

more active and participated at a higher level than BILL EMERSON.

□ 1230

There is a very important reason for that, Mr. Speaker. BILL EMERSON, as I am sure was stated by my colleagues earlier, loved and revered this institution. He understood the fact that it was the greatest deliberative body known to man. He is one who spent a great deal of time trying to see the view held by the American people shift from what is tragically a corrosive cynicism back to what Will Rogers had, which is really a healthy skepticism. Thomas Jefferson wanted the American people to have a skeptical view of us, he thought that to be very healthy, and Will Rogers, again, said that time and time again.

BILL EMERSON, as one who loved and revered this institution, wanted us very much to get back to that, and that is the reason that BILL EMERSON spent so much time working with us on trying to make this institution more accountable to the American people and trying to make this institution as deliberative as it should be.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would simply like to say that I, of course, had a long and very warm personal relationship with him. I am a native of the "Show Me" State and in fact was just there yesterday. And on several occasions I had the opportunity to visit BILL in his southeastern Missouri district, and I spent time with him here in the Capitol because we were elected together back in 1980, the 97th Congress, a large group of 54 new Republicans to come, and Bill and I were among the two who defeated Democrat incumbent Members of the House of Representatives. So he will be sorely missed.

I have had great opportunities to spend personal time with BILL and his wife Jo Ann and other members of their family and it is a very sad day as we note his passing, and I wish all of his relatives and other friends God-speed.

TRIBUTE TO BILL EMERSON

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

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, there is hanging in the Republican Cloakroom a photograph of BILL EMERSON taken on March 1, 1954, when he was a page here. As all of us know, he served as a page on that fateful day when the House of Representatives was attacked by terrorists, and the photograph shows BILL EMERSON carrying on his shoulders the prone body of Alben Barkley, a Representative here, who was in fact shot during that attack. That was very early on in BILL's congressional career.

When the first Republican House of Representatives, the first Republican majority in 40 years, was sworn in and the gavel was banged in 1995, in Janu-

ary, it was BILL EMERSON who was in the chair. He was the only current Member of the House of Representatives who had been here during the last Republican majority because he had been here as a page. Probably, as a result, no one had more knowledge of this institution; and as so many speakers have pointed out this morning, more care for it, more understanding, and more love for the Congress of the United States.

It is natural for each of us to express ourselves at a time like this by giving a speech on the floor of the House. That is what we do. BILL himself gave many speeches. He was a fine speaker, but, more important than the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, a history of what BILL EMERSON did here, was what those of us who worked with him saw and watched. His example is a powerful one. I am sure BILL would want us all, on the occasion of his death, to do more than to remember him; to do this, to follow his example, to be like him.

Perhaps he would not have thought so highly of himself, as we do, that he would have held himself up as an example for all of us in that way, but BILL had a special quality of being able to disagree, which we do here on the floor every day when we engage one another in debate, without being disagreeable. So each of us can pay tribute to BILL EMERSON today, and all the rest of our days, in no better way than by trying to be a little bit more like him.

PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole under the 5-minute rule:

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; Committee on International Relations; Committee on National Security; Committee on Resources; Committee on Science; Committee on Small Business; and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

BUCK DOES NOT STOP WITH CRAIG LIVINGSTONE ON FILEGATE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the buck on Filegate does not stop with White House political hack Craig Living-

stone, who is now being paid not to work. As William Safire has pointed out, the problem extends to a White House counsel's office bent on stonewalling. But the obstruction goes even higher. On May 9 President Clinton directed his counsel to invoke Executive privilege and thereby conceal certain documents, including the White House request for FBI files on Billy Dale, months after he was fired.

Now, get that, Mr. Speaker. By his own admission, the President knew about the smoking gun document at least as early as May 9, when he invoked Executive privilege for the first time since Watergate, yet he did absolutely nothing at that point to surrender the improperly requested FBI files. They remained in the custody of the White House for weeks after that time.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, there was no justification whatsoever for the assertion of Executive privilege with regard to the FBI file request. And although that document eventually was turned over to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the President continues to assert the privilege with regard to some 2,000 additional documents.

Mr. Speaker, the buck does not stop with Mr. Livingstone, not by a long shot.

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3604) to amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act—the "Safe Drinking Water Act"—and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3604

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. References; effective date; disclaimer.

TITLE I—PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

Subtitle A—Promulgation of National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

Sec. 101. Selection of additional contaminants.
Sec. 102. Disinfectants and disinfection by-products.
Sec. 103. Limited alternative to filtration.
Sec. 104. Standard-setting.
Sec. 105. Ground water disinfection.
Sec. 106. Effective date for regulations.
Sec. 107. Risk assessment, management, and communication.
Sec. 108. Radon, arsenic, and sulfate.
Sec. 109. Urgent threats to public health.
Sec. 110. Recycling of filter backwash.
Sec. 111. Treatment technologies for small systems.

Subtitle B—State Primary Enforcement Responsibility for Public Water Systems

Sec. 121. State primacy.

Subtitle C—Notification and Enforcement

Sec. 131. Public notification.