entirely of helium, without protons or atoms, a universe without stars, or a universe that collapsed back in upon itself before the first moments of its existence were up. Even such basics of life as oxygen and water depend upon “fine-tuning” at the subatomic level.

Think for a moment about the very nature of water, H2O, which is so vital to life. Unique among the molecules, water is lighter in its solid form than in its liquid form. Ice floats. Every country boy knows that—a country boy like me. I learned that long time ago that ice floats—not just Ivory soap, but ice floats. If it did not float, the oceans would freeze from the bottom up, killing all forms of life therein, and the Earth would now be covered with solid ice.

Witness the vast order that pervades the universe! Could random variation have, even in the longest stretch of the imagination, created such magnificent order in the universe? Could chance have hit upon the order that we see all around us? To believe that it could is to believe that a monkey with a typewriter would eventually type the complete works of Shakespeare. But would he? Would he not more likely produce an infinity’s worth of gibberish? Regardless of the number of days or the length of time available, what monkey could ever provide a single day’s worth of typing Shakespeare—by random, by accident, by chance—let alone the complete works? The works of Shakespeare are complex enough, but they are small potatoes compared to the universe.

Random selection is not the magic bullet that some biologists would hope. One cannot explain away the order in nature by reference to a purely random process. To pretend otherwise is the stuff of science fiction.

Mr. President, as we depart this city in the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for he maketh me to lie down in green pastures and restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the path of righteousness for his name’s sake.

Mr. President, as we depart this city for the holidays, let us remember the old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close with the reading of the 23rd psalm:

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
EXECUTIVE CALENDAR
Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority, ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session, and I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of the following nominations, and further that the Senate immediately proceed to their consideration: Chris Spear and Kristine Ann Iverson.

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

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

Chris Spear, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Kristine Ann Iverson, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

NOMINATION OF CHRIS SPEAR
Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today in support of President Bush’s nomination of Chris Spear to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy. I truly believe that President Bush could not have selected a more competent person for this crucial position nor could he have picked a person of better character. Chris served as my Legislative Director for over a year before his nomination. In that time, I found his counsel to be invaluable and of great aid in forwarding my legislative priorities, and I am proud to say that he is not only a former employee but also a good friend. And, I know that I am not alone in wishing Chris well today. I have proudly served on the staffs of my good friends Senator Enzi and former Senator Alan Simpson. I wish Chris the best of luck in his new position and continued success in his career.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.
Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair and I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2001
The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 12 noon on April 23, under the previous order.

Thenceupon, the Senate, at 4:02 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 23, 2001, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS
Executive nominations received by the Senate April 6, 2001:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

THELMA J. ASKEY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, VICE J. JOSEPH GRANDMAISON.

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

The nominations above have been considered and confirmed by the Senate.

CONFIRMATIONS
Executive Nominations Confirmed by the Senate April 6, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PITUSI JINDAL, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE MARGARET ANN HAMBURG, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CHARLES A. JAMIS, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE JOEL I. KLEIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MARIA CINO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL, OF THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE, VICE MAJORE E. SHABING.

IN THE AIR FORCE
The following nominated officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 601:

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN DONALD A. LAMONTAGNE, 0000

To be lieutenant general
LT. GEN LANCE W. LORD, 0000

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN TIMOTHY A. KINNAN, 0000

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN RICHARD V. RENWOLDS, 0000

To be lieutenant general
LT. GEN WILLIAM J. BIGGERT, 0000

To be general
LT. GEN JOHN W. LEE, 0000

IN THE ARMY
The following nominated 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:

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN ROY R. REAUCHAMP, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS
The following nominated officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 601:

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN GARY L. PARKS, 0000

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN MAURY L. GREGG, 0000

To be lieutenant general
MAJ. GEN TIMOTHY E. SEARING, 0000

To be assistant secretary of commerce and director general of the United States and foreign commercial service, vice majore e. sharing.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
THELMA J. ASKEY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, VICE J. JOSEPH GRANDMAISON.