

The original documents are located in Box D19, folder “Robert Taft Dinner, Sandusky, OH, October 20, 1965” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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READING TEXT

Betty -

M.N. - State of the Congress
L.B.J.

-A-
Island

Robert Taft Memorial Association Dinner

Sandusky, Ohio
October 20, 1965

Business of Internal Revenue
Committee - operation of power
Concentration of power -
NET result
Rent Shops

Gov. of Virginia
The of invitation
Speaker - Joe Martin
Sean Mannon
Senator John Tower

Within easy hearing distance and almost within view of my office in the Capitol stands the bell tower commemorating Senator Robert Taft.

Often when the weight of political debate hangs heavily on my shoulders and I am weary because of the problems within my party, the sounds of the bells give me renewed hope and confidence.

This is a non-partisan dinner, but I hope you will forgive at least a passing mention ~~of~~ of ~~consensus~~ consensus politics.

I subscribe to the observation of Robert Taft when he said "if you permit appeals to unity to bring an end to criticism, we endanger not only the constitutional liberties of our country, but even its future existence."



Taft dinner
reading text

-B-

Without an over-indulgence in partisanship tonight, I will discuss the state of the Congress in these turbulent times and some of the actions---both Democrat and Republican--- I believe are needed.

Taking the advice of Senator Taft, I will criticize---but only for the sake of emphasizing the need to assure the future existence of our republic as we know it.

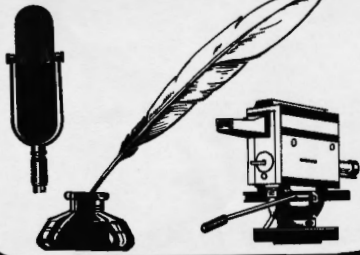
The right to criticize is one of our freedoms. And many Americans use this freedom as they see fit.

(INCOME TAX STORY)

Tonight, I will follow the advice of my wife Betty.

(KISS STORY)

into speech (USE FEDERAL SCHOOL AID INSERT NOT 111-B)



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

Excerpts from an address

Sandusky, Ohio Oct. 20, 1965

Without over-indulgence in political partisanship, I am sure we can agree that a strong two-party system and a meaningful balance in government are best for the national interest.

When the balance of power is critically and steeply tilted by an overwhelming majority in either political party, we have collective conformity in government.

Today one political party controls Congress by a two to one majority. The situation prompted one Washington quipster to comment: "When the President sends a message to Congress, his political partisans don't know whether to clap their hands or click their heels."

The President recently predicted that this Congress "will leap into history as the most effective and most rewarding Congress for all the people in all the history of America."

His praise is understandable. This Congress has given him almost everything he wants.

The President has virtually unlimited resources for working his will--- a veritable army of experts, authorities, researchers and the like. This establishment is available to every Chief Executive, no matter his political party.

At this point in history, the President commands a branch of government that employs more than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -million civilians and controls the destiny of 2 million 600-thousand military personnel. These two groups have a payroll cost totalling \$28 billion. Together they will spend more than 127-billion tax dollars in fiscal 1966.

For the sake of comparison in establishing the slanted balance of power in government, it can be pointed out that the number of employees in the Congressional legislative branch total little more than 9,000 persons.



The question to be answered is whether the Congress operates merely as a limp arm of government, bending like a wet noodle to the will of a President armed with a 2 to 1 majority in the House and Senate or whether it is to be a strong, coordinate branch of government exercising fair but independent judgment.

Within the intent of the Constitution has the present Congress been effective? Has there been independent judgment? Has there been enough questioning and investigation of proposed legislation?

The documented record provides the answers.

The federal school aid bill, which will cost \$1.3 billion in the first year of operation, is a good example of the silence imposed on the elected representatives on Capitol Hill by the existence of political power and the brutal use of such power.

House Republicans prepared 29 amendments each aimed at making the proposed legislation more sensible, more meaningful and more within the guidelines of the Constitution.

Of these, four were debated only five minutes and 14 were allowed no debate. Authors of the latter amendments were given no opportunity to explain them to their colleagues.

The silent treatment was given to several amendments that would have concentrated \$200 million in Federal funds on the education needs of economically-deprived children.

The silent treatment was ordered for another amendment requiring state approval of supplementary educational centers to assure coordination of Federal activities with state plans and policies.

The silent treatment was given to an amendment demanding that Federally-financed local education centers be conducted in accordance with State law.

The silent treatment was given to an amendment to remove the Federal government from involvement in buying textbooks.

The silent treatment was given to an amendment that would remove Federal standards of approval for local educational centers.

The silent treatment prevented exhaustive debate on at least three vital and controversial issues involved in the education bill.

Excerpts from a speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford

In my judgment, there were other issues that should have been given complete and open debate. The throttling of dialogue falls short of serving the best interests of the American people. When Congress is gagged, the American people are gagged.

* * *

There are reasons for being optimistic.

I have a strong faith in the good judgment of the American people.

Congress is taking steps to improve its image, to improve its day-to-day working habits.

I believe most Americans are realizing that they have to help the Congress become a stronger partner in the relationship of the Executive and Judicial branches of government.

Governors in many states now realize that if their units of government are to be strong partners, their constitutions must be modernized. More governors are strengthening their desire to assume responsibilities and not pass them off to the federal establishment.

There is a growing realization that our system of government is the finest in the history of mankind. We believe in our Constitution. Those wise men who put it together created an historic document.

I emphasize...it is politics and politicians that have put the breath of life and the blood in the veins of the still bones of a constitutional system.

* * *

The responsibility of the American people is to help keep our republic strong, progressive and free.

To accomplish this goal, we must all remember that a government big enough to give us everything we want is a government big enough to take from us everything we have.

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House Calendar No. 173

89TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 10027

[Report No. 1041]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 1965

Mr. SICKLES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

SEPTEMBER 21, 1965

Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend section 8 (b) (4) of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, with respect to strike at the sites of construction projects.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That section 8 (b) (4) of the National Labor Relations Act,

4 as amended, is amended by inserting before the semicolon

5 at the end thereof “: *Provided further,* That nothing con-

6 tained in clause (B) of this paragraph (4) shall be con-

7 strued to prohibit any strike or refusal to perform services or

8 any inducement of any individual employed by any person

9 to strike or refuse to perform services at the site of the con-

10 struction, alteration, painting, or repair of a building, struc-

1 ture, or other work and directed at any of several employers
 2 who are in the construction industry and are jointly engaged
 3 as joint venturers or in the relationship of contractors and
 4 subcontractors in such construction, alteration, painting, or
 5 repair at such site, and there is a labor dispute, not unlawful
 6 under this Act or in violation of an existing collective-bar-
 7 gaining contract, relating to the wages, hours, or other work-
 8 ing conditions of employees employed at such site by any of
 9 such employers and the issues in the dispute do not involve
 10 a labor organization which is representing the employees of
 11 an employer at the site who is not engaged primarily in the
 12 construction industry, provided that in the case of any such
 13 site which is located at any military facility or installation of
 14 the Army, Navy, or Air Force, or which is located at a
 15 facility or installation of any other department or agency of
 16 the Government if a major purpose of such facility or in-
 17 stallation is, or will be, the development, production, testing,
 18 firing, or launching of munitions, weapons, missiles, or space
 19 vehicles, prior written notice of intent to strike or to refuse to
 20 perform services, of not less than ten days shall be given by
 21 the labor organization involved to the Federal Mediation and
 22 Conciliation Service, to any State or territorial agency estab-
 23 lished to mediate and conciliate disputes within the State or
 24 territory where such site is located, to the several employers
 25 who are jointly engaged at such site, to the Army, Navy, or

1 Air Force or other department or agency of the Government
 2 concerned with the particular facility or installation, and to
 3 any national or international labor organization of which the
 4 labor organization involved is an affiliate. The notice
 5 requirements of the preceding proviso are in addition to,
 6 and not in lieu of the notice requirements prescribed by
 7 section 8 (d) of the Act. In determining whether several
 8 employers who are in the construction industry are jointly
 9 engaged as joint venturers at any site, ownership or control
 10 of such site by a single person shall not be the only factor
 11 considered”.

12 SEC. 2. The amendment made by this Act shall take
 13 effect ninety days after the enactment of this Act.

H. R. 10027

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