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Charlotte Welcomes A Yankee Trader

CHARLOTTE greets today one of America's most engaging young political gladiators—and not improbably the next President of the United States.

Sen. John F. Kennedy will certainly be a leading contender for the 1960 Democratic presidential nomination. As of now, he is the brightest prospect the party has. Even if his chances should dissolve between now and convention time, his presence will be noted and his influence felt.

For Sen. Kennedy represents the rising new post-Truman generation in the Democratic Party. It is the generation that has to a great extent rejuvenated the party and given it the bounce and buoyancy it needed to overwhelm the Republicans so decisively last November. News pundit Walter Lippmann saw this new generation coming as early as 1956 and predicted its success: "The vigor and unity of the Democratic Party come from the influx of young and vigorous men who have been working in their communities on the problems of the present. They do not know and they do not care about the quarrels between Truman and his enemies..."



Sen. John F. Kennedy

Sen. Kennedy may be just such a leader. He has certainly had ample opportunity to get acquainted with the South and its people, having visited every southern state but one during the past two years. In fact, according to a score card prepared by CONGRESSMAN QUARTERLY a few weeks ago, he has spoken in 47 of the 49 states in the last 24 months. These appearances have immeasurably broadened Sen. Kennedy's

base of political support by identifying him with local personalities, issues and sentiments in many parts of the country. This identification works both ways. While the local citizenry has been "discovering" Sen. Kennedy he has had an

opportunity to explore local attitudes and problems. Consequently, he is a wiser and infinitely more sensitive political performer than the boy wonder who was barely edged out of the Democratic vice presidential nomination in 1956.

Charlotte will welcome Sen. Kennedy with considerably more southern hospitality than many another Yankee trader has received. And the senator can be sure that his wares will be thoughtfully examined.

By JOSEPH ALSOP

AT THE moment of his first and greatest victory over the Senate liberal bloc, Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Baines Johnson did nothing commonplace such as looking like a cat that had swallowed a canary. He positively managed to look like a tiger that had swallowed a peacock.

Johnson had a right to be triumphant, too. "The row about the Senate's rule," which is a civil rights problem, could quite easily have got completely out of control. By craft and persistence, by rewards and punishments, and above all by unending, indefatigable hard work, Lyndon Johnson got the row under control at the very outset. He then kept it under control to the final vote.

THE HOPEFULS
The Senate chamber contains four more or less openly avowed presidential hopefuls. Vice President Richard Nixon on the Republican side, and Sens. John Kennedy of Massachusetts, Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, and Stuart Symington of Missouri, on the Democratic side. Nixon ruled against Johnson. The three senators all voted against him.

In their usual way, the senators of the liberal bloc also helped Johnson to beat the odds, by taking their first stand on the proposition that the Senate is not a continuing body. A vote against the continuity of the Senate is almost a vote against the Senate itself. Most senators, whether liberal or conservative, would rather vote against Johnson than vote against the Senate.



(L TO R) JOHNSON, KENNEDY, DOUGLAS, JAVITS, PERSONS, NIXON, HUMPHREY AND SYMINGTON

The most practical legislative strategist among the liberals. Sen. Humphrey, advocated a straight fight for a better rule on cloture. But Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois and Jacob Javits of New York insisted that the non-continuity of the Senate was a matter of principle; and Douglas and Javits won the argument. Whenever any congressional liberal takes an extreme stand, all the other liberals always feel compelled to cry, "You can't out-liberal us."

LIBERAL STRATEGY
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THE BRIEFING
One described the "new Eisenhower" prepared to fight for his budget. Another said the vice president fully supported the President on both the budget and defense issues.

Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo) has now publicly challenged him to prove it by releasing precise figures on the missile race. Symington said he would soon release the figures if Nixon did not. "His statement is not correct," the senator said acidly.

Far more direct and factual in tone was the missile story which, by agreement, was held up for Monday morning release. Symington, a former secretary of the Air Force, pointed out that at the opening of the Senate session, and it will now be part of a running fight about the true posture of United States defenses.

VEVING DESULTORINESS
In the present unique Washington situation, any fair observer must sympathize with the vice president's desire to keep the administration side before the public. After delivering his State of the Union message, the President left for a bridge-playing week end at Camp David. Such desultoriness has long vexed the vice

president, who must watch the Congress speaking up early and late these days. HE HAD A POINT
The vice president is also handicapped in his natural wish to tell his own story. The law does not forbid him to hold open press conferences, but they would be extremely risky in his position. He can venturse them without criticism only in a campaign. Many important reporters boycott the background type of press conferences now on display.

Specially, Nixon was irked by administration failure to reply to the conclusion of a special House space committee that the United States is falling behind the Soviets in the missile race. Politicians agree he had a point.

How Nixon Was Trapped By His Own News 'Plant'

By DORIS FLESSION

THE Washington institution of the background press conference may occasionally be noble in purpose. For Nixon on it is a shabby victimization of the press by the public business.

own petard and reporters not included among the original confidants are free to tell all. Vice President Richard M. Nixon is the latest of a long line to be thus trapped. The vice president is the direct source of information in developing missiles and is catching up fast in the whole space race.

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The Napoleon Of The Wide Open Spaces

EVEN shadowed by Alaska, Texas holds fast to her instinct for the fabulous. It is the instinct which gives us Lyndon Johnson — the winged senator, the dark entrancer, the "Texas arranger." If politicians starred like cowboys and football heroes, boys and girls would play "filibuster" in the parlor and being the Yankee claimant would be as onerous as being the cattle rustler.

His region lends him half the image, of course. He embodies the new political power which has gravitated westward away from the East and South. And as in the recent fight over Senate rules he holds the balance.

Charlotte's Iambic Pentameter Blues

AS a source of casual merriment, Charlotte's poetry-and-jazz "experiment" is bizarre enough to be genuinely appealing. The cultural benefits are at least as great as those to be derived from peering at two-headed babies in formaldehyde.

generation of artists should "set, not follow precedents." Humorist Mort Sahl was in essential agreement the other day in a piece on jazz. He gave these words to an imaginary bandleader: "People don't want to dance. We're going to add tubas and play marches. People want to march; we've got to get them out onto the grass."

Ike's Confusion

State Of What Union?

By WALTER LIPPMANN

CRANTED that the President's first message to Congress is bound to be rather general in character what the President had to say last week through very little time in the State of the Union. He said in effect that we are "ceaselessly challenged," and that in meeting this challenge all

Churchill: Safety First
That we can afford to do without raising taxes, is all that we need to do. This is a remarkable coincidence—that we are able to meet so great a challenge without any additional effort and sacrifice during the coming fiscal year, and that in the following year we may be able to relax and to reduce taxes. We are, of course, said Mr. Eisenhower, with a question which is "as old as history," whether a government based upon liberty can endure when it is ceaselessly challenged by a world of unlimited desire.

Quote, Unquote
Important people think it's the nose which lightning cats make that is so aggravating, but it isn't so. It's the sickening grammar they use."—Mark Twain.

'And Then After The Budget Is Balanced He Says Maybe There'll Be A Tax Cut'



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Alabama Tax Case Hurriedly Reopened

one of the men who handled the untaxed political payments. Since President Eisenhower campaigned vigorously against tax evasion and pledged his word to clean up the so-called tax scandals of the Truman administration, the case naturally arose as to whether the Alabama tax case had been "closed" on the word of anyone in or near the White House.

Inner Cliche
Both Thrower and Solomon were regarded as members of the Persons inner cliche and quite close to the governor. Inasmuch as he appointed Thrower to the ABC liquor board, and inasmuch as Thrower could verify much on any head of liquor from coming into Alabama, it was a pretty pretty kept political secret that big northern liquor companies were most generous, not only with their cash but with their liquor.

A PRAYER FOR OUR TIMES

SLOW me down Lord! Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with the vision of the eternal reach of time. Give me midst the confusion of my day the calmness of the everlasting hills. Break the tension of my nervous and aching muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory. Teach me the art of taking minute vacations — of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend to pat a dog, or read a few lines from a good book. Let me look upward into the

Progress goes on but there doesn't seem much difference between the face of the ancient Boeing 707 transatlantic jet airliner and the British jet Comet IV and that between the Mississippi steamboats, the Natchez and the Robert E. Lee. —HAROLD NEW & OBSERVER.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

AFTER this column began probing the hushed-up Alabama tax scandal, and after the Associated Press in Birmingham had interviewed various officials, the Justice Department hurriedly took the case out of the files, cancelled the hearing, and began a new investigation. This was what the Internal Revenue Bureau had urged Justice to do long before. However, the case had remained "closed" since March 10, 1958.

Friends Appointed

Gov. Persons when chief executive of Alabama had appointed one of his closest friends, Jimmy Thrower, to dotman to the ABC liquor board, and Thrower was

Brother Pressured?

Ex-Gov. Persons vigorously denied that he had asked his brother to intervene. "There was pressure on me to get in touch with my brother on this case," Gordon Persons told Jack Anderson during the latter's trip to Alabama. "I can assure you (flatly) that I never talked to him about it."

Frequent Contacts

Gordon claimed he hadn't visited Washington for four years and hadn't seen his brother for two years. The last occasion was a brief reunion in Florida. He admitted, however, that he frequently phones and writes his brother.

Rough School

"He must know about it, but he hasn't done a damn thing about it," Gordon insisted. "I have carefully refrained from involving my brother because it was bound to embarrass him. I came up in the rough school of politics, and he came up in the pampered school. If I had