

Matter of Fact

DEBTS OUTSTANDING

Washington — The relatively small number of outstanding political debts is a feature of his post-victory balance sheet which must give considerable quiet pleasure to Senator Kennedy. Even President Eisenhower, in 1952, had a far poorer balance sheet than Kennedy has today.

This point was underlined in reverse, so to say, by the recent visit paid Kennedy by one of his principal creditors, Gov. Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut. Kennedy plays the political game in accord with the accepted rules. He asked Ribicoff to lunch with him at Palm Beach, not only because he like and admires him, which he does, but also because he feels indebted to him.

The astute Ribicoff and the equally astute Connecticut State Chairman, John Bailey, were the first professional politicians outside Massachusetts to back the Kennedy candidacy. For a long time, indeed, they were the only ones. As things have turned out, it was a little like buying General Motors stock when the company was formed, and never selling a share thereafter. This fact is not only important to Gov. Ribicoff, who will probably become Attorney General if he wants the job, and to John Bailey, who may well be Postmaster General. This same fact is also important to another Connecticut man, Chester Bowles, since the Bowles claim on Kennedy has to be rated as substantially weaker than the Ribicoff-Bailey claims.

BOWLES was a late recruit in the Kennedy camp. Although it is not generally known, he even refused to speak in Kennedy's behalf in the crucial Wisconsin primary. Thereafter, his name was useful at Los Angeles. But he did not "sacrifice" his candidacy for the House to the Kennedy cause, as some of his friends are now saying. In fact, Bailey, who would hardly have acted against Kennedy's wishes, asked Bowles to stay in the House race, which was won by a Republican after Bowles's unexpected withdrawal.

These unkindly facts suggest why the drive to make Bowles Secretary of State is unlikely to be crowned with success. The new Cabinet, after all, cannot be half-recruited from Connecticut.

Political realists will note the same sort of unkindly facts in the case of Adlai Stevenson. Most ironical among them is the fact that Stevenson was asked to nominate Kennedy at Los Angeles, after his own chance of being nominated had reached zero. If he had taken this opportunity of the last instant, he would be a sure bet for Secretary of State now. But he refused. Thus the speeches Stevenson most usefully made during the campaign are his only major credit on the books.

IN CONTRAST, the books show solid pre-convention credit (the most valuable sort) for Gov. Mennen Williams of Michigan, Gov. Mike DeSalle of Ohio, Governor-elect Terry Sanford of North Carolina, Gov. Orville Freeman of Minnesota, Rep. Edith Green of Oregon, and the Los Angeles leader, Jeff Unruh, in California. As such lists go, this

By Joseph Alsop

is a short one, even after the addition of the two Abou ben Adhems, Ribicoff and Bailey. Federal employment will unquestionably be open to the people on the list, when and if they want a job — as some of them already do.

Cooperation, in general, rather than specific jobs for themselves, will be the desire of the organization men who also hold important credits. Preeminent among these are Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago, Gov. David Lawrence of Pennsylvania, Buffalo boss Peter CroTTY, and New York City, the Bronx and Brooklyn leaders, Charles Buckley and Joseph T. Sharkey, but not Carmine DeSapio in Manhattan.

By Kennedy's personal orders, all important campaign contributors were specifically warned that no contract went with their checks. Two very large contributions were actually rejected because the intending donors wanted to be assured of diplomatic posts. This is the main reason why Kennedy's post-victory balance sheet is so much better than Eisenhower's was in 1952. But one must not forget the final category of those without money or delegates, whose own hard work contributed invaluable to Kennedy's success.

HEADING this category is Robert Kennedy. Any other man who had worked as untiringly and brilliantly as Robert Kennedy worked for his brother, could confidently expect a place in the very highest rank of the new administration. On the face of the facts, it seems both ridiculous and unjust that Robert Kennedy's relationship to John F. Kennedy should be widely thought to debar him for the kind of post he could otherwise count on.

This is yet another question which must now be decided by the President-elect. After his hard won victory, he sits in Palm Beach playing a game like the game of fitting-peg-in-holes, which is used to test childish I.Q.'s. But in his game, the pegs happen to be living, breathing, hoping human beings; and their degree of fitness for the holes may one day mean victory or defeat.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Let's talk today about gold. It's in the big headlines. President Eisenhower (striving, the correspondents explain, for his cherished goal of a sound dollar) has ORDERED government agencies to adopt emergency moves to cut down the amount of money they spend overseas.

He has met with the National Security Council, to confer with his administration's top financial, military and foreign policy chiefs. The subject of the conference was how to keep our gold supply from dwindling farther.

WHAT'S it all about? This is the situation: As of now, we have roughly 18 billion dollars worth of monetary gold — much of it buried at Fort Knox. We have nearly 18 billion dollars of legitimate potential demands from abroad on our gold supply.

If these demands were all presented at once, we wouldn't have gold enough left to back up our paper dollars. Gold, as everyone should understand, is the accepted medium for the settlement of international balances.

HOW did we get that way? There are conflicting theories.

One of them is that we have been importing too much and exporting too little . . . sending too much American money abroad for investment, including new manufacturing plants in foreign countries — designed, in part, to take advantage of lower foreign costs of production, including lower labor costs.

And so on.

THIS argument smacks a little of politics. It is weakened somewhat by the fact that this year our export-import balance has been favorable, rather than unfavorable. During most of 1960, our export totals have risen faster than our import totals — which is another way of saying that we have sold more abroad than we have bought abroad.

So, another question: What's the REAL reason for our gold shortage?

THIS seems to be the answer: We've been TOO GENEROUS.

Starting with the Marshall Plan, which was sound because it meant helping our friends and our allies to get back on their feet after a devastating war, we have gone on to aid all kinds of countries all over the world.

Our reason has been the belief that by doing so we can entice these countries away from communism.

IT isn't just foreign aid gifts alone that have been drain-

ing us of gold.

Over much of the world, and especially in Western Europe, we maintain military establishments manned by American service people — and their families. We PAY THEM IN DOLLARS. They spend these dollars where they are stationed. That, added to foreign aid gifts, spreads American dollars all over the world.

These dollars, along with the foreign aid dollars have to be redeemed in gold.

THE simple truth is that we have spent too much in foreign aid, and our allies have spent too little. They

are willing to leave the burden on our backs as long as we are willing to carry it.

We're trying now to take a lot of them into the idea of HELPING with this problem of foreign aid, building up the backward countries, etc. We are getting a rather sympathetic hearing from some of them — especially our REAL friends.

But not much has been done yet. It has been mostly taken out in talk.

WE'RE reaching the point where something HAS to be done about it. We're putting out more dollars than we are getting back. This difference between what we put

FALL FLOWERING BULBS

You might consider planting some fall flowering crocuses or colchicums to add sparkle to the fall garden border.

The flowers of these plants are similar to the spring flowering crocus. The leaves appear in spring and die back in early summer. No further growth is evident through the

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taught anything by underground comments or by underground anything."

The rule is: let people talk unless there is a clear and pressing danger, he stressed, or as Judge Brandeis said "allow ideas to circulate."

"If I had my way, I'd have the head of the Communist party talk in this university," he declared.

"There would be no Communist party if society could judge it in the open."

Try to Shield Child Turning to the mass media of books, newspapers and pictures, he declared: "We have these little vigilantes sitting up nights reading objectionable material, trying to shield the child by making the subject taboo. Then all of a sudden, the child faces life in the raw."

"In circumventing the code set up for them in Hollywood, the producers try to get away with as much violence and suggestiveness as possible. And the impact of non-fiction along this line is greater than that of fiction."

In answer to a question as to the propriety of secrecy in matters of defense, Ernst replied:

"There always will be political suppression in various pockets of society. It is the practice of making taboos that society cannot enforce that generates the trouble."

"But there must be an area in reserve, in politics as well as in love, and secrecy must be maintained until man makes up his mind."

Book Mentioned

"Lady Chatterly's Lover," the book which has created a sensation and a trial in England was mentioned by Ernst as one which brought into the open, as literature, the realities faced by human beings in order to remove the evil connotation.

"Women, as a rule, are not interested in off color material. There is a romantic and not a pornographic interest," he added.

He summed up his thesis against censorship with the observation that "discriminations today against creativeness are unbelievable."

BANK MANAGER

Klamath Falls — UPE — Jack Holt of Portland has been named manager of the Bank of Klamath Falls by bank president Robert Mast.



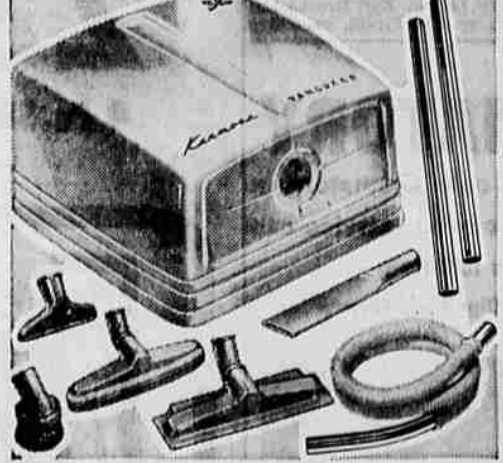
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