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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear Father, in the Scriptures You have called people to pray for their leaders that they may lead, "A quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and reverence." We are thankful that throughout the land citizens began their day with this prayer. We are the recipients of this heartfelt intercession. Now our own prayer is that we may cooperate in receiving Your answer to the millions of prayers prayed for us. It is a source of awe and wonder that You have placed us in positions of authority and made us the focus of Your blessing and power. We especially think of the prayer that we may lead godly lives. As we reflect on this magnificent possibility we realize that it would mean that we make knowing You the primary priority of our lives. More than knowing about You or having a second-hand acquaintanceship with You, we renew our commitment to really know You in the intimacy of an honest, open, receptive relationship of faith and trust. With deliberate intentionality we seek Your answers to our problems. O God, make us examples to the Nation of what it truly means to live a godly life to Your glory and honor through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Alabama, the manager of the bill, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I have some informa-

tion here. For the information of all Senators, this morning the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the Treasury-postal appropriations bill. There will be 15 minutes of debate time, followed by two consecutive roll-call votes starting at 9:45 a.m. The first vote will be on the Hatch amendment regarding the White House Travel Office, to be immediately followed by a vote on or in relation to the Reid amendment on the same subject.

Following these votes, the Senate will consider the remaining amendments in order to the Treasury-postal appropriations bill, according to a unanimous-consent agreement reached last evening. It is hoped that the Senate can complete action on that bill by early afternoon.

Following disposition of the Treasury-postal bill, the Senate is expected to turn to consideration of the Chemical Weapons Convention under the parameters of a previous consent agreement. It is possible that the Senate could complete action on that matter today, if debate time is yielded back. If the Senate cannot complete action on the Chemical Weapons Convention today, then votes on that matter can be expected to take place on Friday, before noon.

There will be no votes after noon on Friday, in order that the religious holiday can be observed.

I yield the floor.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3756, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3756) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United

States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Kassebaum amendment No. 5235 (to committee amendment on page 16, line 16, through page 17, line 2), to express the sense of the Senate regarding communications between physicians and their patients.

Reid-Levin-Biden modified amendment No. 5256, to refer the White House Travel Office matter to the Court of Federal Claims.

Hatch amendment No. 5257, as modified (to amendment No. 5256), to reimburse the victims of the White House Travel Office firing and investigation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 15 minutes debate, equally divided, on the pending amendments, No. 5257 and No. 5256, with a vote on amendment 5257 to follow immediately thereafter.

The Senator from Utah is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 5257, AS MODIFIED, WITHDRAWN

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as we have it set up, there will be two votes, one on the Hatch amendment and one on the Reid-Levin amendment. I do not see any reason for two votes. I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the Hatch amendment and the total vote be on the Levin amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 5257), as modified, was withdrawn.

Mr. HATCH. I reserve the remainder of our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 5256, AS MODIFIED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, would you advise the Senator from Nevada when I have consumed 3 minutes?

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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