

EDITORIALS

The Election in Brief

By LEVI KISHBAUGH

The 1960 presidential election proved to be one of the closest and undoubtedly the most fantastic race in the history of the country. President-elect Kennedy will be the twelfth minority president to be inaugurated. I don't think that many people expected returns to be as close and uncertain as this campaign produced. Both the Nixon and Kennedy fans thought that their man would win with a clear majority.

Since everyone is tired of the election, I shall just briefly state things related to it. Why did Vice-President Nixon lose the election?

1. Was it the fault of Governor Rockefeller, who consistently was at odds with Nixon?

2. Was it that Mr. Nixon failed to do sufficient campaigning in the big states, but instead fulfilled his promise that he would visit every state if he were nominated?

3. Was it Ambassador Lodge's fault for his untimely remarks, such as this: "If we win, there will be a Negro in the Cabinet," and his statement that the government should subsidize parochial schools?

4. Was it that Nixon and Lodge campaigned too closely together instead of following the pattern of Kennedy and Johnson?

5. Was it that Mr. Green was just too much for the Republicans in Philadelphia?

The one thing that many people believed would be against Kennedy was his religion. This proved to be a great asset, because many of the Catholics would not have voted for Kennedy if he had not been one. However, let's not take away his Protestant vote which was just as important.

Just how important were the issues in the campaign? I don't think that they played as big a part as they sometimes do. I think that this was a battle of personalities and that Kennedy had the edge, because he is somewhat better looking and has a terrific memory for what he said in earlier speeches. This became quite evident during the TV debates. In addition, this was the Democratic year. The Republicans had been in office for nearly eight years; a change was taking place in the State governments, and the Democratic majority in the Congress was plainly evident.

What lies ahead for us in the next four years? Government spending will go up; there will be more foreign aid; it will be easier and less expensive to borrow money; taxes will remain high; an effort will be made to keep price levels stable; there will be an increase in the minimum wage law; medical care payments are sure to be expanded; and there will be many other constructive things that will affect you and me.

Today, quick action is necessary for survival. Our present system of elections cannot last in this day and age, because it leads to stagnation. In order for this country to keep pace and continue to be a free nation, we have to alter a few things. The first is to change the method of elections, so that we follow somewhat the British system. This may be a blow to patriots of this country, but let's be reasonable. If the country were to have a complete election every four years for the Federal government, there would not be a stalemate situation. Our present system is outmoded and is leading to our own destruction.

In conjunction with the preceding, the president should be given more distinct powers. Even though at present the president usually can and does make treaties and appointments which the Congress almost always agrees with, there is a chance that this may not always be.

You may think that some of these measures are a little extreme, but I believe that changes must take place for existence of this country in this miserable rat race for survival.

**FRÖLICHE WEIHNACHTEN
UND****PROSIT NEJAHR**

(From the German Dept.)

TRY YOUR LUCK

(Editor's note: The following article was slipped under the Collegian office door by a disgruntled gambler)

For years, I felt that all colleges and universities were definitely against the vice of gambling. However, since matriculating at Highacres, I have become aware of a gambling machine which is serving the best interests of the school. This gambling machine, I am told, presently operates under the disguise of a milk machine situated in the cafeteria of the Student Union Building. This fiendish machine has maliciously stolen

dimes and nickles from the good students of Highacres for several years. With the current odds on the machine set by our computers at three-to-one, this can be serious (some poor student may die of thirst)!

Cheer up, kids! Better days are coming. Our undercover agents tell me that there is a plan afoot to steal away this infernal machine and replace it with a good old-fashioned cow!

Your roving reporter,
Ima Victim

PENN STATE MOTTO

Enter to learn;
Go forth to serve.

The Trend Of American Laborers

By SKIP RETENELLER

Are the strong American laborers fading away? Did you ever stop to ask yourself this question? If you agree that they are, do you have your reasons for believing so? Are we getting weaker in the eyes of other nations?

Strikes, strikes, and more strikes! Why? This is so because the American people continually want higher wages, fewer working hours, longer vacations with pay, and longer coffee breaks. Do the American people want everything for nothing without working for it?

We are not willing to work! Our forefathers, who provided the foundation for a thriving society, struggled hard to achieve their goals and to make our beloved country a better land for their children to live in. We take for granted that our society will continue to be strong. We think that seven hours a day, five days a week (or perhaps four, as we are now considering it) will be enough time spent in our places of business. Can it be that the thought that really dominates our minds is "pleasure?"

Let us look at the Russians. Does pleasure come first with them? No, definitely not! They are hard-working people who believe in work as a means of achieving their goal—to surpass the United States as the strongest nation in the world. This does not concern only the men, but also the women in Russia.

Now, the average American might say, "But the Russians are forced to work." How does he know? Has he been to Russia? Has he done careful research on the facts? This might be merely propaganda.

In brief, it is time for us to get down to work, to be willing and happy to work for our nation, to be proud to say that we made our way to the top by working hard. Also, we should teach our children to accept responsibilities during their teenage years, so that when they must face the cold world, they will possess ambition, energy, and self-confidence. With these three basic qualities, they will rebuild the society of which our forefathers had dreamed.

CIVIL WAR—1960

By PAUL MILLER

If you were reading this article one hundred years ago, you would be living on the eve of a great change in American life. For it was on the 20th of December, 1860, that South Carolina, after more than two generations of peaceful co-existence with her sister states, would break all ties with these states and with one word change the course of a nation on the sea of destiny. The word was Secession.

No more than six months would pass from the issuance of this word in St. Andrew's Hall, Charleston, South Carolina to the first violent and bloody clashes in a conflict that was to pit brother against brother, father against son, and American against American. A conflict that was to be one of the most vicious and bloody wars in the history of man. A war that could number among its greats such men as Jackson, Lee, Thomas, Grant, Sherman, Meade, and Longstreet. A war that would remember with pride and sorrow such names as Gettysburg, Shiloh, Antietam, the Wilderness, Chickamauga, Chancellorsville, and Appomattox. This was the American Civil War.

We are fortunate enough to be living during the period of the Centennial Anniversary of this Great Rebellion.

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