

paths to new vitality and beauty and fruitfulness.

Grant us, we pray, a similar awareness of the tasks that lead to healthy politics and sound policy. Help us to know where to dig, what to plant, when to prune. And lead us to take up those tasks together. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTS 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.

#### HOUR OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on tomorrow, Wednesday, March 22, 2000.

THE SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, every American contributes to Social Security, hoping one day that that investment will help him or her to retire comfortably. We expect and hope that those dollars will one day come back to us with interest.

For generations, this program has worked fairly well, but we now have a younger generation that is not so confident about the Social Security system. Most young people in their 20s with whom I speak do not count on getting a dime from Social Security when they retire, and they know how much better their own investments perform compared to the low rates of return earned by the Social Security Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, the Social Security system is a good program, millions of Americans depend on it; but it is time that we allowed Americans to invest a small portion of their FICA taxes into

an authorized group of funds, like a 401(k) or a pension plan, an individual retirement account, to get the benefit of compound interest. It is time we made some changes, reform that will save and strengthen Social Security in the long run.

#### CORRUPTION IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, 19 years ago, I defended myself and was found innocent of RICO violations. Forensic tests proved that the Justice Department used a fraudulent confession against me. What is even worse, at my trial the FBI admitted they had evidence that the agent-in-charge of the Youngstown FBI office, Mr. Stan Peterson, was on the payroll of the Mob, and when he retired, was appointed the chief of police of Youngstown at the direction of the Mob.

Now, if that is not enough to shred the Constitution. The FBI further testified they never investigated Stan Peterson. Enough is enough. I am announcing formally today that I am once again a target of the Justice Department.

Listen, I plan to fight like a junkyard dog, and if I die in that courtroom, bring it on; but I want to thank every Member for their encouragement that they have given me and for their good concerns.

In America, the person governs. We should not fear the IRS. We took care of that.

I will be submitting legislation this week that will provide for outside investigations into wrongdoing in the Justice Department. Right now, the Justice Department investigates the Justice Department.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the corruption in the Justice Department.

#### DEADLY CARGO

(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, this week we will have an opportunity to once again protect our Nation, our citizens, and our environment by voting no on S. 1287, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act.

If passed, Mr. Speaker, S. 1287 will launch the largest nuclear waste shipping program in human history.

A no vote will send a clear message that we do not support transporting the world's deadliest material, nuclear waste, through our Nation's cities, near our children's schools, and through our rural communities.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Transportation reported that in a 10-

year period there were almost 100,000 transportation accidents releasing hazardous materials; 100,000.

Just imagine the consequences of a transport accident involving nuclear fuel containing massive amounts of radioactivity occurring as it travels through the most congested cities of 43 States.

Mr. Speaker, let us not put millions of our Americans or our environment at risk. Vote no on S. 1287.

I yield back S. 1287, a plan to transport nuclear waste that only serves to jeopardize the health and the welfare of every American.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GEKAS) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, March 20, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on March 20, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits a proposed Agreement with Bangladesh on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

MARTHA C. MORRISON,  
*Deputy Clerk of the House.*

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-213)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153 (b), (d)) (the Act), the text of a proposed Agreement Between the United States of America and the People's Republic of Bangladesh to extend the Agreement for Cooperation Between the United States of America and the People's Republic of Bangladesh Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy signed at Dhaka, September 17, 1981 (the Agreement for Cooperation).