

CONTINUING THE QUIZ

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE took the same quiz and he had a different answer: D, leave school before finals are over.

Desperate times demand desperate actions, and it is little wonder that Mr. DOLE would decide to distance himself from this Gingrich Congress. After all, this is a Congress that does not seem to learn its lessons. It is a Congress that has failed, that failed last year when it set out to cut Medicare in order to provide tax breaks for the rich. It failed last year when it got government shutdown fever and took its political shenanigans to the extreme of costing taxpayers \$1.5 billion.

It failed even yesterday when once again it refused to give America a raise. Today the failure is that it has not learned those lessons, and it is back with a bad old budget that proposes to cut Medicare, that still has tax breaks, that still has cuts in education. The real failure is the failure to learn, and it is little wonder that BOB DOLE left.

PASS THE KASICH BUDGET

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, listening to my colleague from Texas brings to mind his first comment with reference to the majority leader in the other body. I think that the President should follow Senator DOLE's example and he too should resign so we could have a good campaign.

My good friend from Texas in his litany, in which he got a little bit tripped up, still follows this simple philosophy: If the Federal Government takes more of the everyday American's paycheck, it is good. If the Washington bureaucrats have more and more and more of your money, Mr. Speaker, it is good. To our friends on the other side, that is justice.

Mr. Speaker, nothing could be further from the truth. In the midst of all the arcane arguments offered by the liberal side, remember one thing. We have to save this country for today's seniors and for generations yet unborn, and we do not do so by engaging in playground taunts and failing to own up to the serious problems we confront as a nation. Pass the Kasich budget. Reject the old-style order.

DOLE LEAVES EXTREMIST CONGRESS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I heard what my colleague from Arizona just said. The bottom line is the President is not leaving. He is not going any-

where, because he has to stay here and protect the average American from the hurt that is being inflicted by this Republican extremist Congress. What BOB DOLE knew and we all know is that he could not stick around because, after this budget was unveiled again last week, the one we are going to be voting on again, he realized that the same old song, if you will, of cutting Medicare, cutting Medicaid, trying to cut back on education and also on environmental protection was not something that the American public wanted to hear. They realize that they are being hurt severely by this Republican plan.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is environmental enforcement is going to be cut back. Educational programs are not going to be cut back. Educational programs are not going to be available to the average American. Of course, for seniors, they have to suffer once again under the Republican proposal to cut back on Medicare and change Medicare so they will not have choice of doctor. They will be paying more out of their pocket or maybe they are going to be forced into a managed care system that they do not like.

So BOB DOLE had to leave; he could not live with the extremist agenda. The President will stay and protect the average American.

PROMISES KEPT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton is fooling the American people by saying that he is reforming the Government and cutting down on big Government spending.

By Clinton's own numbers, he would increase discretionary spending next year by \$8 billion. Bill Clinton is increasing the size of the Government, increasing its power over your life, and he's paying for it with the taxpayer's own money.

Bill Clinton has vetoed tax cuts for working families and vetoed welfare reform twice. He claims to be for working families and for tax relief. He vetoed both of these when he vetoed the balanced budget.

Mr. Speaker, the next time you hear Bill Clinton talking about balancing the budget and cutting taxes, he is not doing this. His 1997 budget is proof that he is increasing Federal spending and raising taxes. He increases Washington bureaucracy and creates 14 new Federal programs. Bill Clinton is protecting big Government and the status quo. Whose promises has he kept?

DOLE LEAVING SCENE OF THE CRIME

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE can run but he cannot hide. For

the last year and a half, BOB DOLE has led this Congress to cut Medicare, cut education, destroy the environment, attack a woman's right to choose, and pander to the gun lobby.

Why is BOB DOLE leaving the scene of the crime? Because he is getting caught in the crossfire, minimum wage, health care, Medicare. He knows what he should do but he cannot. The Republican right will not let him. Senator DOLE is caught in the right wing's claws, and the reach of the right is long, and their hold is tight. Make no mistake about it. Leaving Washington will not break the Gingrich grip, BOB DOLE. BOB DOLE can run but he cannot hide.

MEDICARE

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, this is not about the left wing, this is not about the right wing. Today as we stand here, it is not about BOB DOLE or NEWT GINGRICH or Bill Clinton. This is about Medicare; not mediscare, Mr. Speaker, but Medicare. We are not taxing Medicare, we are not cutting Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, let us tell the truth about Medicare. We want to stand up for the seniors because the system is going bankrupt. This debate has been so politicized and that is so wrong. We have to stand up for seniors in our country. We have to make changes in the system because it is going bankrupt.

The President just this week said, well, the press made me do it. The press made me say cut. Finally it has been acknowledged by the President we are not cutting the system. We need to change the system. We need to put aside politics. We need to quit talking about the Speaker or the majority leader or the President and stand up for senior citizens in this country, do the right thing, make some changes in the system to protect seniors.

We are increasing Medicare. We said that last year; we were telling the truth. People can distort and lie louder. We can tell the truth longer.

CORRECT THE TRADE IMBALANCE

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, last year over trade ripoffs the White House threatened Japan. After the smoke cleared, Japan laughed all the way to the bank. In fact, Japan now owns all of the top 10 banks in the world. This year the White House is threatening China. The soap opera continues. Threats to Japan, threats to China.

The truth is the White House is talking like John Wayne and performing like Barney Fife. There is only one way to get the attention of these Chinese dictators that are destroying American

jobs, and that is a 2 by 4 right between the eyes. Neither party will balance the budget as long as we compete for \$5 an hour jobs.

REPEAL GAS TAX INCREASE

(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, I strongly believe that Americans should be able to earn more, keep more and do more with their families, their churches and communities. In that regard we are looking toward relief to help working families.

Specifically, we are taking the lead in repealing the President's harmful gas tax increase, a gas tax increase which is costing taxpayers \$4.8 billion a year. What is the President doing? Well, he is calling for a government investigation. But keep in mind that the era of big government is over. President Clinton said so. The increase in revenues from the President's tax increase is funding more big government spending, not the maintenance of our Nation's highways, our roads and bridges, as is historically the case.

Mr. Speaker, the worst thing is that this tax increase especially hurts lower income families. According to the Joint Economic Committee, the lowest 20 percent of taxpayers pay 7.1 percent of their income on gasoline while the top 20 percent pay only 1.6 percent. In other words, lower income families in America pay four times as much as others. I strongly urge the repeal of this tax.

ESCAPING A FAILED CONGRESS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE's decision to quit the Senate to campaign full time for President is like leaving the scene of an accident. BOB DOLE and NEWT GINGRICH have been the leaders of this extremist Congress for a year and a half. Now, after 18 months of doing harm to working people in this country, cutting Medicare and Medicaid, education and the environment, Senator DOLE is desperate to disassociate himself from his own party, from his own failed Congress. It is a desperate move to escape.

Let me read a quote from Senator DOLE in Congress Daily. He says he is leaving because he is tired of the minimum wage. "My God. I'm tired of listening to minimum wage. Isn't there anything else in the world?"

Mr. Speaker, let me tell the Presidential candidate that on the road, on the campaign trail, 80 percent of the American people support a minimum wage increase. Seniors do not want to see the Medicare cuts for tax breaks for the wealthy. This is what candidate DOLE will find on the campaign trail. He cannot escape his failed Congress.

□ 0930

ADMINISTRATION'S NEW DRUG STRATEGY: OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration's latest drug strategy is nothing more than old wine in new bottles.

By emphasizing demand at the expense of supply, interdiction and eradication, while drug abuse soars among our young is a strategy destined for failure.

Spending three times as much for treatment and corrections as on interdiction and international activities, including eradication is just plain wrong.

The illicit drugs that are destroying our neighborhoods and youth, originate primarily overseas. We must eradicate these addictive substances at their source and interdict them before they reach our shorelines and cause addiction.

We need to fight both supply and demand simultaneously. We must not shortchange one for the other.

Drugs not only kill our young people, and cause violent crime, but also threaten our national security as well as the stability of democracy in many countries overseas. Let's wage a real war.

REJECT BUDGET REHASH

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, when you prepare a budget, if you do not allocate as much funds as are projected, that is called a cut. You can ask the generals when you talk about defense spending. If you do not allocate projected funds, it is called a cut.

The same is true in Medicare, and that is why once again I would say that in fact the Republicans are cutting Medicare. Their budget cuts Medicare by \$167 billion. That is \$44 billion more than the President's budget, and therein lies the differential. The fact of the matter is that under the Republican budget, another rehash of their last year's proposal, they will threaten seniors' health security.

They want to talk about your future. I want to talk about your parents. Your parents are going to have to pay Medicare premiums that are going to go up under the Republican budget proposal. Your parents are going to have higher out-of-pocket costs under the proposal that the Republicans are advocating. Hospitals are going to close that your parents would use because the Republicans have not allocated adequate funds. There is a difference. We should reject the Republican budget rehash.

WE MUST PROTECT MEDICARE WHILE SLOWING ITS GROWTH

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare Program is going bankrupt and the problem is worse than we were originally told. This is not a partisan issue. For me this is a personal issue. My wife and I are both senior citizens and will depend on Medicare. We must find a solution that protects Medicare for current retirees and future beneficiaries.

We all agree that we must slow the growth of Medicare. Our plan to save Medicare and the President's plan only differ by just 1.4 percent. By spending more carefully, we can find \$24 billion of waste and fraud over the next years. Any senior citizen can tell you a personal illustration of waste in the Medicare Program. Seniors across America know there are problems with Medicare. They do not want us to attack each other and turn this into a partisan battle.

Seniors know that Medicare is in trouble; they expect us to fix it. They do not want a political issue; they want a Medicare solution.

LEAVING CONGRESS

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, over the last couple of weeks Senator BOB DOLE has looked at the failed record of this Republican Congress that he and Speaker GINGRICH have led for the last 18 months, and BOB DOLE is now following the American people, because the American people have looked at the record of this Congress and the intent of the Republicans in their efforts to slash Medicare, to slash Medicaid, hurting working families, refusing to raise the minimum wage, taking school lunches away from children, and savaging the environment, and the American public is running away from the Republican congress in overwhelming numbers.

BOB DOLE has now decided he is going to run away from the Republican Congress, that he is going to get away from this Congress that has represented the worst that the American people have come to expect from their Government, not the best, the Congress that seeks to continue to divide America, not bring America together.

BOB DOLE has looked at the Congress and is running away. The American people should continue to do the same.

ATTACK WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE IN MEDICARE

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