

**VOICE READERS COMPRISE A \$30,000,000 MARKET**

# EDITORIAL

## LBJ Gains Press Support

IN PAST YEARS, the Democrats have loudly complained about the shabby treatment accorded their candidates for President and Vice President by a large majority of the nation's newspaper owners and editors. Editorial support for national Republican tickets has run as high as 80 per cent in the country's daily and weekly press during this century.

However, a recent poll of more than 700 American newspapers indicates that this situation has changed drastically. Among those editors who indicated their papers would back one ticket or the other in the Nov. 3 general election, the Republicans were preferred by a very small margin. Democratic gains, if they may be called that, since the Kennedy-Nixon campaign of only four years ago were little short of sensational.

President Lyndon Johnson, who is seeking to succeed himself with Sen. Hubert Humphrey as his Democratic running-mate, seems to be getting most of the credit for this curious turn of events. But without taking anything away from LBJ's personal political appeal, it occurs to us that the total inadequacy of the GOP standard-bearers, Sen. Barry Goldwater and Rep. William Miller, has played a major part in the change of American editorial climate.

We recently revealed in these pages that the influential Philadelphia Inquirer, which had never before backed a Democratic Presidential hopeful since the Republican party was founded in 1854, will support Johnson and Humphrey this year.

Meanwhile, three dailies in that traditional citadel of Republicanism, the State of Vermont, have announced they are backing the Johnson-Humphrey ticket. One of them, the Brattleboro Reformer, had supported national Republican candidates for 53 years. Also switching to the Bourbon cause this time around are two other traditionally Republican sheets, the Rutland Herald and the Barre-Montpelier Times-Argus.

ing Portuguese Mozambique, which controls her only outlets to the sea, and his continued friendship toward Southern Rhodesia's white Government. In addition they tended to favor recognition of Communist China over the Nationalist Chinese Government.

No evidence has been found to substantiate the Prime Minister's accusation that six dissident ministers "would have murdered me in cold blood without flinching."

Similar emotionalism was said to have led to the Prime Minister's two other allegations against them, which gave rise to wide reports of a Cabinet conspiracy.

First, Dr. Banda alleged that restive ministers had been "inflamed" to oppose him by Communist China in effect with enticing ministers by trying to "bribe" Malawi with an offer of \$50.4 million in aid if she recognized Peking instead of Taipei.

NO ONE HERE DOUBTS that Peking made the offer. What is questioned on the highest levels; however, is any suggestion of misconduct by ministers.

But the difficulties within the Cabinet are known to have begun well before the Chinese issue arose. Up to two weeks ago, Dr. Banda held about as many portfolios as the rest of the Cabinet combined. He rarely consulted the Cabinet, it is said, and tended to "explode" at any objections.

Two factors were reported to have led to the Cabinet clash. Dr. Banda, on his return from the Cairo conference of African heads of state in July, is said to have suggested that his followers spy on ministers and report anything suspicious to him. Then he suggested a constitutional amendment that would have enabled him to introduce a subsequent detention bill permitting him to imprison political opponents without a trial.

A struggle for power may be starting in Malawi. The former ministers have returned to their home districts to explain why they resigned. Their speeches have turned into attacks on the Prime Minister.



## AFRICA in Today's World

By CHARLES I. WEST, M.D.

CHARGES OF A PLOT to overthrow Malawi's Prime Minister with the clandestine connivance of Communist China are being viewed in some of the country's commercial circles as a "smokescreen" according to New York Times correspondent Robert Conley.

Conley reports from Blantyre that informants closely concerned with the situation in Malawi feel the deeper problem is the way Prime Minister H. Kamuzu Banda governs this central African land, which is about the size of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Banda, a compact, volatile man in his 60s, is described as "autocratic" by even his own supporters.

"He permits little discussion, accepts even less criticism and has become increasingly suspicious of others," said one of his former associates.

Malawi's 4,000,000 people, moreover, are confronted with images of Dr. Banda at almost every turn. His portrait appears in shop windows, newspapers, on postage stamps and on tribal prints worn by women. It soon will appear on Malawi's new currency.

YOUNGSTERS IN SCHOOLS NOW STUDY a course in "Kamuzism--the life and teaching of Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda." To get from Blantyre, the country's commercial center, to Zomba, its sleepy tin-roofed capital, one drives along Kamuzu Highway.

Dr. Banda has been Prime Minister since Malawi, which was formerly Nyasaland, achieved independence July 6.

"I am the boss and anyone who does not know that is a fool," the Prime Minister has said. "I decide everything without consulting anybody and that is how things will be done in Malawi. Anyone who does not like that can get out."

It is now widely said that the current crisis in which two-thirds of his Cabinet resigned or were dismissed was set off by his ministers' attempt to get Dr. Banda to give them more authority, and not by any conspiracy.

"Unfortunately, the ministers' restiveness was equated with treachery and their dissent with treason" was the way one source explained the events of the last week.

It was this attitude more than anything else, according to most authoritative quarters in Blantyre and in Zomba, that caused the dismissal or resignation of six of the country's nine Cabinet ministers. The six were:

Kanyama Chiume, Minister of External Affairs; Orton E. C. Chirwa, Minister of Justice and Attorney General; Augustine W. Bwanausi, Minister of Development and Housing; Yatuta K. Chisiza, Minister of Home Affairs; Henry B. M. Chipembere, Minister of Education; Willie Chokani, Minister of Labors.

THE FIRST THREE WERE DISMISSED and the other three resigned partly because of Dr. Banda's handling of affairs inside the country and abroad. Domestically, they wanted to abolish the three-cent fee charged for hospital treatment and to speed "Africanization" of the civil service by replacing whites with blacks. They also were said to have wanted to drop the legislation that required Africans replacing whites in Government posts to accept less pay as an economy measure.

They were restive over Dr. Banda's decision to continue Malawi's economic ties to neighbor-

In an editorial by editor John Hooper, the Reformer bluntly informed its readers that Goldwater and Miller are not qualified to hold the highest elective offices in the land.

"We do not subscribe to the extreme conservatism which they represent," the editorial said. "We do not believe that those who guided the Goldwater capture of the Republican party at the national level are representative of Republicanism as we know it."

Hooper went on to claim that "both the goals and the methods of the Goldwater-Miller Campaign are not only divisive but highly dangerous," and concluded that Johnson and Humphrey "are men with demonstrated deep concern for the welfare and security and the basic principles of our country."

Perhaps more significant was the right-about-face of two New Orleans dailies that supported Nixon in 1960. The morning Times-Picayune and the evening State-Item, which describes itself as politically independent, said editorially that Johnson has demonstrated the type of leadership the nation needs in difficult times. The Times-Picayune also praised Johnson's ability to "keep the ship of state on an even keel in turbulent waters."

The VOICE agrees with the sentiments expressed by these newspapers 100 per cent.

## Explain Voting Machines

THERE IS GOOD REASON TO SUSPECT that many West Las Vegas citizens (along with others throughout Clark County) had their voting right nullified at the recent primary election through lack of knowledge in handling voting machines.

In order to correct this deficiency, voting machines will be installed at Nevada Voters League headquarters, 1400 North 'E' St., today and tomorrow (Sept. 24-25) and instruction in the proper use of the machines will be available.

If you don't know how to operate these contraptions, stop in and find out how it's done. It only takes five minutes to learn!

We are happy to report that some 500 citizens registered to vote here last week. But we also must WARN that registration for the general election on Nov. 3 closes at 9 p.m. Saturday, THIS SATURDAY, Sept. 26. If you haven't already done so, REGISTER TODAY!

Register and then be sure to VOTE on Nov. 3. Unless you want to take a chance on Goldwater becoming President, that is. In that case, don't bother. Just start to stock up on enough aspirin to last you four years.

We might point out at this time that both Republicans AND Democrats will be able to vote for President Johnson on Nov. 3. Also those registered as Non-Partisans. So if you are registered as a Republican (or Non-Partisan) there is no legal requirement that you vote for Goldwater even if you want to vote for other Republicans on the ballot.

But you CANNOT VOTE FOR ANYONE unless you are registered. So make sure you are eligible to vote in the Nov. 3 election by getting your name on the registration rolls NOW. Sunday will be too late. In fact, Saturday night at one minute past 9 o'clock will be too late! So--

## Register to Vote Now!

## "Voice"

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICATED to the INTERESTS and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE of the NEGRO CITIZENS of the STATE of NEVADA

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