

a bill for spending too much that was not sustained by the Congress. In other words, not a nickel could have been spent in this country that Ronald Reagan did not put his signature on. Not a nickel.

So the budget balancing came at the hands of Bill Clinton, when for 7 years in a row now the budget deficit has decreased, for the first time in this century.

ALL THE ARROWS ARE DOWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I keep a board in my office that lists the cash prices of the major commodities grown in my home State of Kansas. An arrow next to the price indicates whether the price is up or down, and for too long now, and for more days than not, all the arrows are down.

Prices for all our major commodities grown in the State of Kansas are at historic lows. The wheat crop in Kansas is worth \$500 million less this year than last, and prices for corn, soybeans, and milo paint a similar picture for the fall crops. The prices for beef and pork are depressed as well. And behind these numbers are real people. Every day, farmers and ranchers are being forced out of business and off the farm and ranch never to return.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the statements made on Friday about the crisis in agriculture and the call upon President Clinton to work with Congress to provide relief soon. I could not agree more. We need to do something and we need to do something now.

On July 21, I introduced H.R. 2568, the Market Loss Assistance Act. H.R. 2568 would provide supplemental farm income program payments equal to 75 percent of a producer's 1999 payment under the Agricultural Market Transition Act. This is the same mechanism that Congress used last year to provide emergency relief to farm country. Today, the need is greater and more urgent than it was a year ago.

I hope the House will honor my request to consider H.R. 2568 or other disaster relief before Congress goes home for the August recess. Our farm and ranch constituents are counting on us to do the right thing and to do it sooner rather than later. Farmers need assurance that Congress and this administration will respond to the crisis. Otherwise we will lose another generation of family farmers and rural America will continue its difficult struggle.

Over the long haul there are many things that Congress can and must do to get the price arrows up on the chart and pointed in the right direction. We need to open new markets and expand trade opportunities for U.S. producers.

We need a farm policy that preserves flexibility and provides price protection. We need adequate risk management tools and research that enhances our competitiveness. But these are all long-term solutions to a near-term crisis.

H.R. 2568 can get assistance to farm country immediately. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation. The time to respond is now, not later.

RESTORING THE HONOR OF JOSEPH JEFFERSON "SHOELESS JOE" JACKSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, this is a true story. In 1908, a textile mill worker from Greenville, South Carolina, who learned to play baseball on mill teams, made his minor league baseball debut for the Greenville Spinners. He could not read or write, but he could sure play the game. His name was Joseph Jefferson Jackson. And in my town and in my State and in baseball circles around the world, he is a legend.

During a game in his first year in the minor leagues, Joseph Jackson's feet began to hurt because of his shoes, so he took them off. He then proceeded to hit a triple, sliding into third. One of the fans in the crowd heckled him, saying he was a shoeless son of a gun. The nickname "Shoeless" stuck.

Shoeless Joe Jackson had one of the most mythical careers in baseball history.

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He is mentioned among the greats: Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Hank Aaron, Lou Gehrig. His 356 lifetime batting average achieved over a 13-year career is third only behind Ty Cobb and Rogers Hornsby.

In 1911, in his first major league season with Cleveland, Shoeless Joe batted 408, the highest batting average ever by a rookie. Traded to the Chicago White Sox in 1915, he led the team to victory in the 1917 World Series against the New York Giants.

Yet, while his name is mentioned among the greats, Joe Jackson is not with them in the baseball Hall of Fame. After the infamous 1919 Black Sox scandal, Jackson was suspended for life from the league by the commissioner of baseball.

Madam Speaker, this was a bad call. In 1919, a New York gambler allegedly bribed eight players of the Chicago White Sox, including Shoeless Joe, to throw the first and second game of the 1919 World Series. When the news came out the following year, the case was brought to criminal court.

A number of individuals, including local sportswriters and White Sox

owner Charles Comisky, all testified to Jackson's innocence. After the trial he was acquitted. However, the new commissioner of baseball, Judge Kennesaw Landis, decided to ban all the players who were allegedly involved without even conducting an investigation.

If Commissioner Landis had taken some time to review the evidence, I believe he would have found that Shoeless Joe played no part in throwing the Series. It was obvious by the way he played.

In the 1919 World Series, Shoeless Joe Jackson batted 375, the highest of any player on either team. He set a World Series record with 12 hits. His fielding was flawless. He had six of the White Sox's 17 RBIs, and he hit the only homerun of the series.

A number of people from Senator TOM HARKIN of Iowa to the great Ted Williams have called for Commissioner Bud Selig to review the judgment made in haste 80 years ago. I would like to add the names of every Member of this House to that list.

Shoeless Joe was undoubtedly one of the greatest to play America's favorite pastime. He worked his way up through the textile mills of South Carolina and lived the American dream. He loved the game of baseball. The time has come for the commissioner to review the record and give Joe Jackson his rightful place of honor.

When the heroes of today, McGuire, Sosa, Ripken, Griffey, and when the heroes of tomorrow who are still dreaming their dreams on little league fields and school playgrounds, when they all come to Cooperstown to be enshrined with the other greats in the baseball Hall of Fame, they deserve to be alongside one of the greatest players who ever played the game.

I think they would all want Shoeless Joe there with them. The people from my district and people from all over the country have been working for years to have Jackson's good name cleared and his honor restored.

I want to do whatever I can to give him the honor that he is due and to honor the people who have been inspired by his memory to rebuild and revitalize his hometown, West Greenville, to honor his name.

On behalf of the people of my district who have worked so hard to uphold the memory and the honor of Shoeless Joe Jackson and along with the entire South Carolina Congressional Delegation, last Friday I introduced a resolution calling for Shoeless Joe to be appropriately honored. I believe this resolution is an opportunity to pay respect to one of the all-time great players of America's great national pastime.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to restore the name of Shoeless Joe.