

Perspectives By Yardley

Jonathan Yardley

(This is the fourth in a series of nine articles which will attempt to present a reasonably objective view of the leading aspirants for the presidency in the forthcoming election. The purpose of these articles is to inform, not to sway. If the author's opinions should sneak in, the reader is asked to remember that he is only mortal.)

(Further expositions on these men may be found in Eric Sevareid's excellent collection Candidates 1960, published by Basic Books, from which the author has gleaned some of the facts contained in the series.)

John F. Kennedy

Father Knows Best



JONATHAN YARDLEY

Joe Kennedy is a man with an ambition. Blessed with a sizeable fortune amassed in many and varied fields of endeavor, he has long been anxious that a member of the Kennedy clan of Boston should be President of the United States. Because he has so much money and political influence in New England he has been able to reach at least the halfway mark toward fruition of that desire.

As soon as the Kennedy family was certain of its financial security Joe Kennedy established trust funds of close to a million dollars for each of his nine children. Many feel that this was done in order to free the children for public service.

Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., oldest of the brood, was to be the one who would achieve political heights. A large, handsome, gregarious young man, he seemed destined to scale all available political heights. But the Second World War interrupted his chain of movement; Joe Kennedy Jr. was killed flying a secret mission on which he had voluntarily embarked.



JOHN F. KENNEDY

It is not fair to say of John Fitzgerald Kennedy that he felt it necessary to take up where his brother left off. But it is fair to say that the overbearing pressures of parental ambition brought Jack Kennedy into the race for Congress from Massachusetts' 11th Congressional District. And it is fair to say that the glamour and power of the family name were influential in his victory.

Born in Brookline, Mass., a suburb of Boston, in 1917, Jack Kennedy entered a family of money and fast rising social prominence. Like Adlai Stevenson, he was sent to exclusive Choate School in Connecticut. From Choate he went to Harvard where he was an excellent student and tried diligently to make his mark in athletics. The Kennedys are a family of enthusiastic, indefatigable athletes whose physical endeavors are exceeded only by their political and financial successes. Though too light for football, Jack Kennedy made

the swimming team. In trying out for football he injured his back, which was later to become a source of constant pain and aggravation. His swimming was to be of immeasurable use in the Navy.

Kennedy's senior thesis, a discussion and explanation of English unpreparedness for war, was deemed so excellent by journalist Arthur Krock that he encouraged Kennedy to expand it into a book. He did so, under the title Why England Slept, and it sold 85,000 copies. From Harvard he went to the London School of Economics, and then enlisted in the Navy for PT boat duty with his friend and ex-roommate Torby Macdonald. In August, 1943, Kennedy's PT boat was split in half in a collision with a Japanese destroyer. Kennedy saved 11 members of the crew, directed them to an island three miles away, and by constantly swimming to nearby islands finally found help and achieved their rescue. He was hospitalized for his back and malaria, decorated by the Navy and Marine Corps, and let his back mend. Then his brother died.

The death of Joe Kennedy Jr. was a crushing blow to the family, but especially so to Joe Sr. and Jack. While he slowly mended from war injuries, Jack Kennedy stayed at home and read voraciously. In 1945 he worked as a correspondent for the International News Service and in 1946 was elected to Congress. He campaigned as a liberal Democrat, and backed the Curley machine.

His freshman year in Congress was undistinguished save for a rather unprecedented vote on the leadership of the American Legion, which did not hurt as much as it might have, and a refusal to sign a petition granting Mayor Curley emergency relief after he had been jailed for mail fraud. This did not increase his popularity with the all-powerful Curley Democrats in Massachusetts. He was opposed to the Taft-Hartley law, on the grounds that it was "at the behest of management" and would weaken the economic structure of the nation.

In 1953 Kennedy married Jacqueline Lee Bouvier, a strikingly beautiful Virginia girl whose aristocratic and financial connections were indisputable. She was twelve years younger than his youthful 36, and was quickly initiated into the life of the Kennedy family. Her extreme beauty is considered by many a political handicap.

In May, 1952, Kennedy announced his candidacy for the Massachusetts' Senate seat long occupied by Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., eminent Boston Brahmin. The Kennedy campaign was noted for its forefulness and its success in a decidedly Republican year. The Kennedy name was surely turning into gold. While Eisenhower took the state by over 200,000 votes, Kennedy was elected by a 70,000 majority. He was 35 years old when he entered the Senate.

Kennedy began to make a name for himself in the Senate. His first real mistake was in never denouncing McCarthy publicly, though his younger brother Bob had been treated rather badly by the fiery Senator from Wisconsin while serving as minority counsel on the Senate Permanent Investigating Committee, McCarthy's pride and joy. In 1954 Kennedy took a leave of absence to have his back operated on, since the pain had become unbearable. The second operation was a success, and while he recuperated in Florida Kennedy wrote a book called Profiles In Courage, a group of stories about well-known Senators. The book was on the best seller lists for many months.

Kennedy returned to the Senate in March of 1955. In the meantime Senator McCarthy had been censured, which kept Kennedy from having to take a stand on a man loved by Massachusetts voters. He then took an important role in the McLellan Committee's investigations of labor racketeering, which has not endeared him to the all-important labor vote. In 1958 Kennedy offered a labor reform bill which was not well received by labor itself. In 1959 his watered-down version of the same bill brought him more friends.

In the summer of 1956 Kennedy was a serious contender for the Democratic Vice-Presidential nomination. He came, as a matter of fact, within a few dozen votes of achieving the nomination, but a late surge by Estes Kefauver took it away from him. Nothing could have proved more advantageous. The Democrats would not have won, or come any closer, with Kennedy on the ticket, and the young Senator would have been ruined in national politics. He today openly expresses his fortune at not being given the nomination.

Now John F. Kennedy is running for President of the United States. He is 42 years old, and some feel that he may be making his move too early. Youth and sparkle are not qualities which we rapidly associate with the White House. But Kennedy seems to feel that this is of no hindrance to his campaign.

Kennedy has three primary obstacles in his way to the presidency: he has not achieved a Senate record of great accomplishment; he is a Catholic; his book. The first one is obvious, in its implications and in its effect. His Catholicism may actually be a help. He recently told Pennsylvania leaders that if he goes into the convention with enough votes to win and is denied the nomination because of his religion it will hurt the party immensely.

Profiles In Courage is a different matter. In Candidates 1960, Fletcher Knebel quotes a story which has Senator Lyndon Johnson repeating a common Washington joke asking if Kennedy himself does not have more profile than courage. This book has set up a standard by which he must be judged that does not rapidly or usually apply to the other candidates. Many observers feel that he does not pass his own test, and this will hurt him.

Kennedy also has some great political assets. He is young and very handsome in a sandy Irish way. He is extremely intelligent and is an effective speaker. His war record shows him to be, at least physically, a man of great courage and bravery. He is a polished and experienced politician, a rarity among men of his age. And he has an intense, almost pathological, desire to be President of the United States of America.

Little can be said of what kind of president Kennedy would be. He himself feels that he would be a good one; in itself this can be construed as a sign of personal integrity, since he may want the job in order to act rather than merely to be president. Of one thing, however, we can be sure: John Kennedy will work very hard to be president, and he is not used to losing battles.

Chairman Speaks

Hugh Patterson, Chairman Men's Honor Council

During the past two years, many changes have evolved within the Honor System concerning not only the framework of the system, but the actual philosophy behind it. Perhaps now is the time, before the student body can undertake any further changes to stop and really evaluate the purpose behind our Honor System.

At one glance many students may think that our Honor System is merely a means of controlling student conduct both within and outside the classroom. Yet this is not really the fundamental purpose of the Honor System; although, it is indeed one of the important functions. No, the Honor System is basically a teaching device — a method of instilling in the student a sense of honor that may be channeled and strengthened with the development of the mind. In a university such as ours, the Honor System lends an air of richness and vitality to the academic community that would not otherwise be present.

Yet, I mentioned before that I thought that the philosophy behind the Honor System was being changed as well as the structure. No longer is an effective means of trying students justly any basic concern. The superstructure of procedure which only hinders the effective workings of the judicial body has now become the basic concept. Many students would also try to make one believe that the difference between being a fraternity man and a non-fraternity man is a great one with people so prejudiced on both sides that this prejudice carries over into the workings of the Honor Council. I don't believe that any man or woman here at Carolina could actually be so naive as to believe that mature college students from any segment of the campus might use the Honor System to vent their personal wrath upon another student. Such issues as these only cloud our reasoning.

Is the Honor Council an autonomous body that may hang a student helplessly without just cause? No, it certainly is not. Many students have forgotten that the power of the Honor Council is a power delegated through the Administration from the University trustees. The Council then becomes responsible to the University for its every action. Also the court of appeals including faculty members and judiciary chairmen has been installed to prevent any miscarriage of justice or trampling upon the rights of students. A valid appeal receives a great amount of attention and if the Honor Council has stepped out of line, the situation is corrected. The Council must then answer to the University for its actions.

(to be continued)

Letter

In recent editions of the Tar Heel there have been several articles discussing the proposed Constitutional amendments concerning the Judicial body on campus.

The most important point is the amendment concerning apportionment of Council members. The idea of electing Council members from a geographical district instead of the entire student body should be questioned. A Judicial body should be composed of the most qualified students regardless of where they live. Under the proposed change, several of the most able students might not be elected, simply because they had happened to live in the same geographical district.

The Councils should not be elected by districts, for they do not legislate. They enforce and interpret the laws. Every student should have the right to vote for every Council member.

Should this amendment pass, there is still the question of the Council members being elected under some form of geographical apportionment to be specified by the legislature. The voter has no idea how the Council seats will be apportioned when he casts his ballot. He is merely giving the legislature a free hand to fix the size, number, and location of districts.

The members of the student body should consider this proposal carefully. It is an important amendment and everyone should express their opinion.

Dick Nichols

"Er... Maybe We Could Patch Things Up"



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Editor's Corner

Davis B. Young

A very wise and wonderful man — Robert Frost — once wrote, "Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length." Sterling Hayden, our companion on the lonely road we all must travel, is today playing the greatest role of his life. Known chiefly as one of Hollywood's leading actors, he has found himself in the unique position of seemingly rebelling against the cloistered and fraudulent society in which he has lived and played such a prominent part. Or perhaps I should say the cloistered and fraudulent society in which we live and in which we play such a prominent part.

Hayden has been found guilty of defying a court order when he took his children on a voyage to Tahiti. Divorced for the past several years from his wife Betty Ann Hayden, the actor had been given custody of the children when Mrs. Hayden was judged to be an unfit mother. However, by taking the children from the jurisdiction of the court, he is in effect guilty of contempt.

For some time, Hayden has been a rebel with a cause. Disgusted and indeed "ashamed" of a large portion of the work he has done in Hollywood, he sought a "firm foundation" for a new career away from the movie capital. Being an intelligent and sensitive man, these plans naturally included his children. It was with this intention, and a full knowledge of the consequences, that Hayden embarked upon his now famous voyage to the South Sea paradise. While on the trip, the education of his children was continued by a private tutor, and they were well cared for.

Now Sterling Hayden has returned to this country. He has reluctantly admitted any "guilt" he might have for taking the children from the custody of the court. There are many citizens throughout the country who are perhaps horrified at the reckless abandon with which he pursued his objective. The mothers of America will call him an unfit father, just as his former wife has been arbitrarily adjudged an unfit mother.

But, is removing your children from an unwholesome atmosphere being an unfit father? Is wanting something more than the false existence one finds in a false town doing wrong? Or to put it another way, is leaving your children in such an environment as Hollywood being a good father?

Robert Louis Stevenson has said, "There is no duty we underrate so much as the duty of being happy." I would rather think that Hayden saw, perhaps for the first time, this most important of all duties, as opposed to believing he is guilty of malicious contempt. Nowhere can anyone deny the importance of obeying the law; but, in this case, his love for his children and hopes for them are bigger than any law.

"Sterling Hayden is our brother. We reach out to him — in his loneliness and our guilt. We reach out to hold his hand in the middle of the American night."

GEMS OF THOUGHT

FRIENDSHIP

An acquaintance that begins with a compliment is sure to develop into a real friendship. — Oscar Wilde

Seeds of kindness, goodwill, and human understanding, planted in fertile soil, spring up into deathless friendships, big deeds of worth, and a memory that will not soon fade out. — George Matthew Adams

Third Prize In Essay Contest

Paul Wehr

PART 2

The first hurdle is the recruitment of not only responsible, but capable leaders. I speak of men who realize the real issues confronting us. Their first responsibility would be that of planning a positive program. Then, if Americans can be made to realize that the questions of increased, effective foreign aid, reevaluation of television programming, mental illness, disarmament, large scale slum clearance, deteriorating moral standards, and the like, are every bit as vital to them as the local Community Chest, possibly a sense of purpose might begin to develop in at least a goodly number of American citizens. Is this impossible? If our value system has deteriorated to such an extent that nothing short of war will move Americans to turn their attention from the business of making and spending money, then our society is doomed. I think, however, that our values are still alive but need to be reactivated.

Where do the leaders come from? I feel that the intellectual group, students and mentors alike, must assume the major responsibility for leadership. No longer are institutions of higher learning oases in the desert, islands unto themselves into which the intellectuals can retreat. This doesn't necessarily mean that the "men of knowledge" must play politics but it does mean that they must make their experience and knowledge felt in areas where it counts. If they are not invited to do so, they must demand this right.

I have spoken, rather vaguely, of a "program of purposive action". This would be an organized plan, with public support, which would give motion to the Christian-humanitarian-democratic values which are at least nominally claimed by our society, and would result in improvement in certain existing problem areas. It would be administered by the federal government, the only agency equipped to handle such a project. The program might be comprised of a series of medium-range projects in which the areas of concern would be studied by top experts in each area, corrective action would be decided upon and for which funds would be appropriated. This series might include: 1. A positive, remodeled program of aid as extensive as

our resources permit to all emerging nations desiring it, without strings attached; 2. Fleets of hospital ships administering medical aid wherever needed; 3. Massive attacks on organized and unorganized crime and deception in the U. S.; 4. A program of uniform improvement of our educational system; 5. A re-evaluation of American entertainment standards; and many other projects. What is needed is a massive positive program to prove to the world, but most important, to Americans themselves, that America has not outlived her usefulness but still has very good reasons for existing. Americans must realize, however, that such a program is not primarily a beneficent action undertaken by a gracious people, however much they may be motivated by noble ideals. They must realize, and must convey the impression, that they are not spectators in this crisis but are as much a part of the world revolution now in progress as are the Soviets and the Hungarians, the Chinese and the Indians, the Algerians and the French. Only with this realization will any true American "mainspring" become an actuality.

It is quite true that the above suggestions are idealistic. Yet, the possibility of success of such a movement has never been disproven, for it has never been attempted. Taking into consideration America's resources of all types, her leadership potential and her population, which if truly motivated can accomplish nearly the impossible, I would say that such a proposal is not "Utopian". I am well aware that there would be myriad practical difficulties involved but if devoted persons, with knowledge and wisdom to support their devotion, accomplished only a quarter of their original goal, it would certainly be worth it.

The Russian people now rally around the drive for the things which most Americans take for granted. This "purpose" is no longer really valid for America. Conspicuous consumption is not a lasting reason for the existence of a society. The future of America rests on our ability to discover some other purpose more in keeping with our responsibility to our fellow men and to ourselves.

There is a lot that is right with America. The problem at hand is that of finding a way to use it so that it will continue to live.

Happy New Year

1. The nation is at war.
2. The nation is losing the war badly.
3. The nation must exert a vastly greater effort

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By KELLY

By SCHULZ