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Senate

The Senate met at 1 p.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

*Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him and He shall bring it to pass. * * * Rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him * * *.*—Psalm 37:5, 7.

Let us pray.

Lord, as we begin this new week, we take these four vital verbs of the psalmist as our strategy for living in the pressure of the busy days ahead. Before the problems pile up and the demands of the day hit us, we deliberately stop to commit our way to You, to trust in You, to rest in You, and wait patiently for You. Nothing is more important than being in an honest, open, receptive relationship with You. Everything we need to be competent leaders comes in fellowship with You. We are stunned by the fact that You know and care about us. We are amazed and humbled that You have chosen us to bless this Nation through our leadership. In response we want to be spiritually fit for the rigorous responsibilities. So, we turn over to Your control our personal lives, our relationships, and all the duties that You have entrusted to us. We trust You to guide us. We seek the source of our security and strength in You. We will not run ahead of You or lag behind but will walk with You in Your timing and pacing toward Your goals. You always are on time and in time for our needs. May the serenity and peace that we feel in this time of prayer sustain us throughout this day. We thank You in advance for a great day filled with incredible surprises of sheer joy. In Your all-powerful name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Good morning, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Today there will be a period of morning business until the hour of 2 p.m. with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each. At the hour of 2, the Senate will begin consideration of S. 1219, the campaign finance reform bill. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate, and under the consent agreement reached last week, a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, S. 1219, will occur at 2:15 tomorrow.

Senators are reminded that in accordance with rule XXII, first-degree amendments may be filed until 2 p.m. today and second-degree amendments may be filed until 12:30 on Tuesday.

This week the Senate will also resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill. I hope the Senate will complete action on this bill as early as possible this week.

Also, we are continuing our efforts to reach some agreement with regard to the consideration of the small-business tax measure and the minimum wage legislation. I wish to emphasize that we hope to get an agreement on that and complete action on the DOD authorization bill and move to the DOD appropriations bill.

In order to achieve that, it is going to take a lot of cooperation from all the Members, all the Senators, between the two leaders, and those who have amendments to offer. So I emphasize once again that we have to move forward on the DOD authorization bill. The chairman will be working on that. Senator THURMOND, from South Caro-

lina, and Senator NUNN, the ranking member, are intent on moving this legislation forward.

I have tried to be considerate of the Senate and the Members' desires to have an opportunity to have supper with their families, have reasonable hours, but from what I saw last week and what I experienced, I do not know if we can continue that. We are going to make progress on DOD authorization on Tuesday and Wednesday. If it means staying late, we are going to do that.

Again, I want to be sympathetic and cooperative with Members on their schedule demands and their desire to be with their families, but if they do not respond in kind, then I, like previous leaders, have no option but to force the Senate to stay late to do its work.

Senators should expect a busy week this week with votes throughout the day every day, including Friday, and there will be, as I said, rollcall votes maybe into the evening in order to get the work done as necessary.

I am pleased that we have been able to reach the unanimous-consent agreement with regard to the consideration of campaign finance reform legislation. I think it is legislation that deserves an opportunity to be debated. We will have that opportunity this afternoon and in the morning, and then we will go to a cloture vote at 2:15.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 2 p.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I observe the absence of a quorum.

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



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