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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator from the State of Arizona.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer: Gracious God, thank You for Your faithfulness. You bless us beyond our expectations and give us what we need on time, and in time. Today, our prayer is for a much better memory of how You have heard and answered our petitions in the past.

We commit this day to count our blessings. We thank You for the gift of life, for our relationship with You, for Your grace and forgiveness, for our families and friends, for the privilege of work to do well, for problems and perplexities that force us to trust You more, and for the assurance that You can use even the dark threads of difficulties in weaving the tapestry of our lives. Knowing how you delight to bless a thankful person, we thank You in advance for Your strength and care today. Thank You not just for what You do, but for who You are, our blessed God and loving Father. In Your holy name. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative clerk read as follows:
U. S. SENATE,

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 10, 1996.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator from the State of Arizona, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KYL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, today, there is a period for morning business, with the following Senators in control of the designated times: Senator HOLLINGS, 30 minutes; Senator DOMENICI will be controlling the time from 1 to 3:30; Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, from 3:30 to 4:30; Senator COVERDELL, or his designee, from 4:30 to 5:30.

It is hoped that any Senator wishing to speak on the budget resolution conference report will do so today in order to complete action on the budget during tomorrow's session—hopefully before noon—on that matter. Rollcall votes are possible today.

I indicated, I think, on Thursday that we are still trying to clear a number of the nominees. We have cleared some. We have not had much success in the judicial nomination area. I would like, where we can, to dispose of those before I leave the Senate tomorrow. If you want to have a vote, let us have a vote. I hope we can move the nominations that may be on the calendar—maybe with one or two exceptions—so that those people who have been nominated and have had their hearings will be able to pursue their careers.

I have suggested that, if we cannot agree on the package, we can start down the list and go one at a time. If people want to vote, we will vote on judge A, judge B, judge C. That way, at least we can dispose of some of those matters.

It is also my hope today that we can clear for immediate consideration Cal-

endar No. 253, S. 1438. This deals with the World Trade Organization. In fact, it is an agreement I made with President Clinton. We are talking about passage of the GATT agreement. I was concerned about the World Trade Organization and concerned about there not being enough input from Congress. So there was an agreement between myself and Mickey Kantor, the Trade Representative, and the President, that we would pursue legislation to give Congress additional input and permit Congress, in certain cases, to withdraw—or at least initiate proceedings to withdraw—from the World Trade Organization. It was carefully worked out at one time. At one time, it had cleared on both sides. Senator BYRD had a problem, and I think that problem has now been resolved.

I have not asked for much around here, as far as clearing things for myself, although I have done it for other people. I hope we might be able to clear this without amendment today and send it to the House, so the President will have it on his desk for signature—which he is perfectly willing to do.

It is my understanding that a new offer will be made with reference to health reform, the bill that passed this body by a large margin. It is still my hope—maybe only a hope—that we can complete action on that matter, if not today, sometime tomorrow. In any event, it is my hope that we can get the agreement. If I am not here to vote on it, I hope we can have the agreement. It is going to take some give on all sides. We cannot have people dictate to us and attack us up in the Press Gallery and expect to make any progress. I will not engage in that myself. I do not think that advances the cause of what we are attempting to do.

Hopefully, we can reach some agreement on that today. I will do all I can to make it happen. I think there has to be give and take on each side. I think, in this case, the House has been very

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



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