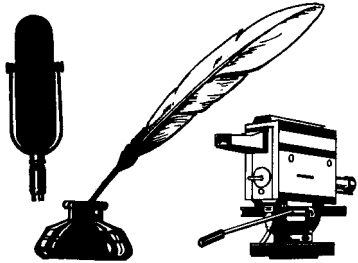


The original documents are located in Box D30, folder “Dinner for Representative Earl Ruth, Southern Pines, NC, October 10, 1970” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M.--
Saturday, October 10, 1970

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Reps., at a dinner for Rep. Earl Ruth Saturday evening, Oct. 10, 1970, at Southern Pines, N.C.

I am mighty pleased to be here tonight. I am pleased to be here because I like the people of North Carolina and I like "the coach," my friend and yours, Earl Ruth.

The people of the Eighth District of North Carolina can be mighty proud of Earl. I have known Earl since 1943. I'm familiar with his straight-forwardness and his blunt honesty. In fact, I've done some refereeing in Congress for Earl because he's been stealing time from the old, well-known conservatives.

I knew I was getting a great guy in Earl when you first sent him to Washington. You see, Earl was an ensign in my command during World War II.

In our leadership conferences, after he was elected, Earl started campaigning immediately against excessive Federal spending. He's a champion of economy, you know, a watchdog of the Treasury. Earl began fighting unnecessary Federal spending before he was even sworn into office. That's how eager he was to get started as a congressman, and he hasn't slowed down since.

We need men like Earl Ruth in Washington. We need men like Earl to oppose the big spenders in the Congress who are doing their best to wreck President Nixon's fight against inflation. Earl is a responsible individual. He knows--and you know--that it was the big spenders in Congress who brought on the inflation we are still suffering from. They brought it on beginning in 1965 when they took us into the Vietnam War in a big way and told us we could have guns and butter at the same time.

They gave us a no-win war and they gave us inflation. Now they're trying their best to mess up the President as he fights inflation and winds down the war. All they're interested in, of course, is political advantage.

Well, they get their lumps from Earl and me. We have turned the corner on inflation in spite of the big spenders in the Congress. The fact is we are succeeding in slowing inflation without the kind of recession that usually follows the sort of wild Federal spending spree we saw in the Sixties.

And although unemployment is up, it's a lot less nationwide than the 6.7 per cent unemployment under a previous Administration in 1961. The previous Administration was in office for 3 1/2 years before they got the unemployment rate down to 5 per cent. Don't let anybody talk us into a recession. The economy is

sound and healthy--healthier than when our last President "solved" unemployment by sending more than 500,000 Americans off to war in the jungles of Southeast Asia.

President Nixon isn't going to solve unemployment by sending men off to war. He's going to give us a strong, stable economy--and Earl Ruth is going to help him. In fact, Earl is working hard right now to protect the job of every textile worker in the Eighth District. As you know, Earl has introduced import quota legislation. And he has also talked with me, with the Speaker of the House, and with the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee about moving that legislation forward.

So Earl is working for a prosperous America. And he is helping in the fight against crime, too.

Earl has personally introduced strong anti-crime bills and has backed the Administration on major legislation needed to launch an all-out attack on organized crime, narcotics traffickers and smut peddlers.

We need more people like Earl in the Congress, people who are truly aroused about the depredations of crime in this country.

Did you know that the Senate of the United States passed the organized crime control bill last Jan. 23 only to have it gather dust for months in the House at the hands of the Democratic national leadership?

The same thing happened to the Drug Abuse Control Act passed by the Senate. It came over to the House and just sat there for more than three months on the Speaker's desk. Why? Because they couldn't decide what committee to send it to. Now, is that any way to fight crime?

Strong-minded men like Earl Ruth are concerned about the public safety.

The public safety. Another way to say it is peace in the streets.

We hear a lot about peace these days. But what peace is more important to the American citizen than peace in his own backyard and peace on the street in front of his home?

I think it is helpful that President Nixon has changed the makeup of the Supreme Court. We must attach more importance to convicting the lawbreaker than to assisting his efforts to "beat the rap."

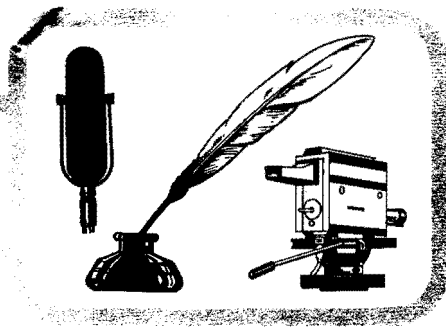
We must also be concerned with the quality of education in this country. We should be primarily concerned about the quality of education rather than the achieving of racial integration through forced busing. I personally am opposed to busing. And I can tell you that Earl Ruth was picked as a freshman conferee on the 1969 Elementary and Secondary School Aid Act because of his strong arguments against busing.

All in all, the Nixon Administration is moving this country forward. And it is men like Earl Ruth who are quickening the pace of that progress. Keep "Coach" Earl Ruth in Congress. He's a winner.

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