

times Bill Clinton does not believe the words he is saying.

As President Clinton continues to refuse to open the Government, I urge the American people to focus on these facts. Republicans are going to keep their promises and offer a real balanced budget. Bill Clinton is going to break his promises and fight any balanced budget.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH and Medicare, the three words you need to understand this mess in Washington. He may really be a crybaby, but NEWT GINGRICH wants to demonstrate he is king of the mountain. And what better way to do that than to issue a royal decree cutting Medicare, even if it takes the taxpayers having to pay for 800,000 Federal employees to have a taxpayer paid vacation. And since the king expects lobbyists to come bearing tribute, it is only natural Speaker GINGRICH would be doing everything he can today to kill our ban on gifts from lobbyists to Members of this Congress just as he killed real lobby regulation last session. And before this week's shutdown and NEWT's paid vacation for 800,000 Federal employees, we already had shut down one institution of this body, shut down with lethargy, shut down with delay.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, point of order. Is it parliamentary to call the Speaker of the House a crybaby?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Such remarks are not in order and Members should refrain from using such language.

The gentleman may proceed in order.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry. Is it proper to refer to the front page of a newspaper that calls him a crybaby?

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, point of order. The chart is demeaning to the House.

Mr. VENTO. Regular order, Mr. Speaker. The gentleman should state his point of order, Mr. Speaker, if he has a point of order.

Mr. HOKE. My point of order is that we are not to have demeaning charts.

Mr. VENTO. Point of order, Mr. Speaker. That is not a point of order.

Mr. HOKE. That is a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman suspend?

The Chair rules it is a legitimate point of order. The Chair also rules that the Members must be respectful of other Members and must avoid such referencing of other Members on the floor.

Mr. HOKE. Would the Chair please instruct the Member to take the chart down?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman must proceed in order.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, so that I may comply with the rules of the House, I understand then that I am not to refer to the Speaker as a crybaby. May I use the term "NEWT's tantrum"?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In answering the gentleman's question, the Chair would point out to the gentleman that the gentleman should be respectful of all Members of the House and the Speaker as well. The gentleman may not use demonstrations to be disrespectful to any Member or to the Speaker.

Mr. DOGGETT. But the Chair is not suggesting that this Daily News "crybaby" front page has to come down at this point?

Mr. HOKE. Regular order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is suggesting that it should be removed if it is intended to bring disrespect toward a Member of the House.

Mr. DOGGETT. It is not on the House, Mr. Speaker. How much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. DOGGETT. With the parliamentary inquiries? Not with my 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. No, with the gentleman's use of time.

Mr. DOGGETT. I thank the Speaker.

BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, last night in an interview, President Clinton was asked this question by Dan Rather: "Are you saying, flat out, that you will veto a bill sent to you that contains only the insistence to balance the budget, you'll veto that?"

The President said, "Yes."

Mr. Speaker, the President has divulged what Republicans in Congress have been saying all along. That is, President Clinton is too closely aligned with the liberal Washington establishment to do what is right for the American people. He is more concerned about spending more money on Government than balancing the budget, and he is more concerned about bureaucracy than our children's future.

The responsibility for this Government rests squarely on the shoulders of President Clinton. He asked for a clean bill. He has one. Now he says he will veto it.

Folks back home have been calling me to hang in there, balance the budget. Well, now it is time for the folks back home to call President Clinton. The number is 202-456-1414.

A GRAVE ERROR

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Acting Speaker, I have not myself been a great defender of the real Speaker. Indeed, I thought the American people were right when they found him to be the most unpopular elected official in America.

But yesterday I was ready to jump to his defense. I do not think people should be disrespectful of the Speaker. When I heard people suggest that Speaker GINGRICH had said that he was going to be tougher in negotiations and do more to shut down the Government because the President had been rude to him, I was ready to leap to his defense.

I said, how can you accuse Speaker GINGRICH, as much as I disagree with him on policy, of being so petty, of being so personal as to say that because the President did not distract himself from the Middle East peace process to come and talk to him and take his mind off having to sit with some other Republicans, how could you claim that this man would then use that as a reason to help shut down the Government?

Of course we have this problem because the Republicans have not passed the appropriations bills. It is their own lack of ability that has led the Health and Human Services Department and the Labor Department not to be there. To compound that with insensitivity is a very grave error.

CHARACTER OF MORNING'S DEBATE

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, what is incredible about this debate this morning, if we call it a debate, is that what we see finally is that the Democrat rhetoric has been reduced simply to petty, the pettiest of ad hominem attacks on the personality of the Speaker.

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And they are doing this because of two things: No. 1, they are embarrassed by the fact 48 of their own Members last night, quite correctly, cast their vote, including a couple that have been down here this morning, although they did not mention it.

And, second, because they are out of ideas, they know it has finally come to showing the liberal agenda against the commonsense agenda.

The only difference in the continuing resolution of last night was a 7-year balanced budget, a commitment to come to the same agreement that every one of these people, when they go back to their districts, talk about. This is the moment of truth, 7 years, scored honestly with honest numbers in an honest way, working together.