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PRESS
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1972

Democrats and coalition

There is a clear danger that Democratic Party leaders may take themselves too far out on the limb of prophecy as they look to the future.

Some are saying some thinly thought out things about the continuing relevance of the "old Roosevelt coalition." For instance, Sen. George McGovern, with an understandable mixture of post-election weariness and his habitual candor, is wondering aloud whether the "Wallace," "Meany" and "Connally" factions of the party deserve to belong anymore. Without the blue-collar ethnic, the labor cadres, and the well-heeled Southerners where would the Democratic Party go? Why should it exist? Just for the intellectuals, the anti-warriors, blacks, and Jewish voters?

A more pragmatic view of Democratic Party prospects would show a different outlook for coalition.

In the first place, it would be better for Democrats not to measure their adhesion by their inability to vote for Mr. McGovern. By his own admission, he was essentially a one-issue candidate. That issue was the war. His chief prerequisite for his choice of running mate was fidelity to the antiwar movement. This instinctively repelled many voters who did not agree with him on the war. It made him sound out of his depth, if not insincere, when he tried to discuss social or economic issues. As with Eugene McCarthy before him, he seemed capable of sacrificing party and national effectiveness for ideological purity, which made him appear a potentially weak leader.

None of this is to compare Mr. McGovern with Mr. Nixon. It is likely that no Democrat, even had George Wallace not been removed from the race, would have been able to unseat the President. The President had carefully established his image as the candidate of stability. Not only had he made his war and detente moves, but he had preempted the Democratic position on the economy with wage-price controls. The issue we have in mind is another one: whether the makings of Democratic coalition persists.

We believe that it does. The American political process depends on polarities. The polarities may decline and intensify during periods of social or economic change. They may shift their center. But they persist.

Contrary to what many are saying, despite such race-based issues as Northern school busing, the country's black voters and blue-collar white voters will tend to concur on lower-class economic and social welfare issues. As wage-price controls, tax reform and other issues are brought into the political ring during the next year, labor and other traditional elements of the Democratic past will find the field of interest that arraigns them against the Republican management class.

This is not to say that four years hence the Democrats may not fail for the third successive time to get themselves together. But the prospects for coalition are there. The Democratic alliance has always been a motley alliance. Where issues do not bring them together - and in the last election there were few real issues - they tend to fly apart. It would be a mistake to write off the Wallace, Meany, Connally factions, as unattractive and disparate as these factions may appear. A party is more an instrument of action than an object of faith.

It is ridiculous to think there are not men in the Democratic ranks capable of using that instrument effectively. The elements of that party may change. And why wouldn't they? They changed for the Republicans this time for the President, if not in lesser offices.

Coalition will continue in the Democratic ranks if for no other reason than that the two-party system maintains two vacuums for political power. It is a natural impulse for groups to coalesce to fill and utilize those vacuums. - The Christian Science Monitor.

Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, November 20, 1947

According to Sheriff D.H. Hodgkin and his deputies and others around here who have seen several of them, the largest whiskey still ever operated in this county ran at a site on Puppy Creek about one-half mile below the Fred Johnson Pond for about two weeks prior to the arrival of the sheriff and his deputies on the afternoon of Wednesday of last week.

The Rev. and Mrs. P.O. Lee arrived in Raeford yesterday and took up their residence in the Methodist parsonage on Main St.

The town of Raeford acquired a new 1947 Ford car for the use of the police force in the last few days, so those that figure to run away from a Raeford policeman may get well take notice that escape will be getting harder.

From Poole's Medley:

The last year I lived at Jackson Springs I clipped and dipped 6,000 turpentine boxes and cultivated 17 acres of corn and truck, and I cleared less than \$100.

North Carolina farmers have sold more tobacco so far this year than they had at this time last year, but their income has been reduced by nearly \$59,000,000.

Mrs. P.P. McCain of Southern Pines

will be guest speaker at the annual homecoming day at Flora MacDonald College on Saturday, November 22.

There will be a union worship service at the Raeford Presbyterian Church on Thanksgiving Day, November 27 at 9:30 a.m., Rev. W.B. Heyward, pastor, will deliver the sermon.

15 years ago

Thursday, November 21, 1957

Well, a lot of people had fun playing The News - Journal's new copyrighted game, "Scrambo," last week as there were 397 entries when they were collected from the boxes in the 30 participating business firms on Monday afternoon.

Younger Snead carried the ball 28 yards for a touchdown with three minutes to go here Friday night to break a 7-7 tie with Laurinburg High and gain the Hoke Bucks a 14-7 victory.

The Rev. Joseph W. Amory, arrangements chairman for the Raeford Junior Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas parade to be held here at 6:00 o'clock on Friday, December 6 this week announced more details of the event.

'Where am I?'



The Christian Science Monitor

Kay's Column

by Kay Piotrkowski

Football

I went to Chapel Hill Saturday and watched Carolina and Duke play an absolutely fantastic game in Kenan Stadium.

On the way to the university town everyone in our group was enthusiastic because we would be sitting on the 30-yard line. That seemed a bit dangerous to me - a gal could get trampled down there. Imagine my relief when I discovered "sitting on" actually means sitting beside and above.

I've heard jokes about dumb football players but the guy who numbers the field has them all beat. He shows off his intellectual prowess counting by fives, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30. Obviously he reached the limits of his talent because he continued to count backwards.

Down in front of us a man in a blue devil costume was moving around listlessly. Duke cheerleaders were waving pompons about and a male in a white outfit kept trying to chew up the mike. After listening to his crude, bordering-on-the-obscene cheers most of us were ready to help him swallow that mike.

One thing that has always infuriated me about football is the way most players go through complicated girations at scrimmage, almost as though they were playing "football, football. Who's got the

football?" Now why would they want to keep that a secret?

The players Saturday certainly were not guilty of such foolishness. They were most considerate, passing the pigskin openly and deliberately, even holding it out at arms length to be sure the fans knew who had possession.

The carriers moved without haste and I was able to keep my eye on the ball and man at all times. It certainly heightened my enjoyment and understanding of the game.

I've noticed in other contests how one side gets the ball and never, never shares it with the other team. But the Tar Heels and Blue Devils weren't like that on Saturday. The boys in white repeatedly tossed the ball down the field to the men in the blue shirts. I thought that was mighty sweet.

While the players were sharing the ball like good children there were a couple of bad sports exercising very poor self control. These ugly mannered characters in striped shirts kept losing their handkerchiefs.

Whenever that happened one of them would steal the ball from the players and march imperiously down the field. About that time another striped shirt would run up and convince the sore head after five, 10 or 15 yards of this abominable behavior to give the pigskin back to the teams.

Even then striped shirt was nasty. Instead of politely handing the ball to a player he'd drop it on the ground and storm off waving his arms in anger - the handkerchief again dripping threateningly from his hip pocket. It was all pretty ridiculous.

Some of the players exhibited fine teamwork. When Duke's Dave Schmit turned up five-yards short on an attempted 48-yard field goal his team mate Jones assisted with a short, quick boot that sent the ball bounding into the end zone. Now that's the way to help your side get ahead.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:
Now that the election is over by a landslide (the day after it was over an intellectual-type neighbor of mine went into town and told his barber "Give me a haircut quick that'll make me look like a Republican") we can get down to normal discussions, and I got interested in an article I read on the celebrated grain deal with Russia, which I can discuss objectively as I don't grow any grain. I lose money on tobacco.

According to it, while it's true the Russians, caught without enough grain to feed themselves, bought one billion dollars worth from us, they borrowed half the purchase price, 500 million dollars, from us to buy it with. At the same time, seeing as how they still owed us two billion dollars for material we let them have during World War II, they agreed to settle that debt, I guess to keep their credit rating up, and the terms we agreed on were seven cents on the dollar, to be paid back before the year 2,000.

I have been thinking this over, sort of letting it sink in, and have come to two conclusions: (1) American farmers unquestionably can out-produce Russian farmers and (2) Russian financiers unquestionably can out-think American financiers.

I'll tell you, if I could just locate a banker that operates on the international level there's no telling how far I could expand my operations. If he'd lend me say \$50,000 and then 25 years later come around, clear his throat, and say the note really ought to be settled and how about paying it off at seven cents on the dollar some time in the next 25 years, and in order not to offend me how about another loan of \$10,000 to buy groceries with, I'd say that's the banker I've been looking for all my life.

You know, as I understand it, practically every unit of government in this country and every other one on earth is in debt, along with millions of private citizens, and I was just thinking, why don't we all settle for seven cents on the dollar and get everybody out of debt and back on his feet?

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

CLIFF BLUE ...

People & Issues



A GLANCE BACKWARD...While most anyone can be a pretty good Monday morning quarterback, may we right here turn back and quote some comments we made in this column during last week in June, 1972:

"State Convention: While John Mitchell had no part in directing the Democratic State Convention in Raleigh last week, we doubt that he could have greatly improved on the job done for the Republicans had he been calling the shots.

"Much has been said and written about 'opening up' the party to all groups - the women and the blacks in particular, and this was certainly done. But to the largest group of voters in the Democratic Party in North Carolina, many feel that they were treated like red-headed step-children at a family reunion. We are of course referring to the George Wallace supporters.

"In the May 6 Democratic primary in North Carolina with nobody but the people to support him, Wallace led all candidates who had formidable opposition, receiving 413,518 votes to 306,014 for Terry Sanford, 61,723 for Shirley Chisholm, 30,739 for Edmund Muskie and 9,416 for Henry M. Jackson. But at the state convention operating under the new 'McGovern' rules the Convention Chairman, Charles Winberry, would not even recognize Wallace supporter Joe R. Brown to nominate a slate of delegates.

"Our guess is that the Wallace people who proved to be dominant in the May 6 primary will not forget how they were treated by the 'new establishment' in Raleigh last week when the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November rolls around. Their vent may apply to more than the presidential ballot.

TED KENNEDY...With three and a half years to go before the 1976 Democratic National Convention convenes to nominate its standard bearer, it now appears that Ted Kennedy will be a front runner for the nomination. It must be remembered that as of now, the Kennedy position on issues are pretty close to the McGovern stand. This being the case if Tar Heel Democrats are interested in regaining the governor's office in North Carolina to say nothing of the White House in Washington, they

should think long and hard before running off with another ultra-liberal, which has been Kennedy's position in the past.

Had Wilbur Mills, Henry Jackson, Terry Sanford or George Wallace been the Democratic nominee this year, Nixon would probably have been re-elected, but North Carolina would probably have elected a Democrat for governor.

THE SURPLUS...You might think that the huge surplus now piling up in the general fund treasury would make the task of the 1972 General Assembly easy. However, the opposite is true. It will be much harder for the 1973 General Assembly to satisfy the requests of the many groups wanting a big slice of the surplus than it would be if there were no surplus on hand. Few, if any, will get what they ask.

It used to be that when a General Assembly had a surplus on hand they would spend it on non-recurring expenses like buildings and other capital improvements. We think this would be a very wise course to follow now.

CARL STEWART...Rep. Carl Stewart of Gaston County is reported to be in line for the chairmanship of the House appropriations committee.

EDUCATION...In the last General Assembly the big fight was over higher education with the state Board of Higher Education being abolished and the Board of Governors created to oversee the 16 institutions of higher learning.

Now we hear talk that a goodly number of the trustees and presidents of the community colleges and technical institutes feel they should come out from under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and have a separate overall board of their own. It is possible that this matter may come before the 1973 session of the General Assembly. If the effort is not made for separation in the 1973 session it will likely be made later.

A BUDGETS...The "A" budget covers what was appropriated for operating expenses during the past biennium other than capital expenditures and is usually not given close scrutiny by the Advisory Budget Commission or the General Assembly. Jim Holshouser in his campaign for governor called for close scrutiny here, which is a might good idea in case someone is interested in cutting out "dry rot" in state government.

Just One Thing After Another

by Carl Goerch

Last week we mentioned an Almanac that had been sent to us that had been published at the end of the 18th century and the following two items were included in its pages:

If you see a man with little or no occasion often finding fault and correcting each other in company, you may be sure they are husband and wife.

If you see a lady and gentlemen in the same coach in profound silence, the one looking out at one window and the other at the opposite side, be assured they mean no harm to each other but are husband and wife.

If you see a lady accidentally fall a glove or handkerchief, and a gentleman that is next to her tell her of it, that she herself may pick it up, set them down as husband and wife.

And the following appeared under the heading: "Modern Definitions":

WOMAN OF SPIRIT - A lady who, when her husband throws a dish of weak tea out of the window in a passion, sends the whole equipage after it.

A PRUDE - A woman who avoids the men all day and thinks about them all night.

A CURATE - A man who smokes, hunts, drinks, and plays at backgammon all week and serves four churches every Sunday.

A PHYSICIAN - A man who sits by

your bedside until he kills you or nature cures you.

COQUET - A person of the female sex who chats, giggles and plays with the men all day and then sleeps soundly at night.

A vacation is a succession of 2's. It consists of 2 weeks, which are 2 short. Afterwards you are 2 tired 2 return 2 work, and 2 broke not 2."

An ad from the old Washington Progress:

LOST: The business end of a fountain pen. Finder please come and get the cap. B.W. Taylor.

Someone once said that there would be fewer pedestrian patients if there were more patient pedestrians.

And in California the ad of the man who knew how to tell the truth and was not ashamed of it. He advertised in the want column:

LOST: Black leather wallet containing personal papers, pictures and \$200 currency. Finder may keep wallet, papers and pictures, but I have a sentimental attachment for the money."

Senator Sam Ervin Says

WASHINGTON - The second Nixon Administration, according to the President and the White House aides, will take a more prudent approach to federal spending.

The President seems to be gearing his new Administration to a "do-less" approach in the area of social welfare programs. He also has given a high priority to cutting back the Federal bureaucracy. The day after his landslide victory, Mr. Nixon announced that the Federal payroll will be a prime target for his attention, and that some departments are "too fat, too bloated," and that he plans to thin out a lot of Federal jobs including the White House staff. In an age that has seen a monumental rise in Federal programs, this is refreshing news to the taxpayers. For years the Federal Government has been piling on layer after layer of bureaucracy to tell individuals how they should live their lives and conduct their businesses.

Before we get carried away in the euphoria that at last something will be done to curb the cost of government, we ought to recognize that the battle will not be easily won. What has triggered all of this tight-fisted talk is simply an overdue recognition of some hard economic facts. The Johnson, Kennedy, and Eisenhower Administrations with rare exceptions spent more than revenues provided. And the first Nixon Administration piled up some of the largest deficits in the history of this Republic.

What the current talk emanating from

the Administration proposes is a major shift in our country's fiscal policies. There is no doubt about the need for this. Where I disagreed with the President in the battle over the \$250 billion spending ceiling for fiscal 1973 was in the unconstitutional method he chose to implement it. The fact is that the President came to Congress too late to achieve his stated goal. He could have won his budget ceiling without any effort simply by saying that the country could not afford revenue sharing at a time when the Federal Government had nothing to share with the states and cities other than a deficit.

Looking to the future is always contingent on many "ifs." But the prospects for avoiding new taxes are not as rosy as the Administration has led us to believe. Even if Congress and the President had agreed on some satisfactory method of holding the current budget outlays at \$250 billion, there would still be a deficit of about \$27 billion in this fiscal year. Beyond that the prospects for improvement in the next two fiscal years are not bright. Many of the most costly Federal programs have built-in expansions that are not easily curbed. Moreover, the President is giving high priority to a new national health care system and to welfare reform. Both of these proposals, if adopted, would likely be very expensive to the taxpayers.

Moreover, when we are talking about balancing the budget and not increasing

taxes, there is not a lot of leeway to accomplish the task at hand. What this means is that the Administration and the Congress must agree on a reduction of something like \$20 to \$30 billion without any substantial increase in the cost of new programs. To accomplish this will take a lot of political courage and cooperation. I share the hope that we can move in this direction. There is no higher priority than restoring fiscal responsibility to our government. It should be recognized, however, that politically established kingdoms have a way of enduring virtually all storms and it will take a major reorientation for this nation to move in a new direction.

A Happy
THANKSGIVING
to all!

