

negotiating. That is the bottom line. That is how simple it is. That is how to reduce a day of very complicated transactions into one line. Give us a balanced budget agreement or proposal scored by the neutral Congressional Budget Office and we will agree to open up the Government.

WORKING WITHOUT PAY AND BEING PAID NOT TO WORK

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

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, in an extraordinary change of policy, my Republican colleagues have changed our policy with regard to payment of our Federal employees. For the last 3 weeks American workers who work for the Federal Government had been working without pay. For the next 3 weeks under the resolutions that we have adopted today, Americans who work for the Federal Government will be paid without working.

Mr. Speaker, this is an extraordinary change, and neither of the two sets of circumstances are desirable from the standpoint of any kind of common sense. My suggestion to my Republican colleagues is let us get together. Let us work the issues out. Let us have some honest discussion. Let us not play games. Let us do the business of the country. That is what we are here for.

Mr. Speaker, I would remind my Republican colleagues, they are the majority, it is their duty to rule and to govern. It is their duty to run the place. To complain constantly about the President refusing to submit budgets ill becomes them, ill befits this institution, and does little except to bring all of us into a state of disrepute and degradation.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to function as a majority responsibly should.

NATIONAL COMMISSION TO STUDY IMPACT OF GAMBLING

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, what we did today was good and appropriate. It kept the commitment and the word that the leadership and others in Congress made, and that was that Federal employees would not lose any salary, and they have not lost any salary and they will return to work and that will be good. I thank the Members on both sides of the aisle that brought that about. We thank the leadership because it is very, very positive.

One other thing I want to announce, and hopefully we can work together on this, when we come back we will be bringing up legislation which will set up a national commission to investigate the impact that gambling is having in the country. Twenty years ago

only two States had gambling. Now, 48 States have some sort of gambling and 24 have riverboat and casino gambling.

Mr. Speaker, it will be a national commission of nine men and women who have no bias on this issue, who will look to see what the impact of gambling has been on the country. Has it been good or bad? Has there been corruption involved in it? Has there been involvement with regard to political contributions? What has the impact been on other businesses? What has the impact been on addiction?

Hopefully, with what we did in the bipartisan manner today putting Federal employees back to work and paying them, we will pass this bill shortly when we come back.

CLOSING GOVERNMENT IS AN EMBARRASSMENT

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

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, we have been treated to an exercise in petty brinkmanship in this institution. It will become the Congress of the United States of America and certainly has disappointed and embarrassed all of the residents of our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, in visiting with county commissioners in my home State, I certainly have become aware that they are keenly embarrassed. They say that if any county government had to shut its doors because the county commissioners could not agree on a budget, that they essentially would be forced to resign by the public pressure in that community.

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What are we doing? We are sitting here in Washington. We are not resolving this problem. Instead we are engaging in party bickering, and we have one side that is refusing to let the other side even vote on a resolution to put the Government back to work. Instead we are bouncing continuing resolutions back and forth between the House and the Senate.

Let us get together, let us pass the resolution that was introduced on the Senate side and put America back to work.

PRIVATE SECTOR RISES TO OCCASION IN SHUTDOWN

(Mr. TORKILDSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, today we did an important thing. We allowed Federal employees to go back to work and provide services that the taxpayers have been paying for. But I want to point out something else. We have people in the private sector who have also risen to the occasion. Several banks in my district, Fleet Bank, Bank of Boston, were willing to extend no-interest loans to those employees who

may not have been able to draw a paycheck.

I know our colleague, the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. KELLY], had arranged an agreement for five community banks in her district to do the same thing.

While there is a temptation to do a lot of blaming and a lot of name calling, I would ask everyone to resist and instead let us say thank you to those people in the private sector who stepped forward and said, "Let us do what we can to help," whether it be offering a no-interest loan, whether it be delaying payments on bills that are owed, realizing that there is a crisis out there that was not of many people's making.

In the meantime, now that we have a pay bill for 3 weeks, let us all come together to work out a balanced budget, a truly balanced budget. It has been stated time and time again that is what the President wants. Now is his opportunity to bring one forward.

EXAMINING THE SPEAKER'S UPCOMING TRAVEL SCHEDULE

(Mr. SANDERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, if we want to understand why in this country the richest people are becoming richer while most working people are seeing a decline in their standard of living, if we want to understand why the Contract With America provides for huge tax breaks for the wealthiest people and the largest corporations while it cuts back massively on programs for the elderly, working people, and low-income people, we might want to examine NEWT GINGRICH's travel schedule for the coming week.

Mr. GINGRICH will be in Seattle, WA, where he will have dinner with his colleagues and his friends for the Washington State Republican Party for \$1,000 each. He will be in Dallas, TX, for a dinner for only \$10,000 apiece. He will be in Dearborn, MI, for another private fireside reception at \$10,000.

Who goes to these events? Most people that I know do not spend \$1,000 for a dinner.

KINGSTON CRITICIZES EXCESSIVE TRAVEL OF ENERGY SECRETARY

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the Member from the other side brought up travel. Let us talk about travel.

When the Speaker goes on a trip, he is paying for it with his own campaign money. But when your Democrat Secretary of Energy goes on a trip, for example, \$660,000 to South Africa, \$500,000 to Pakistan, \$845,000 to China, \$50,000 on the weekly shuttle to Vienna, Moscow, or Paris, or the low-discount rate