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R. Halteman

NIXON-LODGE CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

SUMMARY OF OPINIONS IN THE NEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1960

RN (1)

Hospitalization

Most of the morning papers carried a story on RN's progress on their front pages along with a picture. Headlines were as follows: Chicago Sun-Times - "Report Nixon Is Doing OK;" NYHT - "Lodge Will Campaign Harder With Nixon Out; President Sees Vice-President In Hospital, Says 'He Looks Fine';" Chicago Tribune - "Nixon's Knee Responds to Treatment." A number of the papers commented editorially. New York Daily News: "We wish the Vice President early and complete recovery; hope he'll take things easy as long as the doctors want him to; and think/^{he}and his press secretary ...are wise in making public all the facts concerning Mr. Nixon's ailment.... Since Nixon can't make speeches for a while, the newspapers can be a very convenient medium for relaying his views to the public any time he feels like calling in the reporters."

Phila. Inquirer: "As the Presidential campaign is just beginning to steam up this is a tough break for Mr. Nixon.... It is encouraging to learn that the doctors... say the injury... is not of an extremely serious nature. Public sympathy and concern for the Vice President is earnest and widespread, with the hope that he will have a speedy and safe recovery.... We think his Democratic opponent... expressed general feelings in his telegram to Mr. Nixon."

Wash. Post: "Vice President Nixon has been wise to follow his doctor's orders respecting hospitalization for a knee infection.... At this stage of the campaign a two-week withdrawal will not be crippling despite the cancellation of some of the Republican nominee's scheduled appearances.... It will afford him an enforced rest that his opponent will not enjoy. Mr. Nixon's general good health has been amply attested. We hope that he will back in action soon, for the issues of the campaign deserve the full vigor and attention of both candidates."

Balt. Sun: "Mr. Nixon's disability... is bad luck. If the disability proves but brief, as the country trusts it will and as from present medical reports seems likely, it may have little effect on the Vice President's political strength; but it still prevents one of the candidates from plunging ahead in the kind of contest both had planned. If Mr. Nixon's bad luck should persist, his opponent also faces a problem.... Ought Mr. Kennedy, in a spirit of sportsmanship, slow down his own physical activity? Or would a show of that kind of playing-field sportsmanship belittle the seriousness of a fight

for the country's highest office? Anyway, is a Mr. Nixon thinking in his hospital suite so much less effective politically than a Mr. Nixon moving around? The Democratic strategists may doubt it....The illness serves as a fresh reminder of how swiftly a picture may be changed, by chance or circumstance....Though this campaign may not be altered substantially by Mr. Nixon's bad luck, something else now unforeseen, and no less fortuitous, could still alter it."

David Lawrence comments on this sportsmanship aspect and recalls that Woodrow Wilson, when he was campaigning against Teddy Roosevelt who was wounded by a would-be assassin's bullet, announced that he would cancel his speaking engagements. Lawrence says "Maybe Vice President Nixon..will benefit by a two-week recess in the stumping excursion. Maybe Sen. Kennedy would also benefit if he took a rest for the next fortnight....Campaign speeches may clarify the basic issues for many citizens, but a decisive influence one way or the other doubtless has already affected a majority of the voters. The speeches of the next two months may not materially affect the result at all."

Chicago Tribune: "The illness of Richard Nixon should not distract attention from the remarkable reception given him in Atlanta....The enthusiastic reception suggests that the Republican Presidential candidate may find even better hunting in the south than did Mr. Eisenhower....Apparently the attempt to hold the restive south in check by offering the consolation prize on the ticket to Lyndon Johnson has not proved efficacious."

Religious Issue

Joe Alsop continues his discussion of the anti-Catholic agitation in the South. "It is an equally painful problem for Vice President Richard M. Nixon. It goes without saying that if Nixon benefits in the South by this increasingly sharp outburst of anti-Catholicism, he will be an entirely involuntary beneficiary. He has had nothing whatever to do with it. He has even directed all of his campaign workers never to mention the so-called religious issue in private talk." Alsop recalls that "Eisenhower secured a commanding lead among all New York State's Catholics from the lower middle-income level upward. Today, moreover, when Northern Catholics are still unaware of the anti-Catholic outburst in the South, Sen. John F. Kennedy has by no means won back all the Republican-voting Catholics....Kennedy's chance of winning back any individual Republican-voting Catholic quite largely depends on the individual's

date of migration into the Republican Party. If the first Republican vote was cast in 1956, a return to the Democratic fold is highly probable.... Kennedy now seems likely to get about 60 per cent of the Catholic votes in New York. This transfer of Catholics to Kennedy is a sore handicap for Nixon, but it is not an insurmountable handicap. ... The degree of Catholic transfer that now seems likely is very far from certain to defeat Nixon in the crucial big states of the North. Nixon has a good chance, too, of reducing the transfer. The truth is that Nixon appeals very strongly to the naturally conservative Catholics. But let the anti-Catholic agitation in the South gain volume and produce the inevitable effects in the North, then Kennedy may well take 80 per cent of the New York Catholics.... In the long run, Nixon will hardly be able to solve this problem by refusing to discuss the religious issue, and by ordering his campaign workers to do likewise. At a guess, he will be unable to solve the problem without the strongest sort of affirmative action to halt the Southern anti-Catholic agitation. If the agitation continues, nothing less than strong affirmative action can really be counted on to prevent a northern reaction to what is happening in the South."

New York Post: "In the South, the whispering stage has been passed and bigotry has come out in hard-shell Baptist and other quarters with almost roaring intensity. This has more than a slight connection with the new Southern boom for Nixon we have been hearing about, and although Nixon himself decries it, his local supporters are far from reluctant to employ the advantage freely supplied by local anti-Catholics."

Lyle Wilson in the New York World Telegram Sun: "Any lingering hope that Sen. John F. Kennedy's Roman Catholicism would not be a real issue in this Presidential campaign must by now have vanished. That may prove to be the most significant fact of this campaign year."

An editorial in the World Telegram Sun comments upon the remark made by Don E. Ahrens, Michigan Republican leader, to the state GOP convention. "We imagine he offended a great many people--of all faiths and political persuasions. The religious issue is not necessarily a matter of degree. A little joke can be as bad as, or worse than, a vitriolic broadside."

Marquis Childs, commenting on the Congressional session, concludes that "It requires little imagination to see how the situation (White House relations with the Congress) would be altered if Nixon were in the White House and particularly if it were suspected that he owed his victory to religious prejudice in a close election."

The Senate is certain to be Democratic....In order to capture the House, Republicans would have to win 65 seats, and that is a landslide which certainly at this writing is not in the cards. Here is a prescription for fratricidal stalemate at a moment in history when we can least afford stalemate."

Miscellaneous

Chicago Daily News: "Vice President Nixon, who has something of a reputation as a campaign slugger, has declared that he will avoid name-calling....At Alexandria, Va., Sen. Kennedy remarked that Mr. Nixon was experienced, all right, 'in policies of retreat, defeat and weakness.'...This will cause many to wonder just how much of this Mr. Nixon will stand still for."

Kennedy (2)

The Balt. Sun carried a number of stories today on its front page which were hardly mentioned by the other papers. It gave extensive coverage to Sen. Kefauver's remarks concerning anti-Catholic material. It also carried an interview with Chester Bowles. Among other things the story on Bowles said "He belittles the Republican party's argument that Vice President Nixon's experience in foreign affairs gives him an important edge over Senator Kennedy. 'We have lost ground....So what good is experience? Let's get some new people.'" Mr. Bowles also said on the religious issue: "I would like to suggest as a starter that Mr. Nixon stop introducing each speech by saying, 'We must keep religion out of this campaign.' I can think of no neater way to put it into it.'" There is also a rather extended report of Mr. Khrushchev's remarks in Moscow, which were barely mentioned by the New York Times and other papers. Mr. Khrushchev is quoted as saying "Mr. Nixon wants to be President of the United States. O.K., let him be President. Let him live until the time comes when he will have to show his shame to his children and his grandchildren for his lies about communism. His children and surely his grandchildren will live under Communism--and this will be done not by us but by the workers, the toiling peasantry and the toiling intelligentsia of the United States....For myself I would like to see as the next American President the most progressive man--a Communist."

New Press Conference Technique

The Chicago Tribune points out in its story on Sen. Kennedy's announcement of the appointments of Paul Nitze, et al, that the Senator has adopted a new procedure in

his press conferences, "one in which all questions were barred except on one stated subject. More than 200 reporters, assembled to quiz Kennedy at his invitation, were baffled. They had ready scores of questions on a broad variety of issues. This was to be the first opportunity to get answers on the record since the Senate reconvened more than three weeks ago....The Massachusetts senator opened the conference by announcing that he would confine it to discussion of his appointment of a four man group to advise him on national defense matters. He added that he would submit to general questioning at another meeting before he departed for a campaign tour of Maine later this week....Reports spread that the senator had planned to deliver a strong political attack and had hastily substituted, at the last moment, a routine announcement which would normally have been issued by his press spokesman. The sudden confinement of his Republican rival...to a hospital for two weeks, was advanced as one possible reason for this action. Refusal to answer questions about other subjects...saved Kennedy from embarrassment, it was noted....Kennedy's 18-minute tardiness to today's news conference that had first been called for last Friday went unexplained. The technical ground rules of a Presidential press conference were put into effect on orders of his press secretary....No reporters could leave the room until the 'thank you' signal, when all could go. But even a President normally lays down no such boundaries on questions as Kennedy did."

Tennessee

Morris Cunningham, writing in the Memphis Commercial Appeal reports "An analysis of the Kefauver vote shows that two basic components of his support cannot be counted for the Democratic...ticket in November. The first of these is the untold thousands of Republicans who went into the Democratic primary and voted for Senator Kefauver....The other is the lopsided support Tennessee's Negro voters gave Senator Kefauver....Kefauver received a majority of more than 75,000 in the First and Second Congressional Districts alone. Both of these districts are Republican. Both are represented in Congress by Republicans. Both have voted Republican...since the Grand Old Party came into existence....The Third District, which includes Republican counties, gave Senator Kefauver a majority of nearly 20,000. Yet the Democrats will be extremely lucky to carry it in November....Kefauver also got Republican support elsewhere in the state, in Carroll and Shelby Counties...that cannot be counted for the Democratic presidential ticket in November. Likewise, Senator Kefauver's great Negro

wing is not readily transferable to the Kennedy-Johnson...ticket. Senator Kefauver almost all of the estimated 35,000 votes cast by Negroes in the Democratic primary in Shelby County. Yet Shelby County's Negro precincts went Republican in 1956, George Lee, the Memphis Negro leader, has predicted they will do so again in November.... The high-level conferences here this week between Gov. Buford Ellington, Senators Kefauver and Gore, Tennessee's House Democrats, the Governor's political advisers, and Senators Kennedy and Johnson are a measure of the Democratic concern.

Foreign Policy (3)

OAS Resolution

The Richmond Times-Dispatch questions whether the resolution against Cuba was a clear-cut victory as described by the Associated Press. "It may turn out to be one of this country's worst defeats.... The OAS has merely slapped violently pro-Communist Castro on the wrist, without so much as naming him. On the other hand, we have taken part in a concerted move to wreck Trujillo--although, until very recently, he had been both friendly to us and hostile to Communism. We hold no brief for Trujillo.... Yet it can at least be said that Trujillo had been friendly toward us, in contrast to Castro, who had been anything but. There is a group of 'liberals' in this and other countries who almost foam at the mouth at the mention of Dictator Trujillo or Dictator Franco, but who can 'take' Communist or crypto-Communist dictators with hardly a murmur.... Now the United States has permitted itself to be drawn into a scheme to overthrow rightist Trujillo, who had done nothing offensively hostile toward it, while joining in a weak resolution against Castro which probably will have no effect, other than to cause this leftist dictator to redouble his furious verbal assaults on us.... It now seems entirely possible that Trujillo will fall and that his regime will be succeeded by one of Red coloration, dominated either from Havana or from Moscow and Peiping. All of which doesn't add up to exactly brilliant diplomacy on our part."

The Congo

Chicago Sun-Times: "There is... irony in the fact that a week after the United States gave the Republic of the Congo \$5,000,000 in urgently needed aid, Congolese police brutally attacked eight U.S. airmen.... It was, to be sure, a case of mistaken identity...but even if (the Congolese) had known they were Americans the same thing might have happened. For America's stock is not high in the Congo, or elsewhere

among the peoples of Africa....Why is the Soviet propaganda so readily accepted, and our own ignored? For two principal reasons: First, because the United States is in league with those nations historically linked with imperialism. Second, because little or no effective human relations work has been done on America's part to compare with the vast, spectacularly successful work being carried out by the Russians.... Unless that picture is changed, all the dollars in the U.S. Treasury will not win the struggle for the minds of those so-called uncommitted peoples....But the easy conclusion that dollars alone will win the struggle for the free world is false and fantastically dangerous. The other factor that is needed, from the United States in particular, is respect. The Congo at this point is a symbol of a surging drive for status....Even apart from the sorry spectacle of the U.S. struggle over integration, America's human relations policies abroad are wholly inadequate."

Connally Reservation

WSJ: "Abandoning the Connally Reservation could not possibly bring a just peace or a world rule of law one whit closer....The issues of peace and war...lie far deeper than anything like this. The world's peace is threatened by the militant Communist conspiracy which never hesitates to violate any treaty or precept of international conduct when it suits its purposes....Because of these realities in the world situation, the United Nations has never been able to live up to the reason for its existence. Declaring unity among the nations could not bring actual unity when one powerful nation seeks only the tragic unity of Communist dictatorship....How can anyone talk seriously of a functioning World Court that could embrace such nations along with Cuba, the Congo and the Kremlin? The trouble with all this...is that people sometimes let their desire for real peace lead them into wishful thinking. Thanks to Communist imperialism, the 'world rule of law' that we have today is the law of the jungle....To the extent that the U.S. involves itself in a World Court that is but a facade for the law of the jungle, it puts itself at the mercy of the jungle. That is why we think it necessary to keep the Connally Reservation. And why we think it a peculiar sort of folly to encourage the delusion that an international fiction can alter the world's stark actualities."

Polls (4)

The Wash. Post carried on its front page today the latest Gallup poll, reporting

a trial heat between the two tickets. The results today: Nixon-Lodge - 47%; Kennedy-Johnson - 47%; Undecided - 6%. Gallup says "It should be emphasized that voters were asked which ticket they would vote for if the election were being held today, and not how they would vote in November.... Since a sizeable group of those eligible to vote do not...the Gallup Poll bases election survey results on the voting population."

The WSJ today has a book review of John M. Fenton's book on the Gallup Poll. One of the interesting things brought out in Mr. Fenton's book is that "the polls show that the popularity of our post-war leaders has tended to rise or fall in accordance with their willingness to 'do something' about Russia. Eisenhower gained far more kudos for going into Lebanon than for his attitude on inflation." On the Catholic issue, "Mr. Fenton notes that Kennedy did best in a Gallup poll at a time when more than half of those interviewed did not know that he was a Roman Catholic."

SUMMARY OF OPINIONS IN THE NEWSFRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 1960RN (1)Appearance on Jack Paar Program

RN's remarks on the Jack Paar program in response to the question with regard to who decides policy received front page play in the New York Times, Phila. Inquirer and Balt. Sun. The headlines were as follows: New York Times - "Nixon Denies Role in Deciding Policy;" Phila. Inquirer - "Nixon Calls President the Boss;" Balt. Sun - "Nixon Tells Nature of Experience; Says It Primarily Was Presence at Administration Meetings." The Wash. Post carried the story on page 2 and the headline read "Nixon Admits President Made Vital Administration Decisions."

David Lawrence commented on this question as brought out in the President's press conference. Lawrence quotes from the article which appeared in the U.S. News & World Report as to the Vice President's role in the decision making process and says, "What the President said is in line with what Vice-President Nixon himself had previously revealed in describing his own role... The big issue in the campaign is not the extent to which Mr. Nixon is responsible for Mr. Eisenhower's 'decisions,' but the knowledge of national and international problems that Mr. Nixon has gained during the last seven-and-a-half years.... In the Senate debates since yesterday quite a point has been made by the Democrats of the fact that Mr. Eisenhower... was asked to give an instance in which Vice-President Nixon had influenced a particular 'decision.' The President parried the question by quipping that he might think of one 'if you give me a week'.... It would have been considered indelicate for the President to have initiated a discussion of this kind, but now that the Democrats have opened the way, it gives him a full opportunity in the campaign to discuss Mr. Nixon's experience in government-- which, after all, is one of the main questions in the minds of the voters."

In this connection, the sixth article in the Wash. Post series on RN's advisors (today concerned with national defense) quotes Robert C. Sprague as saying, "It will take Kennedy or Johnson two years to get up to date' on secret data to make proper decisions, said Sprague, for 'briefing' alone is inadequate. 'The difference between "briefing" and blood, sweat and tears,' said Sprague, 'is the difference between day and night.'"

Sylvia Porter is also conducting a series of articles on advisors to both Mr.

Kennedy and RN. Today's discussion is concerned with the role of Dr. Arthur Burns.

Southern Trip

Tom O'Neill in the Balt. Sun discusses the Southern situation. "Vice President Nixon's ~~quicken~~ interest in the South was born of a discovery that political unrest below the Potomac has become more pronounced since the nominating conventions.... Notably, he picked for first attention three states which even President Eisenhower was unable to crack in two successful raids upon the old Democratic base.... A phenomenon that has grasped the attention of the strategists in both parties is the extraordinary number of voters who tell inquiring pollsters and the like that they remain undecided between the candidates. Justifiably, this heartens the GOP and alarms Democrats because it is assumed that there would be no hesitancy among these normally Democratic voters unless they were at least contemplating a departure from custom.... Texas is described as in political turmoil, and there is considerable resentment against Senator Lyndon Johnson, apparently on the thesis that Texans never take second place to anybody.... In the selection of Alabama and Georgia for his second sally into the South, Mr. Nixon chose to test two states which rank among the least receptive to Republicans.... In these areas and others the Republican campaign tasks will be entrusted to the Volunteers for Nixon, avoiding the party identification of the local GOP organizations."

Endorsement

Paul Miller in the Rochester Times Union endorses the Nixon-Lodge ticket in a thoughtful analysis of the candidates. "I am for Richard M. Nixon for president. He probably is the best trained man ever nominated for the office.... It would be folly to reject him. I am for Henry Cabot Lodge for vice president. World conditions being what they are.... The No. 1 issue of 1960 is maintaining and expanding peace with justice. In that light, Nixon and Lodge are clearly the superior team.... We are fortunate that the convention system, with all its faults, could turn up a ticket like Nixon-Lodge."

RN & Anti-Semitism (2)

George Sokolsky says "A whispering campaign is being paid for in large cities with Jewish populations that Richard Nixon is an anti-Semite. Those who spread this story are liars. No Quaker is an anti-Semite. Furthermore, Nixon's entire career

is evidence of his breadth of view on questions of race and religion. This story goes back to the days when Nixon was a member of Congress, fighting the Communists.... When he ran against Helen Gahagan Douglas...and trounced her, he brought down on his head the maledictions of the Liberals. Helen Gahagan Douglas was one of their queens and she was believed to be a sure-in when Nixon destroyed her political career. Thus, he had against him the combined strength of the Communists and the Liberals who have never forgiven him....It was the Communist-Liberal attack on Nixon in the 1952 campaign that made him an unusual figure in American politics. Now these same forces are at work, particularly in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Their lies are not so easily handled, because they deal not with facts but with emotions....Those who spread tales that Richard Nixon or, for that matter, John Kennedy, is an anti-Semite are not friends of Jews. They are liars."

Admiral Ellis M. Zacharias also comments on this matter in a lengthy letter to the editor of the New York Herald Tribune. His particular reason for writing the letter was in reference to comments that Joe Alsop quoted in his column on the Jewish vote. Admiral Zacharias says "As an 'independent' and one who has devoted almost fifty years of his life working for or promoting our national security, I am interested in facts. I, too, admire the capabilities of Adlai Stevenson and the splendid work of Chester Bowles in India....But I also know that 'Distrust of Nixon' stems from false smear propaganda subsequent to and resulting from Nixon's successful campaign against Helen Gahagan Douglas....As your district intelligence officer in California during 1938-'39-'40, I attended or was represented at meetings of the Communist party, the German-American Bund, the Silver Shirts, etc. Helen Gahagan Douglas and her husband, Melvin Douglas, were not members of the Communist party. But at a meeting in San Diego, called and directed by the Communist party leader of Los Angeles... both Mr. and Mrs. Douglas spoke and sat on the stage with this individual....Like so many 'do-gooders,' misguided people become involved in the aspirations of those who do not have the interests of our country at heart....When Mr. Nixon, in his effective efforts against Communist advances, spoke out against the ill-advised associations of his opponent, he was interested in the future security of his country as well as his own election. His handling of Mr. Khrushchev surpasses that of anyone to date and well testifies to his ability. Our future depends upon the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. Our future welfare can be assured only by experience and maturity.

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There is no question of Mr. Nixon's growth under the vast responsibilities of the past seven years. Therefore, if the voting public, through inspired propaganda, allow themselves to be deprived of these qualities in the White House, when the crash comes they will recall that the cemetery of history is filled with the graves of nations who made their decision too late."

Kennedy (3)

Congress - Medical Care Plan

Both the Chicago Daily News and Tribune took Walter Lippmann to task this morning in connection with his statements on the medical care bill.

Chicago Daily News: "(Lippmann) adopts the basic misrepresentation...that the Social Security system is 'insurance.' It is not. Social Security taxes are hardly different from any other. The money is spent as it comes in. Social Security benefits are paid out of current government revenue; they are subject to no contract but are constantly being jiggled by Congress. This is not 'insurance' by any rational definition...The label, however, makes the benefits more palatable. They become a 'right' distributed to everybody, rather than merely to those who can prove they need help...The federal dollars, however, meet the desire of liberals that more and more activities be financed by the graduated federal income tax. It is somewhat ironic that these people in general favored placing medical care under the Social Security system, where half the payroll tax falls on the worker. The difference is that once the principle is established, it becomes easy to press each year for increased benefits...as is done with the retirement annuity, without fighting the entire battle over again. Many of the applications for medical care which Illinois welfare officials now reject come from elderly persons who are being cared for by relatives. The children or other kin generally prompt the aid application, fearing a protracted expense that would tax their own resources. To the extent that the new legislation in its final form would enable the state to accept more such people, it should be entitled Aid to the Peace of Mind of Relatives of the Medically Indigent."

Chicago Tribune: "Senator Kennedy has an explanation to offer for the sad showing he has made in the rump session of Congress...Walter Lippmann...who supports Kennedy, has taken the same tack. Mr. Lippmann concludes that the inability of the Democrats to put over what he calls a 'positive' type of federal medicine stems from

the fact 'that ours is a Presidential system of government.' That is, Mr. Eisenhower, by putting on a false face, can scare down 66 Senate Democrats....This, of course, is nonsense, and President Eisenhower recited the facts in first grade terms at his news conference....How would Mr. Kennedy in the White House be any more successful than Mr. Kennedy in the Senate....If Kennedy cannot carry 19 Conservative Democratic senators with him now, what further power could he exercise over them if he were President? If he is balked now by...Rep. Howard Smith...what impels Kennedy or Lippmann to believe that Smith and his associates would be any softer touches if Kennedy gained the White House?"

New York Post: "We question whether the threat of a Presidential veto was the real reason for the debacle. For one thing, it reminds us of the lame excuse that (Senator Johnson)...frequently offered for his non-support of crucial legislation in the civil rights area. And that brings up the Democratic leadership's excuse for rejecting civil rights action in this special session....Thus Sen. Kennedy, assisted by Mr. Johnson, has struck out two out of three times in the session. He did get his minimum wage bill passed...but the measure has yet to get by the Dixiecrat chairman of the House Rules Committee....It may not look as good in its final form as it did when it was hailed, properly, as a Kennedy victory. President Eisenhower...said that Kennedy had only the Democrats to blame. This is an over-simplification that exonerates the Republicans from responsibility....But Ike may not be entirely off base. The question of who is running the Democratic ball game and why more Southern Democratic votes weren't rounded up for the party's program provides interesting food for gloomy thought."

Comment on the Session to Date

Wash. Post: "The sooner that Congress finishes the necessary conferences and adjourns, the sooner members can get down to the serious matter of political campaigning that has preoccupied everyone's attention anyhow....The session has scarcely added to anyone's political luster. It may have impaired Senator Kennedy's efforts more than Vice President Nixon's....A short session before the elections does not afford a fair test of the sincerity of either party with respect to its platform pledges. Nor does it give an accurate measure of the ability of a new Administration to enlist the cooperation of Congress."

WSJ: "Unfortunately for Messrs. Johnson and Kennedy, the best laid plans of

politicians sometimes go awry....Now Senator Kennedy has declared that he's for cutting the session short and going home just as fast as possible. And perhaps, as if it were needed, this is the final evidence that all those 'pressing' bills are not really very pressing after all."

William S. White: "The Democratic Presidential ticket has been injured, at least theoretically, by the comparative failure of the bob-tailed session of Congress now drawing angrily toward its close. It would be a great mistake, however, to bet very much that this injury is necessarily real or enduring....The Kennedy-Johnson slate can be reckoned to have been badly damaged only if one assumes the Democratic convention platform was politically a poor one in the first place. For the impression left by this session is not solely one of the inability of Kennedy and Johnson to bring off legislation they wanted. An equally strong impression has been that of two young men frustrated in their efforts to implement a part of that platform by 'Old Guard' Southern Democrats and Republicans. This will be seen as a good coalition, if a majority of the country turns up in a more or less conservative frame of mind. But if a majority turns up in a more or less liberal mood, Kennedy and Johnson will then be seen as the victims of stuffy, bad old conservatives....In a word, nothing basic has changed very much."

Charles Lucey in the Wash. Daily News: "The current...session of Congress has become chiefly a salvage operation today/for...Kennedy...Johnson and the Democrats generally....The Democrats' own members from the South had cut up the 1960 standard-bearers as badly as had the Republicans....The session has added no luster to Sen. Kennedy as party leader....Sen. Kennedy has discovered it is one thing to get a liberal platform adopted...quite another to get his party to do much about it in Congress....Many Democrats are convinced they are being damaged increasingly every day longer the session runs. They want Jack Kennedy out over the country in the glory-boy role....The Democrats believe the light that will shine thru over all is of Jack Kennedy fighting a great battle for the issues the people want."

Rowland Evans says that Kennedy has called for a depressed areas conference in West Virginia starting Sept. 19. "The Democratic nominee whose legislative program for the special session of Congress is now in disarray, will pattern the West Virginia conference along lines of the twelve-state farm conference....Some of Sen. Kennedy's advisers are convinced that the economic situation is coming more to the

fore as a potential significant election issue....The Senator...is counting on adjournment of Congress and the start of serious campaigning by the middle of next week... Both the Senator himself, it may be said, and his running mate, Sen...Johnson...are panting to end the session as soon as possible. They want nothing more than to move the political spotlight away from Washington and out on the hustings."

Religious Issue

Chicago Tribune has a headline this AM reading "Kennedy Gets a Protestant Answer Man."

Rowland Evans (see above) commenting on this says "The Senator let it be known yesterday that from now on he would be prepared to answer in writing any question about Catholic theology."

In a second article on the editorial page of the NYHT, Evans sums up his impressions of his visit to Iowa. "The signs...point to another Republican victory.... Hog prices are holding firm, employment is reaching up, industry is expanding. Although farmers may be generally unhappy and disgruntled with the Republicans, they haven't yet cottoned to Senator Kennedy....The religious issue, an honest report must say, is engaging the attention of politicians out here fully as much as the so-called 'farm vote.'...Politicians of both parties are convinced as of today that Sen. Kennedy's religion will play some part in the outcome (in the Midwest)."

The WSJ, in its weekly Washington wire: "Anti-Catholic rumbling scares Kennedy into hurried counterattack. Kennedy changes plans, slates quick post-Labor Day swing into Oklahoma, Texas where anti-papal talk mounts rapidly. The plan: Squash religious attacks fast by once again pledging church-state division. Task force of lay leaders will get local pastors to denounce religious prejudice; they'll rebut anti-Catholic letters to editors, arm local campaigners with Kennedy's answers."

Comment on Kennedy's Speeches

Alexandria

Wash. Post: "With a good deal of what Senator Kennedy said...at Alexandria about the erosion of American prestige, this newspaper agrees. But when the Democratic nominee sought to attribute personal responsibility to Vice President Nixon for every setback since the Korean war, he engaged in the same sort of distortion that his colleagues so often attribute to the Republicans....Mr. Nixon has indeed been a member of the National Security Council, but the fact is that he has presided at only 27 regular

weekly meetings and 2 special meetings out of several hundred....Mr. Kennedy would do himself more credit if he would rein in a bit on the hyperbole."

New York Daily News: "John F. Kennedy declaimed that...Nixon, as Vice President, has had much experience with 'weakness, retreat and defeat.' Sen. Kennedy exaggerated....The Eisenhower Administration has done no major retreating and suffered no defeats, up to now at least, in Lebanon, the Formosa Strait, or West Berlin. Nor did Gen. Eisenhower send regrets to Khrushchev....Nevertheless, Kennedy has something of a point. For one thing, the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles...for some reason neglected to purge the State Department of a lot of pinks, queers and persons suspected of being Communists....These characters have managed to weaken U.S. foreign policy in several areas. For another thing, Gen. Eisenhower...has been and is too willing--even anxious--to talk things over with the Russians under any circumstances....For almost two years, the Administration has been humbly trying to wheedle Moscow into agreeing to drop nuclear weapon tests.... As Vice President, Mr. Nixon of course could not have countermanded any of these Eisenhower decisions. But Nixon is on his own now...and he will be his own boss if he becomes President. It seems to us that Nixon would be wise to repudiate these two weaknesses of the Eisenhower Administration (and any others he may know of), make some firm campaign promises to clean up the State Department and turn few if any other cheeks to Khrushchev."

Farm Speech

St. Louis Post-Dispatch: "Senator Kennedy owes the country a more comprehensive farm program than merely trying to stick Vice President Nixon with Secretary Benson....It is true that Mr. Nixon has supported Benson policies in the past, and that he owes the country a full explanation of how he now differs with them, as he says he does. But it is not enough for Senator Kennedy to play upon emotions by associating Mr. Benson with 'disaster' and Mr. Nixon with Mr. Benson. Nor is it enough for him to say in ringing tones that he stands foursquare on the Democratic farm plank, because the platform itself is none too specific on how it proposes to bring about a glad new day for American farmers."

Will Muller in the Detroit News: "A couple of holes in the rigid control, high support price formula should be apparent to Midwest farmers, few of whom can stay

in business these days without at least a bachelor of science degree....It is unfortunate that Senator Kennedy spent so much time booting the prostrate body of Agriculture Secretary Ezra Benson that he was unable to go into detail....He's probably waiting to see what kind of a 1960 model...Nixon is going to offer....It would seem there is more hazard than profit in tinkering with the farmer for both Kennedy and Nixon. In the old days, the peddler with a pouch full of brass watches used to take care to work a community only once. The political medicine men have been hitting the farm circuit with high voltage snake oil ever since 1932. Those same pains persist in the area of the farmer's pocket. The last salesman to make a killing was Harry S. Truman.... Since then the farmers have been reduced to 8 per cent of the population--each one with a mighty cross dog."

Bobby Kennedy

The New York Post reports on Bobby Kennedy's activities while in New York. "(Bobby)said heatedly that Gov. Patterson of Alabama must be met. Almost a year ago, Sen. Kennedy did talk over breakfast with Gov. Patterson...'but he hasn't sold out to get Southern votes'." Concerning Jackie Robinson, Bobby is quoted as saying, "I think it is unfortunate, his connection with the Chock Full o' Nuts organization, which is non-union. Robinson was charged before the NLRB...and it was partly supported by the NLRB, that he used his race to defeat a union shop there." The Post quotes Jackie Robinson as replying to Bobby with the following: "'If the younger Kennedy ...is going to resort to lies, then I can see what kind of a campaign this is going to be. I don't see at all where my company has anything at all to do with his brother's having had breakfast with the head of the White Citizens Councils and the racist Governor of Alabama. I think if he's going to resort to this kind of issue, it's going to have to reflect in the voting. It certainly makes me more determined to do everything I can as an individual in opposition to a man whose campaign manager resorts to these tactics.' On the labor relations matter, Robinson said: 'This is something that happened in 1957 and the charges were brought up by the head of a union local who has since been indicted for alleged illegal activities.'"

LBJ (4)

Joe Alsop: "It is a fair bet that the unproductive special session now grinding to its close has had almost no influence at all on the political prospects of either party. But it is clear that both parties' prospects have been strongly influenced by what has

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not been happening in the South.... Few major political events have produced practical effects which were so widely misinterpreted or misunderstood.... Despite contrary claims, Johnson's vice presidential nomination has not conciliated the rank and file of Southern voters.... Johnson's nomination has not enraged the northern Negro voters.... The effect of the Johnson nomination has been to give the Democrats a fair shot at the 38 electoral votes of Texas and North Carolina; to improve the Democrats' hopes for the 29 electoral votes of Tennessee, Kentucky and Oklahoma; and to make it possible, though unlikely, that the Democrats will pick up Virginia's 12 electoral votes. Because of the platform and the religious issue... the Democrats may yet take a bad licking in the South. But what may be called the Johnson effect remains highly significant."

The Cincinnati Enquirer comments on Senator Johnson's speech to the National Association of Letter Carriers. "Senator Lyndon Johnson has been around Washington long enough to know that the Federal Government is not the sole source of all the good things in life.... He charged that Republicans 'forget the people' between elections.... His point was that we'd all be better off if Democrats held the White House as firmly as they hold Capitol Hill. The kindest thing one can say of Mr. Johnson's performance is that he was making a campaign speech.... Surely, he knew that within the week before he spoke the Commerce Department reported personal income... reached a record level last year... Going back a bit farther, personal income has gone up 65% since 1952 while the consumer price index has advanced a shade over 10%. This is real prosperity, not the boot-strap variety generated by government handouts."

Foreign Comment (5)

Bernard Ridder, writing in the St. Paul Pioneer Press from Paris: "The nomination of Senator Kennedy has caused wonder and surprise. On every hand we are asked to explain why, in a time of crisis, the Democratic party should turn from its tried and trusted leaders to an inexperienced and mercuric politician.... Nixon is known, liked and trusted, and it is believed that he has served eight useful years in preparation for the presidency. His bold and uncompromising resistance to Khrushchev... are not forgotten. Much doubt exists, however, in the case of Sen. Kennedy. The European newspapers have been disturbed by the refusal of ex-President Truman to attend the convention, and have been alarmed by the frank statement that Kennedy is too

immature and not ready for the presidency....Anti-Kennedy sentiment was climaxed by the extraordinary and stupid remark of Kennedy that Eisenhower should have apologized to Khrushchev....It creates concern because any indication of appeasement on our part causes intense anxiety in Europe....Chester Bowles (is) an entirely unknown personage in Europe."

Eddie Gilmore, writing from Rome on the opening of the Olympic Games:

"Americans shared a never-to-be forgotten moment in the Olympic stadium...when thousands of foreigners went nuts at the sight of the Stars and Stripes and the United States Olympic team....This spontaneous demonstration seemed to justify lend lease, the Marshall plan and all of the millions that American taxpayers have poured into other parts of the world....'My God,' gasped a woman, 'what's happened? They don't hate us. They love us.' And as the young Americans swung smartly around the great stadium, they were cheered and cheered and cheered....The Russians came a few minutes later. The applause was polite--but nothing more. In volume, only the applause for the Italians topped the Americans."

Polls (6)

Gallup reports on the attitude of voters toward the platform promises. The results are that fewer than half of the voters believe that either the Democrats or the Republicans are likely to keep these promises.

Chicago Sun-Times comments editorially on the results of the Prairie Farmer Magazine poll conducted at the Illinois State Fair which gave RN 58.7% of the votes of 2,390 farm owners and operators and their wives from 90 counties. Four years ago a similar poll gave Eisenhower 61.5%. "Nixon's strong showing among farmers was a surprise to those who have been following farm sentiment....If the poll is representative, it indicates that while Sec. of Agriculture Benson may be unpopular with farmers generally, his unpopularity has not rubbed off on Nixon. Perhaps Benson's pre-convention endorsement of Rockefeller and Nixon's disassociation with Benson have helped Nixon....The Prairie Farmer poll indicates the Illinois farmer hasn't been bought by Kennedy's promises, yet, nor driven away from his traditional Republicanism by Benson. In fact, it is possible to find some farmers who agree that Benson has been right all along but has been unable to get the Democratic Congress to give his views a fair trial."