dishes at the Bright Star, such as spaghetti and other types of pasta. Their appetizers are most unique and some of the best include shrimp remoulade, shrimp arnaud, the crab claw platter, and the seafood gumbo. They offer many varieties of salads, but their Greek salad—with or without anchovies—is magnificent. They also have many standard American dishes. Fried chicken and the veal cutlet with spaghetti are popular items on the menu. The chefs have acquired a real knack for preparing vegetables southern-style. They serve everything from turnip greens to black-eyed peas. The desserts include all varieties, ranging from Greek pastries to homemade southern pies, like coconut cream and banana nut.

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



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