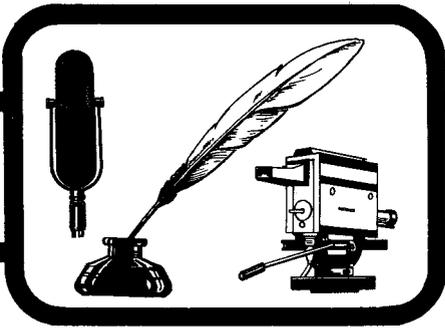


The original documents are located in Box D20, folder “State Republican Convention, Macon, GA, May 7, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE IN P.M.'S OF SATURDAY,
May 7, 1966

SPEECH EXCERPTS--STATE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION, MACON, GA.

The big spenders have been running the show on Capitol Hill for 16 months now in the 89th Congress. But the savers have them scared, or maybe they're beginning to hear the voice of the people.

Perhaps it's finally coming through to the spenders that the people don't want them launching expensive new programs like rent subsidies and the teachers corps while this nation is fighting a billion-dollar-a-month war in Vietnam.

If the spenders don't get the message now, they'll surely get it on Nov. 8.

* * *

The upcoming congressional elections are among the most crucial in this nation's history.

If the Republican Party picks up at least 40 additional seats--as I fully expect--this nation's course will change.

Those forces in the House which prefer the mainstream and believe it to represent the basic thinking of the American people will steer this nation back into sound paths.

The balance of power will shift to those who would turn this country away from the free spending that now has the economy flirting with financial disaster and is eroding the hard-earned dollars of American workers.

* * *

The Johnson-Humphrey Administration is trying to condition the people for a second tax increase in 1966--this time a direct bite out of their paychecks.

The president says it looks as though Congress will add about \$3 billion to his budget and that will force a tax boost. Gardner Ackley, Chairman of the president's Council of Economic Advisers, echoed the president and said a federal spending increase beyond that already budgeted by Mr. Johnson will make an income tax rise "almost inescapable."

Speaking before a Democratic women's conference recently in Washington, Treasury Undersecretary Joseph Barr told the ladies they would have to share the blame for any tax increase imposed this year because they weren't being careful enough about their purchases.

(MORE)

SPEECH EXCERPTS

It's obvious what the Johnson-Humphrey Administration is trying to do, and it's time somebody tipped off the people.

It's clear Mr. Johnson is trying to spread the blame for a tax increase around-- on Congress and on the housewife--so he won't have to shoulder it. I don't think this clever political trick is going to work--any more than I believe that Mr. Johnson is going to be able to talk us out of inflation.

* * *

Inflation is eating away at our earnings. A Bureau of Labor Statistics official privately told me the rise in the cost of living this year probably will wash away three to five dollars of every hundred an American earns in 1966.

Only the federal government can cool the fever of inflation. That is why both business and labor should resent the squeeze being applied to them by the politician from the Pedernales. What we really have today are unofficial wage and price controls. These controls aren't working because they can't work, particularly when the federal government keeps pumping extra billions into the economy.

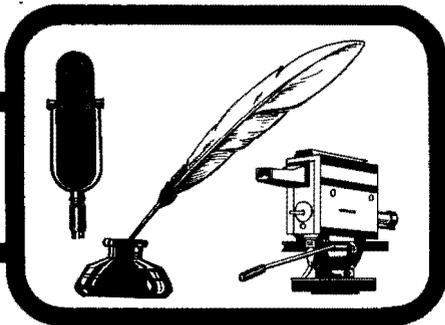
It doesn't make sense for the government to be putting the arm on labor and business while providing the main thrust for inflationary pressures.

* * *

In Washington today we are close to having one-man government. We have a president who tries to gull the people into blissful apathy by sticking the Vietnam War into his pocket and saying, in effect: "Now don't you all worry about the war; I'll take care of it." And he goes right ahead expanding expensive social welfare programs while running up a Vietnam War bill of a billion dollars a month for the taxpayer.

A Congress with a reasonable ratio of strength between the two major political parties could bring order to a government which has tilted completely out of balance. The voters must become aware that a Congress in which Democrats outnumber Republicans more than 2 to 1 is a threat to good government.

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