

The question is on the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of the bill just passed, H.R. 999.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1999

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1999

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, April 26, 1999, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, 1999, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, if the distinguished gentleman from California

(Mr. BILBRAY) would be so kind as to provide us with an explanation of next week's schedule.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WISE. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have concluded legislative business for this week. There will be no votes tomorrow, Friday, April 23. However, I would like to remind Members that there is a ceremony in the Capitol tomorrow celebrating the 50th anniversary of NATO and all Members are invited.

Of course, we will be releasing our official schedule this afternoon, but I would like to take this opportunity to outline next week's agenda.

The House will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 26, for pro forma, but no legislative business will be held and no votes will be held on that day.

On Tuesday, April 27, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour debates and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

We will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to all Members' offices. Members should note that we expect votes after 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, April 28 and Thursday April 29, the House will take up H.R. 1480, the Water Resources Development Act; H.R. 833, the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1999; and a motion to go to conference on H.R. 4, the Missile Defense Act.

Members should also be advised that there may be action next week on the War Powers Resolution introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL).

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, if the gentleman would be so kind as to continue to respond, does the gentleman anticipate that next week the supplemental appropriation bill providing Kosovo funding will be on the floor?

Mr. BILBRAY. If the gentleman will continue to yield, right now it is in committee and we are hoping that it will be expedited as quickly as possible. We do not have any guarantees at this time, but the committee is assuring us that they will get it to the floor as soon as possible.

Mr. WISE. The gentleman also referred to the Campbell resolution regarding the War Powers Act. Does he anticipate those actually being on the floor next week?

Mr. BILBRAY. We are expecting that it is very possible.

Mr. WISE. Since that is often as good as it gets in a legislative body, I thank the gentleman and wish him a good weekend.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I want to clarify to Members that they

should note that we expect to conclude legislative business on Thursday, April 29, and we will not have any votes on Friday, April 30.

We hope this advance notice on scheduling enables Members to adjust their schedules.

Mr. WISE. Actually, the gentleman has kind of sparked something with me. If I could ask, following up on the Campbell resolution, if it is very possible, do we know what day it might be very possible that it would be coming to the floor?

Mr. BILBRAY. We are looking forward to Wednesday or Thursday.

Mr. WISE. I thank the gentleman.

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.

EARTH DAY AND THE GREAT LAKES

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this is Earth Day. This is the day when, in the simplest of terms, we are supposed to say smokestacks are bad and trees are good, that cars are bad and bicycles and buses are good. Those of us concerned about the environment, of course, realize that environmental issues have many more facets.

Consider the case of the Great Lakes. It was in October, Mr. Speaker, that many of my colleagues gave unanimous approval to my resolution which called on the President and the other body to act to prevent the sale or diversion of Great Lakes water to foreign countries, businesses, corporations and individuals.

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The House, speaking with one voice, asked that procedures be established to guarantee that any sale or diversion of Great Lakes water be fully negotiated and approved by representatives of the Governments of the United States and Canada.

I want to remind our colleagues of this House action because, Mr. Speaker, there is another threat to the Great Lakes, one which is posed by the drilling of oil and gas in and under the waters of our Great Lakes.

Let me take a few moments on this Earth Day to discuss water diversion and drilling in the Great Lakes. First, let me pose these questions: Are we being alarmists? Are diversion and drilling real threats to one of the world's most valuable resources?

Consider, Mr. Speaker, these facts in terms of this potential impact on the

Great Lakes. Seventy percent of the Earth's surface is covered with water, but 97.5 percent of that is sea water. Only 2.5 percent of the surface water is fresh water. And nearly 70 percent of the fresh water is frozen glacial water.

The Great Lakes contains 6 trillion gallons of fresh water, one-fifth of the Earth's fresh water supply. The Great Lakes are home to 40 million people. One-quarter of Canada's population lives in the Great Lakes basin.

The World Bank predicts that by the year 2025, more than 3 billion people in 52 countries will suffer water shortages for drinking or sanitation. More than 300 cities in China right now are experiencing water shortages, and more than 100 are deemed to be in a condition of acute water scarcity. Citizens of the United States and Canada use and consume more than 100 gallons of water per day per person. The global water demand is doubling every 21 years. Eighty percent of all fresh water is used for agricultural purposes.

I would like to thank the Buffalo News for many of these facts, Mr. Speaker. I present them as random facts because, like pieces of a puzzle, they must be analyzed and arranged to see their importance.

The World Bank has studied this puzzle, and I call the attention of my colleagues to a quote from a World Bank report, which the Buffalo News used as the jump lead in a March 1999 story. The World Bank report predicted, "Wars of the next century will be fought over water."

Are we really be willing alarmists? A company in Sault St. Marie, Ontario, just one company, was given a permit to take up to 2.6 million gallons per day of water for the next 5 years. I was joined by members of the Ontario parliament and the New Democratic Party in bringing public attention to this permit, which was then revoked by the Ontario government.

But all fresh water will increasingly be eyed as a potential commodity on the world market.

A Vancouver-based company, Global Water Corporation, has an agreement with the Alaskan community of Sitka to take water from a lake and ship it by tanker to China. The deal allows Global to take up to 5 billion gallons a year for 30 years.

Now, I have spoken of just two companies. We know the market is there. We can easily see the overhead is minimal, the market is expanding, and the potential number of speculators and potential shippers is unlimited.

Let me say that one more time, Mr. Speaker, that although I have mentioned China twice in my remarks, I am not attempting to invoke it as a threat to our own security. China is merely a customer who is in need of water now. The world, the entire world, will be eyeing our natural resources in the Great Lakes.

As of today, the sale and diversion of Great Lakes water and all fresh water from North America remains unresolved. Following the House vote on my resolution, the U.S. and Canada have asked the international Joint Commission to study the issue of water diversion along the entire border from Alaska to the St. Lawrence River. Their preliminary report on diversion should be ready in about 5 months. A final report on our joint water resources should be done early next year.

In the meantime, it is the policy of my home State of Michigan to press for drilling of oil and gas under the Great Lakes. Canada allows gas drilling directly in the Great Lakes. Proponents of oil drilling in the Great Lakes say the risk is minimal, small, tiny.

I say tiny is too big. A gallon of oil spilled in Lake Superior would take 999 years to be cleared out by natural flow; Lake Michigan, 99 years; Lake Huron, 60 years.

So if my colleagues want to play Russian roulette, Mr. Speaker, how many barrels on their gun would they be comfortable with? 100,000? One million?

I wish my colleagues in the Nation a happy Earth Day, and I ask them to consider my legislation to protect this valuable resource.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE OF 1915-1923

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as my colleagues and I do every year at this time, in a proud but solemn tradition to remember and pay tribute to the victims of one of history's worst crimes against humanity, the Armenian Genocide of 1915 to 1923.

The issue of genocide has been forced onto our conscience and consciousness at the end of the 20th century by the tragic events in Kosovo. The ugly term "ethnic cleansing" has become a frequently heard expression. Indeed, one of the major rationales for the current NATO campaign has been to prevent the 20th century, which began with genocide, from ending with genocide.

Comparisons can serve a useful and instructive role, but it is important at the same time to remember the uniqueness of an event such as the Armenian Genocide, one of the most horrible events of the 20th century and in all human history. Yet many, perhaps most Americans, and most people around the world are barely aware of this extremely significant historical event.

Even more troubling than ignorance or indifference is the phenomenon of denial. Yes, just as with the obscene efforts to deny the Nazi Holocaust, there are actually people who try to deny that the Armenian Genocide ever hap-

pened. And we must meet these denials, these so-called revisionist claims, head on with the truth. The Armenian Genocide did happen.

The Armenian Genocide was the systematic extermination of one-and-a-half million Armenian men, women, and children during the final years of the Ottoman Turkish Empire. This was the first genocide of the 20th century, but sadly not the last.

Saturday, April 24, will mark the 84th anniversary of the unleashing of the Armenian Genocide. And Armenian-Americans throughout the United States, and people of conscience everywhere are commemorating this event in various ways. The commemoration that I will participate in will be held on Sunday afternoon in Times Square in New York City. And there will be commemorations in my home State of New Jersey, around the country, and around the world.

The ANCA and the Armenian Assembly of America have both been in the forefront of calling for recognition of the genocide not just for the people of Armenian descent but for all of us as an act of education and witness about the evils of genocide and the danger of forgetting.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that the United States still does not officially recognize the Armenian Genocide. Bowing to strong pressure from Turkey, the U.S. State Department has for more than 15 years shied away from referring to the events of 1915 through 1923 by the word "genocide." President Clinton and his recent predecessors have annually issued proclamations on the anniversary of the genocide but always stopped short of using the word "genocide," thus minimizing and not accurately conveying what really happened.

In an effort to address this lapse in our own Nation's record, a bipartisan coalition of Members of Congress will be working to enact legislation affirming the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide.

Expected to be introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADONOVICH) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR), our Democratic whip, the legislation calls on the President to collect all U.S. records on the genocide and to provide them to the House Committee on International Relations, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the Armenian Genocide Museum in Yerevan.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, that the U.S. should go clearly on record and unambiguously recognize the Armenian Genocide and set aside April 24 as a day of remembrance.

It is also nothing short of a crime against memory and human decency in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, that the Republic of Turkey denies that the genocide ever took place and has even mounted an aggressive effort to try to