

meal was mystery meat. Where is the guy in charge? I am going to complain. But the President won't talk to me. In light of Israel's tragedy, cutting Medicare is not the first thing on his mind. I am leaving on a jet plane, don't know when you will get paid again. I am leaving on a jet plane, don't know when you will be paid again.

□ 1015

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 264

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Resolution 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California.

There was no objection.

THE REAL ISSUE

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today's headline really says it all: "Clinton, No to GOP Offer To Keep the Government Open."

Mr. Speaker, last night 48 Democrats joined Republicans, broke ranks and resisted the strong-arm tactics of the left-wing liberal Democratic leadership by voting to keep the Government operating and open, and frankly, also voting to balance the budget.

That is really what this issue is all about. Are the American people going to have a balanced budget? Are the American people going to have a government that lives within its means?

Calls and letters that I am receiving from the folks back home are 4 to 1 in favor of balancing the budget and supporting the Republican Congress.

Kathleen Platek from Manhattan, IL: "You're doing a great job. Hang in there to balance the budget."

Ardele Ommem from Bradley, IL: "Support Republican budget. Keep the Government operating. Tell Bill Clinton to go to work."

Jacqueline Jordan from Mokena: "Balance the budget."

Mr. Speaker, the folks back home are watching. They want the Government to balance the budget. That is what this issue is all about.

ACADEMY AWARD WINNER

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, every year we all await the Academy Awards. It really captures our attention to see who is going to be the winner in all the different categories.

Well, there is one category our Speaker has sewn up. There is absolutely no question that NEWT GINGRICH

has now absolutely sewn up the category of best performance by a child actor this year. There is only one problem. The Speaker is not a child.

Now that this country has paid dearly for his temper tantrum and paid dearly for his shutting down the Congress, shutting down the whole country because of his little peeve, could we get a performance that is more statesman-like? I think that is what this country would really like.

But congratulations, Mr. Speaker. If you wanted to be the best child actor, you got it.

AMERICA IS WATCHING

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

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, today we are here, we have lots of cutesy ideas, we have little statues and we have posters. But, ladies and gentlemen, the people see past that. The people of America know what is stopping this Government.

All your actions here today will not block out in their mind that the Democrats and the President are refusing to work with the Republicans to balance the budget. The President has a chance today to reverse that, and he can sign the new clean CR that we have sent down to the White House. America is watching. The antics on this floor today will not cover up the fact that they want a balanced budget and they want us to hang tough until we do it, for ourselves, for our seniors and for our children. Let us get to it.

COMPROMISE NEEDED IN BUDGET BATTLE

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, if the Republican leadership is so committed to balancing the budget, then why do they not abandon their \$245 billion tax cut? Why is it that seniors, students, and the poor have to sacrifice to balance the budget, but America's wealthiest corporations and insurance companies will get a huge windfall?

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, the GOP is using the balanced budget only as a pretext to wage their feudal class-war against seniors and working families. Why do they not go after the \$500 billion in corporate welfare, as well as make Germany and Japan pay for their own defense?

Mr. Speaker, if the Republicans agree to abandon their tax cuts and eliminate just \$200 billion in corporate welfare, then even I will support their budget.

PRESIDENT CLINTON URGED TO SIGN THE BILL

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, the debate is now clear and the battle is joined. As Paul Harvey has said, Americans hate statistics but Americans know what they expect from us. They want us to put government on a diet and they want us to balance their budget. We are a Nation that gets up early, rolls up our sleeves and gets the job done. To be told that we cannot balance this budget within 7 years is an insult to the intelligence of the American people. You promised to balance the budget in 5 years. Mr. President, if you meant what you said, then sign this bill.

THE HORRIBLE WELFARE BILL

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, with most of the Republican leadership running for the Presidency right now, and running on ego and on meanness, it makes sense that this new majority is sending President Clinton a welfare bill that pushes over 1 million more children into poverty and does nothing, absolutely nothing, to help recipients prepare for jobs that pay a decent wage.

On the other hand, the Democrats have a welfare reform bill that invests in education, in job training, in child care and child support.

Mr. Speaker, when 100 percent of the House Democrats voted for this legislation, we demonstrated that conservatives, moderates, and liberals can agree on reform that guarantees a safety net for children and gets their parents to work.

I ask, why does the crybaby Speaker not cry about real babies? Real babies who are becoming even poorer as a result of this mean-spirited, whining leadership. We must veto this horrible welfare bill.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE TRUTH

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, President Bill Clinton has willfully misled the American public on his plans for the future of America.

During his campaign for President, he said he would support a balanced budget in 5 years. Two years later, he refuses to even consider balancing the budget in seven years.

He said he would end welfare as we know it. Now he says he will veto a bill that ends welfare as we know it. He said he supported tax relief for the American family. But his first budget raised taxes on American families.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton is to truth what Abraham Lincoln was to lying.

The American people should not believe a word he says, because many