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New basic GOP speech  
[May 14, 1965]  
Houston

~~To: Howard Hughes May 1~~  
~~Jim Hightower West May 5~~  
~~Bob Denver San Antonio May 11~~  
" " Houston May 14  
4 lines

Rumblings of discontent and disenchantment with the way things are going in the alleged "Great Society" are spreading across the land.

The sounds of unrest, signalling a great awakening of the American electorate, offer the Republican Party one of the great opportunities in years to regain strength at all levels of government.

We appear to be witnessing some sort of a political miracle, which is working in our favor. To keep things going our way, the Republican Party must move with calculated speed, work together, accentuate the positive, take sound and strong positions on pertinent issues.

Let's take a sharp look at what has happened to---and in---the opposition party to discover the direction Republicans must take almost immediately.

The 89th Congress so far--- with Democrats slam-banging through legislation under the powerful political fist of the White House--- has set a record of rubber-stamping that is long on ~~time~~ <sup>quantity</sup> and short on ~~time~~ <sup>quality</sup>.

Unwittingly, perhaps, the party in control has given us just about all the political ammunition we need to win victories in 1966. Now we must use it.

For example, millions of Americans are learning with dismay that the Democrat-controlled Congress has sand-bagged them with more taxes arbitrarily taken from their paychecks.

-more-



Congressional action so far--- with Democrats cringing under White House political whip-lashing--- means Americans will have less money to spend on necessities, slimmer bank accounts, and more choking federal control of their lives.

While Republican constructive alternative proposals have been hidden in the shadow of the White House, buried under the heavy-handed voting strength of Democrats, and limited to fleeting exposures in the spotlight of publicity, what has happened?

Ignoring Republican proposed legislation that has been more encompassing, fiscally-sound, and within the framework of the Constitution, the Democrat-controlled House has ignored ~~the~~ millions of Americans.

With President Johnson riding herd, the house has adopted an extremely wasteful and inequitable aid-to-education bill that gives millions of dollars to the wealthiest counties and cold-shoulders the poorest areas by handing them relatively little help.

Bowing to the will of the White House, Democrat Representatives voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Administration's "medicare" scheme. Economists are already jittery about the possible depressive economic impact because the payroll tax increase will take an estimated five billion dollars out of circulation the first year. At the same time, millions of Americans will have less take-home pay, meaning fewer dollars to buy goods and services. And, business will have less incentive to expand.



Acting again with wasteful haste, our Democratic friends knuckled down to the White House and passed the Appalachia bill to compound problems created last year when the Administration's alleged "anti-poverty" program was launched with trumpeting fanfare.

Meanwhile, a rip-roaring political family brawl erupted in the ranks of the Democrats while we were peacefully achieving more unity.

The donney-brook was triggered by the President when he ordered ~~stepped-up~~ stepped-up military operations in Viet-Nam. While Republicans <sup>take</sup> took a widely-heralded bi-partisan position in support of the White House, powerful Democrats hurled ~~verbal~~ verbal brickbats at the President.

The beefing and stewing among Democrats on such an important issue is helping to reflect the Republican philosophy that we think first of the people, refusing to put politics ahead of national interest.

Proudly, we are extending the bi-partisanship of the late Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, who was responsible for my decision to make a career ~~in~~ in the political world.

Perhaps one of our greatest strengths in winning 1966 victories is the growing concern in many parts of the Nation and among members of the press that the United States is rapidly-headed toward the end of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> two-party system.

Naturally, there must be both a majority party and a minority party. However, if the over-balance of power in both the legislative and executive branches gives either party too much ~~political~~ political muscle, the very foundations of freedom crack and crumble.



The United States as a country---every citizen as a member of a free society---our form of government----all would be in jeopardy of being without freedom if one political party becomes so strong that it is unchallenged.

Americans can be rightfully and justly concerned whenever there is a brazen display of raw political power in the executive strong arm and in the houses of Congress.

When a President---with finger-pointing--- appears before a Joint Session of Congress and virtually orders passage of a voting rights "law" ~~put together~~ <sup>that was still being drafted</sup> in the White House, Americans should do some political soul-searching.

In fact, the way Lyndon Johnson is running the Congress most Democratic Representatives don't know whether to clap their hands or click their heels.

While the party in power is ram-rodging legislation under the President's thumb, Republicans in Congress are proving to be a constructive opposition. Although we are outnumbered two to one, ~~somehow~~ <sup>maintained</sup> we have ~~maintained~~ a sense of purpose and somehow kept a sense of humor.

Perhaps we are in the same position as the Indian yogi lying on a bed of nails ~~who~~ <sup>who</sup> described the experience as painful only when he laughed. Americans, I believe, ~~are rapidly~~ <sup>are rapidly</sup> discovering that Republicans in Congress are from from being a bitter, obstructionist minority. Instead, we are a forceful, optimistic, united, articulate majority, compared to the other ~~side~~ <sup>side</sup> of the ~~aisle~~ <sup>aisle</sup>.



To put the mood of Congress in a capsule, I would say that when President Johnson tells Democrats to "Come let us reason together," ~~then~~ they troop to the White House and he reasons. Republicans on the other hand invest their time and energies in creating proposed legislation keeping the American people first in mind.

I have tried to present the evidence clearly and honestly to you without being an obstructionist or critic just for the sake of opposing the Administration.

The proof stands by itself. The evidence indicates growing and national concern about the present over-balance of power in government. There is spreading doubt that the alleged Great Society falls far short of the lofty political oratory that sold the grandiose idea to more than half the American electorate.

In the face of all this---and with a great opportunity at hand---, what actions should be taken by the Republican Party?

WELL, Without hesitation we should recover the fumbles made by the Administration's weakened political team.

We should take the offensive and stop playing a defensive game. We can outflank, outrun and outscore the opposition with a flashing, imaginative, colorful attack using news ideas and better legislative proposals.

The Republican Party must be a constructive, responsible force. This is the way to earn the trust and respect of the electorate, while capitalizing on errors made by our political ~~opponents~~ opponents.



We need more members in the ranks. They must be recruited with an enthusiastic, united effort. The campaign must be all encompassing--- we welcome all citizens to our Party. Some of our stronger ~~recruiting~~ <sup>recruiting</sup> action should be in the direction of younger persons---those in the early 20's age group.

Our Party needs to enlist more intelligent, articulate, and personable candidates, who believe in our fundamental Republican philosophies, yet are free to express their own political views.

We must establish bed-rock basic positions, broaden the base of our Party, and re-assert Republican principles that demand preservation of individual freedom and human dignity.

We need money. A political party cannot function without adequate finances. However, we must earn financial support by demonstrating that our programs deserve the backing of contributors everywhere.

The Republican Party desperately needs better communication with the public at large. I believe that elected Republican officials and all persons in responsible party positions must have an "open door" policy for the working press and news executives. We must talk with the American people...in a friendly, ~~neighborly~~ neighborly way.

By and large, the American news media is a vital link between the people and government. Unlike the President, who has ~~repeatedly~~ attacked the American press ~~for its alleged bias~~ for "waywardness"--in his words---, and has somewhat disdainfully treated editors of the Nation when they visited Washington, Republicans must respect reporters and photographers as

*more*



dedicated, professional craftsmen.

While the Johnson Administration seems to ~~think~~ <sup>think</sup> the first responsibility of the American press is to support its policies, Republicans take an opposite view.

I strenuously object to the way the White House tries to ~~spoon-feed~~ <sup>spoon-feed</sup> the press and to the high-handed censorship imposed by Democrat-controlled bureaucracies.

The Republican Party must welcome constant ~~scrutiny~~ scrutiny of news media. Elected officials ~~have~~ have a responsibility to live their political lives in the open.

The philosophies and the actions of our Party ~~must reach the American~~ <sup>must reach the American</sup> people. An informed news media is the most sound, ~~quickest and surest way~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~quickest and surest way~~ <sup>the</sup> to accomplish our objective.

At this point, I will repeat what ~~Republicans need~~ <sup>Republicans need</sup> ~~to win~~ <sup>to win</sup> victories ~~in the future~~ and to insure a strong two-party system.

First, I recall what a young minister was told by a senior member of the clergy in the way of good advice.

"Tell the congregation what you intend to tell them," the older minister said. "Then tell ~~them~~ them what you said you would tell them. When you've finished, tell them what you've told them."

Now---to repeat.

The ~~Republican Party~~ ~~to have a resurgence of strength and to~~ ~~retain the two party system~~





The Republican Party---to have a resurgence of strength and win victories---

must:

\* Recover the fumbles made by the Administration.

\* Be a constructive, responsible force ~~making~~<sup>mounting</sup> a flashing attack using new ideas and better legislative proposals.

\* Recruit more members in the ranks and enlist more intelligent, articulate, and personable candidates.

\* Establish ~~basic~~<sup>basic</sup> positions, broaden the Party's base and re-assert our principles that demand preservation of individual freedom and human dignity.

\* Raise money to beef-up our financing for a strong effort.

\* Build better communications with the public at large.

The size and the scope of the job are obvious. This is neither a time to falter nor to stumble.

If we fail, we will fail the American people.

Winning means contributing in great measure to the strength, the welfare, the health, the growth, the prosperity, the well-being of every citizen in the United States and in the society of free world nations.

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# RE-ELECT SENATOR

# JOHN TOWER

In 1966 REPUBLICAN Senator John Tower will face re-election. Already the opposition is beginning to campaign against him. We must build financial support for his campaign. Senator Tower has represented us well in Washington — he has a strong conservative voting record. His voice has never given comfort to the enemies of America. All Texans can be proud of every vote cast by John Tower.

Your contribution now to the Harris County Republican Party will help finance a planned, effective program of support for the re-election of John Tower — Texas' No. 1 U. S. SENATOR.

### DYNAMIC GROWTH OF YOUR REPUBLICAN PARTY

The Republican Party is growing in Harris County and in Texas, from 91,000 congressional votes in 1958,

297,000	"	"	"	1960,
490,000	"	"	"	1962, and
820,000	"	"	"	1964.

With your support, Republican Congressional, State Legislative and County candidates will be elected in 1966 to help Senator Tower bring better government to you.



HARRIS COUNTY



REPUBLICAN

PARTY ★ ★ ★

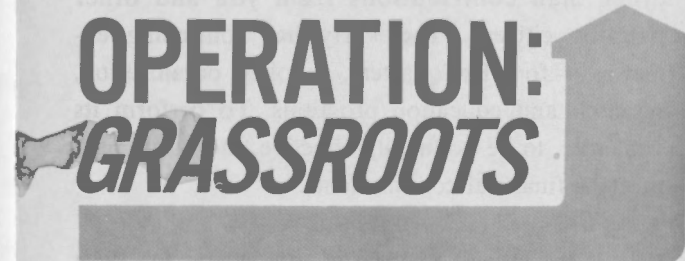
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HARRIS COUNTY



REPUBLICAN

PARTY ★ ★ ★

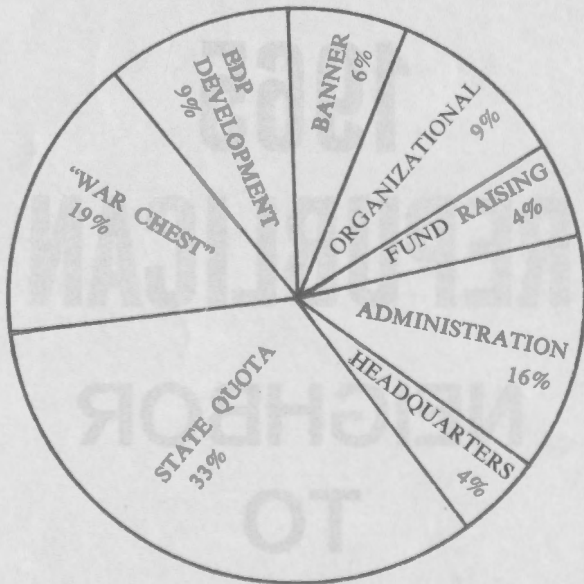


# 1965 REPUBLICAN NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE

# YOU ARE BEING ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE BECAUSE.....

The Harris County Republican Party has no income other than contributions from you and other patriotic citizens. The Party has continuing expenses — for Headquarters, supplies, organization, research and education programs. To perform its vital role, to be politically effective, the Party must meet its financial commitments.

Here is the planned program of expenditures for 1965:



Every cost represents a vital Party function, and an effective two-party system is vital for good government.

## OPERATION BUILD-UP



### EFFICIENT, FRIENDLY HEADQUARTERS

This centrally located headquarters provides a convenient place for meetings, for volunteer work, for records, for the research library, and for the multitude of typewriters, file cabinets, desks, tables, telephones, duplicating machines, and other equipment which is used daily. You are urged to stop by Republican Headquarters, 522 Waugh Drive, whenever you have minutes or hours for political work. A warm welcome awaits you there!

### E.D.P. SYSTEM

The Data Processing system will be expanded in 1965 to provide for more accurate, up-to-date information in a readily accessible form. This modern business system will enable the Party to be ready for immediate campaign action.

### THE REPUBLICAN BANNER

With a circulation of more than 9,000 community leaders, "The Banner" rivals Houston's newspapers as an effective voice in Harris County. Published monthly, in a lively style, with comments and editorials about national events, it gives full coverage of local political activities. "The Banner" carries a full schedule of planned political events; so every Republican should read "The Banner" to be informed.

## GOOD GOVERNMENT BEGINS WITH YOU

If you believe in good government, you also know the value of a vigorous two-party system. The Republican Party is YOUR party. It offers you the benefits of good government. It also depends on YOU — on your volunteer work, on YOUR contribution.

Make your voice heard. Dig down for a strong Republican Party. Now is the time to build for success.

### What Will Your Dollar Buy?

- \$ 5.00 will pay for 30 seconds of radio time
- \$ 12.00 will buy 200 candidates' brochures
- \$ 24.00 will buy 100 yard signs
- \$ 36.00 will buy 150 placards
- \$ 50.00 will buy 500 bumper stickers
- \$ 56.14 will pay for a large billboard for one month
- \$ 80.00 will buy one hour of data processing time
- \$350.00 will pay for 20 seconds on TV

... And listen to "Washington Report" on KXYZ, 1320 on your dial 6:10 - 6:15 p.m. and KIKK, 650 on your dial 5:10 - 5:15 p.m. each Monday. Sponsored by the Harris County Republican Party.

Excerpts from a speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich)  
"Republican Opportunity"

Houston, Texas May 14, 1965

Rumblings of discontent and disenchantment with the way things are going in the alleged "Great Society" are spreading across the land,

The sounds of unrest, signalling a great awakening of the American electorate, offer the Republican Party one of the most important opportunities in years to regain strength.

For example, millions of Americans are learning with dismay that the Democrat-controlled Congress has sand-bagged them with more taxes arbitrarily taken from their paychecks.

Congressional action so far---with Democrats cringing under White House political whiplashing---means Americans will have less money to spend on necessities, slimmer bank accounts, and more choking federal control of their lives.

\* \* \*

The United States as a country, every citizen as a member of a free society, and our form of government would be in jeopardy if one political party becomes so strong that it is unchallenged.

Although outnumbered 2 to 1 in Congress, Republicans are a forceful, optimistic, articulate, and united team that will have more members after 1966 elections.

\* \* \*

There is growing national concern about the present imbalance of power in government. A strong two-party system and more balance of strength are essential to the protection of the individual and his best interests.

\* \* \*

The Republican Party to have a resurgence of strength and to win victories must: recover fumbles made by the Administration---be a constructive, responsible force using new ideas to create better legislative proposals---recruit more members and enlist more intelligent, articulate and personable candidates---establish basic positions to broaden the base---reassert our principles that demand preservation of individual freedom and human dignity--- build better communications with the public at large---raise money to finance a strong effort.

\* \* \*

If we fail, we will fail the American people. Winning means contributing in great measure to the strength, the welfare, the health, the growth, the prosperity, the well-being of every citizen in the United States and in the society of the free world nations.

# # # # # #

The 89th Congress faces giant-sized jobs and some of the most important decisions in modern history.

We must move ahead with vision, dedication and wisdom to help guide our Nation toward the goals of freedom, security and peace. At the same time we must honestly advocate and effectively achieve federal fiscal responsibility.

\* \* \*

The national debt has increased by \$10 billion in two years to an all-time high of \$318 billion.

At the present rate of spending by the government, our children and the generations to come will be buried under a financial load that can only adversely affect their way of life.

\* \* \*

We should throttle the rapidly-expanding trend of too much federal control over States, counties, cities and smaller communities.

Among the major issues today is whether excess concentration of federal power and sovereignty is to destroy State, local and individual freedom and responsibility.

State and local officials have the answer. Simply stated it is---"We will do the job." Perhaps, it must be done at times in partnership with a federal agency.

If there is a will and capability at the local level, there is no reason to have a federal monopoly with a bureaucratic jungle and a tangle of red tape.

\* \* \*

A bi-partisan effort is needed in two major areas.

We must maintain a balance in the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government as intended in the Constitution.

At the same time, we must preserve the two-party system, which has been called the genius of the American Democracy.

Under our political system, the President represents the views of the people who elect him. There is great power in the executive branch.

Congress is the voice of the people. It cannot experience a slow erosion of its balanced power without cracking the foundations of our Democracy.

The Federal Judiciary's function is to interpret laws, not to make them. There is evidence that the Judiciary Branch is arbitrarily elbowing its way to new positions of authority, disregarding the wise suggestions of judicial restraint made by the late Justice Frankfurter and others.