continue to be significant in the years ahead. I pledge to you that I will continue striving to foster compassion and understanding, working not simply to tolerate our differences, but to celebrate them.

Best wishes for a memorable celebration. Bill Clinton.

□ 1300

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the President on his willingness to speak out. It is consonant with the many actions he has taken in a number of areas to ban discrimination and to fight for the right of all Americans, as he said, to be judged on their individual merits, without being held back by some irrational prejudice.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock p.m.) the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOODLING) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Enable us, O gracious God, to translate our noble words and affirmations into acts and deeds of value and worth. Encourage us to transpose our postures of goodness and charity into food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, and peace and security for the troubled. Inspire us to convert our creeds of faith into works of justice and into accomplishments that heal the soul and comfort every person. Bless us, O God, as we seek to be Your people and do those deeds that honor You and serve people in their need. In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WICKER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WICKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 30, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on Monday, June 30, 1997 at 10:45 a.m.:

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 173;

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 649.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, House of Representatives.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF HON. ROBERT L. LIVINGSTON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Betty S. Barnes, staff assistant for the Hon. ROBERT L. LIVINGSTON, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 25, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House that I have been served with a subpoena issued by the District Court for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana.

After consultation with the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance is consistent with the privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

BETTY S. BARNES.

THE LIBERALS AND TAX CUTS

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the last time taxes were cut in the 1980's several things happened. Many people like to call it the Reagan boom. It followed the tough times people faced in the 1970's.

During the Reagan boom, 18 million jobs were created; 18 million jobs were created. Manufacturing production increased by almost 50 percent. These are good-paying manufacturing jobs, Mr. Speaker. Incomes went up across the board. Taken together, we can say that prosperity went up.

Yes, the deficit also went up, but the dirty little secret that one never ever hears the liberals talk about is that spending went up, and spending increases are what caused the deficit to increase.

What about revenues? Why do we not ask the liberals if revenues increased or decreased? They increased.

Why do we not ask them to tell us if tax cuts resulted in revenues going up or going down? They went up.

Why do we not ask them to explain to us how the tax cuts caused the deficit? They did not. Why do we not learn from experience, Mr. Speaker?

CRAFTING A BALANCED BUDGET RESOLUTION

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, now that we have returned from the Independence Day district work period, negotiators between the House and the Senate will get down to business hammering out a final version of the balanced budget resolution. Democrats have argued in favor of tax cuts primarily for the middle class while Republicans seem intent on large tax breaks for their wealthy friends. A recent Treasury Department report indicated that in the last year of the Republican budget proposal, affluent Americans would be the primary beneficiaries of the tax cuts. Over half of the tax cuts would benefit those making nearly a quarter of a million dollars and more. President Clinton's and other Democratic proposals seek to give more back to the middle class. Our tax proposals provide more money for education expenses and for working families.

Mr. Speaker, the budget negotiators must move to lighten the burden on low- and middle-income families if they are to gain the President's approval and not break the promises that were made to working families as part of this budget deal.

SUPPORT H.R. 1917, HARDROCK MINING PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, mining is one of the most important and needed industries in the United States. However, the Bureau of Land Management's decision to enforce a final rule on reclamation bonding of hardrock mineral operations is having a negative impact on large and small miners alike as well as their suppliers, contractors and the economy.

Mr. Speaker, the good news is that I have introduced legislation that will transfer the authority of the Bureau of Land Management to require bonds or other financial guarantees for the reclamation of mineral operations to State governments. Once again the current Federal rule is a mandate of action on the States and does not give them the option of solving local problems at local levels. My bill will allow States to work in cooperation with miners, contractors and suppliers to develop a strategy that will protect our public lands while supporting an industry that every American is dependent upon. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1917, the Hardrock Mining Protection Act of 1997. We must protect the