

## SENATE—Monday, January 22, 2001

The Senate met at 10:00 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

O God of new beginnings, give us minds open to Your fresh vision and hearts ready to be warmed by the glow of Your presence. Open our ears to hear Your admonition, *Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit*—Zechariah 4:6.

Remind us all that it is not by human strategies or clever power-brokering that Your work is done but by the grace, guidance, and gifts of Your Spirit. Help the Senators to humbly ask for and to willingly receive the supernatural endowments of Your wisdom, discernment, insight, and courage. You alone can make good leaders great leaders. May You grant the Senators such lodestar magnetism that there can be no other explanation for their dynamic words and lives than that they have been with You and have decided to live in the flow of Your Spirit.

Free them from the limits of self-reliance. Surprise them with what You can do with leaders who are totally reliant on Your spiritual reinforcement and resilience. Fill this Chamber with Your glory and the Senators with Your grace. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JUDD GREGG, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, 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.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader is recognized.

### BEGINNING OF THE 107TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as always, it is good to see you present and ready for a new beginning. I think we have a new opportunity in this 107th Congress. Again, I extend appreciation to our Chaplain for the spiritual leadership he provides to the Senate, all Senators and our Senate family.

I see the distinguished Democratic whip, Senator REID from Nevada, is on the floor also ready to go to work. I ap-

preciate the work he did in the last Congress and look forward to working with him this year. We are now at a stage in our country's history where we will be able to take a new look at what we want to do for the benefit of all of our people. We have completed the election, we have completed the inauguration, and now we begin to get down to business.

I am pleased today that we will have an opportunity to go down with leaders of both parties from both the House and the Senate to meet with the new President to begin to discuss the agenda and how he would like to proceed and how we would like to proceed in our own way.

### SCHEDULE

This is the first day for bills to be introduced. The Senate will then have a period of morning business until 3 p.m. for the purpose of general statements, most of them, of course, with respect to the bills introduced.

As previously announced, there will be no rollcall votes today. Votes, if necessary can be expected during this week's session regarding the confirmation of the President's Cabinet nominees. Senators will be notified as votes are scheduled. I expect there could be a vote or two scheduled on Tuesday, perhaps also on Wednesday, but we will give Members specifics on that once we have had an opportunity to consult with leaders on the Democratic side of the aisle.

I also thank all the Senators for their willingness to allow us to move seven of the President's nominees through confirmation on Saturday. There had been some indication that perhaps recorded votes would be necessary, but after a great deal of working back and forth and the fact that Senator DASCHLE was willing to be supportive of moving the nominees through quickly, we were able to get that done. I think that was a wise decision on behalf of myself and I know the new President is glad six members of his team have already been sworn in and the seventh will probably be sworn in today, especially those dealing with national security issues, economic issues, and even the new Energy Secretary who will have to immediately begin to address some of the energy needs in this country. I think we are off to a good start.

We will have the first 30 minutes I believe on this side of the aisle, and then the second 30 minutes goes to the Democratic side. Traditionally, we introduce the first five, the majority party introduces the first five, and

then the other side does the next five, and back on this side for five more, and back to the other side. Then any Senators who wish would be able to offer their bills after that.

I notice the Senator standing. Before I go further, I am happy to yield to Senator REID.

Mr. REID. If the majority leader would yield for a brief statement, I say to the leader I hope during this coming year, he will look at what happens here that is positive in nature. I was very happy to hear the majority leader talk about what we did last Saturday, in one fell swoop, approving seven of the Cabinet positions given to us by the President.

There will be times during this year that we won't be approving seven major nominations or doing anything that is that large of a step. I think there is a spirit of bipartisanship. I have to say it was generated and improved by the work of the two leaders in allowing us to have the committee structure as indicated.

I think there is a good feeling on both sides of the aisle that we can get things done. As the year proceeds, when there are things that don't go the way of the majority, with Vice President CHENEY making that majority, I hope he would reflect on those things we do that are positive in nature.

This is a legislative body. To get things done we have to compromise. Legislation is the art of compromise. I hope we can maintain this feeling of bipartisanship that we now have. There is no reason we cannot do that, especially if we look at things done here as the glass being half full rather than half empty.

I have told the leader personally how much I appreciate what he has done. I look forward to a very fruitful legislative year for our country.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Nevada for his comments. That is why I did make specific mention of the fact that we confirmed seven of the nominees on Saturday. That was a very good gesture, very positive gesture. I had noted earlier that 8 years ago we had confirmed three of then-President Clinton's nominees the first day and all of the rest of his nominees the second day except one, which we did have a recorded vote on subsequently. But I thought in this case the fact that we moved seven was very good. I think as long as we can, and as many times as we can find a bipartisan way to work together, we should do that and we will do our best to do that.

Back to the schedule today of introducing bills, the leadership may opt in