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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, January 22, 1996)

The Senate met at 2:30 p.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, Rev. Johnny Sloan, Hamilton Christian Center, Hamilton, OH. He is a guest of Senator DEWINE.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, the Reverend Dr. Johnny W. Sloan, offered the following prayer:

Let us bow our heads for prayer.

Lord God Almighty, Creator of life, giver of liberty, we exalt Your holy name. This day we come before You with hearts grateful for Your grace upon our lives. You have faithfully protected and provided for our Nation. From generation to generation, You have been our guide, giving light where there was darkness and strength when there was weakness. Lord, we ask for Your will in the affairs of this land. Help us to speak less and listen more. Help us to take less and give more. Help us to fear less and trust more. Let us walk in unity without requiring individual conformity. Let our song be in harmony, sung by a people of diversity. We want to love, as You have loved us. We want to forgive, as You have forgiven us. Lift our eyes from the human mud stains of yesterday's journey to the rising sun of divine destiny and hope for tomorrow. Give us wisdom, as we set our hands to the task before us, that working together we may accomplish Your will and purpose. Lord, to You be all glory, honor, and praise, now and forever. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 3:30 this afternoon. Then, following morning business—it could be extended, of course—we will recess until 8:35 this evening, at which time the Members will gather in the Senate Chamber so the Senate may proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the State of the Union Address.

It is hoped that we can reach an agreement regarding the consideration of the continuing resolution and the DOD authorization conference report for either Thursday or Friday. I am not certain when the House is going to take up the CR, and if it requires a rollcall vote, we have sort of indicated we would give Members some notice to get back here. So we would at least give them the opportunity to come back if there is going to be debate, amendments, and votes on the continuing resolution.

If an agreement is reached on these two items today, the Senate will adjourn until this Friday, January 26, to complete action on those matters.

Also, to inform all Members, if both of these items are completed on Friday as well as the D.C. appropriations or Interior appropriations conference reports, if available, then it may be that the Senate would not be in session until February 26. But, again, that depends on what may develop tonight in the President's State of the Union Message and what may develop during the day in our discussions with the Republican leadership on when we may want to proceed to another budget resolution to send the President another balanced budget. But we do hope to complete action on all the previously mentioned items by unanimous consent.

I might say, on the other side of the aisle, if someone indicates now that

they will not give us consent, then I think we could give notice as quickly as we can that Members would have to be back here on Friday.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 3:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

PASSAGE OF ANOTHER CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I intend to use my time to address where we are as a nation in terms of the impact of the continuing resolution at 75 percent, but I see the majority leader still here. It is a little difficult to state at this time whether there would be objection to a continuing resolution since we are not informed at this time as to what would be in the continuing resolution. And I know that there is a desire among some of our colleagues to be able to introduce clean budget ceiling legislation to move toward addressing one of the critical issues before the Nation.

So I, just for one, want to work in cooperation with the leadership, the majority leader and the minority leader, but I do think it is probably premature to try to make a judgment of whether we are going to be able to get agreements on no votes at all, because we at this time do not have a continuing resolution. We saw the changes that were made in the continuing resolution at the final hours the last time. We do not know where we are going to be on the debt ceiling issue. And I, for one, feel that we ought to be around here doing

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



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