

'We Democrats Must Stick Together!'



EDITORIALS

Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man, And He May Be Wrong.

Kennedy Can Win

Obviously it's an over-simplification to say of any presidential hopeful, "He can win". All any candidate needs to win is enough electoral votes. But viewed cold-bloodedly it is our opinion that John Kennedy is very likely to be the next president of these once United States.

Those who fear the anti-Catholic echoes of Al Smith's defeat in 1928 should soften that rumble with more recent noises of a profoundly political nature.

In 1948 Truman won the presidency without a majority of the South and minus the massive electoral vote of New York State. The Solid South is no longer needed by the Democratic candidate who plays his cards right; and who can deny that Young Kennedy is not playing according to Hoyle?

Add to this the tragic blunders of the Republican Party in foreign affairs. The frustrated, almost frightened Eisenhower rebuffed at Paris, at Moscow, at Tokyo. The Cuban debacle, the Korean collapse, loss of air bases in Morocco, Pakistan, Turkey and the Flag of the United States torn down and spat upon in subsidized Panama; this is the huge collection of explanations that the Republicans cannot make.

The traditionally Republican middle-west

is sickened after eight years of Ezra Taft Benson, who is blamed for the ills of our major industry as it is caught in a great technological transition.

The scattered minorities are largely Democratic, despite the fact that their highwater mark of power has been reached with a Republican President, a Republican Supreme Court and a Republican ordered battalion of paratroops.

Nixon, who at this moment has first leg up on the Republican nomination, cannot in 1960 cry on Eisenhower's shoulder. Nixon will have to explain, if he can, the millionaire's club that subsidized his congressional career. Nixon, perhaps, will not even attempt to explain the ugly brutality of his early political career.

So on that basis any Democratic nominee has an excellent chance of changing his address to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. That is why there is such a knock-down-and-drag-out fight this month to select this Democratic Party nominee. Four years ago Adlai was the sacrificial goat for a second time on the altar of Eisenhower's monumental popularity.

This time a winner is being picked, and no goat is needed.

A Sticky Flypaper

Each of us who is caught between a mortgage and a car payment must ask occasionally, "How far in debt can the government go?"

There would appear to be a limit beyond which drowning is inevitable, but the national debt is a sticky flypaper. Nearly a third of a trillion dollars, and still growing. More money than we understand. Editors write silly little squibs about how long it would take to count a million dollars; but our debt is nearing a third of a million million dollars.

Who does the government owe? The folks who have a few war bonds, or defense bonds, or savings bonds? Yes, the government owes them, but the major part of the national debt is held by insurance companies, investment trusts, banks and huge corporations. All of these, of course, originally got their money from individuals, and they are owned by individuals.

But this handful of huge corporations that controls such a slice of the wealth have worked themselves into a difficult corner, and they are caught on a sticky flypaper. They are like the corner grocer who has extended credit to a family and has let the bill get too high. Now they cannot cut off the groceries to that indebted family for fear of losing the whole bill.

If the national debt is deflated, individuals who hold government bonds will see the value of their holdings cut in half, or even less. This would be bad for an individual, but for a corporation this kind of deflation would be the end.

Insurance companies have commitments to pay, and if their assets are cut they cannot pay their policy holders. So they have to keep on buying government bonds. It's no longer a question of whether they want to, or if they think it wise?

Ultimately as the nation moves all the

Political Immorality

They are breeding a new specie of political cat nowadays.

Tuesday Gubernatorial Nominee Terry Sanford exhibited a fine example of this when he said he intended to wait until he got to Los Angeles and studied the situation and then throw his support to the candidate who is most likely to be the winner.

Much more ancient political cats than Terry have been inclined to "bandwagonitis", but none ever called a press conference to confess his ambition to be on the winning side.

Perhaps this candor is refreshing, but to us political morality is based upon choosing the best qualified man in one's own opinion and then fighting for him until the last shot is fired.

Sanford has now set the pace for the

North Carolina delegation: Tip-toe into Los Angeles, keep an ear to the keyholes, keep your mouth shut until the roll is called and then after the horses are running and the betting is closed try to pick a winner.

In political conventions as at the race tracks the only folks who win are those who put their money on a horse before the race is begun. Everybody cannot win, of course, but that's what makes races interesting.

Sanford has cornered himself with the Sunday morning jockeys who were with the winner all the way from the finish wire to the winner's circle.

But then, that was the way a lot of folks jumped on the Sanford wagon, after they had decided he was going to be the winner, and not because they believed him to be the best qualified man for the job.

Revised Tax Program

The billions of dollars per year being raised through the medium of gasoline taxes, which roughly amount to 10 cents per gallon on each gallon sold. With the staggering commitments for construction and maintenance of highways that the nation now has any very large drop in gasoline consumption would automatically force either a greatly increased tax on gasoline or new taxes.

This question becomes important in view of industry predictions that within three years the so-called compact cars will capture between 60 and 75 per cent of the market.

Each of these cars has, or promises much lower gasoline consumption. The average standard size car manages to get about 12 to 15 miles per gallon. The compacts are delivering much better than twice this

mileage. The state and federal lawmakers will have to sharpen their pencils in the near future and devise methods of filling the treasury hole that will be created by the public's shift to smaller cars.

An Unanswered Question

Until now neither President Eisenhower nor any of his aides has answered one lingering question that hovers over the infamous "U-2" incident.

The question: If it were as necessary as claimed to send these planes in the first instance, why is it not still necessary to send them?

If the vital information these planes allegedly were getting was important before, what now makes it unimportant. If their mission was so necessary that it was permitted to jeopardize a "summit conference", what has so suddenly converted it to the unnecessary?

Red Africa

The helter-skelter rush to give political freedom to the scattered tribes of Africa cannot avoid brutal collisions between ancient habits and modern interpretations of nationalism.

A very thin layer of civilization has been spread over the feudalistic society which composes the bulk of Black Africa. To expect this thin layer of civilization—no matter how nobly inspired—to suppress the ages-old habits of family and tribal life is to expect the impossible.

Black African society is built upon absolute monarchy, a spiritualistic mumbo-jumbo and the lowest forms of human slavery. The education of a handful of the brightest young men and women in the processes of free government has been a noble, but foolish experiment that will unleash the passions of this continent into a bloodletting of horrible proportions.

When India was set free the Moslem and Hindu societies—which represent two of the oldest segments of what we loosely call civilization—exercised themselves in bloody fits that saw hundreds of thousands murdered in the name of religion.

Compared to India, Africa is not living in a different century, but in a different age. Black Africa will now become Red Africa.

way into state socialism these companies will be nationalized and their debts will become bookkeeping entries rather than actual obligations. This situation already exists with the Social Security payments workers pay to the federal treasury.

Rather than being kept to pay off it is spent on other agencies of government, and never expects to be reimbursed for its "loans" to government.

There is no limit to national debt. There is, however, a very definite limit to ability of the taxpayer to pay. Our nation is now very near that dangerous limit.

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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS
BY JACK RIDER

This week that collection of misfitted minorities which compose the Democratic Party will choose their candidates for president and vice-president in Los Angeles. There, appropriately, in the never-never land of the movies the farce will be acted out on television for a bored segment of the electorate to watch and admire. For one so concerned with politics as myself I couldn't care less about their choice.

Possibly my bitter lack of interest stems from the utter frustration I feel about the entire anatomy of American politics. I wish sincerely that I could without mental reservation join the merry mob and plunge along the primrose path to state socialism. But I must drag my feet, and dragged they are, and much faster than is comfortable.

Americans have been hypnotized by the rhetoric and have lost sight of the fundamental responsibilities of freedom. We have—on the majority—accepted that freedom is flexible enough to be stretched over every human need, or imagined need. Freedom to the contemporary politician extends far beyond the concepts specified in that original document of freedom; our neglected Constitution.

Today freedom in the mind of the selfish, greedy masses includes freedom from want, freedom from individual responsibility, freedom from the cost of medical care, freedom from the task of providing one's own security. And in this mad scramble of the politician to give these greedy masses all of these constitutional imaginations nothing but insecurity is resulting. The man who has worked to buy a home, an annuity for his retirement and a few of the luxuries that make retirement more pleasant finds all of his plans tumbling. His hard, individual fight for his own security

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