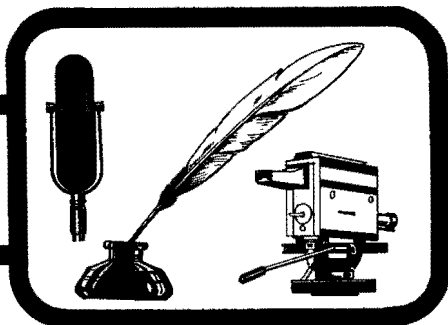


The original documents are located in Box D21, folder “GOP Dinner, Reno, NV, October 30, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
 HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
 RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE AT 7 P.M.
 SUNDAY, OCT. 30, 1966

EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH., AT GOP DINNER, RENO, NEVADA

Two of the President's aides--one of them a Postmaster General--last week engaged in a bit of braggadocio that carried a ring of truth.

They boasted that the Democratic 89th Congress had approved 181 of President Johnson's 200 major legislative proposals for a White House batting average of .905.

I'll accept that. I have been warning the American people for months that they now have a rubber-stamp Congress in Washington--not independent-minded men and women who think for themselves and then legislate in the best interests of all citizens, but an automatic Democratic Congress.

This Democratic Congress is completely subservient to the President. The fact that he got more than nine-tenths of the legislation he asked for is clear proof of that.

Is there danger in this situation? Of course there is. Right now we're as close to one-man government as we have ever been in the history of this nation.

Is this healthy? Of course not. No man or group of men in the Executive Branch of the government are so endowed with wisdom that they automatically know what's best for the American people.

If the people elect more rubber stamps to Congress on November 8, the White House will improve on its 1966 batting average. The President might even bat a thousand. And for the American people that would mean the spending of extra billions on more social welfare experiments--even while thousands of Americans are dying in a little country halfway around the world.

Whatever throttling-down of wild spending enthusiasm occurred in the 89th Congress just ended was primarily the result of Republican efforts. It was Republicans who prevailed when blows were struck for economy and for a holdback on unnecessary spending. Unfortunately we were overwhelmed most of the time by the big spenders because we were so few in number.

In the burst of campaign oratory, Mr. Johnson recently bragged about giving the American people "more" than any other President. He hasn't given the American people anything. They will be paying for it for years and years and so will their children and grandchildren.

(MORE)



SPEECH EXCERPTS

Mr. Johnson said if the people vote Republican on November 8 "we could falter and fall back and fail." No doubt he meant he should have obtained the full \$3.4 billion in foreign aid he asked Congress for instead of the \$2.9 billion his request was reduced to, largely through Republican efforts. No doubt he meant that the school lunch and school milk programs should have been cut as he proposed in his budget. No doubt he meant that the demonstration cities program should have been authorized at the \$2.3 billion level he asked instead of being reduced to \$900 million. No doubt he meant the National Teacher Corps should have been funded at the \$31.4 million he asked instead of the \$7.5 million it got. No doubt he meant that the anti-poverty program, riddled with waste and political favoritism, should have received \$1-and-3/4 billion instead of \$1-and-a-half billion.

No doubt Mr. Johnson believes we will "falter and fall back and fail" if we do not repeal state right-to-work laws and do not federalize the unemployment compensation system.

Let the President brag and then scream for "more, more, more" while trying to scare the people into thinking we will "falter and fall back and fail" if they vote for Republicans. He is giving the country the best reason in the world for electing Republicans on November 8.

He is giving the people every reason to move away from fiscal insanity in this country and to move on to fiscal responsibility, to vote for progress and prosperity with sound dollars and not a crumbling economic structure built on the quicksand of Johnson-Democrat inflation.

We know that excessive government spending generates inflation, that it spills printing press dollars into the economy and thus forces up prices. We know this makes the dollar shrink, chips away at its value. We have seen the 1957-59 dollar drop in value under Mr. Johnson and the Democrats until right now it is worth less than 86 cents. And we have seen Mr. Johnson and his top lieutenants act unconcerned about inflation in recent weeks.

Inflation isn't just a threat. It's here, and it's planting the seeds of a future recession.

Do you want to stop it? The American people can do exactly that by voting Republican on November 8. That's when we'll have a Grand Opportunity for the People--an opportunity to reduce the number of rubber stamps in the Congress and send a Responsible Congress to Washington in January.



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