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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Ben Haden, Changed Lives Ministries, Chattanooga, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

Join me in prayer.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we come in simplicity and honesty. You are God; we are not. Thank You, Lord, for giving to these unique men and women the political gift to be elected and the opportunity to serve You, country, and their constituency. Bless us, Lord, on the inside and make Your will plain, that these Your leaders may lead and legislate to the honor of God and to the glory of this free country.

Bless us, Lord, in this war against terrorism with victory and balance. Humble us and teach us Your greatness, Your love, and Your forgiveness. And bless these our leaders with judgment, vision, and confidence in our future. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, my personal Lord, my personal saviour, and my personal friend. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ETHERIDGE 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR BEN HADEN OF CHANGED LIVES MINISTRIES

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

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome one of Chattanooga, Tennessee's finest citizens, Pastor Ben Haden, to the House of Representatives as our guest chaplain for today. It is very special to introduce Ben, because he is a humble man of God with a ministry that has touched thousands of lives.

Ben's first career was in the newspaper business; but in the middle of his life, Jesus Christ touched his heart and 4 decades of ministry began. He came to First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga in 1967 and quickly gained a reputation for his passion, his heart, and his sermons. His popularity and ability to draw worshipers soon resulted in closed-circuit televisions being set up in the chapel and fellowship hall for overflow crowds.

Not long after coming to First Presbyterian, Ben launched his own radio ministry, "Changed Lives," on a radio station in Chattanooga. This ministry eventually grew to include a television program watched regularly by thousands, including the Reverend Billy Graham.

In March of 1999, Ben stepped down as senior pastor from the First Presbyterian Church to devote his full energies to his radio ministry "Changed Lives."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Father Coughlin for inviting Ben Haden to offer our invocation on this day that the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). The Chair will entertain ten 1-minute speeches on each side.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST ACT NOW TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF BURMA

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, our State Department should urge, as all of us should, the U.N. Security Council to immediately address the ongoing conflict in Burma. Democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi remains disappeared, and the military junta will not disclose her whereabouts.

The so-called Burmese State Peace and Development Council, the SPDC, which is their name for the military junta, uses slave labor, child soldiers, and mass rape campaigns against the people, the exact opposite of bringing peace and development to Burma. Yet the SPDC is now lobbying surrounding governments to gain support for its rule.

The Prime Minister of Thailand has created a road map for peace in Burma, but the plan leaves the brutal dictatorship in power.

What will it take for the international community to act? How many political prisoners must be tortured and ethnic villagers brutally raped and then murdered? How long must somebody be held incommunicado before strong, decisive action against the SPDC is taken?

Mr. Speaker, the international community must act now to help the people of Burma.

UNFUNDED FEDERAL MANDATE: STOP THE FEDS FROM PASSING THE BUCK FOR EDUCATION REFORM

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to demand that the Congress and

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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the President stop passing the buck on education reform to our States and local communities.

Last week the House Committee on Rules held a hearing to consider the issue of unfunded mandates. As I have noted on several occasions on the House floor, the Bush administration's \$20 billion cut to the No Child Left Behind Act has created a massive unfunded Federal mandate. As the former superintendent of my State's public schools, I know firsthand that unfunded mandates will cause real pain at the local level.

I believe the Federal Government must live up to its obligation to fund education reform. It is simply wrong to pass a piece of legislation that says we are going to give you all that money to Leave No Child Left Behind and then leave the money behind, while still forcing schools to achieve new standards.

I have introduced legislation that requires full funding of the No Child Left Behind Act, and I urge my colleagues to join me in stopping the Federal practice of passing the buck to States and local communities.

HELP FROM UNEXPECTED PLACES

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Bible asks the question, "From where does my help come from?" And sometimes help comes from unexpected places, like an anonymous civilian in Mosul who brought the sadistic sons of a dictator to justice yesterday; and like the words of a former President supporting the Bush administration's assertion that Saddam Hussein likely had weapons of mass destruction.

It was last night on CNN, former President Bill Clinton said, "When I left office, there was a substantial amount of biological and chemical material unaccounted for. That is, at the end of the first Gulf War we knew what he had. We knew what was destroyed in all the inspection processes. We bombed for 4 days in 1998, may have gotten it all, may have gotten half of it, may have gotten none of it, but we didn't know."

"So," President Clinton said, "I thought it was prudent for the President to go to the U.N."

And he went on to say, "If you don't cooperate, the penalty could be regime change, not just continued sanctions." So said former President Bill Clinton.

Thank you, President Clinton, for confirming what President Bush told America: Saddam Hussein had biological and chemical weapons and confronting him was prudent.

HADLEY? HARDLY!

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Steven Hadley, the Deputy National Security Advisor, tried to take the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Advisor off the biggest hook in town by accepting the blame for the President falsely claiming in the State of the Union that Iraq was trying to go nuclear.

Hadley says he had "forgotten" the previous memos from Director Tenet discounting an Iraq-Niger uranium connection and neglected to remove this information from the speech.

So the American people are being asked to believe that the bogus major cause of war against Iraq eliminating a nuclear threat was advanced because a lower-level functionary simply overlooked a memo from a higher functionary, and that the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Advisor were all blissfully unaware of the fact that false nuclear claims they were circulating about Iraq were simply the result of a memo misfiled by a national security clerk named Hadley.

Hadley? Hardly. Hadley? Hardly. Hadley? Hardly.

LOSS OF A HERO

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, the State of Texas lost a hero last week. Tex Schramm, the former Dallas Cowboys president and general manager, died at the age of 83.

Mr. Schramm's passion focused on the Dallas Cowboys, but he was always looking out for the entire NFL. He had ideas ranging from using the phrase "America's team" to letting officials correct calls through instant replay.

In 1991 he became the first team executive elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

His partnership with Coach Tom Landry produced 20 straight winning seasons, from 1966 to 1985, 18 playoff appearances, 13 division titles, five Super Bowl appearances, and two championships.

Tex Schramm was a significant force in the AFL-NFL merger in 1966; and he was the original chairman of the league's competition committee, a position he held from 1966 to 1988.

Instant replays and sideline radios in quarterback helmets were his ideas, but he also promoted the six-division, wild card playoff concept and will be forever remembered for introducing America to the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders.

To the man who left a hole in the Texas stadium roof so God could watch his team, Tex, I know you are watching too.

U.S. TRADE POLICIES ARE FAILING

Mr. DEFAZIO. Today Congress will vote on and approve so-called free

trade agreements with Singapore and Chile. We find our Nation sunk in the hole of a \$500 billion trade deficit, and Congress is going to get out the shovels and dig a little deeper.

Mr. Speaker, 251,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost so far this year, exported from the United States; 53,000 jobs in May alone. We have a record 136.1 trade deficit for the first 3 months on a track to \$550 billion trade deficit this year.

Our trade policies are failing our workers and our Nation and our future. And the response of this administration and this Congress is a collective yawn and a vote to continue down the same disastrous path. It is pathetic.

RECENT LEGISLATION CREATING LARGER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that a lot of our recent legislation will create even larger government programs. We face large deficits; yet we continue to spend, and I am concerned.

Recently we had several amendments here on the House floor to reduce spending by 1 percent across the board, yet they failed. We have increased spending on education, agricultural subsidies, and AIDS in Africa, and a tax rebate for those who do not pay taxes. Now, honest men will call this income redistribution. We also have a new prescription drug benefit close at hand.

If we continue to add new government programs, we will create even a bigger and bigger government. Instead, we should try to solve our problems with conservative and free market principles, that is, bring choice, competition, and personal responsibility to our legislative initiatives.

□ 1015

AMERICAN NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, it has been 803 days since President Bush and the Republican Party embarked on their economic plan for our country. During that time the national debt has increased by \$1,082,452,325,550. According to the website for the Bureau of Public Debt at the U.S. Department of Treasury, yesterday at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, the Nation's outstanding debt was \$6,722,777,711,908. Furthermore, in fiscal year 2003, interest on our national debt, or the "debt tax," is \$277,768,492,816 through June 30, 2003.

IT IS TIME FOR ACTION ON MEDICARE REFORM

(Mr. BURNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1