CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

I further ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, that the President be immediately notified, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano, Jr., 0000

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Tim S. McClain, of California, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2001

Mr. DeWINE. On behalf of Majority Leader Lott, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn under the provisions of the adjournment resolution H. Con. Res. 93 until 12 noon on Monday, April 23, 2001. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal or proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 2 p.m. with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions; Senator Durenbin or his designee, 12 noon until 1 p.m.; Senator Thomas or his designee, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, again, on behalf of Majority Leader Lott, I announce on Monday at 2 p.m. the Senate will begin the appointment of conference process with respect to the budget resolution. A vote is not necessary with respect to those motions, and therefore no votes will occur during Monday’s session.

Also, during that week, the Senate may be expected to consider S. 350, the brownfields bill, as well as other authorization bills that may be cleared.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. DeWINE. I ask unanimous consent that committees have between the hours of 12 noon and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, to hold committee-reported legislative and executive items.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DeWINE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 93 following the remarks of Senator Byrd.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, I thank the Chair and I thank the distinguished Senator from Ohio.

PRAISE FOR BUDGET MANAGEMENT

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, allow me to express my appreciation to Mr. Domenici and Mr. Conrad for the excellent way in which they handled the concurrent resolution on the budget. They were fair, they were considerate, and they were very skillful in their performance. I also thank our two leaders, Mr. Lott and Mr. Daschle, for the excellent guidance they gave through their respective caucuses. I also thank my friend, the senior Senator from Alaska, who is presiding over the Senate, for his friendship and for his excellent leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee. I wish him and his lovely wife and family, especially for Lily, a happy Easter holiday.

EASTER

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, some years ago I read a story by Tolstoy titled, “How Much Land Does A Man Need?” Inasmuch as a considerable time has gone by since I last read this story, perhaps I shall say at the beginning that I am largely summarizing the story.

The story told of a man who had land hunger. He had orchards and vast other properties, but he could never get enough land. One day there stood in his presence a stranger who promised him all the land that he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. The conditions were that he would have to start at sunrise and that he could travel all day and buy as much land as he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. He would be required to return to the starting point just as the Sun went down, but he had overtaxed his strength and he fell dead on the spot.

The stranger, who was called Death, said: “I promised him all the land he could cover. You see how much it is: 6 feet long, 2 feet wide. I have kept my pledge.” The servant dug the grave for him.

The moral of the story is this: that the love of material things and the greed for gain shrivel the soul and leave the life a miserable failure at last.

As we approach the blessed season of Easter, it seems to me to be appropriate to reflect a bit about these things which are passed when compared with discussions concerning budget resolutions, taxes, projected surpluses, and so on. But once in a while I think it is good to return to the