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May - 4, 1965

This is Mel Laird talking to you from Washington. I'm very sorry that circumstances prevented my being with you in ~~New York~~ ^{Chicago} today but the House ^{of Representatives} ~~of Representatives~~ today is ^{voting on education and Defense} ~~considering the Labor and Health, Education and Welfare Appropriation bill~~ ^{for 1966.} Because I am the ^{one of the three Republican} ~~ranking~~ minority members of the Committee which handles this bill, it is necessary for me to ^{be here in Washington} ~~manage the~~ ~~bill for the minority and control debate on our side.~~ ^{oppor.}

I am particularly pleased that we were able to work out this telephone ^{here in the Capitol} hook-up because I know of nothing more important for the Republican cause in 1966 than the work the Congressional Boosters Club is attempting to do.

I don't think I have to tell you how vitally important two party government is in this country or that at this particular moment in our history we are dangerously close to real one-party government with all the pitfalls that entails. Nothing is more important for the country than the restoration of a strong, viable and dynamic two party system. It goes without saying that the keystone of that restoration is the rebuilding of the Republican Party in the Congress of the United States. That has to be done in 1966.

That is the first order of business for our party, and its my understanding that the next order of business ^{following the general election} ~~on your agenda~~ is to discuss in some detail the Congressional Boosters Club and what it is going to try to ^{for the Republican Party} accomplish with your help.

I can't stress to heavily the importance of the role you will be asked to play in the rebuilding of our party and I know that Bob Wilson will come back with a report that today's lunch was the most successful in the brief history of the Congressional Boosters Club. Thank you for listening ~~again~~ again

our leader in the House of Representatives



BOOSTER CLUB SPEECH OUTLINE

(Informal opening)

At the half-way point in this 89th Congress, I have some first-hand observations to make about the record that's been made so far.

I agree with our friend Bob Wilson, the Republican Congressional Committee chairman, who says there is a dangerous mood in the House and Senate.

2
The idea among Democrats seems to be----- do what the President asks and don't argue. ^{In a choice} As Bob points out, the President with his huge Democratic majorities is turning Congress into a rubber stamp. *Club feels is doing their hands*

Republicans here on Capitol Hill and elsewhere think the American public deserves something better than the wasteful haste this Democrat-controlled Congress has shown since January.

No longer is Congress given an opportunity to take a long, deliberate look at important legislation. The medicare bill is a good example. One of the most important pieces of legislation in 30 years, the bill was ram-rodged through the House without hearings. Republican efforts to improve the legislation were completely muffled by the loud trumpeting from the White House.

3
The present Congress so far reminds me of the baseball team that has a high batting average but an overall record of mediocracy.

Let me give you a good illustration of poor quality in the legislation that has sailed through this Congress under Democrat control.



The Johnson Administration's federal aid-to-education bill is a glaring example of wasteful haste on the part of Congress. It is full of imperfections and it raises more questions than it answers.

The proposal--- as it came from the White House and as it was rammed through Congress--- sidestepped three basic questions.

1. It fails to decide whether federal aid is THE answer to obtaining quality education from kindergarten through college.
2. There is no answer to the critical, controversial issue of church and state.
3. The cost of the program--- \$1,300,000,000

This bill is extremely wasteful and inequitable in that it gives millions of dollars to the wealthiest counties and virtually ignores the poorest areas.

The only way to improve legislation is the restoration of proper balance in Congress. At present the White House absolutely controls two-thirds of the House and Senate membership. This situation must be remedied.

Our Nation for almost 200 years grew and prospered because of a balance in government--- a strong Congress--- a strong President--- a strong Supreme Court.

We no longer have an independent Legislative branch. Neither do we have an effective two-party system.

Congress is a pawn in the hands of the White House. More than 50 percent of the members are puppets that the President pulls and dangles on political strings as he sees fit.

If we are to restore balance in government...if we are to adequately protect all segments of our society... we must re-establish the independence of the Congress. This can be accomplished in the next election on Nov. 8, 1966.

4



The Congress by tradition has worked its independent will on foreign and domestic problems. Over the years, the House and Senate have been partners in America's progress. Today, a majority of the Congress is far too subservient to the dictates of the White House.

This imbalance can---and must---be remedied before it is too late.

The election of 78 new Republicans, plus the re-election of our small but unified band of 140 in the House is essential. To accomplish this we need your help. I am happy to tell you that in all parts of the country such help is evident.

In the meantime, we will be working---earning the respect of voters in all 50 states.

As Republicans we will oppose the Johnson Administration when its aims and methods are wrong. We will offer constructive alternatives to the unworkable and expensive programs spawned by the Administration and adopted without thought or debate by the Democrats.

We are victory-minded, dedicated to preserving this Democracy, and working hard to be a forceful, optimistic, united and articulate majority in the face of overwhelming present odds.

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INSERT (Government speech)
"EDUCATION"

P. 9

The federal school aid bill, which will cost \$1.3 billion in the first year of operation, is a good example of the silence imposed on the elected representatives on Capitol Hill.

House Republicans prepared 29 amendments each aimed at making the proposed legislation more sensible, more meaningful and more within the guidelines of the Constitution.

Of these, four were debated only five minutes and 14 were allowed no debate. Authors of the latter amendments were given no opportunity to explain them to their colleagues.

The silent treatment was given to several amendments that would have concentrated \$200 million in federal funds on the education needs of economically-deprived children.

The silent treatment was ordered for another amendment requiring state approval of supplementary educational centers to assure coordination of Federal activities with state plans and policies.



The silent treatment was given to an amendment demanding that Federally-financed local education centers be conducted in accordance with state law.

The silent treatment was given to an amendment to remove the Federal government from involvement in buying textbooks.

The silent treatment was given to an amendment that would remove Federal standards of approval for local educational centers.

The silent treatment prevented exhaustive debate on at least three vital and controversial issues involved in the education bill.

*Silenced in effect was the issue of state and church.

* Silenced was the vital issue of spending \$1.3 billion from the federal treasury in one year.

* Silenced for all intent and purpose was debate on the fundamental issue of federal aid itself.

The muting of open debate falls short of serving the American people!

#

INSERT 14-B

One of the most brazen uses of gag rule was the restriction clamped on debate of the proposal to repeal the right-to-work law--- more formally known as Section 14-B of the Taft-Hartley Act.

By the use of raw power---284 on one side of the House aisle versus 141 on our side-- debate was severely limited. At the same time and by the identical method, any opportunity to offer meaningful amendments was blocked.

Action by ~~the~~ Administration-controlled House ignored public opinion. *

All the national polls consistently indicated most Americans favor the right of each state to outlaw compulsory unionism.

The House--in voting to repeal Section 14-B---failed to consider proposals based on effective safeguards aimed at protecting the basic rights of workers.

It failed to seriously consider outlawing the use of union dues or assessments for political purposes. It failed to prohibit unions from discriminating on account of race, color, or creed.

INSERT 14-B (2)

The House failed to have extended and searching debate on a proposal that would have allowed thousands of workers to make a free choice without being forced to choose between their jobs, food ~~and~~ and shelter for their families, and their religious convictions.

American owes a debt of gratitude to Senator Everett Dirksen for his courageous battle to have extended debate on Section 14-B of the Taft-Hartley Act.

For thus the issues---and all the issues---are discussed in public forum....The American people deserve to be witness to this kind of responsible ~~strategic~~ dialogue in the Congress!

#

Journal Nov 10-65 **A Tired American Speaks Out**

The following editorial, by Alan McIntosh, is reprinted from the Rock County Herald, Luverne, Minnesota.

I AM a tired American.

I'm tired of being called the ugly American.

I'm tired of having the world panhandlers use my country as a whipping boy 365 days a year.

I am a tired American—weary of having American embassies and information centers stoned, burned, and sacked by mobs operating under orders from dictators who preach peace and breed conflict.

I am a tired American—weary of being lectured by General De Gaulle (who never won a battle) who poses as a second Jehovah in righteousness and wisdom.

I am a tired American—weary of Nasser and all the other blood-sucking leeches who bleed Uncle Sam white and who kick him on the shins and yank his beard if the flow falters.

I am a tired American—weary of the beatniks who say they should have the right to determine what laws of the land they are willing to obey.

I am a tired American—fed up with the mobs of scabby faced, long-haired youths and short-haired girls who claim they represent the “new wave” of America and who sneer at the old-fashioned virtues of honesty, integrity, and morality on which America grew to greatness.

I am a tired American—weary unto death of having my tax dollars go to dictators who play both sides against the middle with threats of what will happen if we cut off the golden stream of dollars.

I am a tired American—who is tired of supporting families who haven't known any other source of income other than Government relief checks for three generations.

I am a tired American—who is getting madder by the minute at the filth peddlers who have launched Americans in an obscenity race—who try to foist on us the belief that filth is an integral part of culture—in the arts, the movies, literature, the stage.

I am a tired American—weary of the bearded bums who tramp the picket lines and the sit-ins—who prefer Chinese communism to capitalism—

who see no evil in Castro, but sneer at President Johnson as a threat to peace.

I am a tired American—who has lost all patience with that civil rights group which is showing propaganda movies on college campuses from coast to coast. Movies denouncing the United States. Movies made in Communist China.

I am a tired American—who is angered by the self-righteous breastbeater critics of America, at home and abroad, who set impossible yardsticks for the United States but never apply the same standards to the French, the British, the Russians, the Chinese.

I am a tired American—sickened by the slack-jawed bigots who wrap themselves in bed-sheets in the dead of night and roam the country-side looking for innocent victims.

I am a tired American who dislikes clergymen who have made a career out of integration causes, yet send their own children to private schools.

I am a tired American who resents those who try to peddle the belief in schools and colleges that capitalism is a dirty word and that free enterprise and private initiative are only synonyms for greed.

They say they hate capitalism, but they are always right at the head of the line demanding their share of the American way of life.

I am a tired American—real tired of those who are trying to sell me the belief that America is not the greatest nation in all the world—a generous hearted nation—a nation dedicated to the policy of trying to help the “have nots” achieve some of the good things that our system of free enterprise brought about.

I am an American who gets a lump in his throat when he hears the “Star Spangled Banner” and who holds back tears when he hears those chilling high notes of the brassy trumpets when Old Glory reaches the top of the flag pole.

I am a tired American who thanks a merciful Lord that he was so lucky to be born an American citizen—a nation under God, with truly mercy and justice for all.

When Benjamin Franklin was told that the war for independence was over, he said, "The war of the revolution is over-- the war ~~war~~ for independence has yet to be fought."

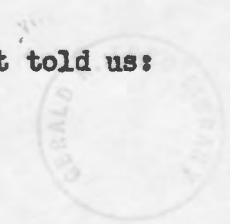
That's where we are today. The war for ^{personal} independence has still to be fought. I emphasize the word "personal."

It is not always easy for one generation to speak to another.

In this instance, communication is a matter of necessity. We have something to say to you. And, I'm sure you have much you can tell us.

This war for personal independence is one that must be fought by all of us. The future of the Republic as we know it rides on the outcome. It is not an easy battle we face. It grows more formidable by the day.

In preparing for it, we can recall what Theodore Roosevelt told us:



"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in the grey twilight that knows no victory or defeat."

In daring to fight for personal independence we face obstacles on many sides.

The force of government is now directed more fully toward the security of the weak than the encouragement of the strong. ~~Paternalism~~ Potomac paternalism is giving us a welfare state. There is far too little concern for the state of the general welfare.

disobedience
Civil ~~disobedience~~ shatters the tranquility of the land. Pickets march in front of the White House carrying placards asking "why die for Viet Nam?" Draft cards are burned in defiance of the law. ~~and~~ ~~and~~ Unwashed terrorists living their personal jungle code churn chaotic disorder in communities, resorts, in our great cities.

Some parents go to court defending their children's refusal to salute the Flag.

The United States Military Academy found it necessary to place a sign beside its parade grounds reminding spectators that it is customary for men to remove their hats when the Flag passes by.

Irresponsible dissenters fling themselves on railroad tracks seeking to halt troop trains. Young men pretend to be imbeciles hoping to stay out of uniform.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover warns that peddlers of Communism are aiming their sales spiel at American youth, mainly on college and university campuses.

The cynics ask "what can you do for me?" rather than "What can I do for you?" They jeer at the old-fashioned ideas of honesty, loyalty, courage and thrift. They see an honest man as either a fool or a liar. Their cry is "let somebody else do it!" If they can't win, they figure there is no point in trying.

On the other side of the battlefield where we must fight for personal independence are those who ~~always~~^{always} tear down and never build up... who knock, belittle, down-grade.



Among the forces we face in our fight for personal independence are the advocates of centralized big government.

They believe that we cannot depend upon the individual to take care of himself. They promote the idea of government planning and controlling individual lives.

They allege that a Constitutional Republic is NO⁷ the best form of government for the United States. They ~~maintain~~^{ridicule} the thought that man is essentially a spiritual ~~being~~^{being}.

"The majority should rule over what is right!" they cry.

I have given you a profile of the forces who would defeat us in the battle for personal independence. I have tried to define them... to pinpoint them.

The question ~~is~~^{is} is how shall we fight?

First, we should try to "dare mighty things," as Theodore Roosevelt advised us.



~~We~~ Become participants, not spectators, in politics, in community life, in the world around us. Those who sit in the grandstand and on the sidelines criticizing without participating do little to help solve the problems of our time.

By being a citizen-participant, you develop a loyalty to your community, your city, your county, your state and your Nation.

This loyalty is basic to person service and community improvement.

Patriotism in action demands loyalty to a philosophy, to a set of ideals. It begins where you are...wherever you are.... on a college campus, at home, at work.

Give purpose and direction to your role as a citizen by choosing a political party...after careful study of the philosophies of each. Perhaps, you will switch your alliances. This is a choice under freedom---the ^{independence} ~~freedom~~ for which we must fight.



In fighting what Benjamin Franklin described as the war for independence, I believe we must all work toward a strong two-party system and a meaningful balance in government.

These goals must be achieved if our Republic is to exist and to be strengthened.

A strong two-party system is bedrock assurance that our Democracy will survive, prosper, grow and help others in the world to accept their roles in the society of free nations.

A crushing over-balance of strength in either party for too long a time makes a mockery of our traditions in government...weakens and softens the voices of the people....and places control in the hands of a comparatively small majority.

Unfortunately for the country today, one political party has heavy-handed control of national government with a 2 to 1 majority in the Congress and awesome strength in the Executive branch.



~~Iron~~

Iron-fisted control by one party is reflected in an imbalance of

~~government~~ in the three branches *of government.*

I believe that if any branch becomes too strong or too weak the foundations of our Republic will crack...our freedom will be threatened.

Without speaking on a partisan basis, I can say with complete candor that there is imbalance in government today.

The first session of the 89th Congress reflects the results of one party having 2 to 1 control and possession of the White House.

Although some meritorious and needed legislation was adopted, Congress too often acted hastily, blindly, and indiscriminately to be in fact a satellite of the President and a rubber stamp for White House proposals.

There is bi-partisan concern about the present imbalance in the Congress---the legislative branch.



Senator Mike Mansfield, the Democrat leader, has confessed serious deficiencies in laws enacted by Congress this year.

He has said that during the second session Congress should--in his words-- "spend less time on new legislation and more time correcting oversights in legislation we have just passed."

The distinguished Senate Majority Leader also said Congress "must tighten up the hasty enactments....and must eliminate from some of the new ~~laws~~ laws a number of gaps and any number of rough edges, over-extensions and over-laps."

With his own party dominating Congress, the President has even greater power in his ~~hands~~ hands. The Executive branch includes a huge mass of personnel---more than five million, including the military services.

Casting aside partisan politics, I believe that the Nation ~~must~~ should carefully observe the President's use of his power, ~~inasmuch as the President's power is already reflected in the operations of the Congress.~~ which already is reflected in the operations of the Congress.



With too much power comes the possibility of stifling freedom and gagging the American people by crushing the rights of States to govern themselves.

The tenacles of federal paternalism and control now reach into almost every community in America. This is a dangerous trend. It threatens the personal independence of every person. It must be stopped and reversed.

Reflecting on the duties and obligations of the third branch of government, it can be said that the Federal Judiciary's function is to interpret the Constitution and the laws.

There is evidence that the Judicial Branch is arbitrarily pushing its way to new positions of authority, disregarding the wise suggestions of judicial restraint made by the late Justice Felix Frankfurter and others.

When the Supreme Court ordered states to reapportion on the "one-man, one-vote" concept, Justice Frankfurter in a dissenting opinion criticised the Court for assuming in his words "destructively novel judicial power."

Justice Frankfurter emphasized that the Supreme Court's authority---
possessed neither of the purse nor the sword--ultimately rests on
sustained public confidence in its moral sanction.

Certainly if the high tribunal assumes "destructively novel judicial
power" public confidence could be weakened,...and thus would come
even more imbalance in the branches of government.

In conclusion, I can say that I have great confidence in the young
people of America today.

You are obtaining the power of knowledge. You are showing your
readiness to accept challenges as loyal citizens. You have imagination,
eagerness to learn, a willingness to sacrifice, areadiness to accept new
ideas with open minds, self confidence, and loyalty.

You will, I'm sure, help win the battle for personal independence...
a challenging task in an exciting, turbulent, demanding and changing
world.

Thank you.