

The original documents are located in Box D25, folder “Republican Fund-Raising Dinner, Washington, DC, September 19, 1968” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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I HAVE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE. NOW THAT HE HAS PRESENTED CHICAGO'S SIDE OF THE STORY, MAYOR RICHARD J. DALEY HAS AGREED TO APPEAR ON TWO NETWORK TELEVISION PROGRAMS FOR INTENSIVE QUESTIONING BY NEWSMEN. THE PROGRAMS ARE "BEAT THE PRESS"...AND "MACE THE NATION."



GOP FUND-RAISING DINNER
8:00 p.m. THURSDAY, SEPT. 19, 1968
WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL

YOU KNOW MAYOR DALEY...KING RICHARD.
HE'S A CLOSE FRIEND OF HUBERT HUMPHREY, THE
VEEP WHO IS KNOWN TO NEWS REPORTERS AS
"MR. WEEP."

NEWSMEN MAY NOT BE FOND OF KING
RICHARD BUT THEY REALLY DO LIKE HUBERT. ONE
REASON THE EDITORS LIKE HUBERT IS BECAUSE
IT'S SO EASY TO GET THOSE INITTALS --
H.H.H. -- INTO A HEADLINE.



FIELD RUNNER, TRYING TO FEINT HIS OPPONENT
OUT OF POSITION SO HE CAN BREAK INTO THE
OPEN.

AS GENE McCARTHY HAS TOLD US, ONE OF
HUBERT'S TROUBLES IS THAT EVERY TIME HE
TRIES TO DASH ALONG THE SIDELINES THE COACH
COMES OFF THE BENCH AND TACKLES HIM.



I THINK HUBERT WOULD DEARLY LOVE TO KEEP LYNDON BACK ON THE RANCH.

INCIDENTALLY, HUBERT HAS TAKEN SOME VERY INTERESTING POSITIONS ON VIETNAM LATELY.

WHAT'S HIS POSITION RIGHT NOW? YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE MORNING PAPERS TO FIND OUT.



AS FOR LYNDON, HE REFUSES TO STAY PUT ON HIS SPREAD IN TEXAS. BUT HE'S NOT DOING MUCH TRAVELING, EITHER. HUBERT HUMPHREY AND DICK NIXON CAN DO WHAT THEY LIKE. LYNDON'S NOT ABOUT TO JOIN THE ISRAELI JET SET.



✓ (6)

YOU CAN'T HELP BUT HAVE A LITTLE ADMIRATION FOR THE CABIN BOY WHO STANDS ON THE BURNING DECK AFTER EVERYBODY INCLUDING THE CAPTAIN HAS ABANDONED SHIP.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF SHIP OF STATE WE NEED IN THE ROUGH SEAS THIS COUNTRY'S IN.



7.

IT'S EASY TO SEE WHY HUBERT HAS THE CRYING TOWEL OUT. APPARENTLY HE BELIEVES THE POLLS. I'VE GOT A HUNCH LYNDON DID, TOO, OR HE WOULDN'T HAVE BENCHED HIMSELF AND GONE IN FOR COACHING.

I'M HOPING THE PRESIDENTIAL POLLS HAVE A FAR-REACHING EFFECT. LIKE MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME COAT-TAILS ON THEM.

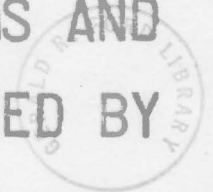


GOP FUND-RAISING DINNER, 8 P.M. THURSDAY,
SEPT. 19, 1968, WASHINGTON-HILTON HOTEL, D.C.

I BELIEVE THERE IS AN EXCELLENT CHANCE THE COUNTRY WILL ELECT A REPUBLICAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN NOVEMBER. THE ODDS ARE THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL MAKE A NET GAIN OF 40 OR MORE HOUSE SEATS. *Issue Candidates*

I AM PLEASED ABOUT THAT FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS. MOST OF ALL, I AM PLEASED BECAUSE IT WILL GIVE REPUBLICANS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO A JOB FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE...AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO A CONSTRUCTIVE JOB IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND PUT THIS COUNTRY ON THE ROAD TO GENUINE PROGRESS.

WINNING THE HOUSE IN NOVEMBER WILL GIVE REPUBLICANS A CHANCE TO SHOW THE NATION WHAT THE GREAT OPPORTUNITY PARTY CAN DO. IT WILL OPEN THE DOOR TO ALL OF THE REFORMS AND THE PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION BEING BLOCKED BY



THE HOUSE MAJORITY IN THE PRESENT CONGRESS.

I PLEDGE HERE AND NOW THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL BE A REFORM PARTY IN A REPUBLICAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

I PLEDGE THAT LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE HOUSE...TO MODERNIZE AND STREAMLINE IT... TO GIVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TRUTH-IN-ELECTIONS WITH LONG OVERDUE REFORMS IN THE REPORTING OF CAMPAIGN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES...AND TO GIVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A SURE VOICE IN CHOOSING THEIR PRESIDENT BY ABOLISHING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE...SUCH LEGISLATION WILL BE AMONG THE FIRST ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN A REPUBLICAN HOUSE.

I PLEDGE, TOO, EXPEDITIOUS ACTION ON NEW REPUBLICAN PROGRAMS TO MEET THE PROBLEMS OF THE CITIES AND DEPRESSED RURAL AREAS, THE PROBLEMS OF A WELFARE SYSTEM THAT ENCOURAGES THE DEPENDENT TO STAY ON THE WELFARE ROLLS, THE PROBLEMS OF HARD-CORE



UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT AND CRIME...
AND NEW REPUBLICAN PROGRAMS TO MEET THE NEED
FOR BETTER EDUCATION, BETTER HOUSING AND
BETTER HEALTH, THE NEED FOR A WORKABLE PROGRAM
FOR THE EFFICIENT FAMILY FARMER AND FOR
GREATER ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
AMERICANS.

OUR AGENDA ALSO WILL INCLUDE AN
AUTOMATIC COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT AND
OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN SOCIAL SECURITY.

A PROGRAM TO SHARE FEDERAL INCOME
TAX REVENUE WITH THE STATES AND THE CITIES...
TO MAKE THEM FULL-FLEDGED PARTNERS WITH THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE PROBLEM-SOLVING
PROCESS.

LEGISLATION TO SPUR NEW INDUSTRIAL
GROWTH AND NEW JOBS IN OUR CENTRAL CITIES
AND IN OUR DEPRESSED RURAL AREAS THROUGH TAX
INCENTIVES.

REPUBLICAN PROGRAMS THAT WILL



REBUILD NOT ONLY THE CENTRAL CITIES BUT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE...TRAIN THEM AND PLACE THEM IN GOOD-PAYING JOBS IN INDUSTRY.

REPUBLICAN PROGRAMS THAT WILL BUILD A NEW AMERICA.

AS I SAID EARLIER, A REPUBLICAN HOUSE WILL MOVE TO ABOLISH THE ARCHAIC AND OUTMODED ELECTORAL COLLEGE TO MAKE IT CERTAIN THAT IN FUTURE ELECTIONS THE PEOPLE AND NOT THE POLITICIANS WILL CHOOSE THE PRESIDENT.

WHATEVER THE POLLS INDICATE AT THE MOMENT, THIS YEAR THERE IS A DISTINCT DANGER THAT NEITHER OF THE MAJOR PARTY CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

IF THAT HAPPENS, THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WILL BE THROWN INTO THE HOUSE.

ANY NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENTS COULD OCCUR FROM THAT POINT ON. IN ANY CASE, IT WOULD BE THE POLITICIANS AND NOT THE PEOPLE WHO THEN WOULD SELECT THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.



UNLESS ONE OF THE MAJOR PARTIES CONTROLS AT LEAST 26 OF THE 50 STATE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS, A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS COULD ARISE...WITH THE FINAL SELECTION OF A PRESIDENT DELAYED PERHAPS FOR WEEKS OR EVEN FOR MONTHS.

IT EVEN COULD DEVELOP THAT THE VICE-PRESIDENT, HAVING BEEN SELECTED BY THE SENATE WHILE THE HOUSE WAS DEADLOCKED OVER THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST, WOULD SERVE AS ACTING PRESIDENT.

TWICE BEFORE IN OUR POLITICAL HISTORY--IN THE ELECTIONS OF 1800 AND 1824 -- THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE HAS BEEN THROWN INTO THE HOUSE FOR LACK OF AN ELECTORAL VOTE MAJORITY. IN BOTH CASES, THE SITUATION DEGENERATED INTO A BARTERING FOR CONGRESSIONAL VOTES IN SUPPORT OF CERTAIN CANDIDATES.

THE CONSEQUENCES WERE SOME OF THE MOST UNSAVORY DEALS EVER ENTERED INTO IN

AMERICAN POLITICS.

IN FACT, IT ONCE HAPPENED THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE RECEIVING BOTH THE LARGEST POPULAR VOTE AND THE BIGGEST ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTE WAS DENIED ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY BY THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THAT HAPPENED AFTER THE 1824 ELECTION, IN WHICH ANDREW JACKSON RECEIVED 153,544 VOTES AND JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, HIS NEAREST COMPETITOR, GOT ONLY ABOUT TWO-THIRDS AS MANY WITH 108,740. JACKSON ALSO HAD MORE ELECTORAL VOTES THAN ADAMS BUT NOT A MAJORITY. TWO OTHER CANDIDATES, WILLIAM CRAWFORD AND HENRY CLAY, FINISHED THIRD AND FOURTH IN THE ELECTORAL VOTE TOTALS.

SO THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WAS THROWN INTO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHERE MEMBERS BY CONSTITUTIONAL DICTUM HAD TO CHOOSE AMONG THE TOP THREE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

FINISHERS -- JACKSON, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, AND CRAWFORD.

EVENTUALLY, AFTER MUCH WHEELING AND DEALING, THE HOUSE ELECTED JOHN QUINCY ADAMS AS OUR FIFTH PRESIDENT DESPITE THE FACT THAT JACKSON HAD TOPPED ADAMS IN BOTH POPULAR AND ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES. THE STORY IS THAT HENRY CLAY THREW HIS SUPPORT TO ADAMS IN EXCHANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

I HOPE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT CREATE A WHEELER-DEALER SITUATION OF THAT KIND IN NOVEMBER OF 1968. I HOPE THEY WILL MAKE THEIR POPULAR AND ELECTORAL COLLEGE CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM THAT HAS SERVED AMERICA SO LONG AND SO WELL.

IT IS NOT A PERFECT SYSTEM; IT IS NOT CONSTITUTIONALLY ORDAINED. BUT EARLY IN OUR HISTORY IT WAS FOUND TO BE THE BEST




WAY FOR MOST OF OUR CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN POLITICS AND TO GIVE EXPRESSION TO THEIR POLITICAL BELIEFS.

BY ADOPTING A TWO-PARTY SYSTEM WE AVOIDED THE LOSS OF FREEDOM THAT RESULTS FROM ONE-PARTY GOVERNMENT. THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM HAS BEEN A PROTECTOR OF FREEDOM AND A VEHICLE FOR PROGRESS IN AMERICA. THERE IS NO FREEDOM IN THE ONE-PARTY NATIONS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN.

AND BY FOLLOWING A TWO-PARTY SYSTEM WE HAVE AVOIDED THE CHAOS AND CONFUSION THAT EXISTS IN MULTI-PARTY GOVERNMENTS, WHERE FRACTIONAL PARTIES CONSTANTLY FIGHT EACH OTHER AND OFTEN BLOCK ANY KIND OF EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT.

I BELIEVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT EFFECTIVE NEW LEADERSHIP TODAY -- AND THEY CAN GET THAT KIND OF LEADERSHIP ONLY WITHIN THE BASIC FRAMEWORK OF THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM.



THEY ALSO WANT A REAL CHANGE. AND THEY WOULDN'T GET THAT BY SENDING IN A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE QUARTERBACK WHO HAS CALLED THE PLAYS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS. THAT WOULD NOT IMPROVE THE SIGNAL-CALLING FROM THE WHITE HOUSE OR GIVE AMERICA A NEW STRATEGY AT HOME OR ABROAD.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT LED BY RESPONSIBLE MEN.

THEY WANT AN AMERICA WHERE AS MUCH ATTENTION IS PAID TO THE RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN WHO TENDS TO HIS DUTIES, WORKS HARD AND PAYS HIS TAXES AS TO THE PROBLEM CITIZEN WHO MAKES LIFE MISERABLE FOR THE POLICE AND ALL LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE.

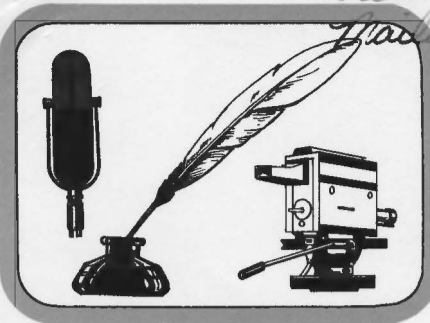
THEY WANT AN AMERICA THAT IS SAFE AGAIN, WHERE PEOPLE CAN WALK THE STREETS AND CHILDREN CAN PLAY IN THE PARKS WITHOUT FEAR OF MARAUDERS AND MOLESTERS.

THEY WANT AN AMERICA AT PEACE, NOT

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE IN FRIDAY AM's--
September 20, 1968

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives at a Republican Fund-Raising Dinner at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, 1968, at the Washington-Hilton Hotel, Washington, D. C.

I believe there is an excellent chance the country will elect a Republican House of Representatives in November. The odds are that the Republican Party will make a net gain of 40 or more House seats.

I am pleased about that for a number of reasons. Most of all, I am pleased because it will give Republicans an opportunity to do a job for the American people...an opportunity to do a constructive job in the legislative branch and put this country on the road to genuine progress.

Winning the House in November will give Republicans a chance to show the Nation what the Great Opportunity Party can do. It will open the door to all of the reforms and the progressive legislation being blocked by the House majority in the present Congress.

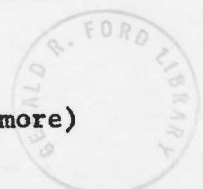
I pledge here and now that the Republican Party will be a Reform Party in a Republican House of Representatives.

I pledge that legislation to reform the House...to modernize and streamline it...to give the American people truth-in-elections with long overdue reforms in the reporting of campaign receipts and expenditures...and to give the American people a sure voice in choosing their president by abolishing the electoral college...such legislation will be among the first items of business in a Republican House.

I pledge, too, expeditious action on new Republican programs to meet the problems of the cities and depressed rural areas, the problems of a welfare system that encourages the dependent to stay on the welfare rolls, the problems of hard-core unemployment and underemployment and crime...and new Republican programs to meet the need for better education, better housing and better health, the need for a workable program for the efficient family farmer and for greater advancement opportunities for all Americans.

Our agenda also will include an automatic cost-of-living adjustment and other improvements in Social Security.

(more)



A program to share Federal income tax revenue with the states and the cities...to make them full-fledged partners with the federal government in the problem-solving process.

Legislation to spur new industrial growth and new jobs in our central cities and in our depressed rural areas through tax incentives.

Republican programs that will rebuild not only the central cities but the people who live there....train them and place them in good-paying jobs in industry.

Republican programs that will build a New America.

As I said earlier, a Republican House will move to abolish the archaic and outmoded electoral college to make it certain that in future elections the people and not the politicians will choose the President.

Whatever the polls indicate at the moment, this year there is a distinct danger that neither of the major party candidates will receive a majority of the electoral vote.

If that happens, the presidential election will be thrown into the House.

Any number of developments could occur from that point on. In any case, it would be the politicians and not the people who then would select the next President of the United States.

Unless one of the major parties controls at least 26 of the 50 state congressional delegations, a constitutional crisis could arise...with the final selection of a President delayed perhaps for weeks or even for months.

It even could develop that the Vice-President, having been selected by the Senate while the House was deadlocked over the Presidential contest, would serve as Acting President.

Twice before in our political history--in the elections of 1800 and 1824--the presidential race has been thrown into the House for lack of an electoral vote majority. In both cases, the situation degenerated into a bartering for congressional votes in support of certain candidates.

The consequences were some of the most unsavory deals ever entered into in American politics.

In fact, it once happened that the presidential candidate receiving both the largest popular vote and the biggest electoral college vote was denied election to the Presidency by the U.S. House of Representatives.

That happened after the 1824 election, in which Andrew Jackson received 153,544 votes and John Quincy Adams, his nearest competitor, got only about

(more)

two-thirds as many with 108,740. Jackson also had more electoral votes than Adams but not a majority. Two other candidates, William Crawford and Henry Clay, finished third and fourth in the electoral vote totals.

So the presidential election was thrown into the House of Representatives, where members by constitutional dictum had to choose among the top three electoral college finishers--Jackson, John Quincy Adams, and Crawford.

Eventually, after much wheeling and dealing, the House elected John Quincy Adams as our fifth President despite the fact that Jackson had topped Adams in both popular and electoral college votes. The story is that Henry Clay threw his support to Adams in exchange for an appointment as Secretary of State.

I hope the American people will not create a wheeler-dealer situation of that kind in November of 1968. I hope they will make their popular and electoral college choice for President within the framework of the two-party system that has served America so long and so well.

It is not a perfect system; it is not constitutionally ordained. But early in our history it was found to be the best way for most of our citizens to participate in politics and to give expression to their political beliefs.

By adopting a two-party system we avoided the loss of freedom that results from one-party government. The two-party system has been a protector of freedom and a vehicle for progress in America. There is no freedom in the one-party nations behind the Iron Curtain.

And by following a two-party system we have avoided the chaos and confusion that exists in multi-party governments, where fractional parties constantly fight each other and often block any kind of effective government.

I believe the American people want effective new leadership today--and they can get that kind of leadership only within the basic framework of the two-party system.

They also want a real change. And they wouldn't get that by sending in a substitute for the quarterback who has called the plays for the last five years. That would not improve the signal-calling from the White House or give America a new strategy at home or abroad.

The American people want responsible government led by responsible men.

They want an America where as much attention is paid to the responsible citizen who tends to his duties, works hard and pays his taxes as to the problem citizen who makes life miserable for the police and all law-abiding people.

(more)

They want an America that is safe again, where people can walk the streets and children can play in the parks without fear of marauders and molesters.

They want an America at peace, not an America that polices the world and blunders into foreign adventures while disregarding all the rules of sound military strategy.

I believe they want to move this country ahead, but not at the expense of \$25 billion annual deficits and interest costs of more than \$15 billion a year on the federal debt.

We need a new kind of leadership so that we can bind up the Nation's wounds and deal as one people with the tremendous problems that face urban and rural America today.

I sincerely believe that America needs Dick Nixon and Ted Agnew, a Republican House and substantial GOP gains in the Senate if we are to escape the darkness and move ahead to build a new America.

The Nixon-Agnew action team means New Hope for America. The Nixon-Agnew team will open the way to an exciting New Era when America will build and not tear down, when each and every one of our citizens can reach for the brass ring.

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