

Kennedy-Johnson \$100 Plate Kick-off Dinner in the Nation's Capital



LEFT: Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois, Vice Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is shown above being greeted by Senator John F. Kennedy on the dais at the Sheraton Park ballroom in Washington.



CENTER: Congressman Charles C. Diggs of Detroit, the vice chairman of the Speakers Bureau of the Democratic National Committee, joins Mrs. Marjorie McKenzie Lawson, director of the Civil Rights Section of the Democratic National Committee, at the \$100 plate dinner.



RIGHT: Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy is shown autographing a dinner program for the daughter of Frank H. Reeves, National Committeeman from the District and Assistant to Senator John F. Kennedy, who was also on the dais. Mrs. Kennedy wrote for Frank's daughter's birthday, "It's great to be eight."

Wilkins, King Attack Bigotry

The Reverend Martin Luther King and Roy Wilkins of the NAACP denounced religious bigotry at a press conference in New York September 14 which was called to announce a new registration drive for a "million new Negro voters."

The Rev. King stated: "We realize that forces which are anti-Catholic are generally the forces that are anti-Negro. We feel that religious bigotry is as injurious, as immoral and undemocratic as racial bigotry."

Roy Wilkins said: "Negroes are outraged at the attacks on the Catholic church and on Sen-

Nixon Double Talk Attacked

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee of Atlanta, Ga., in a telegram to Vice President Nixon last month took issue with his statement on sit-in demonstrations at a Greensboro, N. C. press conference.

Nixon said that sit-in demonstrations should be orderly and "not in violation of local laws."

The students in their telegram to Nixon stated: "An indorsement of both the student action and the

Following are excerpts from the remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy in Los Angeles, California, Friday, September 9, 1960:

There is no issue which more clearly illustrates the difference between the Democratic and Republican Parties than the issue of human rights—civil rights for all Americans regardless of color or creed.

For eight long years a Republican Party which has been presented with opportunity after opportunity to advance the cause of civil rights has failed to take one constructive step toward guaranteeing equal opportunity to all Americans—and the history of the Republican Party in this century is a history of the same unconcern with the enforcement of human rights.

This record of failure and indifference is in sharp contrast to the history of the Democratic Party. For the story of the Democratic Party is the story of human rights, from Jefferson's Statute of Religious Freedom, to Wilson's New Freedom—from Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal to Harry Truman's Fair Deal. Every

weapons needed to enforce the constitutional rights of every American. He cannot wait for others to act. He himself must draft the programs—transmit them to the Congress—and fight for their enactment, taking his case to the people if the Congress is slow in acting.

And much legislation is needed. We must continue and strengthen the President's Civil Rights Commission. We must grant the Attorney General power to enforce all constitutional rights—not just the right to vote. We must wipe out discriminatory poll taxes and literacy tests, and pass effective anti-bombing and anti-lynching legislation. And we must continually strengthen the legal framework which will allow us to move toward economic, educational and political equality.

Such legislation is already being prepared. I have asked Senator Clark of Pennsylvania and Congressman Cellar of New York to prepare a bill embodying all the pledges of the Democratic Platform, and that bill will be among the first orders of business when a new Congress meets

President's Committee on Government Contracts so that those who receive contracts from the Federal Government will not be permitted to deny a job to a qualified worker because of his race or religion—and by making sure that no American is barred from the highest positions in Government because of the color of his skin.

Our chief executive must also make sure that the laws which Democratic Congresses have passed are enforced with vigor and determination—that the right to vote and other constitutional rights are not denied because of laxity or indifference in the Office of the Attorney General.

Third, as a moral leader, the next President must play his role in interpreting the great moral issues which are involved in our crusade for human rights. He must exert the great educational force of his office to bring about equal access to public facilities—from churches to lunch counters—and to support the right of every American to stand up for his rights—even if that means sitting down for them.

For only the President—the

KENNEDY WOWS 'EM IN LOS ANGELES

because of the nature of the attacks. I, myself, am outraged at the low attacks on Kennedy by the same people who have been making low attacks on Negroes. I have seen some of the outrageous material circulating around the country against Senator Kennedy. It is from the same places, the same addresses that issue anti-Negro stuff."

DRIVE BEGUN TO REGISTER ONE MILLION NEW NEGRO VOTERS

Some twenty national leaders have launched a Non-Partisan Crusade to Register One Million New Negro Voters. The chairman of the drive is A. Philip Randolph, veteran labor leader. The Rev. Martin Luther King and Roy Wilkins will serve as co-chairmen. The organization has opened headquarters at 8 West 40th Street in New York City.

Signers of the call to organize the registration crusade include four Congressmen: William L. Dawson of Illinois, Charles C. Diggs of Michigan, Robert N. C. Nix of Pennsylvania, and Adam Clayton Powell of New York.

Leaders of major civic and religious organizations joined in the call, including the Rev. J. H. Jackson and Rev. Gardner Taylor of the National Baptist Convention. At the suggestion of Dr. Jackson the board of directors of the National Baptist Convention unanimously endorsed the idea on the

SIT-IN DEMONSTRATORS

Senator Kennedy, for 14 years a fighter for civil rights, was one of the first national leaders to support peaceful sit-in demonstrations. "It is in the American tradition to stand up for one's rights—even if the new way to stand up for one's rights is to sit down."

as a tactic to win votes on both sides."

The telegram stated that Nixon's speech "seems to be aimed at pleasing the power structure of the South and consequently contradicts your indorsement of the demonstrations."

The students insisted that although their demonstrations were conducted on a strictly non-violent and peaceful basis, the demonstrations often run counter to local segregation laws.

Sunday before the call was issued in New York.

The Baptist resolution of September 11 called on all its churches to designate "Registration Sunday" before the deadline for registration in each state. Special sermons urging registration should be given on that day on the right and duty to register and vote. The resolution urged churches to become "working centers for registration, with telephone polls of members, car pools, and other actions undertaken to promote the fullest possible registration."

has been the product of the leadership of the Democratic Party—and every expectation of future progress today rests with the Democratic Party.

For in this election we must look forward—not to the past, to future achievement—not past accomplishment. We are proud of the fact that the last two Democratic Congresses enacted the first civil rights legislation since the period following the Civil War. But we are even prouder of the fact that the Democratic Party—in its Platform—has a program of future action which will ensure equality of opportunity to all Americans.

And I am proud of our Platform. I believe in our Platform. And in 1961 I intend to see that its pledges are carried out.

But if we are to carry out these pledges—if we are to ensure equal opportunity to all Americans—then all the vast and important powers of the Presidency must be enlisted in the task. For only a President willing to use all the resources of his high office can provide the leadership, the determination and the direction which are essential if we are to eliminate racial and religious discrimination from American society.

When our next President takes office in January he must be prepared to move forward on three broad fronts: as a legislative leader, as a chief executive, and as a moral leader.

First, as a legislative leader the President must give us the legal

Secondly, as Chief Executive, the next President must be prepared to put an end to racial and religious discrimination in every field of Federal activity—by issuing the long-delayed executive order putting an end to racial discrimination in federally assisted housing—by revitalizing the Vice

an sections—can create the understanding and the tolerance which is necessary if we are to make an orderly transition to a completely free society. If the President does not himself wage the struggle for equal rights—if he stands above the battle—then the battle will inevitably be lost.

Powell Predicts Kennedy Victory; Announces All-out Support of Ticket

Accepting appointment by Senator Kennedy as special advisor on urban affairs, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., predicted that Kennedy will carry New York State and the nation in November. He announced his "all-out" support of the ticket and said he would stump for it in nineteen states and thirty-three cities.

Rep. Powell told a news conference on September 19 that Senator Kennedy's positions and pledges on civil rights had convinced him that the nominee would press hard to carry out the full civil rights platform adopted in Los Angeles.

Reminding his listeners that Mr. Nixon had "led the fight" against FEPC bills in Congress, Rep. Powell contrasted this with Kennedy's consistent support for FEPC, in the House, in the Senate, and at the Democratic Convention this year.

In a speech before the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity in Washington Congressman Powell attacked the Republican Administration for inaction on civil rights. They have the power "right now," he declared, "to prevent any Federal funds from going to any state or political subdivision that is in defiance of Federal law."

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP

Senator Kennedy believes that the goals of the Democratic civil rights plank can only be achieved by strong moral leadership from the White House. "That leadership must be exercised until every American, of every color and faith, has achieved equal access to the voting booth, to the schoolroom, to jobs, to housing and to lunch counters."

OCTOBER 1, 1960



1511 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON 11, D. C.

KENNEDY CALLS NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OCT. 11-12



To Wind Up Confab at Harlem Rally

Senator John F. Kennedy announced last week that he is calling a National Conference on Constitutional Rights and American Freedom in New York City on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 11 and 12.

"The Conference will seek to review and clarify the positive steps needed to insure full constitutional rights for all Americans," said Senator Kennedy. "I am inviting leaders of

Labor Leaders Back Kennedy

The Kennedy-Johnson ticket won a strong endorsement last month from the Trade Union Leadership Council of Detroit, the host organization at the founding convention at the Negro Labor Council in Detroit last May.

Lashing out at religious bigotry, the TUC statement endorsing the Democratic nominees stated: "As life-long victims of bigotry we reject in totality all forms of bigotry, whether it comes from a prejudice on race, color, or religious creed, for bigotry in any area of human life is a malicious

thought and of action to meet together to throw light on these problems. The test for all of us must be the Constitution. My hope is that this conference will contribute to a constructive atmosphere in which the spirit of the Constitution is respected everywhere in our land. This is a good time for the rededication of the Democratic Party and the American people to the aims and principles of the Constitution. That is what our people and the world expect and are waiting for." Senator Kennedy is issuing invitations to the Conference this week.

The Conference will divide itself into three working panels:

1. Executive action
2. Legislation
3. State and Local Leadership.

Each of the panels will report and give its recommendations in person to Senator Kennedy at the conclusion of the two-day Conference.

Senator Kennedy will address the Conference participants and the public at a New Frontiers of Freedom Rally in New York City on the afternoon of October 12.

Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York City will act as host to the Conference. ~~Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota will be Conference Chairman.~~ Participants will include Mrs. Roosevelt, Herbert Lehman, Governor Williams, Senators Clark and Hart, Congressmen Celler, Dawson, Diggs, Nix and Powell—and many other champions of constitutional rights.

J.F.K. to End Bias in U.S. Judiciary

Kennedy Vows Action on Civil Rights Legislation

Senator John F. Kennedy has pledged prompt action on a comprehensive civil rights bill at the

Attacking the Republicans, the Senator stated: "The time has come to set the record straight on

ference on September 1 that the new bill would embrace all the commitments in the civil rights plank of the Democratic Party platform.

Senator Kennedy challenged the sincerity of the Republican leadership and charged that their past record, "including the record of these recent weeks, indicates that no action on the great fronts of social legislation, including civil rights, will be possible until there is a new President strongly supporting such action and a new Congress with a mandate from the people."

Twenty-three Democratic Senators who supported each of the key civil rights measures this session joined Senator Kennedy in his pledge for action on civil rights legislation. The Senator pointed out that only five Republicans had voted right on all the measures.

Senator Kennedy stated: "In order to implement this pledge and assure prompt action I have asked Senator Clark and Congressman Celler to constitute a committee to prepare a comprehensive civil rights bill, embodying our platform commitments, for introduction at the beginning of the next session. We will seek the enactment of this bill early in that Congress."

He added: "Further, I give my assurance that in whatever position I hold in public office I will support and take every step necessary to protect the full constitutional right of every American."

legislation has not been the aim of the Republican leadership. Their aim has been: 1) To block the minimum wage bill (which in its first year of operation would have raised the wages of an estimated one million Negro workers), the aged health care, housing and education bills (which also would have meant major advances in the rights of our lower income and minority group members)."

Calls for Executive Action

Senator Kennedy declared that if the "Republican Administration were sincere about its pleas for civil rights, it would take executive action now—executive action to end inequality in all Federal housing programs as the Civil Rights Commission unanimously proposed nearly a year ago and which the President could do by a stroke of his pen—and executive action to make effective the Government Contracts Committee, which for 7 years of Mr. Nixon's chairmanship has taken no enforcement action aside from one or two threats in the District of Columbia."

Senator Kennedy added: "Such Presidential action, not legislation, is what is required to enforce the covenants against racial discrimination in all government contracts. And if the Republican Administration were sincere in advancing civil rights it would make more effective use of the new powers to protect the right to vote granted by Congress after 9 weeks of debate earlier this session."

mean Big Business" which "owns the sweat shops and open shops in the South that exploit the working man, both Negro and white."

"The challenging sixties demand that the President place himself in the very thick of the fight, that he care passionately about the fate of the people he leads"

—Senator Kennedy

Citing the fact that Negroes suffer most in periods of recession, the TUC statement pointed out that "we had two recessions under Eisenhower."

Praising Senator John F. Kennedy and Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, the 1000-word labor document asserted that the Council "earnestly believes that the chances of the Negro people for greater progress in achieving first-class citizenship everywhere in this country will be greater if we stick with our historic allies, support the political party that is more responsive to the people's needs and which is now represented by the Kennedy-Johnson ticket."

Accusing Vice President Nixon of having been "too many things to too many people in his political career," the TUC stated that it "found nothing in the record of Richard Nixon that makes us trust him on issues."

action last week that in a new Democratic Administration there will be far better representation, on the basis of merit, of persons of all racial groups" in the Federal Judiciary.

The lawyer's group included Elmer C. Jackson, of Kansas City, president of the National Bar Association; Edward B. Toles of Chicago, chairman of the Judiciary Committee; William S. Thompson of Washington, D. C., executive board member; Theodore W. Coggs of Milwaukee, 2nd vice President; Leroy G. Charles of Chicago Regional Director; Roy C. Garvin of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Rosa Charles of Chicago, president of the Women's auxiliary of the National Bar Association.

Senator Kennedy told the group: "With more than 4,000 lawyers in this country there are many outstanding Negroes from whom to choose future judges."

The full text of the Senator's remarks follows:

"As the guardian of our constitutional rights, the Federal Judiciary must have at all levels the

means that an active search must be made to find outstanding men and women of all races and backgrounds.

"With more than 4,000 Negro lawyers in this country there are many outstanding Negroes from whom to choose future judges. President Truman led the way in appointing the first Negro life-time Federal judge and the first Negro on the Court of Appeals. But the fact that only one other Negro has been appointed as a life-time Federal judge and that no Negro has been appointed a District Judge show how far we still have to go in making our judiciary representative of the best of all our people.

"I assure you that in a new Democratic Administration there will be far better representation, on the basis of merit, of persons of all our racial groups, including particularly those who in the past have been excluded on the basis of prejudice. For no American should be disqualified for an office because of his race, color, religion or family origin. It is time for us to practice what our Constitution preaches."

Senator John F. Kennedy is a leader in the tradition of Franklin D. Roosevelt. That's why Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt recently said of Senator Kennedy:

"Here is a man who wants to leave a record of not only helping his countrymen but of having helped humanity as a whole . . ."

And Eleanor Roosevelt also said, "Senator Kennedy will fight to get prompt action on civil rights."