

union contract to limit what they could be required to do, what kind of checks and balances do you have to make sure that they do the right thing?" they said, "Oh, the checks and balances? That is that we send them out in pairs so they are watching each other, and they will report each other if they don't do exactly what they are supposed to."

Yet the last two people who were sent as offshore inspectors, unionized, to inspect the Deepwater Horizon were a father-and-son team. That is this administration and the union's idea of a good check and balance.

We have apparently hundreds of billions, and now it is estimated even over \$1 trillion, of Americans' money in foreign banks that was earned overseas, and it has been left there, and this government will never have a chance to tax that at all. So here we are in economic crisis.

This was proposed in September of 2008 by some leading economists here: Instead of a TARP giveaway slush fund, don't get the government involved in the socialist action of buying into business, buying into Wall Street, engorging Goldman Sachs and AIG. Let them go through reorganization like everybody else does.

But what you could do is say, okay, for you American people, companies that have money in foreign banks that has never come into American banks, here is the deal. You come in and purchase things that will get the economy going.

And we could direct that. There will be no tax consequences, no penalties. So you, with private money, can get things going. And then, of course, once that money is here, it does get the economy going; and, once it is in this country, then it is taxable for the future. Or we could start selling off some of the land. You know, we have got to start thinking outside the box.

One of the great things that happened under Abraham Lincoln was the Morrill Act. The Morrill Act allowed universities to be started with land grants. We have people on welfare. And I know there are some that just don't want to work, but there are some that do. How about if, instead of the welfare, we give them an alternative: We will give you so many acres that can provide land where you can live off of it and make a living. And we will give you seed money to start, but you have to sign an agreement you will never accept welfare again. How about that? We have got plenty of land.

How about using the energy sources we have and taking 25 or even 50 percent of the royalty and designating that to go for research for alternative energy sources, so that it happens without the government taxing and destroying the American economy?

And, how about dropping the corporate tax down to 15 percent, 2 percentage points below China? I am told by CEOs that have moved manufacturing industries to China that if we

lowered our corporate tax rate to 17, 15, 12 percent, they would be building new plants back in the United States. Those jobs would return. We need to do that.

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We need to do that.

We need a zero baseline budget, no automatic increases. I have that bill. I filed it each of the three times that I have been here, each of the three terms.

I have got a U.N. voting accountability bill that simply says any nation, since they are sovereign they can do what they want to in the U.N., how they vote. They can applaud Ahmadinejad's crazy speeches, but for any country that votes against our position in the U.N. more than half the time, they get no financial assistance from the United States of any kind in the subsequent year. It is their choice. I said it before: you don't have to pay people to hate you. They will do it for free.

There are so many things we could do to get out of the economic malaise we are in. We need a balanced budget amendment. That would help.

I honestly believe we have got to pass a bill on Social Security that would shore it up. And, no, we didn't do it my first 2 years.

I proposed it to some of our leaders back then, our leading thinkers. They said it was a bad idea, but I still say it is a good idea, and that is for the first time since the inception of Social Security, you require Social Security tax money to go into the Social Security trust fund, real money in there to draw real interest. We could create instruments that would not create risk, that would allow us to draw interest without affecting the bond markets. There are so many things we can do.

We have been blessed so richly. I have said this before, but, Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude with it tonight, because people have been frustrated, I have been frustrated.

But the message is clear. John Adams wrote to Abigail after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He was so excited, and he talked about the celebrations, and he finished his letter with this:

You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure it will cost us to maintain this Declaration and to support and defend these States. Yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is more than worth all the means, and that posterity will triumph in that day's transaction, even though we should rue it, which I trust in God we shall not.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GOHMERT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, September 29 and 30.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, September 29.

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, September 29.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia, for 5 minutes, September 29.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1338. An act to require the accreditation of English language training programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3243. An act to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer polygraph examinations to all applicants for law enforcement positions with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to initiate all periodic background reinvestigations of certain law enforcement personnel, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Homeland Security.

S. 3802. An act to designate a mountain and icefield in the State of Alaska as the "Mount Stevens" and "Ted Stevens Icefield", respectively, to the Committee on Natural Resources.

S. 3839. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Small Business.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 714. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1517. An act to allow certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection employees who serve under an overseas limited appointment for at least 2 years, and whose service is rated fully successful or higher throughout that time, to be converted to a permanent appointment in the competitive service.

H.R. 2923. An act to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine.

H.R. 3553. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 amounts received by a family from the Department of Veterans Affairs for service-related disabilities of a member of the family.