

Other Editors

WRAL VIEWPOINT

No Pay ... No Job

It's strictly old-hat stuff for State employees in Raleigh to be subjected to a shakedown during the political fund-raising season. It happens just as regularly as clockwork: let the party bosses set out to raise money and news departments throughout the city begin to receive dozens of calls from indignant but frightened state employees who have been told to put up — or else.

It is never quite possible to pin the tail on the donkey. Party officials cross their hearts and swear that no pressure has been put on pressure has been put on anybody. Once in awhile they ask any employee who has felt such pressure to step forward. The state employees are not about to do any such thing, for they have a very clear understanding of what the consequences would be. So, there is always a restless stir, but nothing more is said or done about it.

But in Washington last week the shakedown was on — and on a scale that made the Raleigh goings-on look like the bush leagues. According to Jerry Klutz of The Washington Post the Democratic National Committee came up with a gimmick which Klutz described as "play politics now and pay later." The idea was used to take care of government employees who tried to get off from buying \$100 tickets for a dinner at which President Kennedy spoke.

There's no lack of imagination along the New Frontier. Government employees who pleaded that they didn't have \$100 to spend on a ticket were confronted with a budget-payment plan. Under the plan the hapless employee was requested to put up a minimum of \$10, and pay off the remaining \$90 at the rate of \$10 per month. Just to show how kind-hearted the folks in charge are, no interest is charged on the unpaid balance.

All of this, of course, is a distinct violation of the law. There were literally hundreds of complaints, but as far as Reporter Klutz could determine, not one Federal agency or official even bothered to investigate the numerous reports of pressure on employees to buy tickets.

Klutz said that mainly "the indirect" approach was used by officials. The arm-twisting centered largely around a number of cocktail parties which were held just before the dinner. Employees said flatly that they were called at their Government offices, and on Government time, and told either by telephone or in person by their superiors that "we're expecting you and your wife" at the Boss' cocktail party. Of course, the parties were limited to those who had bought the \$100 tickets.

The Scripps-Howard newspapers conducted a survey and found that virtually every civilian department and agency of the federal government had scheduled such a cocktail party — at the request of the Democratic National Committee. The Washington Daily News said that some of the parties were held in hotel banquet rooms, others in the homes of agency heads or officials.

All of this was about as subtle as a blackjack. No wonder, then

that such a crowd turned out for the dinner.

Senator John Williams of Delaware thought the matter ought to be considered by the Senate. So he attempted to introduce a resolution calling for an investigation. But his resolution was blocked — and, by whom, do you reckon? Why, those two fearless "liberals" of the Senate, Hubert Humphrey and Paul Douglas, that's who!

Senator Humphrey rose to new heights of self-righteousness when, with a straight face, he told the Senate: "If we can find a few willful, kindly considerate, enlightened people who wish to make a contribution to the Democratic Party, I do not know why the Senator from Delaware would (object). We would like to have them come to hear the message of truth. The only way they can hear that message is to come to that magnificent dinner."

Many a Senator headed for the washroom basins on that one, but Senator Humphrey continued: "... I might even buy a ticket for the Senator from Delaware so that he might come to hear the message... when the President of the United States not only will lay before the country the evil and the

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BURLINGTON (VT.) FREE PRESS

Bureaucracy Booming

John F. Kennedy received 34,227,096 votes in the Presidential election of 1960. His opponent, Richard M. Nixon received 34,108,546 votes.

Thus, Kennedy won the Presidency by 118,550 votes.

Between January 20, 1961 (when Kennedy took office), and June 30, 1962, federal civilian employment increased by a grand total of 143,618.

This means that in 17 months 25,068 more people were added to the federal payroll than the total number of voters who provided

wrong doings of the Republican Party, but also will tell of the greatness and goodness of the Democratic Party."

But Senator Williams, as it developed, couldn't make it. He was home suffering from a case of nausea.

Kennedy with his margin of victory in 1960.

According to estimates based on the budget, 88,000 more employees will be added to the federal bureaucracy before the end of December. If Kennedy adds only 5,482 employees between January 1 and January 20 (which seems certain), he will have increased federal civil employment by 237,100 in two years.

Vermonters will note that the number 237,100 is exactly twice the number 118,550 — which was Kennedy's margin of victory in 1960.

Are there still any Vermonters who are not disturbed by the explosive growth of the federal bureaucracy?

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