

say that the farm bill was vetoed. The budget resolution was vetoed; buried within that budget resolution we found farm legislation which had not been considered prior to that time.

The second issue over which there ought not be any concern or confusion is our mutual desire to provide the maximum degree of flexibility to farmers. Let there be no mistake: Recognizing as late as it is, we simply cannot constrain farmers in any way as they begin to put their management plans together. Farmers have to be given flexibility. Farmers have to be given the assurance that they can make their decisions, unencumbered by farm policy at this late date.

It is our desire every bit as much as it is the desire of many Republicans to ensure that farmers are given flexibility, that they have the latitude to go farm as we want them to farm. Flexibility is not the issue. No one ought to be using that argument as a reason for the fact that we have not reached an agreement today. We want flexibility. We want simplicity. We want to give farmers the chance to farm.

The third issue, and the one that I think will divide us perhaps in perpetuity—the reason we have not yet come to a resolution—is that in the name of some change, in the name of bringing about this so-called flexibility, what many on the other side are prepared to say is, “We will be so flexible that we will give you the payment whether you farm or not. We do not care whether you farm. We do not care what you farm. We do not care what the prices are. We are going to give you a huge lump-sum payment upfront, regardless of price, regardless of your management, regardless of your circumstances, regardless of how big you are, regardless of whether or not you are even on the farm. You will have an opportunity to get this huge payment.”

Mr. President, as others have said today, I do not think it will take long for this army of investigative journalists we have in Washington and elsewhere to call attention to the fact that while we are cutting every single aspect of the Federal budget, there will be people out there getting not \$100,000, not \$200,000, but perhaps \$300,000 in lump-sum payments for doing absolutely nothing at all. That is how some would view this so-called concept of “freedom to farm.” It is the freedom not to farm. It is the freedom not to do anything. It is the freedom not to be responsible.

So that is the fundamental disagreement we have today. We have had it for a long time. We will have it tomorrow. The question is, can we bridge that difference? Can we say we are not adverse to providing the advance deficiency payments or the advance payments that we provided agriculture in the past, but you have to farm to get a farm payment; you have to be responsible if you expect us to be responsive?

So, let us hope that over the course of the next couple of days we can

bridge that. We know we want simplicity and flexibility. We know we want a decision as quickly as we can get it. What I hope we can also agree upon is that we also must recognize the need for farmers to be responsible—to have the freedom to farm, but to be responsible with taxpayer dollars. If we can do that, then, indeed, I am optimistic that we will reach an agreement. We will be able to send the farm community a clear message that, indeed, we have done what we should have done a long time ago—pass a farm bill that will take us well into the future.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be permitted to speak for not in excess of 5 minutes.

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

THE 44TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the Nation's Capital today hosted the 44th Annual National Prayer Breakfast, and I take note that the Presiding Officer was likewise the presiding officer at this historic moment, attended by the President and the First Lady, the Vice President and his lady and a number of Members of the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

I say to my good friend, the Presiding Officer, the distinguished Senator from Utah, that he mastered a unique and challenging situation, given the number of speakers and knowing that the President would conclude, as he did, with very moving remarks.

I think the Presiding Officer would agree with me that above all, the remarks of the principal speaker, that of the distinguished senior Senator from Georgia, SAM NUNN, were of such merit that they deserve preservation for posterity for future generations. Likewise, our other colleague, Senator SIMPSON, made a very valued contribution. Of course, the Scripture was read by a third distinguished Senator, the Senator from Illinois, CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN. I had the privilege earlier today to place into the RECORD the remarks of the distinguished Senator from Wyoming [Mr. SIMPSON] and the distinguished Senator from Georgia [Mr. NUNN].

But as I watched the proceedings of the Senate tonight, it occurred to me that the hour is late, and knowing that the Presiding Officer, in preparation to meet today's challenge, probably arose at around 5 in the morning, I think it most appropriate that he be relieved of his official duties, and I propose to do so at this time.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 141

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I regret that we were not able to accommodate the House of Representatives with reference to House Concurrent Resolution 141. I am not certain what action the House will take. It will be up to them. We have tried it for an hour and a half. My view is that it should not be our concern what the House does. They are a separate body and they wish to adjourn until the 26th of February. We are not able to get the Democratic leader to agree.

RECESS UNTIL 10 A.M., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1996

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until Monday 10 a.m., February 5.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:28 p.m., recessed until Monday, February 5, 1996, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate February 1, 1996:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY ADVISORY BOARD

TONI G. FAY, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 12, 1998. VICE RONALD M. GILLUM, TERM EXPIRED.

AUDREY TAYSE HAYNES, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 13, 1998. VICE BADI G. FOSTER, TERM EXPIRED.

MARGIENE S. MATTLEMAN, PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY ADVISORY BOARD, FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 12, 1998. (REAPPOINTMENT)

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. KENNETH E. EICKMANN, 000-00-0000, U.S. AIR FORCE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF GENERAL IN THE U.S. ARMY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601(A):

To be general

LT. GEN. JOHNNIE E. WILSON, 000-00-0000, U.S. ARMY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER TO BE PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER SECTION 1370 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE:

To be general

GEN. LEON E. SALOMON, 000-00-0000, U.S. ARMY