

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

"NEVER ASK THE END"
Los Angeles - A fragment of dialogue between John Fitzgerald Kennedy and his beautiful young wife affords a major clew to the character of the new Democratic nominee.

"Never ask the end," said Kennedy with sudden sternness. "You might learn the end would be failure."

This is a man, then, with an appetite for contest for its own sake, and with a passionate drive to win which forbids him even to think about the chance of failure.

THE Kennedys, in other words, not only enjoy struggling and prefer winning; they are also proud to be hard-hitting fighters. They fight within the rules. They fight without the rules. Other wise would have been produced by now by their many adversaries, who have been eagerly seeking such proof.

No political army in American history has had so many right men in the right jobs as the army John F. Kennedy formed and led to Los Angeles. From this, one must deduce that Kennedy is an exceptionally good judge of men.

Much has been written about the role of money in the Kennedy pre-convention campaign. Money has not been lacking, but it has played a minor role compared to the factors above described.

SUCH, in brief, are the qualities of John F. Kennedy the politician. To these, Kennedy the candidate adds other qualities of high importance.

WHAT has been done here also underlines a curious fact of political life. It shows that of all political forums and offices, the United States Senate makes the biggest politicians.

HE HAS chosen to risk this novel political note, beyond doubt, because he is very much more than a hard-driving, ambitious, combative young politician.

As a human being, he is also humorous, easily bored by dull routine but open to all fresh experience, careless of the superficialities of life, warmly loyal to his friends, and oddly detached about himself.

Foreign Notebook: Kishi Still Has Influence; Visit Foreseen

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor
From the foreign editor's notebook:

Old and New Wounds
Outgoing Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi would like to make a personal "holiday" visit to the United States this year after he resigns his office and after he recuperates from an assassin's attempt on his life.

Inside Politics
Although Kishi stepped out, he still will wield considerable influence inside the ruling Liberal-Democrat party and the government.

Asia Rift
The open exchange of accusations between Communist China and the Indonesian Army probably has killed what little remaining chance there was for an amicable settlement of the Sino-Indonesian dispute over the treatment of overseas Chinese in Indonesia.

'Beatnik' Party Sponsors Gorilla
New York (AP) - The week-long convention of the Beat Party opens here today to approve a platform calling for the abolition of the working class and a \$10 billion subsidy for artists.

Behind Diplomatic Scenes
The French are reported to be opposing the sending of Egyptian troops to the Belgian Congo. They fear Egyptian anti-French propaganda in Equatorial Africa.

No Change
The new Anglo-American accord on U.S. use of air bases in Britain is expected to be little different than the one already in effect.

MRS. De MILLE DIES
Hollywood (AP) - Constance De Mille, 86, widow of famed producer Cecil B. De Mille, died Sunday night.

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Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann
KENNEDY AND JOHNSON
Boring though so much of a convention is to the spectators, no one is likely soon to invent a substitute for it.

THE PROBLEM of accommodating the North and the South on the race question is a problem in both parties.

A combination of this kind, which each party seeks in each convention, could not be worked out if the men who have the political power did not all come together in one city.

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er but not a sectionalist. More than any other man in public life, more than any politician since the Civil War, he has on the race problem been the most effective mediator between the North and the South.

It is probably true, as many good observers have been saying, that events abroad, which cannot now be foreseen, may decide the contest between Kennedy and Nixon.

As of now Nixon's main talking point is that for nearly eight years he has been in the know, has had access to all information and has been in a position to hear the arguments which have led up to the decisions of the Eisenhower administration.

Kennedy's main talking point is that in these eight years the American position, relative to the Soviet Union, has declined - and that it must be due to a failure to develop American power and to a lack of wisdom and skill in conducting our affairs.

IN MY view, Kennedy has the better of Nixon on these points. As for their comparative experience, while Kennedy has not been on the inside of the Eisenhower administration, he has been a member of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations.

There is then no danger that our air-air, will fall into the hands of inexperienced amateurs.

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Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

HARD, TIGHT RACE
Los Angeles-The Democratic party now offers a ticket for national unity that would have been utterly impossible without the man who has agreed to become the junior partner.

Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson's decision to accept the vice-presidential nomination on a ticket headed by Sen. John F. Kennedy had turned this convention right about. Only hours beforehand the party had stood in the position of saying goodbye to most of the south and to most of the conservative opinion all over this country.

The platform which had been adopted here would, without Johnson's participation on the ticket, have amounted to an appeal directed wholly to the big industrial states and urban areas.

Moreover, the nomination of Kennedy himself for the top place had been accomplished largely by Catholic Democratic big city leaders.

This was going to raise, in an embittered way, the religious issue which Kennedy, himself a Catholic, had long sought to avoid.

IN A WORD, Kennedy had won a nomination in a way which, on objective analysis, was very likely to lose him the election in November.

Kennedy, himself, who is a coolly objective politician, sensed this situation even as some correspondents-including this one-were writing about it.

Having analyzed the problem, he simply approached Johnson and asked him to provide the cement so sorely needed-the image of a protestant southwesterner-so that the total image would not be solely that of a Catholic easterner.

What it means, among other things, is that Johnson in all probability will permit the ticket to hold most of the south and to do far better in every farm belt area than it could possibly have done otherwise.

WHAT has been done here also underlines a curious fact of political life. It shows that of all political forums and offices, the United States Senate makes the biggest politicians.

By all ordinary political standards, the post of Senate majority leader is incomparatively more powerful than that of vice-president. Johnson himself never wanted to take the vice-presidency and in fact had left Washington privately determined not to do so.

He consented to go along because he is, in the last analysis, a faithful Democratic partisan. There is also the un-

doubted point that the vice-presidency in Johnson's hands would be quite a different thing from normal. Just as he has made the post of majority leader quite a different thing from normal.

THESE two young and brilliant politicians-Vice-President Nixon, the coming Republican nominee for President, would not himself dispute this estimate of his antagonists-are going to give the country one of the most professionally able campaigns we have ever seen.

Another man-a man named Nixon-is going to do the same. Each of these three-Kennedy, Nixon, Johnson-is an artist at the political trade.

Each is tough. Each is frankly ambitious-and quite ready, as the expression goes, to tangle with Nikita Khrushchev.

A few hours back the outlook was for Nixon in November. The outlook now is for a hard, tight race-and prudent men will not at this stage risk a bet of more than a dime on it.

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