

dead lay unscalped, and some of them lay thus till the next year when another army came to bury them.

Our women and children were in the town only a mile from the battlefield waiting for victory and its spoils. They wanted white prisoners. The Prophet had promised that every squaw of any note should have one of the white warriors to use as her slave, or to treat as she pleased.

Oh how these women were disappointed! Instead of slaves and spoils of the white men coming into town with the rising sun, their town was in flames and women and children were hunted like wolves and killed by hundreds or driven into the river and swamps to hide.

With the smoke of that town and the loss of that battle I lost all hope of the red men being able to stop the whites.

Historic Conner Prairie farm in central Indiana first purchased by William Conner in August of 1802, in the early pioneer period of Indiana and the Northwest territory. It is on a broad prairie near the White River, north of Indianapolis, just south of what is now Noblesville. His trading post became a landmark on the frontier of central Indiana and the chief market place for Indians in the region. This historic farm was preserved by the Lilly family (of the Eli Lilly Corporation) and is today operated by Earlham College.

Two United States Presidents were associated with Indiana during this pioneer period. Abraham Lincoln moved to southern Indiana in 1816 and spent his boyhood as a Hoosier. William Henry Harrison was appointed governor of the Indiana Territory on May 13, 1800 (after having fought with General Anthony Wayne at the Battle of fallen Timbers and helping construct Fort Wayne). He moved to the territorial capitol of Vincennes on January 10, 1801. Harrison remained in Indiana until September 12, 1812. In 1804 he purchased land which is now Corydon, Indiana. He built a log home and lived there for awhile. All the early settlers in the Corydon area referred to him as "Bill." When a new county was carved out of Knox County, it was thus logical that it would be called Harrison County after the General. He sold to the commissioners one acre and four perches of ground for a public square. That purchase included the square upon which the Old Capitol—Indiana's first capitol and where the first constitution was written—now stands.

TAPS FOR THE CAPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I am here so that a very important death should not go unmourned. Indeed, I must say that if it were not for me, I think it would go not only unmourned but unnoticed. I am talking about the demise of the caps.

Madam Speaker, in 1997, this House passed, along with the other body and it was signed by the President, a piece of legislation, and I have just gone back and read the debates, which touched off a vast orgy of self-congratulation. That bill did two things. First, of all it imposed discretionary spending caps. It said that the amounts we were spending in 1997 on discretionary programs of the Federal Government would be the same amounts

we would spend for the next 5 years. That was widely hailed as the way in which we would get to a balanced budget. We also made serious cuts in Medicare. The caps were going to balance the budget for us. The caps in Medicare were to pay for a capital gains tax cut.

Now it is 1999. With 1997 as the reference point, the wonderful, marvelous Balanced Budget Act, which was a source of such pride to so many of my colleagues especially on the Republican side, lies in complete ruin. It is time to say taps for the caps. The caps of 1997 were to put limits on discretionary spending. They have now become a severe embarrassment. They do not even get talked about. The budget resolution paid some homage to them and was promptly disregarded.

Madam Speaker, the appropriation we are about to pass, the omnibus bill that we are about to pass, absolutely repudiates those caps. Indeed, we do not even hear them talked about. The caps are gone. Many of us felt at the time that the caps were totally and completely unrealistic. We felt that they substantially undervalued government. They did not give us the resources to do important functions that the public wanted done. But we were told by our Republican colleagues that the caps were essential as methods of fiscal discipline.

In less than 2 years, I take it back, 2 years later the caps are gone. They are dead and they die unmourned. They die unnoticed with regard to the 1997 Act. 1999 is the year of Emily Litella: "Never mind." Never mind that we put these caps on. Never mind that we cut Medicare. This has been a year in which we have been undoing it.

That leads me to a problem, Madam Speaker. Certainly, it would be odd to think that thoughtful, knowledgeable, well-informed Members of this House in 1997 would have enacted public policy which 2 years later they would be repudiating and hiding from. Certainly, we could not expect thoughtful Members of this Congress to be doing things and then 2 years later thoroughly repudiating the absolutely foreseeable consequences of their own actions. So there is only one explanation.

Madam Speaker, 2 years ago this House was infiltrated by impostors. Two years ago, taking advantage of the undeveloped state of DNA evidence, people impersonating Members of this House took over the place and foisted on this country cuts in Medicare that nobody today wants to defend and caps that were unrealistic.

This calls, Madam Speaker, for serious investigative work. Where is the gentleman from Indiana and his crack investigative minions in the Committee on Government Reform when we need them? This certainly seems to me to be worthwhile shooting a couple of pumpkins to find out how we got to this situation where the United States House of Representatives was taken over by impostors, by people who pretended to be Members of this House

and passed legislation so negative in its consequences that once the rest of us were able to wrest control back from these invaders, we pretty much got rid of it.

Madam Speaker, there is obviously something lax about our security. There is something that has gone completely wrong when legislation passed in 1997 is celebrated by the people on this floor, and 2 years later the rest of us have to undo it.

So I hope, Madam Speaker, over this break we will try to find ways to prevent any recurrence, because the situation in which people, and we do not know who they were, but in which these masked men and women came in here and replaced the thoughtful Members of this House and inserted themselves into the voting machines and passed irresponsible cuts in Medicare and passed caps that have become a joke, we must not allow that to happen again.

Madam Speaker, eternal vigilance is all that stands between us and a repeat of that 1997 debacle.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ADDRESSING NAZI ASSET CONFISCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, over 50 years ago Nazi Germany began a systematic process of eliminating an entire race. Over 6 million men, women, and children lost their lives in this tragic chapter in human history simply because they were Jewish.

□ 1945

Others were forced to work as slaves in German factories. Some were subjected to brutal experiments, and others had their assets and belongings stolen from them and given to those of Aryan stock or used by the German government in its war effort.

Amazingly, Madam Speaker, these criminal acts of confiscation have yet to be settled. The United States Government is currently involved in negotiations between German companies and Nazi victims here in the United States which could lead to compensation for some of the victims.

I believe the companies which profited from their complicity with the Nazi regime and the Holocaust should pay for their actions. It is absolutely appalling, Madam Speaker, that to this day, German banks and businesses have failed to admit their role in the grand larceny and conspiracy of the Jewish race. Also, they have not returned the fruits of their crimes. It is absolutely inexcusable that German banks and businesses continue to deny their involvement and refuse to compensate the victims.

That is why today, Madam Speaker, I am introducing legislation to allow victims of the Nazi regime to bring suit