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Massed room opportunities
National Good news bad news.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

PASKALL

THANK YOU FOR THE SIGNAL HONOR OF SPEAKING AT YOUR ANNUAL BANQUET.

THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO WILLIAMSBURG THIS WEEK. LAST SUNDAY, I TALKED TO THE GRADUATING CLASS AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY ABOUT SOME OF THE PRICELESS THINGS WHICH WERE BROUGHT TO THIS HISTORIC PLACE BY THE

had the privilege of addressing

FIRST "POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN" THAT CAME ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN. I MENTIONED AS EQUALLY

They came with few material goods - they wanted freedom,

RELEVANT TO TODAY'S URGENT NATIONAL PROBLEMS, THOSE EARLY AMERICAN "POOR PEOPLE'S" DEDICATION

they were willing to work behind it.

TO, AND DEMANDS FOR, "LAW, LEARNING AND LIBERTY."

(circled)

(circled)

TONIGHT, HOWEVER, I AM TOLD THAT I AM UNINHIBITED BY ANY ACADEMIC CAP AND GOWN AND CAN TALK SOME STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-SHOULDER POLITICS.



THAT WASN'T ALWAYS PRUDENT FOR A
REPUBLICAN IN VIRGINIA. BUT I'M PROUD AND
PLEASED TO SAY THAT, FROM ALL REPORTS REACHING
ME, THE OLD DOMINION, AS USUAL, IS IN THE VANGUARD
OF ~~BOTH~~ THE SOUTH AND OF THE ENTIRE NATION -- A
VIGOROUS AND VIABLE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM HAS BEEN
RE-ESTABLISHED HERE, AND WE CONFIDENTLY EXPECT
TO FIND VIRGINIA IN THE REPUBLICAN COLUMN COME
NOVEMBER.

SO GREAT IS MY ADMIRATION AND AFFECTION
FOR VIRGINIA -- AS YOU ^{may} KNOW, MY HOME AWAY FROM
MY MICHIGAN HOME IS IN ^{1 Alexandria} ~~ARLINGTON~~ AND MY CHILDREN
HAVE ALL GROWN UP THERE, / THAT I HESITATE TO
DEBUNK AN OLD AMERICAN LEGEND -- THAT OUR FIRST
PRESIDENT WAS A VIRGINIAN.

BUT I KNOW THE PRESS IS SOLELY INTERESTED
IN THE TRUTH, - HOWEVER IT HURTS, - SO I'LL GIVE IT
TO YOU STRAIGHT. RECENT RESEARCH / HAS DISCLOSED
THAT GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS ACTUALLY BORN IN
TEXAS.



NOW THIS SENSATIONAL NEWS HAS BEEN VERY CAREFULLY SUPRESSED; CERTAIN POWERFUL FORCES ^{2 suspect in this} DON'T WANT THERE TO BE ANY HISTORICAL ARGUMENT ABOUT WHO IS THE GREATEST TEXAN OF ALL TIME. BUT THE WAY IT HAPPENED WAS THIS: AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON GOT PRETTY TIRED OF HIS WIFE MARY'S COOKING, OR SOMETHING, AND TOOK OFF FROM WAKEFIELD AND HEADED WEST. HE TOOK HIS INFANT SON GEORGE WITH HIM AND, EVENTUALLY, THEY SETTLED DOWN ON THE TEXAS FRONTIER, ~~WHERE~~ THERE AUGUSTINE BECAME A SUCCESSFUL RANCHER, AND THE LITTLE BOY AMUSED HIMSELF THROWING SILVER PESOS ACROSS THE PEDERNALES.

AUGUSTINE HAD FEW REGRETS, BUT HE DID MISS ALL THE BEAUTIFUL GREEN TREES OF TIDEWATER VIRGINIA, ~~AND~~ SO HE LAVISHED SPECIAL CARE ON THE ONE LITTLE MESQUITE BUSH JUST BEHIND THE BUNKHOUSE. HE GAVE IT WHAT LITTLE WATER WAS AVAILABLE AND, PRESENTLY, IT GREW FIVE OR SIX FEET ~~FALL~~ ^{HIGH}. THEN ONE DAY, WHEN HE RODE IN DUSTY



hows

AND DOG-TIRED AFTER ROUNDING UP SOME STRAYS, HE SAW TO HIS HORROR THE LITTLE MESQUITE BUSH LYING WILTED ON THE GROUND.

"GEORGE!" AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON HOLLERED. "GEORGE, WHO IN THUNDERATION CHOPPED DOWN MY BEAUTIFUL MESQUITE BUSH?"

GEORGE REPLIED SHEEPISHLY: "I DID IT, WITH MY LITTLE TOMAHAWK. FATHER, I CANNOT TELL A LIE."

— AUGUSTINE THOUGHT A MINUTE, THEN SAID: "C'MON SON, LET'S SADDLE UP. WE'LL BE HEADIN' BACK TO VIRGINIA. YOU'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING IN TEXAS."

WELL, SO MUCH FOR HISTORY. WE'LL SKIP THE STIRRING TALE OF COL. HUBERT HORATIO HUMPHREY'S DARING RAID ON THE FEDERAL TREASURY IN WASHINGTON, AND GET ON TO THE CAMPAIGN OF 1968. SO FAR, THIS HAS BEEN A YEAR OF POLITICAL SURPRISES AND STUNNING TRAGEDIES. IT MAKES PREDICTION A PRECARIOUS BUSINESS; AS A LOT

OF REPORTERS, POLITICAL COLUMNISTS AND
EDITORIAL WRITERS HAVE ALREADY LEARNED. BUT
THE ISSUES REMAIN UNCHANGED; THE PROBLEMS KEEP
PILING UP; AND I WILL STICK MY NECK WAY OUT AND
FLATLY FORECAST A SWEEPING REPUDIATION OF THE
JOHNSON-HUMPHREY ADMINISTRATION BY THE AMERICAN
ELECTORATE AT THE POLLS THIS YEAR.

YOU'LL NOTICE THAT I DO NOT GO QUITE
SO FAR AS TO PREDICT A SWEEPING NATIONAL
REPUBLICAN VICTORY. THIS IS COMPLICATED BY
SEVERAL FACTORS, OF WHICH I'LL HAVE MORE TO SAY
LATER, AMONG THEM THE TRANSPARENT EFFORTS OF
THE PRESIDENT AND SOME ~~OF THE~~ AVOWED DEMOCRATIC
CONTENDERS TO STEAL OUR BEST REPUBLICAN ISSUES
AND REPUDIATE THEIR OWN SORRY RECORD OF
PERFORMANCE, AND OF COURSE THE INCALCULABLE
EFFECTS OF ~~A~~ THIRD OR EVEN FOURTH PARTY
CANDIDACIES. ~~REACHING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE THIS~~
~~YEAR.~~ SO MY OPTIMISM IS NO CAUSE FOR REPUBLICAN
OVERCONFIDENCE ANYWHERE -- IT MAY WELL BE THE



HARDEST-FOUGHT AND CLOSEST CONTEST IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

BUT THERE IS ONE SIGN THAT STANDS OUT LIKE A SORE THUMBPRINT ON EVERYBODY'S CRYSTAL BALL -- THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE FED UP AND FEARFUL, YES, THEY ARE ANXIOUS AND ANGRY, ABOUT THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING WITH THEIR COUNTRY.

LIKE A GATHERING SUMMER STORM, A POWERFUL DEMAND AND DETERMINATION FOR CHANGE IS STIRRING ALL ACROSS OUR LAND. AND IT IS FAR FROM CERTAIN WHERE THIS PENT-UP FORCE WILL STRIKE, WHETHER ITS CONSEQUENCES WILL BE FOR GOOD OR EVIL. THESE ARE THE TIMES, AS TOM PAINE SAID, THAT TRY MEN'S SOULS -- SOMETIMES THEY SUMMON PATRIOTS TO ACTION, AND SOMETIMES THEY RAISE DEMAGOGUES TO POWER.

SO LET'S TALK A LITTLE ABOUT THE ISSUES OF 1968. THERE IS A VERY REAL DANGER IN THIS ERA OF INSTANTANEOUS MASS COMMUNICATIONS THAT THE BASIC AND FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES OF OUR NATIONAL

LIFE MAY GET LOST IN THE EXCITEMENT OF A RIP-SNORTING, BARE-KNUCKLE, NO-HOLDS-BARRED PERSONAL FISTFIGHT FOR POLITICAL POWER. ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT, AND PART OF THE TROUBLE WE ARE IN TODAY STEMS FROM THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE BEEN TOO LONG FUZZED UP AND GLOSSED OVER.

ISSUES IN A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ARE NOT MADE BY POLITICIANS.

THERE ARE NO "REPUBLICAN ISSUES" AND "DEMOCRATIC ISSUES." THERE ARE ONLY AMERICAN ISSUES AND THEY EMERGE FROM EVENTS. AN ISSUE ARISES WHEN MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONTROVERSY ARE RIPE FOR DECISION. THUS THE ISSUES OF 1968 ARE NOT DULL ABSTRACTIONS -- THEY ARE DEMANDS FOR ACTION.

I BELIEVE THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE KEY ISSUES OF THE 1968 CAMPAIGN ALREADY EVIDENT. THEY ARE ISSUES WHICH AFFECT EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD AND PERHAPS UNBORN AMERICANS AS WELL. AMERICANS ARE GOING TO ASK WHAT THEIR

NEXT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP IS GOING TO DO TO PROTECT THEIR LIVES, THE SAFETY OF THEIR HOMES AND THEIR WORLDLY GOODS, THEIR SECURITY ON THE PUBLIC STREETS AND AT WORK AND WORSHIP AND PLAY. THEY ARE GOING TO INSIST THERE BE ONE STANDARD OF JUSTICE FOR ALL. THEY ARE GOING TO ASK WHETHER THE LAW WILL BE ENFORCED FIRMLY AND FAIRLY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ^{all} LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS, OR WITH A SPECIAL TOLERANCE FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF LAWBREAKERS. THEY'RE GOING TO EXPECT FROM THEIR FUTURE LEADERS AN EXAMPLE OF RESPECT FOR LAW AND DECISIVE ACTION TO PREVENT TROUBLE BEFORE IT STARTS. UNJUST LAWS CAN BE CHANGED BY DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES, BUT THEY CANNOT BE DEFIED.

THIS IS GOING TO BE A MAJOR ISSUE OF 1968, PERHAPS EVEN LARGER THAN IT ALREADY LOOMS. I AM A LAWYER BY PROFESSION AS WELL AS A LAWMAKER BY INCLINATION AT THE SUFFERANCE OF MY CONSTITUENTS. THOMAS JEFFERSON, WHO ~~WAS NO~~ LEARNED



HERE IN THE HOUSE OF ⁻⁹ BURGESSES THE RULES
~~REACTIONARY AND WHOSE~~ ~~MANUAL~~ STILL GUIDE\$ OUR
LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES IN THE CONGRESS, ONCE
OBSERVED THAT THE EXECUTION OF THE LAWS IS MORE
IMPORTANT THAN THE MAKING OF THEM. WHAT WE NEED
MOST TODAY ARE NOT MORE LAWS, ~~BUT~~ PERHAPS BETTER
LAWS, AND CERTAINLY BETTER EXECUTION OF THE LAWS
WE HAVE. I PROFOUNDLY BELIEVE THAT LAW IS THE
BASIS OF CIVILIZED SOCIETY. I BELIEVE THAT LAW
EXISTS TO PROTECT THE WEAK, THAT IT PROVIDES A
MINORITY ~~MAJORITY~~ WITH ITS ONLY SURE SHIELD AGAINST THE
TYRANNY OF THE MAJORITY. WHATEVER THE
GRIEVANCES OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP, HOWEVER
MUCH HE MAY HAVE BEEN WRONGED, THERE IS NO
SAFETY FOR HIM OR FOR ANY OF US OUTSIDE THE
LAW.

THE REPUBLICAN RECORD ON THE ISSUE OF
LAW ENFORCEMENT IS A PROPER SOURCE OF PRIDE FOR
ME AS OUR PARTY LEADER IN THE HOUSE. THE
DEMOCRATIC RECORD IS PUZZLING, TO SAY THE LEAST.
NINE DAYS AGO, MEETING ON THE DAY OF

10
tragic
SEN. ROBERT KENNEDY'S DEATH, THE HOUSE PASSED
AND SENT TO THE PRESIDENT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT
ASSISTANCE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT OF 1968.

THE HOUSE VOTE WAS 368 TO 17.

THE EARLIER SENATE VOTE WAS 72 TO 4.

THESE OVERWHELMING MAJORITIES REFLECTED
THE ~~MASSIVE~~ ^{OVERWHELMING} DEMAND OF AN AROUSED AMERICA THAT
CRIME MUST BE STOPPED. PEOPLE MUST FEEL SAFE TO
WALK IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS, SLEEP IN THEIR
OWN HOMES, WORK IN THEIR OWN STORES. THE LAW
MUST BE UPHELD AND LAWBREAKERS MUST BE
PUNISHED.

BUT MORE THAN A WEEK HAS PASSED AND
PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS NOT SIGNED THIS
COMPREHENSIVE CRIME BILL INTO LAW. WHAT IS HE
WAITING FOR?

IMMEDIATELY, THE PRESIDENT CLOUDED THIS
LIFE-AND-DEATH LEGISLATION BY ATTACKING ITS
GUN-CONTROL PROVISIONS, INCIDENTALLY AUTHORED
BY SENATE DEMOCRATS, AND UTTERLY IGNORING THE

NINE OTHER URGENTLY-NEEDED SECTIONS OF THE
OMNIBUS BILL, MOST OF WHICH BEAR A STRONG
REPUBLICAN STAMP.

THE MAJOR GUN CONTROL PROVISIONS CONGRESS
ALREADY HAS APPROVED STILL AWAIT THE PRESIDENT'S
SIGNATURE, ALONG WITH OTHER LONG-OVERDUE, LANDMARK
ANTI-CRIME PROVISIONS.

WHAT IS THE PRESIDENT WAITING FOR?

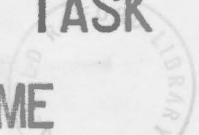
INSTEAD OF TAKING PROMPT AND
CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION, HE APPOINTED ANOTHER STUDY
COMMISSION. EVEN IF HE INTENDS TO VETO THE
CRIME BILL, HE SHOULD DO SO WITHOUT DELAY SO
WE CAN RE-ENACT IT OVER HIS VETO.

MORE THAN ONE WEEK HAS BEEN LOST.
PROJECTING ~~THE~~ FBI CRIME INDEX STATISTICS OVER
THIS PERIOD, MORE THAN 90,000 MAJOR CRIMES HAVE
OCCURRED IN THIS COUNTRY; SOME 316 MURDERS,
682 RAPES, 4,300 ROBBERIES AND OVER 6,400
AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS HAVE TICKED OFF THE CRIME
CLOCK SINCE CONGRESS DID ITS DUTY 9 DAYS AGO
TODAY.

BESIDES THE GUN-CONTROL SECTIONS, THE CRIME BILL ON THE PRESIDENT'S DESK CONTAINS THESE IMPORTANT PROVISIONS:

1 -- BLOCK GRANTS OF FEDERAL FUNDS TO ASSIST STATE GOVERNMENTS IN THE WAR ON CRIME -- SPONSORED BY SEN. DIRKSEN IN THE SENATE AND REPUBLICAN REP. CAHILL IN THE HOUSE -- URGED BY VIRTUALLY ALL STATE GOVERNORS OF BOTH PARTIES OVER THE OPPOSITION OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. *Gov. Goodwin*

2 -- FEDERAL PROHIBITION OF ALL PRIVATE ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING AND WIRE-TAPPING, ALONG WITH CAREFULLY-DEFINED PERMISSION FOR SUCH SURVEILLANCE BY ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS UNDER COURT AUTHORIZATION AND SUPERVISION. ONE OF THE CHIEF SPONSORS OF THIS KEY PROVISION WAS REP. DICK POFF, OF RADFORD, A DISTINGUISHED VIRGINIAN WHO SITS ON THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND IS CHAIRMAN OF OUR HOUSE REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON CRIME. THE PRESIDENT'S OWN CRIME

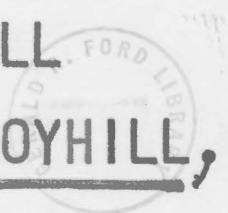


COMMISSION MADE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS. THE PRESIDENT HAS OPPOSED THEM. THESE ARE MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME, ESPIONAGE AND SUBVERSION.

3 -- AUTHORIZATION FOR A NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, FIRST PROPOSED IN ~~THE~~ ^{MY} JANUARY 1967 REPUBLICAN STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE ~~BY~~ ^{WITH} SEN. DIRKSEN, ~~AND~~ AND INCORPORATED IN THE BILL BY REP. McCLORY, ~~A~~ REPUBLICAN OF ILLINOIS.

4 -- AMENDMENTS AUTHORED BY SEN. SCOTT, SEN. ALLOTT AND REP. RAILSBACK, ALL REPUBLICANS, TO MODIFY AND CLARIFY RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISIONS ON THE ADMISSABILITY OF CONFESSIONS AND OTHER EVIDENCE.

5 -- PROVISIONS FOR "COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS" PROPOSED BY REPUBLICAN SEN. PERCY AND REPUBLICAN REP. GOODELL TO IMPROVE RELATIONS BETWEEN POLICE AND CITIZENS. AN OVERALL APPLICATION OF THE AMENDMENT BY REP. BROYHILL,



REPUBLICAN OF ARLINGTON, TO ^{DENY EMPLOYMENT} ~~RECENT APPROPRIATION~~
~~BILLS CONCERNING~~ ^{TO} FEDERAL CIVIL SERVANTS WHO ARE
CONVICTED OF CRIMES RELATED TO RIOTS. REPUBLICAN
SEN. MURPHY'S AMENDMENT REQUIRING FUTURE DIRECT-
ORS OF THE FBI TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.
AN AMENDMENT BY REPUBLICAN SEN. HRUSKA TO HELP
STATES FIGHT ORGANIZED CRIME.

^{URGENT}

ALL THESE MATTERS ARE AWAITING FINAL
APPROVAL AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

WHAT IS THE PRESIDENT WAITING FOR?

UNDER THE CONSTITUTION, OF COURSE, THE
PRESIDENT HAS UNTIL WEDNESDAY TO SIGN OR VETO
THIS VITAL BILL, OR LET IT BECOME LAW WITHOUT
HIS EXPLICIT APPROVAL. BUT THE CONSTITUTION
DOES NOT REQUIRE HIM TO WAIT THE FULL PERIOD,
AND HE OFTEN HAS BEEN EAGER AND IMPATIENT TO
PASS OUT PENS BEFORE THE PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV
CAMERAS AFTER SIGNING GREAT SOCIETY LAWS HE
LIKED.

IT HAPPENS TO BE A COINCIDENCE, MAY I



REMIND YOU, THAT THE DEADLINE FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION ON THIS CRIME BILL IS THE DAY SET FOR THE ^{MASSIVE} "POOR PEOPLE'S" DEMONSTRATION IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE SECOND MAJOR ISSUE OF 1968, AS I NOW SEE THE CAMPAIGN, IS GOING TO BE INFLATION, THE SKYROCKETING COST OF LIVING, THE EROSION OF SAVINGS, AND THE IMMINENT THREAT TO THE VALUE OF THE AMERICAN DOLLAR.

LIKE CRIME, THIS ISSUE PERSONALLY AFFECTS AND ALARMS EVERYBODY.

WHAT REAL DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE WHETHER A ROBBER STEALS YOUR PURSE SWIFTLY OR A GOVERNMENT'S FOLLY MAKES YOUR MONEY WORTHLESS OVER A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME? WHETHER A LOOTER OR ARSONIST PUTS YOU OUT OF BUSINESS OR OUT OF A JOB OVERNIGHT OR RECKLESS FISCAL POLICIES AND EVER-RISING FEDERAL TAXES DO THE SAME THING IN EIGHT YEARS?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE



BOARD RECENTLY CURLED THE HAIR -- SUCH AS THEY
HAVE -- ~~OFF~~ THE NATION'S TOP EDITORS. HE WARNED
THEM IN WASHINGTON THAT "THE NATION IS IN THE
MIDST OF THE WORST FINANCIAL CRISIS SINCE 1931"
AND THAT THIS COULD LEAD "TO UNCONTROLLABLE
INFLATION AND EVENTUAL DEFLATION OR DEPRESSION."

As one who labored & survived the great depression

I SHUDDER TO REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED IN
1931 AND I'M DETERMINED TO PUT POLITICS ASIDE
AND TRY TO HELP PREVENT ITS REPETITION, EVEN
THOUGH ~~IT'S~~ ^{INFLATION IS} CLEARLY THE RESULT OF DEMOCRATIC
SPENDING AND FISCAL MISMANAGEMENT. BUT I DON'T
NEED TO LABOR THE POINT OF WHAT THE COST OF
LIVING ISSUE MEANS TO ANY GROUP THAT WORKS FOR
A LIVING. ^{WHY} ~~OR~~ TELL YOU YOUR PAY RAISES HAVEN'T
KEPT UP WITH ^{RISING} COSTS, ~~EVER SINCE PRESIDENT~~
~~EISENHOWER LEFT OFFICE~~, OR REMIND YOU HOW MUCH
A HOME MORTGAGE COSTS UNDER THE RECORD LBJ
CREDIT CRUNCH?

SO I'D SAY CRIME AND THE COST OF LIVING
ARE THE TOP DOMESTIC ISSUES, AND THAT NO



DEMOCRATIC TICKET OR CANDIDATE CAN ESCAPE EITHER OF THEM NOW.

A YEAR AGO I WOULD HAVE SAID THE TOP ISSUES OF THE 1968 CAMPAIGN WOULD BE THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE CREDIBILITY GAP. TONIGHT I MUST TELL YOU CANDIDLY THAT I DON'T KNOW HOW THE VIETNAM WAR WILL AFFECT THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS; I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION PLANS TO DO EITHER IN FURTHER ESCALATING THE WAR OR NEGOTIATING SOME KIND OF PEACE, AND I DON'T BELIEVE -- FOR OUR COUNTRY'S SAKE -- THAT I SHOULD QUESTION THE PRESIDENT ON THIS POINT AND AT THIS TIME AS CLOSELY AS I HAVE ON CRIME. VIETNAM HAS TO BE AN ISSUE -- IT CAN'T HELP BEING AN ISSUE WITH THE TOLL OF YOUNG AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION EVERY WEEK, ^{WHILE} ~~WHICH~~ THE PARIS ^{GO ON AND} ~~TALKS ARE GOING~~ ON, RUNNING AS HIGH OR HIGHER THAN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM TONIGHT. BUT IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCUSS THE VIETNAM WAR RESPONSIBLY OR REALISTICALLY IN



RELATION TO THE CAMPAIGN BEFORE THE CANDIDATES ARE CHOSEN AND UNTIL WE SEE MORE CLEARLY WHAT COURSE IT MAY TAKE. *although Americans will not why*

AS FOR THE CREDIBILITY GAP, THIS TERM WAS INVENTED BY THE PRESS AND HAS BEEN A FAVORITE OF YOURS AS WELL AS MINE. IT IS REALLY A NICE WAY OF AVOIDING THE ~~UGLY WORD~~ *words, incorrect, nature* "LYING," BUT I AM AFRAID IT HAS PASSED ITS PRIME. WHAT MORE CAN YOU SAY WHEN A PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES HE WON'T RUN FOR RE-ELECTION AND THE AMERICAN PRESS AND PEOPLE STILL ARE NOT QUITE SURE WHETHER TO BELIEVE IT OR NOT?

IF THE 1968 ELECTION WERE TO BE DECIDED SOLELY ON THE ISSUES, IT ISN'T TOO FAR-FETCHED TO SAY REPUBLICANS WOULD SWEEP THE COUNTRY. BUT IT MAY NOT BE DECIDED EITHER BY ISSUES OR POPULAR ~~PRESIDENTIAL PERSONALITIES~~ VOTES.

THE 1968 THREATS OF A SENATOR McCARTHY ON THE LEFT AND A GEORGE WALLACE ON THE RIGHT POSE PROBLEMS FOR REPUBLICANS AS WELL AS FOR



JOHNSON-HUMPHREY DEMOCRATS. THE PROSPECT OF A THIRD OR FOURTH PARTY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WINNING THE ELECTORAL VOTES OF SOME STATES IS QUITE LIKELY. ~~A SERIOUS POSSIBILITY~~. IN A CLOSE ELECTION, THE CHOICE OF OUR NEXT PRESIDENT COULD BE THROWN INTO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1825.

AFTER 142 YEARS OF DISUSE IT'S NOT SURPRISING MOST AMERICANS HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT WHEN THERE'S NO MAJORITY IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHOOSES THE PRESIDENT FROM THE TOP THREE CONTENDERS, WE BALLOT NOT AS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS BUT BY STATE DELEGATIONS.

THUS THE STATES REPRESENTED IN THE HOUSE BY ONE CONGRESSMAN -- AND FOUR OUT OF FIVE OF THESE ARE NOW REPUBLICANS -- COUNT AS MUCH IN A PRESIDENTIAL RUNOFF AS THE BIG HOUSE DELEGATIONS OF NEW YORK, CALIFORNIA AND TEXAS, NOW DEMOCRATIC. AND THOSE STATES WHERE PARTY

STRENGTH IS EQUAL OR TIED, AS ILLINOIS, OREGON AND MONTANA NOW ARE, WOULD HAVE NO VOICE AT ALL IN THE DECISION.

IT TAKES AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF 26 STATE DELEGATIONS REQUIRED TO DECIDE A CLOSE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST. RIGHT NOW WE HOLD ONLY 18 REPUBLICAN DELEGATIONS, WHILE THE DEMOCRATS DOMINATE 29, AND THREE ARE "EVEN-STEVEN."

BUT THE ODDS ON OUR PICKING UP EIGHT MORE STATE DELEGATIONS ARE NOT AS BAD AS THEY LOOK.

FOR INSTANCE, THERE ARE SEVEN STATES WHERE ONE REPUBLICAN REPLACING AN INCUMBENT DEMOCRAT IN THE HOUSE WOULD SWITCH CONTROL OF THE STATE DELEGATION FROM DEMOCRAT TO REPUBLICAN, THE THREE TIED DELEGATIONS ALREADY MENTIONED PLUS PENNSYLVANIA, NEVADA, KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE. AND WE HAVE REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS IN 5 OF THESE 7.

THERE ALSO ARE 11 STATES -- 7 OF THEM



WITH REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS -- WHERE ^{ONE} SWITCH
WOULD TIE UP THE DELEGATION AND DENY IT TO THE
DEMOCRATS. ALSO, A NET GAIN OF TWO REPUBLICAN
SEATS WOULD WIN ANY OF THESE 11 STATES FOR THE
REPUBLICAN STANDARD-BEARER. THEY ARE ~~VIRGINIA~~
~~D4-D6~~ ARKANSAS, ~~R1-D3~~ COLORADO, ~~R1-D3~~.
MARYLAND, ~~R3-D5~~. OKLAHOMA, ~~R2-D4~~.
MASSACHUSETTS, ~~R5-D7~~. NEW MEXICO, ~~D2~~.
HAWAII, ~~D2~~. RHODE ISLAND, ~~D2~~.
ALABAMA, ~~R3-D5~~. MAINE ~~D2~~. AND, OF COURSE,
VIRGINIA.

VIRGINIA IS NOW REPRESENTED IN THE
HOUSE BY 10 MEMBERS, SIX DEMOCRATS AND FOUR
REPUBLICANS. I'VE ALREADY MENTIONED TWO OF OUR
ABLE VIRGINIA REPUBLICANS, DICK BOFF AND JOEL
BROYHILL, AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CRIME
BILL. TWO YEARS AGO THEY WERE JOINED BY BILL
SCOTT AND BILL WAMPLER. FROM THE 8th AND 9th.
DISTRICTS. ~~AND~~ THEY HAVE BEEN OUTSTANDING
CONGRESSMEN AMONG AN EXTRAORDINARILY FINE CLASS



OF 47 REPUBLICAN REINFORCEMENTS WHICH THE VOTERS SENT US IN 1966 AS A TOKEN OF THINGS TO COME. *Broad / Broad*

THIS YEAR, WITH MY GOOD FRIEND PORTER HARDY RETIRING IN THE 2ND DISTRICT, I BELIEVE REPUBLICANS AND LIKE-MINDED DEMOCRATS IN THE NORFOLK AREA HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF ELECTING DR. BILL WHITEHURST OF OLD DOMINION COLLEGE TO THAT VACANT SEAT.

THAT WOULD TIE UP THE VIRGINIA DELEGATION, 5-TO-5, AND AT LEAST DENY ITS VOTE TO ~~THE~~ ^{ANY} GREAT SOCIETY / ^{PRESIDENTIAL} CANDIDATE IN A HOUSE CONTEST. BUT ~~IS~~ THE "MOTHER OF PRESIDENTS" ~~THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA~~ ^{SURELY} DESERVES BETTER THAN SUCH A STANDBY ROLE -- I BELIEVE VIRGINIA WILL NOT ONLY SEND 12 REPUBLICAN ELECTORS TO THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE BUT, IN CASE OF A DEADLOCK, HAVE A MAJORITY OF REPUBLICANS ON ITS HOUSE DELEGATION IN THE 91ST CONGRESS.

ALL FOUR REPUBLICAN INCUMBENTS SHOULD



BE RE-ELECTED AND WE CAN GAIN AT LEAST TWO OF THE SIX SEATS NOW HELD BY DEMOCRATS -- THE 2nd DISTRICT AND AT LEAST ONE OTHER, IN MY JUDGMENT.

WE HAVE FINE CANDIDATES SUCH AS JOHN HANSEN IN RICHMOND, WELDON TUCK IN SOUTH BOSTON'S 5th DISTRICT, ^{and} "PETE" GIESON OF VERONA. ~~AND~~ I WOULD HOPE THEY ^{CAN} ~~COULD~~ ALL JOIN US IN THE NEXT CONGRESS. I HOPE TO LEARN MORE FROM YOU WHO ARE CLOSER TO THE PICTURE ABOUT ALL OUR VIRGINIA CAMPAIGNS SO, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO EXCEPT TO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, LET'S HAVE YOUR QUESTIONS.



M Office Copy



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
June 15, 1968

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.), at the Virginia Press Association Annual Banquet, Williamsburg, Virginia, June 15, 1968.

Thank you for the signal honor of speaking at your annual banquet.

This is my second visit to Williamsburg this week. Last Sunday I talked to the graduating class at the College of William and Mary. Tonight, however, I am told that I am uninhibited by any academic cap and gown and can talk some straight-from-the-shoulder politics.

That wasn't always prudent for a Republican in Virginia. But I'm proud and pleased to say that, from all reports reaching me, the Old Dominion as usual is in the vanguard of both the South and the entire nation -- a vigorous and viable two-party system has been re-established here and we confidently expect to find Virginia in the Republican column come November.

So far this has been a year of political surprises and stunning tragedies. It makes prediction a precarious business; as a lot of reporters, political columnists and editorial writers have already learned. But the issues remain unchanged; the problems keep piling up; and I will stick my neck way out and flatly forecast a sweeping repudiation of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration by the American electorate at the polls this year.

You'll notice that I do not go quite so far as to predict a sweeping national Republican victory. This is complicated by several factors, among them the transparent efforts of the President and some of the avowed Democratic contenders to steal our best Republican issues and repudiate their own sorry record of performance, and of course the incalculable effects of a third or even fourth party candidacies. So my optimism is no cause for Republican overconfidence anywhere -- it may well be the hardest-fought and closest contest in American history.

But there is one sign that stands out like a sore thumbprint on everybody's crystal ball -- the American people are fed up and fearful, yes, they are anxious and angry, about the way things are going with their country.

Like a gathering summer storm, a powerful demand and determination for change is stirring all across our land. And it is far from certain where this pent-up force will strike, whether its consequences will be for good or evil. These are the times, as Tom Paine said, that try men's souls -- sometimes they summon patriots to action, and sometimes they raise demagogues to power.

(more)

Nine days ago, meeting on the day of Sen. Robert Kennedy's death, the House passed and sent to the President the Law Enforcement Assistance and Criminal Justice Act of 1968.

The House vote was 368 to 17.

The earlier Senate vote was 72 to 4.

These overwhelming majorities reflected the massive demand of an aroused America that crime must be stopped.

But more than a week has passed and President Johnson has not signed this comprehensive crime bill into law. What is he waiting for?

Projecting the FBI Crime Index statistics over this nine-day delay, more than 90,000 major crimes have occurred in this country; some 316 murders, 682 rapes, 4,300 robberies and over 6,400 aggravated assaults.

What is the President waiting for?

Under the Constitution, of course, the President has until Wednesday to sign or veto this vital bill. But the Constitution does not require him to wait the full period, and he often has been eager and impatient to pass out pens before the photographers and TV cameras after signing Great Society laws he likes.

If the 1968 election were to be decided solely on the issues, Republicans should sweep the country. But it may not be so decided.

The 1968 threats of a Senator McCarthy on the left and a George Wallace on the right pose problems for Republicans as well as for Johnson-Humphrey Democrats. The prospect of a third or fourth party Presidential candidate winning some electoral votes is serious. The choice of our next President could be thrown into the House of Representatives for the first time since 1825.

Virginia is now represented in the House by six Democrats and four Republicans. Veteran Congressmen Dick Poff of Radford and Joel Broyhill of Arlington were joined two years ago by Bill Scott and Bill Wampler, from the 8th and 9th Congressional Districts. They have been outstanding among the 47 reinforcements the voters sent us in 1966 as a token of things to come.

This year, with my good friend Porter Hardy retiring in the 2nd District, I believe Republicans and like-minded Democrats in the Norfolk area have a good chance of electing Dr. Bill Whitehurst of Old Dominion College to that vacant seat.

That would tie up the Virginia delegation, 5 - to - 5, and at least deny its vote to any Great Society candidate in a House showdown. But as the "Mother of Presidents" the Commonwealth of Virginia deserves better than such a standby role -- I believe Virginia will not only send 12 Republican electors to the Electoral College but, in case of a deadlock, have a majority of Republicans on its House delegation in the 91st Congress.



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
June 15, 1968

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.), at the Virginia Press Association Annual Banquet, Williamsburg, Virginia, June 15, 1968.

Thank you for the signal honor of speaking at your annual banquet.

This is my second visit to Williamsburg this week. Last Sunday I talked to the graduating class at the College of William and Mary. Tonight, however, I am told that I am uninhibited by any academic cap and gown and can talk some straight-from-the-shoulder politics.

That wasn't always prudent for a Republican in Virginia. But I'm proud and pleased to say that, from all reports reaching me, the Old Dominion as usual is in the vanguard of both the South and the entire nation -- a vigorous and viable two-party system has been re-established here and we confidently expect to find Virginia in the Republican column come November.

So far this has been a year of political surprises and stunning tragedies. It makes prediction a precarious business; as a lot of reporters, political columnists and editorial writers have already learned. But the issues remain unchanged; the problems keep piling up; and I will stick my neck way out and flatly forecast a sweeping repudiation of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration by the American electorate at the polls this year.

You'll notice that I do not go quite so far as to predict a sweeping national Republican victory. This is complicated by several factors, among them the transparent efforts of the President and some of the avowed Democratic contenders to steal our best Republican issues and repudiate their own sorry record of performance, and of course the incalculable effects of a third or even fourth party candidacies. So my optimism is no cause for Republican overconfidence anywhere -- it may well be the hardest-fought and closest contest in American history.

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