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Senate

The Senate met at 9 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:

Gracious Father, our morning prayer is like being amazed by deposits in our checking account from unexpected sources. We are astounded by Your goodness. You know what we will need for today and You deposit the required amounts of insight, discernment, and vision in our minds. You fill the wells of our hearts to overflowing with the added courage and determination that are necessary for the demands of today. Even now, we feel fresh strength as Your Spirit energizes our bodies. We should not be surprised. You have promised that, "As your days, so shall your strength be."—Deuteronomy 33:25.

Bless the women and men of this Senate and all who work with and for them that this will be a day in which we draw on Your limitless resources for dynamic leadership. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. BOND. Good morning, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, this morning, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business until 10 a.m. Following morning business, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the legislative branch appropriations bill. After disposition of the legislative branch bill, the Senate will resume consideration of the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations

bill. The majority leader has indicated that he is hopeful that Members will come to the floor during today's session to offer and debate amendments as the Senate attempts to make good progress on the Commerce-Justice-State bill. The Senate may also consider any other legislative or executive items that may be cleared for action.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow the weekly party caucuses to meet.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BOND. Seeing no other Members wishing to speak, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOND). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now be in a period of morning business.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 5 minutes of the time allocated to Senator DORGAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REED. Thank you, Mr. President.

NOMINATION OF JAMES HORMEL

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise this morning to speak briefly on the nomi-

nation of Mr. James Hormel to be the United States Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Mr. Hormel has a distinguished record as a businessperson, as a lawyer, as a former dean of the University of Chicago Law School, and as a philanthropist. His family owns one of the largest agriculture companies in our country.

He has, throughout his distinguished career, been a contributor and supporter of many worthy organizations. His philanthropy is well known throughout the United States. He has contributed significantly to the Catholic Youth Organization, to the United Negro College Fund, Swarthmore College, Breast Cancer Action, and to many, many other associations. He has also served as the alternate representative to the United Nations General Assembly on behalf of our country, the United States of America.

Mr. Hormel's nomination was favorably reported out by the Committee on Foreign Relations and is widely supported here in the U.S. Senate.

Indeed, hundreds of distinguished Americans have favorably commented on his nomination, and they have stated that Mr. Hormel has the ability and skills to successfully represent the United States in Luxembourg.

Now, there are many who are watching this proceeding who would ask, given all these qualifications, why would Mr. Hormel be denied a vote on his nomination to be Ambassador to Luxembourg? The simple answer comes down to the fact of Mr. Hormel's sexual orientation.

There are many—the vast majority of Americans and the vast majority of Senators—who feel that this is irrelevant to the duties that he will perform as Ambassador to Luxembourg, and we should look not to his sexual orientation, but to his record of achievement and to his ability and to his responsibilities throughout his career in

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



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