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HOUSE REPUBLICAN

Leadership Letter

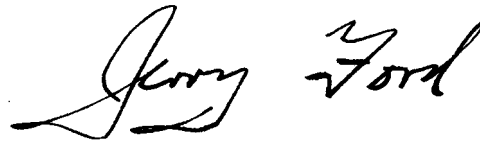
DEAR COLLEAGUE:

September 3, 1965

Communication among members of the House Republican team is vitally essential. This new media offers an excellent opportunity to express ideas, exchange views and keep members aware of the present situation and possible future actions.

We approach 1966 with optimism that our ranks will expand in the House. This requires the highest possible degree of unity and singleness of purpose. By working together and voting together whenever possible, we can increase House Republican strength.

Thus far in 1965, on 27 significant roll calls, there has been Republican unity of 93 percent. This is in contrast to Democrat unity of 77 percent. We can and must do better, but progress has been made and the Republican record in the House is far better than that of the Democrats.



WHIP COMMENT: "The Party Is Bigger Than Any Of Us"

Republican attendance on roll call votes has been very good. The response to Whip Calls for votes on amendments offered in the Committee of the Whole has not been what it should be.

This lack of response to Whip Calls has resulted in our losing some amendments by close margins. It should be borne in mind that there are occasions when a Record Vote in the House on some particular amendment is both desirable and of the greatest importance. Such a Record Vote cannot be obtained unless the amendment is first adopted in the Committee of the Whole. (Witness the MacGregor amendment vote on August 25 to the Immigration Bill.)

By and large -- Republican voting has shown a high degree of unanimity. We have, however, lost some very, very important issues due to some few defections in our own ranks. Yes, the Party is bigger than any one of us!



CONFERENCE COMMENT: "Let's Unite on Article 19"

Without too many issues going for us right now, we should capitalize on those in which there is a broad Republican consensus. One such is the recent retreat by the United States over Article 19 of the United Nations Charter.

(over)

On August 17, 1964, the House passed a resolution urging the President to direct his Ambassador to the United Nations to insist that Article 19 be enforced. That resolution was unanimously voted for by all Republicans present. Our Republican Platform of 1964 also called for General Assembly acceptance of the International Court of Justice advisory opinion which also upheld Article 19.

It seems to me that, as Republicans, this is an issue upon which we can all unite and to which we should address ourselves in the coming days and weeks.




POLICY COMMITTEE: "The Road Towards Fiscal Chaos"

The minority members of the Appropriations Committee issued a report the other day on the first Supplemental Appropriation Bill for fiscal 1965. The brunt of the views expressed in this report lay in the members' statement that "recent developments in Southeast Asia dictate the necessity for a much more prudent evaluation of the domestic needs of this country."

That such a "prudent evaluation" has been lacking is obvious to anyone who has watched the Democratic majority ram through the Congress a whole series of costly new domestic programs. The war in Vietnam has now reached proportions of a magnitude sufficient to require this nation to begin to weigh a careful balance between the need for "guns" and the need for "butter."

New domestic spending proposals, no matter how desirable, must be viewed from the standpoint of their effects upon our economy in a war situation. We cannot ignore the fact that war requires sacrifice as has the Administration thus far.

It is incumbent upon all Republicans in this Congress to recognize the need for domestic belt tightening and act accordingly. Perhaps, by our example, our Democratic colleagues might be enlightened to the basic economic facts before the nation has gone too far down the road towards fiscal chaos.



CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE: Mailing Piece For Negro Voters

Attached is a reprint of a mailing piece from the June issue of Ebony Magazine which you may want to mail out to Negro voters in your District. The story deals with the appointment of the first Negro pages to Congress by Paul Findley of Illinois and by Jacob Javits of New York.

Since the prices of these reprints will vary by the total number ordered from Ebony, the Committee will collect orders from interested members and then place a quantity order with the publishing company. For example, the price of only 1,000 reprints is \$98 while the price of 50,000 is \$649 -- a considerable saving in quantity, as you can see.

If you are interested in obtaining reprints, please advise Miss Bashoor at the Committee's Public Relations Office (Lincoln 4-3010, ext.13) by September 10 of the number of copies you will need. Many thanks.





A COUPLE OF WHIZZES GO TO WASHINGTON

Brainy teen-agers are first Negroes to serve as Congressional pages



Discussing new jobs are Frank Mitchell (l.), 15, and Lawrence Bradford Jr., 16, who recently became first of their race named Congressional pages. Frank, of Springfield, was nominated by Rep. Paul Findley, a Republican representing his Illinois district. New Yorker Lawrence was given the honor by his representative, Republican Sen. Jacob Javits.

IN THE old days, a page was a very special young man. Proud, select, he was personal servant to society's absolute rulers—lords, bishops, kings. In today's world, autocrats are passé; but the page—with his long tradition and proud heritage—lives on. And the cream of the crop are the 102 youths who serve the U. S. Congress.

Newest among the starry-eyed are Lawrence Bradford Jr., 16, and Frank Mitchell, 15, a couple of high school whizzes who became the first Negroes ever to fill the distinguished role. Lawrence, of New York City, was nominated in April by Sen. Jacob Javits (Rep., N. Y.) to work

for the Senate. A day later, Illinois' Republican Rep. Paul Findley announced the naming of Frank, a Springfield lad, to the House of Representatives staff.

Both youths are highly intelligent (Lawrence is an A-student and Frank a citywide chess champ) and plan to make full use of the experience. Frank will bank his earnings—\$4,000 to \$5,000 a term for running errands and performing other chores—for a pharmaceutical career. Lawrence, meanwhile, has set his sights even higher. He hopes to return someday to the historic Capitol—as a senator.



Being welcomed to club is awe-stricken Lawrence (alias "Mickey"), shown with sponsor Javits (r.) and Senate GOP Leader Everett Dirksen, who confirmed nomination.



Frank is congratulated by sponsor Findley as fellow House Republicans Leslie Arends of Illinois (r.), GOP whip, and minority leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan look on.



The center of attention (above) is Lawrence during press conference after appointment. At right, he gets word of advice from insider Mrs. Daphne Coleman, Sen. Javits' patronage clerk. Loquacious and outgoing, he distributed literature in Sen. Keating's unsuccessful re-election attempt.



Settling down to work, Lawrence shares ride (above) with Javits aide Richard Aurelio on subway linking Capitol with Senate Office Building. Below, he joins Frank as youths rush off to work after attending page school in the nearby Library of Congress.



In a special classroom, industrious youths join other pages for three hours of instruction prior to Congressional duties. Both were sophomore class presidents before moving to Washington. Lawrence, a strapping boy at six-feet-two, played football.



Enjoying a rare break in grueling round, raincoated youths take in sights around Capitol Hill. Despite dissimilar backgrounds (Lawrence is the suave Harlemiter, Frank the quiet Midwesterner), boys quickly made friends, accompany each other.

'JUST WANTED A BOY,' SAYS JAVITS

WHEN Mrs. Emma Bowen, youth advisor for New York City's NAACP, dropped Lawrence's name to New York's then Sen. Kenneth Keating last summer, she must have had her reservations. Literally hundreds of applicants vie for openings on the 26-member Senate page staff. And though her candidate had the background (he was sophomore class president at Manhattan's experimental New Lincoln School, headed the local NAACP youth council and was an ardent GOP volunteer worker), the Senate had long had an "unwritten rule" against Negro pages.

But early this year the state's other senator, Jacob Javits, began looking around for a candidate of his own. Sen. Keating having been unseated in November, Mrs. Bowen took her request to Javits. "I wasn't exactly looking for a Negro," recalls Javits, a longtime champion of minority groups. "I was looking for a model youth. I think this boy is a fine example." Lawrence, the only child of a Ford assemblyman, thus became a national trailblazer.

Frank's appointment was much speedier. The horn-rimmed sophomore at Springfield's Feitshans High School was notified just days earlier that he was being considered. Immediately he found himself whisked away to Washington for interviews with Rep. Findley and House GOP leader Gerald R. Ford, who confirmed the nomination.

As makers of history, both boys were treated to a dazzling round of parties and press conferences. But the honeymoon soon ended and they buckled down to the challenging and often exhausting job ahead.

Rising at dawn, pages attend a special school from 6:30 to 9 a.m. at the Library of Congress. They then report to the Capitol, where they are kept busy till about 4 p.m. As a general page, Lawrence takes messages, delivers written material and performs assorted other jobs, shuttling back and forth between the Capitol and the Senate Office Building. Frank, stepson of a school custodian, is a telephone page. He takes calls on phones outside the House chamber, either delivering the message or summoning the lawmaker or his staffer from the floor.

Of general concern in the historic appointments was possible reaction from Southerners in both houses, but both youths are reportedly getting along fine. As the politic Lawrence analyzed it shortly after his appointment: "I think they will be willing to go along with me, because I am so willing to go along with them."



At party in the capital, Lawrence ponders (left) over local dance steps. At right, he swings out with Shirley Martin. Event honoring new pages was hosted by EBONY's Washington Bureau two blocks from the White House. Dozens of teens attended.



Warming up to new life, Lawrence chats with guest Langston Schoolers. Boys are first Congress pages, but two Negroes serve Supreme Court. In 1959, Chicagoan James Johnson was rejected as House page because another had already been named.



Bevy of laughing girls welcome Frank with name cards reading "Hello!" While in town, he lives with a cousin, Mrs. Don Jackson, and her family. Many pages, using experience, go on to prominent careers in law, politics and other related fields.

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