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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 1998, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1998

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Sovereign of this Nation, we praise You for the gift of authentic hope. More than wishful thinking, yearning, or shallow optimism, we turn to You for lasting hope. We have learned that true hope is based on the expectation of the interventions of Your Spirit that are always on time and in time. You are the intervening Lord of the Passover, the opening of the Red Sea, the giving of the Ten Commandments. You have vanquished the forces of evil, death, and fear through the Cross and the Resurrection. All through the history of our Nation, You have blessed us with Your providential care. It is with gratitude that we affirm, "Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord."—Psalm 33:12.

May this sacred season, including both Passover and Holy Week, be a time of rebirth of hope in us. May Your Spirit of hope displace the discordant spirit of cynicism, discouragement, and disunity. Hope through us, O God of hope. Flow through us patiently until we hope for one another what You have hoped for us. Then Lord, give us the vision and courage to confront those problems that have made life seem hopeless for some people. Make us communicators of hope. We trust our lives, the work of the Senate, and the future of our Nation into Your all-powerful hands. In the Name of the Hope of the World. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.
(Mr. ENZI assumed the chair.)

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to observe, as is always the case, the distinguished Senator from South Carolina was one of the last to leave last night, approaching 11 o'clock, and was the first here this morning. We thank the Senator for his leadership as the President pro tempore of the Senate.

Mr. THURMOND. I thank the majority leader for his fine leadership of the Senate.

THE SENATE CHAPLAIN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also commend the Chaplain not only on his usual beautiful prayer but on the beauty of his Ogilvie tartan tie that he sports this morning in recognition, I am sure, of Tartan Day that is coming up in just 3 days, next Monday. So we look forward to that celebration with the Chaplain.

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we will have a period of morning business today until 12 noon. It is planned today to consider S. 414, the international shipping bill. In addition, the Senate, of course, will take up any executive or

legislative business cleared for Senate action. I thank all the Senators who have been working on the international shipping bill, including the chairman of the subcommittee, Senator HUTCHISON; the chairman of the full Committee on Commerce, Senator MCCAIN; Senator SLADE GORTON of Washington, who has been working to address some concerns he still has, and he believes he may have an amendment on this later on today; and Senator HARKIN and others who worked with us on getting this language agreed to so that we can take up this important legislation.

I do confirm that there are some further nominations that we hope to move today. Several of them were considered and approved last night, but we will be going over the list in the next couple hours to see if there are others that can be approved. There will be no rollcall votes today. The next rollcall vote will occur on or in regard to the Coverdell A+ education savings account bill on Tuesday, April 21, at a time to be announced—probably in the morning, hopefully the early morning of Tuesday.

ACTIONS OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, since there is no other Senator seeking recognition at this time, I wish to further comment on the action of the Senate over the past few days, particularly with regard to the budget resolution that passed last night. Because of the lateness of the hour and the fact that we had had 24 votes during the day on Thursday, we did not really have an opportunity

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



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