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Ike's Prestige On The Firing Line

THE gloves are off in American politics. Ahead are 18 days of bareknuckle brawling in the best traditions of wholesome pugacity. A campaign which began moderately with a crescendo of shrill rhetoric and angry finger-pointing.

Anyone looking for the moment the campaign was launched in earnest might select the day President Dwight D. Eisenhower climbed down from the Olympian heights and pleaded loudly and persuasively for the return of a Republican majority in Congress. No longer is he the above-the-battle expounder and eulogist of a program for the good of 160 million people.

There is no doubt about it. The general is personally leading his troops into battle. The only question is whether Mr. Eisenhower's political magic can bring out the diffident and dazzle the disaffected.

The cards of political history are stacked against him. Other presidents have appealed to the country during campaigns for election to their party's candidates—only to be roundly rebuffed. Most lost seats anyway; some actually lost Congress.

Old Charlotte: 1775 And All That

ORGANIZATION of a Charlotte Historical Society will undoubtedly help stimulate a new awareness of Mecklenburg's romantic past. The organization will be launched Monday at a banquet in the Hotel Barringer's Towne Room. It deserves wide support.

No Girlies, But A Wonderful Show

THERE'S one time each year which everyone in North Carolina looks forward to. That time comes shortly after the first frost in the mountains of western North Carolina. Then forest rangers and publicists get in a huddle and out comes the prediction of the best week to see the fall colors in the mountains.

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The Urban League 'State Dept.' Of Negro Affairs

IN CHICAGO this fall the men who gathered for the first annual meeting of the Mortgage Bankers Assn. found on their conference agenda an entry that seemingly might have been just as well on a social workers' agenda. The listing announced a general session — one of five to be held at a meeting — on Minority Housing and Redevelopment; for the first time, a newly set up committee on financing for racial minorities was

Ohioans Can't Figure GOP 'Prosperity'

By MARQUIS CHILDS
CLEVELAND
CAMPAIGNING INTENSELY through Ohio to help elect a Republican Senator in November, Vice President Richard Nixon has 1954 as the most prosperous year in America's history. He checks this up at the score of the Eisenhower Administration in its 20 months in office.

The Democrats, Nixon says, are incapable of achieving prosperity in time of peace. An effective campaign which tempers his most sage laws with a charming smile and a claim of strict objectivity, the Vice President talks about the "outs" which have won control of the House four times—1910, 1918, 1930 and 1946. In 1930 Democrats organized the House under President Hoover due to deaths between the regular election and the convening of Congress. The outs have won control of the Senate twice—1918 and 1946.

The Democrats made their greatest midterm gain in the House in 1922—winning 71 seats more than they did in 1920. In 1946, the Republicans made their greatest gain—56 members more than their 1944 total.

In the Senate the biggest off-year gains were made by the Democrats in 1900 and 1934, when they picked up 10 seats; by the Republicans in 1946, when they picked up 13 seats.

Since 1920 the party in power has, on the average, lost 45 House seats and four Senate seats in midterm elections. This is too much for the GOP to bear. It has a House margin of three seats and a Senate margin of two.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
ANXIOUS to patch up sagging relations with India that he has tried to persuade Paul Hoffman, former administrator for the Marshall Plan, to take the post of ambassador to India. It will probably be denied, but the State Department has even considered the idea of asking Chester Bowles, the Democratic Senator from Connecticut, to be ambassador to India.

the best way to raise the Negro's status was through broad social and welfare action rather than through agitation. From a start in a kerosene-lit New York office, the league has grown to a point where today it operates in 30 states and spends, on the national and local levels, about two million dollars a year. It comes from gifts—from Community Chests, business, foundations, individuals, and labor unions. All but \$275,000 of it is spent by the local units on local projects (city leagues operate independently of the national organization, but are governed by its overall policies).

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How They Got Along In The Old Days — Before Bifocals

By HARRY SLOAN
In The Kansas City Star
SEVENTY years ago very few people of the rural areas sought spectacles from "eye doctors" — in fact, few owned spectacles. When the farmer found difficulty in reading the grain and livestock prices in his daily market newspaper, or his wife could no longer see to thread her needle, they bought a pair of reading spectacles from an itinerant peddler. The method of selection was to try out each pair in the peddler's case to find which pair was best suited to their eyes.

Although the specs (as they called them) cost only a few cents, the same pair was used by the farmer and his wife. She could borrow them a few minutes to thread the needle and

Quote, Unquote

California expects a bountiful harvest of nuts this fall. That might make it difficult to keep the prices too high for consumers, but surely a way will be found to do it.—New Orleans States.



"I do wish they wouldn't editorialize so much in the editorials."

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Hoffman Refused To Be Envoy to India

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Success Silence In Jersey
If you want to know why a sudden hush has settled down over squabbling Republicans in New Jersey you won't have far to go.