

beepers or whatever, and prepare yourself for the possibility of additional votes today and additional votes tomorrow.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his information, although it is a little cryptic.

Mr. ARMEY. It is.

Mr. BONIOR. To say the least.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would give my colleagues the details if I understood them.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, let me try to guess then, okay?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I could name names too, but it would be of no avail. I think the body pretty well knows the circumstances.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Leader, are we talking about today doing the extender bill, the tax extender bill?

Mr. ARMEY. I am sorry?

Mr. BONIOR. Is the gentleman alluding to the tax extender bill in his comments?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, it is possible that the tax extender bill and attendant items could be brought to the floor later today.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, when the gentleman says attendant items, is he talking about perhaps not having it clean and having it come back with some other issues?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman from Michigan will yield, he will have to pull every inch of this out of me.

Mr. BONIOR. That is what I am trying to do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ARMEY. I know that.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, let me ask, is it possible that we could see the dairy piece on the extender bill?

Mr. ARMEY. We do not know.

Mr. BONIOR. Well, obviously, Mr. Speaker, it would be helpful if we had some anticipation of what we are going to be seeing so Members can be prepared; and to the extent you can provide that to us, it would be generally I think helpful to Members on both sides of the aisle. I assume that what we are talking about is a tax extender bill, and the question of whether it is going to be clean or not, and we would like to know that, because obviously those who come from dairy States have a great interest in this, and dairy districts; and those who care about the extender bill have an interest in it.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again, if the gentleman will yield, I do appreciate your concern, but I think the gentleman from Michigan would understand that what we have is problems, problems where we try to devise a plan with respect to which we can get agreements and work out an opportunity to move the legislation. We are all interested, whether it be the work incentives bill or the tax extenders, any number of things.

In the process of working out these possible agreements, it has been proven

in the past to be generally prudent to not make any public revelations about what our expectations, hopes and dreams might be while these Members, who have such heart-felt feelings, have a chance to look at the proposals, consider them, and decide whether or not they can come to agreement.

I can only tell the Members at large, we are making every effort to get by some of the difficult, what should I say, delays that are pending out there and get back to this floor with the legislation the Members are all interested in as quickly as possible; and we will do everything we can to give Members timely notification so that they will have a clear understanding of what it is they are being asked to come back for.

In the meantime, if I may, Mr. Speaker, we will have the floor available to take up special orders; and pursuant to that, we may even, in fact, recess subject to the call of the Chair. I again would encourage all of the Members to understand that they will be noticed later.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, can the gentleman from Texas give us a sense of timing? Are we looking at late afternoon, early evening, midnight? Where are we in terms of people planning for the rest of the day?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, I do understand that, and I understand the frustration. The ability of working out agreements, as the gentleman knows, sometimes can be done fairly quickly, sometimes it takes more time. As soon as we know that we have a course of action that can command the attention of the body at large, we will make that information available.

But it is possible, as long as Members want to continue working, that on into the evening we may find ourselves holding the opportunity available to continue the work this evening. As it proceeds, if it ever comes to a point where we can give Members sort of a definitive notion that the votes will be at this time or another, we will make every effort to quickly get the information to the Members.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would just say in conclusion to my friend from Texas, we obviously would like to cooperate. As well, I think it is in everyone's interest to finish the business of this session of this Congress. To the extent that we can be included in understanding what we will be doing and when we will be doing it, it will expedite that process. The majority will need unanimous consent from this side of the aisle to bring the extender bill up; and I am not going to speak for everybody on our side of the aisle, but we would be inclined to do that if we are part of the process. If we are not, if it is sprung on us without any notice and with provisions that we are not comfortable with,

then we are going to run into difficulty later on.

That is why I am trying to, as the gentleman from Texas aptly described it, pull from him as much information as I can this afternoon.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, throughout this day, last evening, this morning, yesterday, and as we continue to work on this, we will continue to contact the minority leadership as we have been doing, including as many long-distance phone calls as are necessary to California and other places and as many fund-raising events that we may have to interrupt, we will keep our colleagues informed.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I do not think that was necessarily necessary. That is the kind of thing that is going to keep us here longer than any of us would want.

So I would hope that we could refrain from those types of references. I did not get up here this afternoon and make reference to the comments of the gentleman before we left here for Veterans' Day that we would be here that weekend and Members had to change their schedule on both sides of the aisle. I refrained from doing that, and I would hope in the future that the gentleman from Texas would refrain from comments that he just made.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches at this time without prejudice to the Speaker's right to return to legislative business later today.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### POINT OF ORDER

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan will state his point of order.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, do I not have the right to ask unanimous consent for 1 minute prior to proceeding with the 5 minutes speeches?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has already begun recognition from the 5 minute list, and would advise the Member from Michigan at this point to seek unanimous consent to be recognized from the 5-minute Members list and the Chair will be happy to recognize the gentleman. This is purely a