

the Chair is constrained not to entertain the gentleman's request until it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I would urge the Chair and the majority leadership to do that.

GRANTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND AND REVISE REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD FOR REMAINDER OF 104TH CONGRESS

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for the remainder of the first session of the 104th Congress, all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in the section of the RECORD entitled "Extensions of Remarks."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 122, REVISED CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, AND 2002

Mr. GOSS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-423) on the resolution (H. Res. 309) providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 122) setting forth a revised congressional budget for the United States Government for the fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION EXPEDITING COMMENCEMENT OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS DURING REMAINDER OF FIRST SESSION OF 104TH CONGRESS

Mr. GOSS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-424) on the resolution (H. Res. 310) expediting the commencement of committee hearings during the remainder of the first session of the One Hundred Fourth Congress, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. POSHARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. POSHARD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. CUNNINGHAM addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLVER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OLVER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

CLAIMING THE \$1 MILLION OFFERED BY REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. TAYLOR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to speak to the American people tonight to point out an inaccuracy, if not an outright deception, that has been printed in a number of newspapers around the country. We will give my fellow Mississippian, Haley Barbour, an opportunity to honor the pledge that he made to pay the first American who proves his statement false \$1 million.

Mr. Speaker, that is this portion of the ad that was in the USA Today for a number of days. This particular ad was last Monday, December 12. It says, "The Republican National Committee will present a cashier's check for \$1 million to the first American who can prove the following statement is false." And then in quotations it says, "November 1995, the U.S. House and Senate passed a balanced budget bill. It increases total spending on Medicaid by more than 50 percent from 1995 to the year 2002, pursuant to the Congressional Budget Office standards."

While I do not doubt what Mr. Barbour had to say about Medicare and Medicaid, the spending really will go up. It is not the cut that many of my colleagues call it. It is just a limitation on growth. It is something that we as businesspeople have to do.

I will, however, take issue with the first part, that in November 1995 the

House and Senate did not pass a balanced budget bill.

The budget that passed for fiscal year 1996, in October, contained a deficit, according to the Congressional Budget Office, of \$270 billion for next year. Now, under the rules of the House, going all the way back to the earliest days of our republic, Congress can only allocate funds for 1 year at a time. So, although it was a 7-year plan, it means absolutely nothing. One Congress cannot commit another Congress to doing something or not doing something.

Mr. Speaker, those who follow Congress know, there has already been a 40-percent turnover just in the past 3 years, and over a 50-percent turnover in the membership of Congress in the past 6 years. So it is totally inaccurate for Mr. Barbour to say that we are going to commit future Congresses to reduce spending.

All this Congress can do is commit itself. And the budget that it has committed itself to has been certified by the Congressional Budget Office, as recently as December 14, to be \$270 billion in deficit.

So, the much ballyhooed Balanced Budget Act of 1995 was a fake, a farce, a fraud, an insult to the people of this great country. As a matter of fact, even after certain members of the majority party called the Congressional Budget Office and requested that the CBO take a second look at their numbers, the number went from an annual operating deficit of \$296 billion to an annual operating deficit of \$270 billion, which is still a \$7 billion increase over the annual operating deficit of this year.

Mr. Speaker, so tomorrow morning I will be walking over to the Republican National Headquarters and I will present the following information to Mr. Barbour. I will give him the opportunity to make good on his word. For those who do not know Mr. Barbour, he is a former citizen of the great city of Yazoo City, MS.

Yazoo City has several distinctions. First, one of the Confederate ironclads was built there in secret in the war of Northern Aggression, or the Civil War as the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI] might refer to it. That ironclad, the *Arkansas*, was responsible for lifting the siege of Vicksburg. Despite incredible odds against it, it actually ran off something like 65 Union ships in the summer of 1862.

More recently, the city of Yazoo City is famous for sending America's storytellers. One of the great storytellers is William Morris, a writer of renown throughout the country. More recently, a comedian by the name of Jerry Clower comes from Yazoo City. Tomorrow, we are going to give my good friend, Mr. Barbour, the opportunity to tell America whether he is a man of his word or a storyteller.

Mr. Speaker, I have used the resources of this office, and my congressional office, to help get this information. Therefore, it would be most inappropriate if I asked Mr. Barbour for