

failing to file these two papers. In your judgment will the failure of our taking up this budget document tonight because of that inadvertence, will that do any danger to the well-being of the United States? The delay until Tuesday?

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NADLER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. I certainly hope not.

Mr. NADLER. And you believe not?

Mr. DREIER. I hope not.

Mr. NADLER. You hope not. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. NADLER. I thank you for thanking me for yielding. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, this just illustrates the fraud and the sham that we have been subjected to all of today and tonight, or yesterday and last night and this morning. Because of the incompetence or inadvertence or mistake of somebody in not filing something properly, we do not take up the budget tonight, we wait until Tuesday. Thank God. If it had not been for that mistake, they would have rammed through this budget tonight with no input from the minority and the bipartisanship is a sham and a fraud because the minority had no input into this. Nobody on the minority side would have seen the budget or saw the budget in fact with the numbers until an hour ago.

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We were then expected to debate and vote it tonight, not having had an opportunity to read it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NADLER. I will not yield for the moment.

Mr. DREIER. I just want to explain the request to the gentleman.

Mr. NADLER. In order to produce that travesty of a procedure, the Committee on Rules with malice aforethought yesterday produced the rule that waived the rule of the House that demands that any bill lay on the floor for a day so people can read it and consult with other people and say what do you think and make judgments and perhaps prepare amendments. But because of some presumed emergency, some presumed necessity for the welfare presumably of the country, the Rules of the House that provide for the opportunity for Members of the House to read what is before them, what they are going to be asked to vote for, the Rules of the House that provide an opportunity for the press to tell the people and the country what we are going to vote for so maybe they can call up their Member of the House and say vote yes, vote no, introduce an amendment, that had to be waived because of some emergency or some necessity which we are now told by the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules is no emergency and no necessity; the fact that this can be put off

until Tuesday will not harm anybody's interest. But they wanted to ram it through with less than an hour for us to look at this. I say, thank God, for the incompetence or the mistake or the inadvertence or whatever it was that will now allow us to read this budget, will allow the people at home to read the budget over a weekend so that people can react intelligently, as the Rules of the House always provided and contemplated that they should.

The fact that the Committee on Rules came in and that the majority in this House voted on a party line vote for a rule that waived the ability of anybody who was not privy to private negotiations, of anybody in the public, anybody in the minority side of the House, waived the ability of those people, all of us, to see what we are going to be asked to vote for, to be able to read it to vote on more than a basic outline that maybe our leadership could provide us on an hour's notice, that was what was voted for. That is what was tried to be perpetrated on this House, and the only reason it did not succeed is because somebody made a mistake in filing papers. I say whoever that person was, God bless him. He did a great service to this country.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NADLER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to ask, is my friend going to be voting in favor or against this budget as it comes forward?

Mr. NADLER. I have not read it yet. How do I know?

Mr. DREIER. I just wondered if he has made any tentative decision.

Mr. NADLER. Reclaiming my time, I have not had a chance to read the budget. It was just shown to us an hour ago.

Mr. DREIER. We have provided now an opportunity of 4 days to go home and study that. The gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY) can spend time together working on it.

Mr. NADLER. The gentleman has not provided us with 4 days. That is a misstatement of fact. The inadvertence of someone who made a mistake against the will of the gentleman has provided us and the American people with that opportunity.

All I am saying is that it is a travesty and it is wrong that the House is run in such a fashion that the only reason we have the ability to read the budget before we vote on it, the only reason that people at home have the ability to take a look at it and read in the paper and suggest to their Congressman how we should vote, is because someone made a mistake and they did not file the papers on time. If the gentleman had his way and done what the gentleman wanted to do, what he tried to do, what he voted to do, nobody would have that opportunity and that is wrong.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NADLER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, we actually have three unanimous consent resolutions. This is the first one. If we could actually do the first two and then hang on to the third one and conduct this dialogue, at least we would be two-thirds home.

Mr. NADLER. Reclaiming my time, I am just about finished now. I have made the points I wanted to make about the sham of the procedure, about the sham of the bipartisanship notion, about the luck of the country in having this inadvertence so that this ramming through of a budget unseen, unread, unknown, could not proceed. But I think we ought to finish this point because whether we do three points one, two, three, or two, three, one, what is the difference?

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2001

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday May 7, 2001, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, for morning hour debates.

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

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object for a legitimate scheduling question here.

Nothing about today has struck me as being remotely legitimate, except that it is the day in which incompetence came to the rescue of democracy. We will all remember that.

I would like to ask the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS), we have had some concern here, does that mean that votes will still be at 6:00? There was some suggestion that votes might be earlier. Will we still have a 6:00 p.m. vote at the earliest on Tuesday?

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FRANK. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the plan at this time is that votes are still scheduled not before 6:00, but that is subject to change.

Mr. FRANK. I appreciate it. When we say not before 6:00, not like today, that will not mean, we hope, at 3:00 in the morning, but in fact 6:00 p.m., and I appreciate that.

I just also want to say to my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), who appears to be keeping track, that he should put me down as leaning against on the budget.

Mr. DREIER. I thank the gentleman very much. I will put that on the whip count.

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VIET-
NAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, pursuant to section 205(a) of the Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-554), and upon recommendation of the minority leader, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Education Foundation:

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. STARK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today after 6:00 p.m. on account of personal reasons.

Mr. GRUCCI (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of illness in the family.

Mr. ARMEY (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 21 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 7, 2001, at 2 p.m.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.