

# Inside WASHINGTON

MARCH OF EVENTS

NEXT PRESIDENT MIGHT NOT CONTROL CONGRESS  
SENATE SAFE FOR DEMS BUT NOT SO IN HOUSE

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WASHINGTON—A disturbing fact that has been overlooked in most political speculation is that the man who is elected president in 1968 could have a congress that is at least partly controlled by the other party.

Because of the present top-heavy Democratic majority in the Senate and the fact that only a third of the Senate is elected to office each two years, it is nearly impossible for Republicans to gain control of that body, even should its presidential candidate score a landslide victory next year. Thus, a Republican president would most likely have a Republican-controlled House of Representatives and a Democratic-controlled Senate.

On the other hand, should President Johnson win re-election, it is likely the vagaries of Electoral College voting would be the cause of his victory, rather than the kind of popular plurality he received in 1964. In such an event, it is within the realm of possibility that the elections could produce a Republican-controlled House of Representatives, while the Democrats retain their lock on Senate control.

Of the above two possibilities, a split Congress in the event of a Republican presidential victory is far more likely, but a split Congress with a re-elected President Johnson cannot be ruled out completely.

From time to time in our political history, some theorists have extolled the virtues of diffused political control at the national level. The idea is that the party in control of the White House will, of necessity, have to compromise with the political opposition in order to obtain the essentials of its program from Congress.

While this has sometimes been true, many political observers believe the better way is for one party to be clearly in power, both in the executive and legislative branches, so responsibility can be firmly fixed for public judgment.

**FRIEND AND FOE**—During ceremonies swearing in the new City Council established by the reorganization of the Washington, D.C., administration, President Johnson "told a little joke" on Sen. Wayne Morse, D-Ore. Morse was a leader in the Senate in bringing about the first major change in the Washington city administration in nearly 100 years.

Johnson recalled that when he was the Democratic leader in the Senate, Morse came to him, imparted his desire to switch political parties, and asked, if he did, would Johnson see that he was assigned to the District of Columbia Committee and Foreign Relations Committee.

While reflecting that the assignment requests were rather odd, Johnson agreed to make them. Recalling Morse's work on the District Committee, Johnson said he always put the city's interests first and had done much to make it a decent place to live in.

Then the President added with a twinkle in his eye: "I hope he gets a little more time to spend on foreign relations so that he will be as good in that field."

Morse is one of the Senate's most outspoken opponents of the American military presence in Vietnam.

## Opposition to Holy City Plan

South Orange, N.J. — (RNS) — Two outstanding Roman Catholic leaders of the Christian Jewish dialogue have rejected the proposal that Jerusalem should be internationalized.

Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher, director, and Father Edward H. Flannery, assistant director, of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, here, called for a unified Holy City under control of Israel.

In a paper entitled "A Statement of Conscience," the institute's officials said that because of the "unrelieved tension" in the Middle East they were compelled "to take a public stand" and they pleaded "with our fellow-Christians to make their voice heard, too."

Catholic Church support of internationalization for Jerusalem dates back to 1946, Vatican Radio noted in July after the recent Arab-Israeli conflict. The observation was made during the broadcast which repeated the Vatican appeal for internationalization of the Holy City.

Msgr. Alberto Giovannetti, permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, circulated a note immediately after the recent Middle East war ended among the 122 U.N. member delegations explaining the Vatican's position on internationalization.

In their "Statement of Conscience," Msgr. Oesterreicher and Father Flannery said:

"Many Christians think of Jerusalem not as a city belonging to Jews only, but one belonging to all the descendants of Abraham, indeed to all mankind. . . . But must we draw from this conclusion that Jerusalem's status should be that of an international city, that she should be under the protection and supervision of the major, or of all the, powers of the world?"

"The experience the cities of Vienna and Berlin have had under four-power rule should stand as a warning: To bring these powers into the Holy City is to jeopardize peace; it would turn the city into a nest of intrigues, a meeting place of spies, a home of professional revolutionaries.

"We are certain that Israel

would be a faithful guardian of all holy places. Yet, Israel is willing, even eager, to turn the various sanctuaries over to accredited representatives of the respective religious communities and grant them extra-territorial rights. To our minds, her offer is clear evidence of her goodwill and desire to live in harmony with Muslims and all Christian churches."

Noting that soon after the war Israeli Parliament passed a law which protected all shrines from desecration and guaranteed unhindered access, the statement said that the statute "testified to the acumen of Israeli leaders; what is more, it bears witness to their lack of rancor." It added:

"Only when one remembers the contempt shown to Jews by the Jordanian government, which for 18 years prohibited their pilgrimage to the Wailing Wall and to Rachel's tomb; when one remembers the sins of Christendom, particularly the cruelty of those Crusaders who in 1099 burned the Jews assembled in the synagogue of Jerusalem alive, can one appreciate the spirit of reconciliation embodied in this law."

Msgr. Oesterreicher, one of the architects of the Vatican Council's Declaration on the Jews, and Father Flannery, author of "The Anguish of the Jews" which was termed the first major work by a U.S. Catholic priest on the history of anti-Semitism, also make the following observations in their statement:

— Israel's existence does not rest with international law alone. A majority of the nations of the world sponsored Israel at her birth. Her existence is also based "on the work of her hands." "We thus affirm Israel's right to stay securely on the soil which her farmers, workers, thinkers, and teachers have reclaimed by the sweat of their brows."

— Support for Israel's determination not to give up the occupied territories prior to any direct peace negotiations was termed "reasonable and fair." "The occupied territories are the only palpable argument by which she can hope to persuade the Arab States that they should come to the peace table."



## At Diocesan 'Town Hall'

Kansas City, Mo. — (RNS) — A bishop, priest and layman served as leaders of a diocesan representative assembly to discuss and vote on reforms recommended by a synod of the Kansas City-St. Joseph diocese. Standing is James T. Siegfried, who acted as chairman. Seated are Bishop Charles H. Helmsing of Kansas City-St. Joseph, who presided (left) and Father Richard Carney, secretary of the Diocesan Central Commission. 250 clergy, religious and lay representatives participated.

## NY State Pastors Opt For Celibacy

Washington, D.C. — A just-concluded poll of Catholic pastors in New York State shows them overwhelmingly in favor of retaining priestly celibacy and the wearing of clerical garb.

Results of the poll were announced here this week by Catholic Polls, Inc., of New York, N.Y., wholly owned subsidiary of "Twin Circle"—The National Catholic Press—and were published in the November 12 issue of that weekly newspaper.

Father Daniel Lyons, S.J., president of Catholic Polls, Inc., said that 1800 New York State Catholic pastors were polled on these two questions with the following results:

1. "Do you think it would be more beneficial to the Church in the United States as a whole—spiritually, economically, etc.—if priests were allowed to marry?" The question brought 728 replies—660 "no" and 68 "yes", Father Lyons reported.

2. "Do you think it would be more beneficial to the Church in the United States as a whole if priests followed the Protestant custom of wearing clerical garb only at official church functions?" Father Lyons reported 722 pastors replied, with 651 voting "no" and 71 "yes".



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