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READING TEXT

Burlington, Vermont
October 2, 1965

*Adrian
Priority
Stafford*

Shiny - setymarks -

LB J H

stubs + stones

Names will never hurt you

Great great man

32 States - Brothers -

~~Handwritten text~~

Your wonderful green mountain state's slogan---"freedom and unity"---

has provided the topic of my remarks tonight.

I will follow the advice of the late President Coolidge in keeping within reasonable time limits. A political friend once told him,

"Cal, my formula for public speaking is a good beginning and a good ending.....close together." Mr. Coolidge thought a moment and asked, "Why be so windy?"

~~Handwritten text~~

New England folks have many qualities to admire, among them

is rugged individualism.

Happily, there are many rugged individualists in America. For example,

every year many of them ignore an Internal Revenue Service warning

not to write in a small blank space at the top of the income tax form.

With bold strokes they ~~write~~ ^{pen} this message--- "I'll write any damned

place I please!"



Our toastmaster's generous words remind me that very often introductions are more memorable than the speeches they precede. I've been told that the Governor of the Virgin Islands was once introduced at a political rally with these unforgettable words---"Now, ladies and gentlemen, I present the Virgin of the Governor Islands!"

Speaking as the leader of an oppressed minority in the House, I am especially thankful for Vermont with an all-Republican team in Congress.

In the House the other party has 294 seats while we have 141.

Like the Indian yogi lying on a bed of nails--- it only hurts

when we laugh!

68/32

- - - -

*Clap their hands
Chide their heels.*

Tonight I call upon you to make a very special effort as Republicans.

The Party needs your help, your ideas, your ability to get things

done as you have in Vermont.



The first job is to win and keep winning in Vermont this year and in 1966.

Rebuilding our Party on a national scale must start with Republican victories in the States, counties and townships all over America.

We cannot hope to win by sitting on the sidelines wringing our hands and waiting for a catastrophe.

Let's forget 1964. Let's remember not to make the same mistakes.

Let's become once again ONE Republican Party.

This does not mean a huge monolithic political party. Certainly we can have responsible disagreements. We should have intelligent dialogue.

Unless we leave the splintering and bickering to the Democrats and become one big political family, we will belong to a myth. And, America will have one-party government.

The "one party" dominating our beloved land will be big city political bosses, and theoretical way-out liberals more interested in a welfare state than in the state of the general welfare.

The Nation is seeing what a one-party controlled Federal establishment can do to our institutions and traditions. During the next few months the degree of Federal interference and heavy-handedness in individual affairs will dangerously increase.

The voices of the people will be even more muffled and muted.

Potomac paternalism -- already stifling the states and the people -- will grow and expand.

Even some Democrats are aware of the dangers in having one party controlling Congress by a 2 to 1 majority. They are disturbed that the same party has iron-fisted ~~power~~ in the White House.

Many Democrats are baffled at times when the White House sends proposed legislation to the Congress with orders to adopt it.

They don't know whether to clap their hands or click their heels!

There is a growing concern regarding the amount of legislation passed by Congress that is long on quantity and short on quality.

Recently, Senator Mansfield, one of the President's most powerful spokesmen, said he hopes next year less time will be spent on new legislation and more time correcting oversights in legislation passed this session.

Vice President Humphrey has referred to "huge legislative tonnage" which he said has been "dropped on our doorstep."

I am pleased to learn at least some Democrats agree with Republicans that there is a place for responsible dissent and constructive criticism.

Dictatorial federalism and legislation short on quality adopted by a Democrat-controlled Congress are among the issues for Republican campaigning.

The major issues are: President Lyndon Johnson -- his use and

misuse of power as a total politician who is more interested in his personal glory than in true progress.

The loss of individual freedom.

Reckless spending by the Administration.

A steady growth of direct and hidden taxes.

Higher living costs and the shadow of inflation.

The erosion of rights of states and local governments to conduct their own business without heavy-handed control from Washington.

Let us more carefully examine each of these issues.

First... Lyndon B. Johnson.

There are those who claim it is political folly to criticise the man who was swept into the White House on ~~his merits~~ a landslide.

There are those who say it is impossible to win in taking on the President by zeroing in on his tactics, his ~~performance~~ performance, the way he conducts his high office..... I disagree.

Lyndon Johnson is vulnerable, ^{despite} ~~for~~ all of his power.

His Great Society is a shambles of contradictions. His programs are dressed in purity of name. He uses his power to gag the Congress and in so doing gags the American people. He throttles open debate on vital and controversial issues. He preaches voting rights, yet his own record on voting rights can't stand the open glare of publicity.



*Fiscal responsibility
Inflation
A Govt big money*

He claims his Great Society makes progress.

Is it progress to retreat from the principles of the Constitution?

Is it progress to perpetuate poverty for political exploitation

and purpose? Is it progress to tax away incentive? Is it progress

to grab one man's taxes to pay another man's rent? Is it progress

to have a Congress sway and bend like a weed in the wind when the

President huffs and puffs from the White House?

America is gradually seeing the many faces of Lyndon Johnson.

There is a gradual awakening. The shocking truth is coming out

as millions of Americans find they have less money to spend on

necessities, and slimmer bank accounts.

Another issue---the loss of individual freedom.

Big, bigger, biggest federal government over-shadows the individual.

It takes his hard-earned money and spends it with reckless

abandon.

more



It prevents him from preserving his identity in a society that is becoming more bureacratic almost daily.

Reckless spending is another vital issue.

Our national debt is greater than that of all other nations in the world combined. It is not the \$325 billion shown on the record books, but \$800 billion in future spending committments that require no new laws or programs.

We all know how direct and hidden taxes are zooming higher and higher.

-more-

After last year's tax cut, most Americans felt their spendable income would be substantially higher than in the past. The truth is disappointing for them.

The 1964-65 federal income tax cut failed to reduce taxes for most Americans. Other factors---including the rising cost of living and higher payroll taxes next year---more than offset the tax reductions.

For example, a family of four who earned \$6,000 before taxes in 1963 will have to earn \$6,175 in 1966 to retain its purchasing power.

The tax cut for this family amounts to \$150 per year. Yet, even with their taxes reduced by this amount, the family must earn an additional \$175 per year to buy the same goods and services they purchased in 1963.

The situation stems from unsound government policies on the federal level, leading inevitably to inflationary pressures.

Higher living costs and the shadow of inflation are obvious issues.

America is becoming more aware of them every day.

Just what is inflation?

It is higher prices at the supermarket, higher ^{tuition}~~tuition~~ costs at college, a \$4.50 haircut in New York City, a \$1,000 government bond bought in 1949 and worth only \$730 in buying power today.

If we fail to beat inflation, we fail the future. We can pass on the legacy of a sound dollar which will assure purchasing power of savings and future earnings. Republicans want to meet this challenge ~~challenge~~---now. The Great Society would like to pretend inflation doesn't exist.

Finally, there is the issue of states and local governments losing the right to conduct their own business.

States and local governments send their tax money to Washington.

The Federal government offers tempting ~~programs~~ programs.

Local money joins federal money, but with the federal share comes Washington control. Administration czars move in. They call the shots. They lay down rules. They take over.

Government has a rightful role in assisting the economy, in assisting the states and communities. It can act as a balance wheel. It should not be the mainspring!

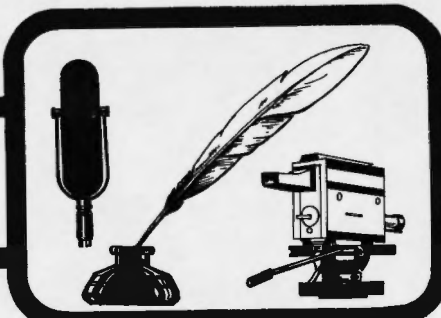
The tendency to provide boundless power and responsibility in the federal government weakens state and local government accordingly. The trend must be reversed. Republican stewardship appears to be the only hope to do just that.

In conclusion... I congratulate you for ^{your} ~~top~~ outstanding ~~work~~ work

in Vermont. I am confident you will bring even more Republican victories *in an atmosphere of freedom and unity.*

Thank you.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

Excerpts from a speech
Burlington, Vermont
October 2, 1965

For release at
time of delivery
10/2/65

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Unless we leave the splintering and bickering to the Democrats and become one big political family, we will be members of a ghostly myth. And, America will have one-party government.

The Nation is seeing what a one-party controlled Federal establishment can do to our institutions and traditions. In the future, the voices of the people will be even more muffled and muted. Potomac paternalism---already stifling the states and the people--- will grow and expand.

* * *

Among major issues is President Johnson, his use and misuse of power. His Great Society is a shambles of contradiction. His programs are dressed in purity of name attempting to hide his personal ambitions for popularity. He uses his power to gag the Congress, thus gagging the American people. He throttles debate on vital and controversial issues.

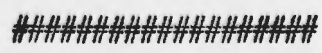
He claims his Great Society makes progress.

Is it progress to retreat from the principles of the Constitution? Is it progress to perpetuate poverty for political exploitation, to grab one man's taxes to pay another man's rent, to destroy incentive, to have a Congress sway and bend like a weed in the wind when the President huffs and puffs from the White House?

Other issues include the loss of individual freedom, reckless spending, higher living costs and the shadow of inflation, the erosion of rights of states and local governments to conduct their own business.

* * *

The trends must be reversed. Republican stewardship appears to be the only hope to do just that.





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