



THERE ARE some people in the world who give the lie to the over-worked reminder "there are no indispensable people". Agreed that no one is indispensable, but who can argue the fact that there are those who are irreplaceable? Like the VOICE office manager, Carita Harbert, who has a genius for staying cool aloof from editorial harassment until the point where the editor is screaming "where is my pencil" (with a minimum of two stuck in her hair) and then calmly nudges "Remember, last week, you said you would write more on Democrats, etc., next week?"

Well, frankly, the first reaction is "to heck with the Democrats." Then cool reason prevails, and it occurs that something should be said about the curious machinations of the political party whose attraction for the masses was engendered by the principles and platform of the Democratic party (from the FDR era) that demonstrated concern for the "people".

It is becoming increasingly evident that concern for the welfare of the people has been preempted by personal ambitions and/or factional ideological idiocies. Party-wise, to sum it up, Democrats have lost their "cool", and if they don't shape up and get hipped to the happenings, comes '68 they are going to find themselves relegated to the role of the minority party, nationally, as they are in too many local areas.

AND BELIEVE it, Democrats are just not equipped for the role of the minority voice as are the Republicans. They have been so long engaged in sniping at other Democrats, they actually just wouldn't have the finesse and expertise at devastating the opposition as do the Republicans.

Where from a minority Democratic Party would there emerge such a sophisticated opposition leader as Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois? And what democrat solon would possess the constant venomous haranguement of the party in power as does the Congressman from Michigan, Gerald Ford?

It comes to mind that presently the major differences between the Democratic and Republican parties is that while the Democrats are out to get "other" Democrats, the Republicans are sensibly concentrating on gunning down all Democrats right with the White House as their ultimate goal. And their goal is becoming less ultimate every week.

Because it is believed here, that Keynotes enjoys a politically sophisticated reader appeal, the foregoing notation should be sufficient commentary on the present plight of the Democratic Party, with one major footnote... The untenable position that President Johnson finds himself in, today, is due to the complete lack of party loyalty in the Democratic party and will only be overcome when Democrats stop thinking like Republicans and stop playing the opposition's game.

YOU KNOW, New York Governor Rockefeller's adamant position that he is not a candidate for nomination on the GOP ticket is easily understandable. Taking an objective view of the crucifixion of a President of the United States who has a peerless record of achievement, Rockefeller is probably saying "Who needs it?" Some day soon, when there are four pencils

### President's Commission Refutes "Blame" Leak

WASHINGTON - (NPI)-- The President's Commission on Civil Disorder has dissociated itself from statements that it is planning, in its interim report, to lay major blame for last summer's riots on unresponsive city governments.

The commission said it intended to "reserve judgment on all the issues involved" until "all the available evidence is in."

The riot panel, in a statement issued to the press, declared that it was "still receiving testimony and its staff is still gathering information, all of which will be weighed in consideration of its interim report."

"The commission has not singled out any individual, any group, any level of government, or any officials of government for criticism or for praise," according to the statement.

Any prediction about what the commission will or will not include in its report is "speculative and premature," the panel said.

### PROTEST AT THE POLLS REGISTER TO VOTE

in the Keynoters hair, it may be that there will be some unsolicited commentary on the machinations of local Democrats and their penchant for rewarding Democrats for supporting and voting for Republicans.

\* \* \* \* \*

That's a good story going the rounds that Bing Crosby tells on himself, but it contains a glaring misconception. Crosby tells it that he was approached by a fellow traveler at the airport who asked him why he didn't do as George Murphy, Ronald Reagan, and Shirley Temple had done. "Go into politics?" queried Bing. "No," was the retort, "quit show business." It's probably kind of mean to point out that the trio mentioned didn't quit show business to go into politics. They'd had it in show business. Looks like maybe California voters have come back into the ring of intelligence--Little Miss Marker got clobbered at the polls Tuesday.

\* \* \* \* \*

CONGRATULATIONS are in order to Mrs. Thelma Toms on her appointment to the Board of Directors of the Clark County Mental Health Board, and to Dorothy King who was elected Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the Clark County Women's Democratic Club at their monthly meeting last Thursday. Also plaudits are due to the New Frontier Hotel for the acquisition of Avanelle "Schapp" Lewis to the hotel PBX staff.

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How about Monday night's "A Man and His Music" TV Special. Ring-a-ding-ding!

\* \* \* \* \*

IF I RULED THE WORLD--I'd nix that proposed Christmas Day bout between Sonny Liston and former light-heavyweight champ Harold Johnson. Anytime, boys, but not Christmas Day, please?

### ("PUDDIN", from page 1)

by Tricky Dick in that 1960 cliff hanger. It was the Soul voters in all four of them big cities that won the big one for the Democrats in 1960. Just in case you disremembers, baby, the other three cities, they were New York, Chicago, and Detroit. It was the Black votes that did it in all four of them places. That's why it's good news for the Democrats, Blood. They can figure now that with the two Negro Demos winning as mayors in Gary and Cleveland, plus the victory in Phillie, that they still got Bro in their corner. Puddin goin' to talk on that point later when it gets a little closer to payday 1968. We got to get more for our vote in Nevada than we been gettin', but, later on that, baby.

LBJ found his heart in San Francisco when the voters up there give him the green light about that Viet mess. The Bay City voters told boss man Lyndon to stay in there and keep punchin', baby--we with you all the way, LBJ. The Democrats got some boss kicks out of that Frisco vote too, Blood. They know that they ain't got no win if the majority is agin' Lyndon and Vietnam.

MAYOR STOKES has already named two Paddys to big jobs in Cleveland. Carl B. says he got to show Whitey that he ain't got no tail, and that he don't hate nobody. Stokes is puttin' it where it's at, Blood. He makin' this integration business a two-way street. That's the way it got to be.

With all that good news, Puddin got some kind of faith today, baby. Puddin hopes the Democrats keep the faith with Bro. If they don't, they will damn sure get the message in November 1968.

### (ELECTIONS, from page 1)

Max Dilworth of District 3, 1,082-845.

IN BALTIMORE, the Negro representation of the City Council increased from two to four. But a black militant, Walter Lively, failed in his effort to be elected to the council.

In Louisiana, two Negro candidates won places in a runoff for state representative in the second primary Dec. 16. They are Atty. Ernest N. Morial, New Orleans; and the Rev. A. L. Davis, New Orleans member of Gov. John M. McKeithen's state bi-racial commission on human rights.

Both men, who face white opponents in the runoff, could be the first Negro legislators in Louisiana since Reconstruction days.

In Richmond, Va., Dr. William Ferguson Reid, one of eight Democratic nominees, became the first Negro elected to the state's general assembly in this century.

In rural Charles City county, southeast of Richmond, James M. Bradby, an NAACP leader, became the area's first black sheriff in modern times. He won over a white opponent, 1,251-515.

THERE WAS bad news in Youngstown, Ohio, where Hugh Frost, vice-president, board of education, lost his race for mayor.

But the news was better in Boston, where Mrs. Louise Day Hicks, the darling of northern-style segregationists, lost in a hotly contested mayoral election.

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