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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 2, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CLIFF STEARNS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 19, 1999, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Throughout our religious history and the story of this Nation, You have tried to teach us, O Lord. In Jesus, in the prophets and even in our own times, You tell us: "the just suffer for the unjust to lead us closer to You."

If we read the stories with the eyes of faith, we come to see that even suffering has a purpose.

Any difficulty or period of trial can bring us closer to You, O Lord.

In the ancient story of Noah or in early patriotic stories of this Nation, You teach us that people cannot only come through periods of testing safely, they can, in their suffering, discover Your holy presence as never before.

As we listen to the stories of victims who become survivors, we marvel at the strength they find in You, O Lord. Their witness becomes our call to be renewed in faith.

Your faithfulness remains now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LATOURETTE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PAY THE NATION'S BILLS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, when I was getting ready to come to Washington today, I put on this suit which I had not worn in quite a while; and when I reached into my pocket, I found, much to my surprise, a \$10 bill.

I pulled it out and said to my wife, Dawn, "Look, honey, \$10." It was kind of like having free money.

But she quickly reminded me and shook her head, took the \$10, and told me that we still had bills to pay.

It reminded me of the budget battle that we are facing today here in this House. And since our Democrats like our Nation's surplus, think of it as free money, but it is not.

My colleagues, we still have a big bill to pay of our Nation's public debt. And the surplus would not have been possible without the common sense policies of this Republican Congress. And now we must exercise the same responsibility with the surplus and reject the Democrats' big spending plans.

We can pay down the national debt and meet this Nation's most pressing needs, like enacting prescription drug plans that offer seniors real choice. But we must commit 90 percent of the surplus to paying our bills to wiping out our public debt, because no one is going to reach into the pocket of an old suit and pull out \$6.5 trillion.

SALUTING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BELLWOOD, ILLINOIS

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute the village of Bellwood, Illinois, which is celebrating its 100th year anniversary. It is a quiet,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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