

proceed unless we have order in the Chamber.

Mr. DOLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho has recognition.

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, I yield to the majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DOLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. CRAIG pertaining to the introduction of S. 1402 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

(Mr. BENNETT assumed the chair.)

THE DEMOCRATS ARE ALIVE AND WELL

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, on November 6, 1995, one of the leading periodicals in our country hit the newsstands—U.S. News & World Report. It says "The Democrats: Is the Party Over?" It is one of those stories about "the Democrats are dead."

Well, I encourage the U.S. News & World Report to get some airline tickets for some of those reporters and move them around the country today and ask what happened in the country yesterday. I suggest that they go to Kentucky, go to Maine, travel to New Jersey, visit with some folks who have pitched their tents on principles, once again, and see the campfires all around this country of Democrats, who stand for things that are important to the future of this country.

I think it was Mark Twain who said, in response to a report in the newspaper that he had died, "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." Well, those who, for months, have been dancing around the bonfire chanting about "the death of the Democratic Party," the resurrection of the Republican Party, and the lasting control of the Republicans in the American political system, might want to take a deep breath and look around at the results of yesterday's elections in our country.

Yes, it is true that yesterday, as is almost always the case, the Democrats were badly outspent. In many cases in these races, it was 4-to-1, 6-to-1, 8-to-1. The Republicans had more money. But the Democrats were never outworked, and never will be in our political system. Yesterday, county to county, town to town, all across this country, Democrats sent a message that we are alive, well, fighting, and winning, for things that are important to our country's future.

I think part of it yesterday was the American people responding again to our agenda about creating a growing

economy, building good jobs with good incomes, educating our children in the world's finest schools, cleaning up our environment, and standing for the values and virtues that made this a great country and will make it a great country in the future. And, yes, even more than that, people from Kentucky, to Maine, to New Jersey, to the west coast, yesterday, also stood up and not only spoke for Democratic candidates—candidates who ran on a platform of hope and opportunity, a platform of building for the future, understanding we have always had the burden of being the builders.

If you look at almost anything that has been built in this country that represents hope and progress, it has been the Democrats who decided that is what ought to be done for America's future. We have had folks that always had seat belts on saying, no, we do not want to move ahead, do not want to do this or do that.

I am proud of our legacy and heritage, and I am proud to note that although we may be outspent, we are not outworked, and there are lots of Democrats across this country who are willing to stand for and fight for the kind of policies that will build a better future in America.

Yesterday, voters also spoke, in my judgment, about another agenda, the agenda of the new Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, the Contract With America, and leadership in that direction.

I think the American people rejected yesterday an agenda that has as its centerfold tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans and budget cuts for the rest of Americans; an agenda that says we do not have enough money to provide an entitlement for a poor kid to have a hot lunch at school, that says we do not have enough money for health care for the elderly and the poor, but an agenda that says we have plenty of money for star wars, we have plenty of money for B-2 bombers nobody ordered, F-16's and F-15's that nobody asked for, for planes, ships, and submarines that nobody wanted. We have lots of money for those things, but we do not have enough money for the 55,000 kids now on Head Start who get kicked off.

That is what the voters were saying. Those priorities are out of whack. Those are not mainstream values. Those are extreme kinds of positions that the voters have told Speaker GINGRICH and others we reject.

I am proud, today, proud that so many around our country, men and women, State after State, were willing to stand up and speak out as part of our political process and stand for the values and the things that we believe in as Democrats—fought and won, in many cases, against the odds. When you are outspent, when the other side has more resources, you have to work harder.

I say in the context of this, I am proud of everybody that participates in this political process, Republicans and Democrats. The easiest thing for peo-

ple to do is do nothing and complain about it. The toughest thing is to stand in the ring and stand up and speak out for things you believe in.

I believe everyone who participates is owed a debt of thanks in our system, but I am especially proud in light of the kind of things we see in our country, written about a party that I am proud of, things that say the Democrats maybe are dead; the Democratic Party, the party is over for you folks.

I am particularly proud yesterday that all across this country we had people, American people—yes, Democrats—sending a message back to those who pronounced our death, and say, as Mark Twain did, "Reports of our death are greatly exaggerated."

We believe in something special for the future of this country. We preach hope and opportunity. We preach values and virtue. We preach a return to the days in this country where everybody can understand that we are doing things for America as a whole.

We believed, in North Dakota years ago when the wagon trains forged West, we believed in that lesson that was learned the hard way, that no wagon train ever moves ahead by leaving some wagons behind.

We have a policy in this country these days by those who have the votes to enforce it that says some folks are out of fashion. If you are poor, tough luck. If you are old, that is even tougher luck. Somehow if you did not make your way, you are left behind.

That is not the best of our country. Our country will be strongest and our country will meet the future with the kind of opportunity we should have forever, when we decide that public policies that invest in jobs, expanded opportunities and education are the kind of policies that will come out of the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate.

In the coming weeks and months, my hope is the American people, having sent a message yesterday through the ballot box, my hope is the American people will see the best of this political system. The best of this system will provide that those on the Republican side of the aisle and those on the Democratic side of the aisle will offer their best ideas and will choose from those good ideas, that menu of good news that comes from all sides, and then use those ideas to move America ahead. That will be the best our political system can offer to the American people. It is my hope for the coming months.

I wanted to take the floor today to say that yesterday, at least for me, was wonderful news. I think for our country it was good news. Our country needs a healthy two-party system. Those who believe somehow that on this side of the aisle we do not have the strength, vitality or ideas to compete in America's political system any more are dead wrong. That was proved yesterday in the elections across America, and it will be proved again and again leading up to the Presidential elections and