

Let the voice of the American people be heard. Let us condemn this unjust and disgraceful decision by the International Court of Justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the Special Order time of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it has been a bad week in Washington. Adding to their laundry list of legislative arm twisting, House Republicans yesterday once again bent democracy to fit their needs by holding a traditional 15-minute vote open for 38 minutes until they were able to change the outcome of the vote to their favor.

It was not an isolated incident of arrogant disregard for the political process by Republican leadership in this Congress. It was an example yesterday of the "modern-day" Republican and their win-at-all-cost style of governance. Never before when the Democrats were in control or when Newt Gingrich was Speaker of the House, never before has this House of Representatives operated in such secrecy.

At 2:54 a.m. on a Friday in March, 2003, the House cut veterans' benefits by three votes. At 2:39 a.m. on a Friday in April, the House slashed education and health care by five votes. At 1:56 a.m. on a Friday in May, the House passed the tax cut bill, weighted especially towards millionaires, by a handful of votes. At 2:33 a.m. on a Friday in June, the House passed the Medicare privatization bill by one vote. At 12:57 a.m. on a Friday in June, the House eviscerated Head Start by one vote. And then, after returning from summer recess, at 12:12 a.m. on a Friday in October, the House voted \$87 billion for Iraq. Always in the middle of the night, always after the press had passed their deadlines, always after the American people had turned off the news and gone to bed.

What did the public see? At best, Americans read a small story with a brief explanation of the bill and the vote count in the Saturday newspaper. And people here, the Republican lead-

ership, knows that Saturday is the least read newspaper of the week.

What did the public miss? They did not see the House votes, which normally take 15, 17, sometimes 20 minutes, they did not see them dragging on for as long as one hour as members of the Republican leadership trolled for enough votes to cobble together a Republican victory. They did not see GOP leaders stalking the floor for whoever was not in line. They did not see the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT); they did not see the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), majority leader; they did not see the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), majority whip coerce enough Republican Members, arm-twisting them, berating them sometimes, threatening them sometimes, offering them things sometimes. They did not see them switching their votes to produce the desired results. In other words, they did not see the subversion of democracy.

Then in November they did it again. The most sweeping changes in Medicare in its 38-year history were forced through the House at 5:55 on a Saturday morning. The debate started at midnight. The roll call began at 3 o'clock late Friday night/early Saturday morning. Most of us voted with this plastic card that we were given within the 20 minutes allotted. Normally the Speaker would have gavelled the vote. The vote would be completed. But not this time because the bill was losing.

By 4 a.m., the bill had been defeated, 216 to 218. Still the Speaker refused to gavel the vote closed. Then the assault began. The gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT); the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY); the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT); the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the Committee on Ways and Means chairman; and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN), the Committee on Energy and Commerce chairman, all searched the House floor for Republican Members to bully.

I watched them surround the gentleman from Cincinnati, Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), trying first a carrot, then a stick. He believes what he does. He remained defiant. He showed his integrity. Next they aimed at the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), retiring congressman, and these are his words as I tell this story, whose son is running to succeed him. They promised support if he changed his vote to "yes." They promised \$100,000 for his son's campaign. They said if he refused, they threatened his son's future.

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He stood his ground, again showing integrity and courage.

Many of the two dozen Republicans who voted against the bill had fled the floor. One Republican headed into the Democratic cloakroom. I saw her there about 5:30.

By 4:30, the browbeating had moved into the Republican cloakroom, out of

sight of the C-SPAN cameras and out of sight of the insomniac public. Republican leaders woke President Bush, a White House aide passed a cell phone from one recalcitrant Republican Member to another.

At 5:55, two hours and 55 minutes after the roll call had begun, twice as long, twice as long, as any roll call had ever taken in this House of Representatives, two western Republicans emerged from the cloakroom. They walked down this aisle, ashen and cowed, to the front of the Chamber. They picked up cards on this table, they picked up a green card, they surrendered their card to the Clerk, the Speaker gavelled the vote closed, and Medicare privatization passed.

You can do a lot in the middle of the night, under the cover of darkness.

That is what the Republicans did again this week. You wonder how they are going to violate democracy in the weeks ahead as we preach democracy in Iraq and around the world.

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

(Mr. OXLEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ECONOMIC POLICIES OF CURRENT ADMINISTRATION WORKING

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, each month the Joint Economic Committee has the opportunity to receive job growth data from the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This month, the JEC was pleased to receive good news; fortunately, good news of two kinds: First, many good paying jobs are being created in large numbers in the U.S. economy; and, second, job growth continues at a rapid rate.

The June payroll employment increases pushed the total employment gains since August to 1.5 million jobs. According to the new data released a week ago by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth continues today as the payroll employment increased by 112,000 jobs in June.

During the past few days, however, some have contended that most of the recent employment gains are in low wage jobs. Quite the contrary is true. Occupations that are relatively well paid accounted for over 70 percent of the net increases in employment between June of 2003 and June of 2004.

Although this does not mean that all of the jobs that were created in these categories were high-paying, most of them were. The jobs in these occupational categories are generally highly paid. It does indicate that most of the recent employment gains have not