

# DO NOT PROMISE TO BUILD A BRIDGE WHEN THERE IS NO RIVER TO CROSS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats and President Clinton have repeatedly stated that every penny of the surplus should be saved for Social Security, every penny. What the Democrats are not saying is that President Clinton is already spending the surplus. That is right. He has already spent \$2.9 billion on our mission in Bosnia, and this fall the Clinton administration is proposing to spend billions more from the surplus.

Bosnia or America? Well, as important as Bosnia may be, the Democrats and the President cannot have it both ways. While the President and his Democratic leadership want to spend the surplus on the people of Bosnia, Republicans want it to be used for taxpayers of America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Democratic leadership to come clean, to tell the American people why they do not want hard-working Americans to keep more of their hard-earned money, how they want higher taxes and how they want to spend the resources of hard-working men and women on more and more, bigger and wasteful, unnecessary bureaucracy and government.

I do not doubt for a minute that Americans will see through the illusions of the Democratic rhetoric and demagoguery. Before the November 3 elections, Democrats and the President may want to remember this: Do not promise to build a bridge when there is no river to cross.

## DEMOCRATS DISREGARD TRUTH AND ACCURACY

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, let us examine for a moment the Republican charge that Democrats had 40 years to do something about Social Security, but did not set aside one dime in all of that time.

Well, the charge is quite true, the proof being, of course, that if they had, where is the money that they put aside? As everyone who knows how Social Security works would attest, there is no real Social Security Trust Fund. And funds that come in for Social Security are paid out as soon as they come in for the reasons that the previous speaker mentioned.

Is there a Democrat that can deny that? Is there a Democrat that can deny that the Democrats controlled this body for 40 years? How truly ironic that the very same Democrats that are attacking Republicans for setting aside over \$1 trillion for Social Security put aside exactly zero when they were in the majority.

This I think is an excellent example of the other side's disregard for the truth and the accuracy. Do not seniors deserve better?

## CORPS OF ENGINEERS WORK FOR THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues can remember the unfortunate boating death that claimed the lives of a couple of Cleveland Indian players a few years ago. One of the contributing factors to their deaths were the guide wires that are used to keep docks in place.

Guide wires are the only authorized method for keeping docks in place at Thurmond Lake in Georgia. Why? Because the Corps of Engineers' Savannah office said so. Spud polls, a much safer and more practical action because of their effectiveness at adjusting to the water fluctuations from Thurmond Dam's releases, are not politically correct. The only thing wrong with spud polls is that some tree-hugging bureaucrats do not like them.

"Do as I say, not as I do." That is the motto of the Corps' Savannah office.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is time the Corps understood that they work for the people and not the other way around. It is also time for the Corps to start obeying Federal laws like the Clean Water Act before it bullies any more of my constituents for being out of compliance.

## ETHICAL MELTDOWN IN AMERICA

(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, every day across America patriotic Americans feel frustrated by what they see on the news about White House scandals and the media's reaction to them. These same people who have worked to bring sexual harassment to our attention now say with a straight face that how women are treated in the workplace is a private matter.

Nightly, we are treated to commentaries which seem to suggest that character does not matter, that we must adhere to two different standards, ethical standards for our public officials, one when the Dow is above 9,000, and the other when the economy is in a slump.

The majority of Americans today know the truth and can see through the spin, retractions and the legalisms. Many in my district believe that we are witnessing a moral Chernobyl right before our eyes, an ethical meltdown that sends a message to every child in America that some people do not have to take responsibility for their actions.

A healthy democracy requires not only that leaders take responsibility

for their actions, but a Nation of citizens who demand that they do.

## TRIBUTE TO LEE HAMILTON

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

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON) is retiring from this House at the end of this year. LEE has represented the ninth district of Indiana for 17 terms, 34 years. He is an extraordinary man. I happen to think that the idea of curtailing terms is a good idea, but if there ever is an excuse for not doing it, for not having term limits, it is LEE HAMILTON.

This is a man who has all the characteristics that we want here. He has extraordinary judgment. Whenever I have a problem, he is the first person I like to talk to. He has a sense of history. He has a sense of this place. He has a sense of what service versus self-service is.

Also, he really believes in the Arthur Vandenberg School of Government, which is partisanship stops at the water's edge. In all of the things he has done, he has always reached for bipartisanship. This is a fine man. He is now going to the Woodrow Wilson school, and his goal there will be to try to bridge the gap between the academic and the political policy of the schools of thought.

Mr. Speaker, he is an extraordinary man for an extraordinary time, and we will miss the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON). I say that as a Republican to a Democrat who I admire so much.

## ISSUE OF HOSTILE TAKEOVERS NEEDS TO BE EXAMINED

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

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, the issue of hostile takeovers has risen in resonance over the last several years whereby one company seeks, by methods that are sometimes not clear to everyone, to take over another entity.

In our own district in Pennsylvania, Amp, Incorporated, which employs thousands of people in our area and which has a tremendous, widely accepted reputation internationally for commercial activity, is now the target of such a hostile takeover. The results of such a move could result in the loss of jobs and in the loss from our community of an entity which has always been community-minded, and which has helped in a thousand different ways the stability, both economic and social, of our area.

We in the Congress owe it to ourselves and to the American public to examine this issue of hostile takeovers, to see how in the long run it can be removed from the scene and normal commercial activity take its place.