

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



Washington — As the general elections approach there is great interest in the party or political division of the 86th Congress.

Example
In the elections of 1956, there were 32 United States Senators elected. An example of the closeness of the total votes cast for these Senators is of interest. Democratic Senatorial nominees received a total of 2,199,789 votes; Republican Senatorial candidates received 2,148,822 votes.

You will recall that the make-up of the 85th Congress at adjournment in August was 49 Democrats and 47 Republicans. The same ratio was true of the 84th Congress in the Senate.

Recent Close Division
The recent division of the Senate has been close. The 82nd (1951), 83rd, 84th and 85th Congresses have been 48-47, 46-48, 47-47 and 48-47, respectively, with the Democrats being in the slight majority except the 83rd. The last Congress to show a consid-

erable political division was the 81st (1949-51) with 14 more Democrats than Republicans in the Senate. The 80th Congress had a Republican Senatorial majority, 51 to 45 over the Democrats.

Fluctuations
Democratic Senatorial power reached its lowest point in the past century in the 39th Congress (1865-67) during Reconstruction. There were 10 Democrats and 42 Republicans. It took until 1879 before the Democrats again took over the majority in the Senate, only to hold it for one session until the 63rd in 1913.

The 75th Congress (1937-39) saw the Democrats reach the all-time high in number of Senate seats with 75. The Republicans were left with only 17.

Voters will decide on election day what the make-up of Congress will be for the next two years. A giant effort is now being waged by both parties to control the 86th Congress.

his own private automobile and many other conveniences and luxuries.

The first 45 years of this century were indeed impressive; and we felt, as one of our songs implied, that "everything was surely up to date in Kansas City—it had gone about as far as it could go." Then just thirteen years ago, we witnessed the birth of the atomic age. With all of our problems up to this point, few, if any, of us realized what was to come. Political, social, economic, psychological, and spiritual concepts were all suddenly placed in an entirely different perspective. Our national budget, which we had considered tremendous in terms of millions of dollars, suddenly burst into many billions.

To demonstrate the significance and impact of these forces on our lives, may I review a few facts for you.

First, let's get our perspective on money. When we talk about 40-and-50-billion dollar defense budgets, what are we talking about? How large is a billion? Does anyone really know? Would you quickly estimate that there have been a billion hours in the world's 50,000 years?

As a basis of comparison, the number of minutes since the birth of Christ until now would be approximately "one billion"—so a 43-billion dollar defense budget of today would be approximately \$43 per minute. Putting it another way, it is approximately \$1,000 per second, every second, every hour of every day; or if you prefer, one hundred million dollars a day every day in the calendar year. This is the tremendous cost to you and our country of living in the atomic age.

To demonstrate this expense for you in terms of a specific item—a B52 bomber weighs more than 40 tons; but did you know that it costs more than its weight in solid silver? What about the complexity of the instruments and machines we read about and use in the atomic age? I am told that the "electronic system alone" of a typical missile "has 36,000 to 37,000 separate items which must function properly if the missile's flight is to be successful." A few moments ago, in talking about man's first flight across the Atlantic Ocean, I was referring, of course, to Charles Lindbergh and his famous plane "The Spirit of St. Louis." That plane, with its powerful engine, flew nonstop from New York to Paris. But today, if that engine had a little more power, it could be used as a starter on a jet airplane.

Another development of the atomic age which affects and influences our lives is speed. In Nero's time, or even fifteen hundred years before then, man could travel of, as fast as a horse could carry him. I am told that this is roughly 30 to 34 miles per hour. Thirty centuries later, when Columbus discovered America, the speed at which man could travel was still limited to the speed of the horse. Two centuries after that, "when Paul Revere made Longfellow famous," he was dependent on old Dobbin. It took Thomas Jefferson two days' ride and two changes of horses to go from Richmond to Williamsburg. In 1830, with the invention of the steam engine, mankind was finally liberated from the horse, and so-called modern methods of transportation were born. In 1910, one of our first airplanes had a guaranteed speed of 42 miles per hour. In 1944, our military planes were traveling from 470 miles per hour to more than 1,500 miles per hour. In the last two years, however, we have very calmly accepted an increase in our rate of speed from 1,500 miles per hour to more than 18,000 miles per hour. Recently, I read of an amazing incident in which a navy plane shot itself down by overtaking and colliding with its own bullets.

What are some of the other benefits of our tremendous technological advancement in the last 10 to 15 years? Today, one hundred and seventy million Americans thrive on the same land where one million Indians starved from one famine to another. Tomorrow morning, we will have 7,000 more people for breakfast; yet our only problem is surplus. Two-thirds of the world goes to bed hungry every night; but in America, we sometimes spank our children to make them eat.

The million Indians had all the natural resources between the Canadian border and the Gulf of Mexico; between the Atlantic and the Pacific. Their streams were unpolluted, the topsoil was still in place, and the forests hadn't even been destroyed—yet the Indians starved.

We have polluted the streams, washed the topsoil down the drain, destroyed the forests—yet even with one hundred seventy million people, our only problem is surplus.

What do we have that the Indians did not have? Three enviable ingredients — democracy, technology and free enterprise. Where else, but in America, would a man of humble origin such as Henry Ford dare to dream that every man should or could own an au-

tomobile? Democracy, technology and free enterprise have produced for us the greatest standard of living, never dreamed of in a New Atlantis or an Eldorado.

Anything known to the mind of man, however, can be used for either good or evil. While in this atomic age we have an unlimited potential for material benefit and comfort, capable of relieving much of mankind's suffering and misery, it can also be used to destroy us. In a recent article written by Mr. J. Lewis Powell, of the Department of Defense, he describes the power of our hydrogen bombs in these terms: "The biggest explosive we had in the European Theatre in World War II was a blockbuster—a power of six tons of TNT. Now, we measure modern devices in megatons. One megaton is equal to a million tons of TNT, or 166,000 blockbusters. It would take a freight train stretching from New York to Washington, D. C., merely to carry one magton of TNT."

While we in America would never allow our Government to use this inconceivable power in starting a horrible war, we must live in constant awareness that this power is also available to other forces and governments dedicated to the ultimate destruction of our country. These are but a few of the material forces that we must live and deal with. What are some of the others?

As a result of man's material, technological, and scientific advancements, we find ourselves living in a complex maze of international political alliances. With our present-day systems of communication and transportation, we are no longer safe behind our borders and between our oceans. Regret it though we may, we cannot remain apart from world political and economic forces. The farthest country away is now our close neighbor. And so, in spite of the wise advice of our President and Commerce-in-Chief, we find ourselves unable to escape from "entangling alliances". Complex treaties, agreements, and pacts have a profound influence on our daily lives. Would the founders of our Republic ever have believed that the rice fields of Korea or the streets of Budapest could ever become our first lines of defense?

The Gettysburg Address contains only 266 words; The Declaration of Independence, 300 words and Ten Commandments, 297 words. These are three of the greatest statements ever made defending the rights of mankind; yet today millions and millions

of words of debate are necessary in "a World Assembly" to debate the cause of freedom.

The international force and ideology called communism is dedicated to the destruction not only of our way of life, but, if necessary to accomplish its ends, our country and our lives. The two forces of democracy and communism will continue to compete until one or the other is ultimately destroyed. For the benefit of our children, future generations, and all mankind, we must, in the end, be victorious in this struggle.

These are the forces of our times—this is where we stand on the threshold of this atomic age. Our lives have become increasingly and immeasurably complex; but our democratic way of life, our material and scientific ingenuity, and our political, social, and economic precepts have successfully met every previous challenge. I have no doubt that we will successfully meet every problem of the future.

What does all of this mean to you and me? Those of us in this group are small in number. The one hundred and seventy million people of our country is only a fraction of the world's population. But there can be no doubt that we have in our heritage and in our hearts the basic principles of right which can and will, in the end, prevail. To those of us who may be disheartened, I would remind of the great accomplishments of twelve men, through whom the profound principles of Christian living were carried to the ends of the earth.

Our D.A.A. organization is dedicated to the perpetuation of the great principles of democracy established by our forefathers. Yes, we are an organization of women; and there are some who would say that this is a man's world. I would, however, suggest that, as women living in America today, you have the potential of being one of the most effective forces in all the world. In a recent book

entitled, "The Decline of the American Male," and, in humility, I would question the validity of its title, the following facts are stated: "The United States today has one and a half million more women than men; American women live an average of 73 years, while the men average only 67

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Cancer Clinic November 7th

The Northeastern Cancer Clinic will be held on Friday afternoon, November 7, with registration beginning at 1 o'clock. A free chest X-ray will be given to anyone

wishing it along with the examination of the five areas of the body where cancer is most easily found and cured. There are no limitations as to sex, race, physical or economic status at the center. However, women should be 35 or more; men should be 40 or over unless referred by a doctor, or unless one of the "Seven Danger Signals" or "Symptoms" are present.

Only 30 people can be seen at the Center each month due to limited facilities, so it is suggested that anyone who wishes to be assured of an appointment should write the Cancer Center, Health Department, Elizabeth City, N. C., for a priority. Examinees are asked to bring a robe or housecoat with them.

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The Forces Of Our Times

Editor's Note: Following is an address made by Mrs. W. D. Holmes, Jr., State Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at a recent meeting of the Edenton Tea Party Chapter. Mrs. Holmes delivered the same address at various other chapters in the state and is reproduced by request.

I want to talk with you for a short while about the forces of our times. We are privileged to live today in the greatest nation and in the greatest golden age of all history. The way of life which we enjoy, and sometimes take for granted, would not only have been beyond the comprehension of our forefathers two or three generations ago, but it is many times more magnificent and splendid than their fondest dreams. This is true not only in material things, conveniences, and pleasures of life, but also in the freedom, dignity, and opportunity guaranteed to every citizen of our country. I am certain that the founders and early statesmen of our country would view the product of their wisdom in humble amazement. To this small group of wise and courageous men who laid the keel and established the principles around which our great ship-of-state has been built, we and every generation privileged to live in this great Republic as long as it shall stand, owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude. The framework which they hammered out in our Constitution, The Bill of Rights, The Declaration of Independence, and all other concepts of Government has stood firm against the tremendous forces and pressures of our times in supporting the greatest Republic known to mankind.

I am certain that many speakers in every period of our country's history have stood before groups such as this and thrown out the challenge that, "These are the times that try men's souls," or "These are grave and serious days". I do not align myself with such prophets of gloom and doom

for the dubious distinction of saying something which may be shocking to you, for I am certain after hearing it so often it is, indeed, no longer shocking. I believe, however, I am entirely justified in saying to you that the conditions under which we live today are of much greater complexity and consequence than the problems of our country in all of its previous history combined.

To demonstrate this fact, may I review with you a few developments of the last 50 years. During the first 45 years of this century, we united all territory, between the oceans bordering our country, into 48 states. We took to the air with wings in traveling over mountains and oceans. We built great industries — railroads — communications systems — financial empires — suffered a great depression — and embarked on many new, and some would agree, questionable economic and social experiments. We fought two world wars, and invented and made available to every citizen

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