

SENATE—Monday, January 8, 1996

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN W. WARNER, a Senator from the State of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Honorable JOHN W. WARNER, a Senator from the State of Virginia, offered the following prayer:

In the absence of the Chaplain, it is my privilege to read the opening prayer.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me into the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: For Thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table in front of my enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.—Psalm 23.

We close by thanking the Lord for guiding us through this most unusual weather storm, for those families who are suffering as a consequence, and for our troops and others beyond our shores serving in the cause of freedom, especially those in Bosnia. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF THE ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 8, 1996.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished majority leader of the Senate is recognized.

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I thank the staff. I know it was not easy to come here. We are not going to be here but a minute or two, but I thank all the members of our family here, and I appreciate very much their presence.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1996

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 12 noon on Wednesday, January 10, 1996; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for morning business until 12:30, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. I just say for the information of all Senators, we would not expect any rollcall votes on Wednesday. I am not certain what the status of the House will be by Wednesday. They may be in recess subject to the call of the Chair. So it would be my thought that probably on Wednesday there would be very little, if any, business.

BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, we started our negotiations with the White House about 40 minutes ago. I will return to the White House. Again, I think everybody is acting in good faith. We have not reached any agreement. We may not; we may. I do not think anybody knows at this point. But I think as long as there is the spirit of cooperation and credible negotiation, the Speaker and I, and the majority leader in the House, Congressman ARMEY, feel that we should continue negotiating with the President. So we will be doing that for the rest of the afternoon.

(Mr. JEFFORDS assumed the chair.)

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

COMMENDATION FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise just to acknowledge, speaking for myself and I think a great majority of

Senators on both sides of the aisle, and commend our distinguished Republican leader for the leadership he has given this body and, indeed, for the leadership he has given the United States during this most unusual period of the budget. As I read the numerous columns, listen to the press throughout the Nation, I think due recognition is given to our distinguished leader for his role.

Mr. President, I also wish to say that in my own State and in the adjoining areas of the greater metropolitan area of Washington, other chapters of leadership are being written by citizens who are pouring out to help others who might not be as fortunate as a consequence of this storm. The response to our local hospitals by people with 4-wheel drive vehicles has been very dramatic.

Also, I know there are many stories about people helping others, in all types of extreme circumstances with this unusual storm.

Also, Mr. President, I have maintained contact with this institution throughout this period of the storm as a consequence of my role as chairman of the Rules Committee, and I wish to commend the security staff here of the Senate and many others, notably the operators. They came in before the storm and have, frankly, stayed here throughout the storm, sleeping intermittently on couches, to provide the necessary communications between the Senate and its Members and to receive calls from many citizens.

Mr. President, I will have more to say about this after I collect the stories later this week. I commend the Senator for his work.

Mr. DOLE. I thank my colleague from Virginia for his kind remarks. I also would want to compliment the Architect's office and all those responsible for snow removal at the Capitol. All the streets around the Capitol have been cleared and most of the areas in and about the Capitol have been cleared. They have done an outstanding job. I certainly appreciate their efforts, as I said earlier.

Now, maybe being from the Presiding Officer's home State, this is just another snowfall, because Vermont takes these things in stride, but for this area of the country it, I guess, is the fourth largest in history. So it will cause, as the Senator from Virginia said, some suffering in some cases where they are not able to deal with it. I hope that we will be able to get everybody back to work after the one Government shutdown. This Government shutdown is not one Congress or the President is responsible for.

January 8, 1996

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

489

RECESS UNTIL JANUARY 10, 1996
Mr. DOLE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask

that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:07 p.m., recessed until Wednesday, January 10, 1996, at 12 noon.