

The original documents are located in Box D23, folder “Introducing Senator Everett M. Dirksen at GOP Fund-Raising Dinner, November 8, 1967” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Remarks on introducing Sen. Everett M. Dirksen at GOP Fund-Raising Dinner 11/8/67.

Ladies and gentlemen:

Tonight I have the great pleasure of introducing to you a most remarkable individual--a man who retired at the age of 53 and has been working twice as hard ever since, the man who has been my television partner on the Ev and Jerry Show for nearly three years and is responsible for most of its success.

I say Everett McKinley Dirksen is a remarkable man because he...

...has more influence with Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield than LBJ.

...has more influence with LBJ than Hubert Humphrey.

...has more influence with Hubert Humphrey ^{than} ~~and~~ the Americans for Democratic Action.

...has more influence with the ADA than the Chicago Tribune.

...has more influence with the Chicago Tribune than Chuck Percy.

...has more influence with Chuck Percy than the Senate barber, and

... has more influence with the Senate barber than Bobby Kennedy.

Speaking of the Senate barber brings up the subject of Ev's hair, that tousled tangle of curls ^F for which he is famous.

One day Ev walked with me into the room where we hold our joint Republican leadership press conferences and, lo and behold, his hair was all neatly combed down with every lock in place. The sight produced outcries of surprise and distress among the Washington press corps. The TV people and still photographers were particularly taken⁽back.

When they kidded Ev about slicking his hair down, the Senator replied, "O.K., if you like, I'll rumple it up," which he then proceeded to do. That's the closest either of us has come to producing an international crisis in a meeting with the press.

I understand that Ev got the idea of wearing his hair this way after seeing Shirley Temple as a moppet with long curls in "Little Colonel." As a matter of fact, when Shirley showed up at the Capitol recently, Ev stayed away from her because he couldn't stand the competition.

Speaking of moppets...and mops, I understand that Ev Dirksen is the only member of Congress who isn't jealous of that over-the-forehead adornment which is Bobby Kennedy's trademark.



Seriously, Ev Dirksen did retire more than 17 years ago. He resigned from the House of Representatives the day before his 53rd birthday after winning election to the House eight times. Ev's retirement was perhaps the shortest on record, for the next year he was elected to the United States Senate and has been serving a grateful Nation in that capacity ever since.

As you may know, Senator Dirksen ^{now} is serving his fourth term as Republican leader in the Senate.

All levity aside, let me tell you how important Ev Dirksen is to the Senate and to the people of the United States.

On May 10 of last year Ev broke his hipbone--and not only he but the Senate was immobilized.

The Senate went on a three-day week, no legislation was passed in Ev Dirksen's absence. He was expected to be out about three months, but luckily he came back in 15 days--on crutches.

When he appeared in the Senate chamber, there was great rejoicing on both sides of the aisle. Assistant Minority Leader welcomed Ev back with great jubilation, and Mike Mansfield expressed his joy at seeing Ev back.

As for Ev, he waved his crutches about and, borrowing a phrase from the Bible, shouted, "I'm going to use these like the jawbone of an ass."

Ev didn't say ~~who~~ ^{for} he was going to slay, but he's been doing a great job on the opposition ~~of~~ years.

I give you the man who might have brought back vaudeville if he hadn't been slaying 'em on Capitol Hill, ~~the~~ that statesman extraordinary and star of television and the recording studio, the honorable Everett McKinley Dirksen.

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P & B

New brood

Ed [unclear]
My [unclear]
Dany [unclear]

Ladies and gentlemen:

Tonight I have the great pleasure of introducing to you a most remarkable individual--a man who retired ^{Congress} at the age of 53 and has been working twice as hard ever since, the man who has been my television partner on the Ev and Jerry

Show for nearly three years and is responsible for most of its success. *As a matter of fact when Ev & I are doing our weekly T.V. news conference on occasion I say* I say Everett McKinley Dirksen is a remarkable man because he...

- ...has more influence with Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield than LBJ.
- ...has more influence with LBJ than Hubert Humphrey.
- ...has more influence with Hubert Humphrey than the Americans for Democratic Action.
- ...has more influence with the ADA than the Chicago Tribune.
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self comment
of that nature

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Speaking of Bobby's hair do - Bob Hope

jumped the other day - that Bobby Kennedy's hair do reminded him of a haystack in heat,



On Jan 4, 1965 - I won by The handshake margin
73/67

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