

Peggy Goldwater

ADVICE TO CONSERVATIVES

Address by
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Women's National Press Club
Washington, D. C.
January 3, 1961

I'm Terrified -
only Sen Ray turn at all!

The title of my address tonight is

"Advice to Incoming Conservatives in the
New Congress -- How to Be Happy, Though
Conservative."

They need it, because loneliness is
a terrible thing, ^{and} This is going to be
the besetting malady of any new conservative
in the Congress, but he ought to be thankful
for small favors -- at least it won't be
as bad in 1961 as it will be in 1963!

Hottest Set Pilot - Barry
But no more NO PAIR than H.

⑧ Rose my Kee (children)
Frances Lewin

Pres.
Women's National
Press Club

Equal Rts + more fun

⑧ ~~Sam Rayburn~~
~~78 2 day~~

~~Madison President~~
⑧ Sydney may
give up facing
the Senate floor
but not gratifying
Lapels or
whispering in
your ear

⑧ "How to be Happy
as a Liberal -
Sydney - Dem
Platform
He's Happy!

⑧ Mike Mansfield
"Hubert on his
Right"
the Suspicion
of some
the "Hope of
many"

Suspicion
was
confused

⑧ Dec 19 72
Electoral
College
⑧ I thought
I won the
election!

Now I have a little New Year's
message for new comers to Washington.

It is a brief verse which I call
"Ode To Incoming Republicans": ~~and not original~~!

Mother, may I go out to swim?

Yes, my darling daughter.

Hang your clothes on a hickory limb

But don't go near Goldwater.

Please don't misunderstand. I
am fond of the Senator, and have the
deepest respect for him. He is, truly,
a man of commanding presence. ~~He is also~~
Senator Gallery
so handsome that visitors frequently mistake
him for a movie star. As a matter of fact,

Eric Johnston

he has been offered a movie contract --

by 18th Century Fox.

~~Well, my real assignment tonight is
to offer advice to incoming conservatives in
the new Congress. I am supposed to tell
them, "How to Be Happy, Though Conservative."~~

There are some problems to ~~the~~ ^{MY}

TONIGHT.

assignment. Really, how can anyone be

"happy, though conservative?" ~~I might~~

~~as well try to advise someone "How to be~~

~~bold, though timid".~~

I just don't know if there is a happy

conservative. Take New Years, ^{genuinely} ~~for~~ example.

Liberals celebrate the New Year. Conservatives

don't celebrate -- they just hold a wake for

the Old Year.

Then there is another problem.

If I were to address my advice to

outgoing conservatives, I would have a

if unappreciative,
rather ~~large~~ audience. But incoming

conservatives? *well,*

What incoming conservatives? Seems to

me that there is *about to be a* sizeable exodus of

conservatives from Washington led by a

five-star General and a southern California

attorney.

*No such movement of unhappy souls
since Moses led the children of Israel from Egypt
to the promised land.*

But, I suppose there are some incoming

conservatives in the new Congress. *but I am sure*

But, I doubt that they aren't as numerous as the Kennedy Harvard

roommates in the new administration.

*at least so
I'm informed
by the speaker
with the
joyful
concurrence
of the minority,
Lodge, Charles
Hallack.*

Now there is one other problem.

~~the~~ embarrassing
to me, but true,

Conservatives are not generally

inclined to listen to advice from Humphrey.

I have been advising them in Washington for

twelve years now. ^{South} Long before ~~Joe Clark~~,

I even advised ^{Harry} ~~Senator~~ Byrd. But what good

has it done? ^{these Conservatives} They are still busy fighting

the creeping socialism of Oliver Cromwell.

Ralph Waldo Emerson's definition of

conservatism can help us: "The castle

which conservatism is set to defend," he

said, "is the actual state of things, good

or bad."

Here is the issue. If the world changes

do we have to change too?

and had
very little
and then more
reckless, embracing
the Progressive
spirit of
materialism!

I think so. We are now on the
threshold of the era of automation
and atomic power. We can expect the
tempo of change in the coming years
to be constant and swift.

Can we -- can America -- stay the
same? If Africa explodes, if Latin
America is on fire, if the Middle East
and Asia are on the brink of vast
transformation, can we be content with
doing business as usual? The answer seems
obvious.

So the liberal says "yes" to change and
challenge. He seizes it. ~~He knows that~~

Change is the means by which we ^{seek to} preserve the
essence of our traditions and our values.

Hamilton knew this, and Jefferson knew

^{so did}
it, and Lincoln. + F.D. Roosevelt,

But let me return to the present.

Some of today's conservatives are trying

to confuse ~~the opposition~~ ^{us} with "semantic

warfare." They have labeled themselves

There are "Dynamic Conservatives" or "Progressive

Conservatives." For awhile, they even called

themselves "Humphrey Conservatives" -- George,

that is,

There is really no such thing as a

"progressive conservative."

terminology for "dynamic apathy."

The only real conservative is an old-

fashioned conservative. But here's the rub

for liberals. Today's old fashioned conservatives

Illusion
Imagery
Inconsistency!

Guard
All of this is but "old"
it's refined

no longer defend the wagon train as the most

efficient means of transportation. ~~It~~

~~are no longer led by a man in a surrey~~

~~with a fringe on top.~~

~~Today's~~ *They*

~~are~~ are under the

command of the only licensed jet pilot in

the United States Senate, my friend Barry. *Goldwater*

Barry, It's unfair. You have spoiled our stereotype.

You have blurred the image!

But we liberals do not despair. We know

the first law of aerodynamics:

A jet cannot fly -- or at best can fly only

in circles -- if it has only one wing

-- the right wing. *and imagine*

the trouble
airplane -- even with a good pilot -- if it

has two 'right wings'

The Modern Dodo

The Circling

The Goldwater

Byrd

We liberals are optimists. And
I am so liberal and so optimistic that I will
try once again to give advice to the
conservatives.

But Here is the Humphrey guide to happiness,
boiled down to a brief suggestion:

Become liberals! Join the future!

Get with it!

I offer more, Simple happiness isn't
enough. I want my conservative friends to

be saved, to know the heavenly joy of progressive,

Democratic, New Frontier ^{Kennedy} liberalism.

So again I beseech them with that Biblical
admonition:

Repent, and ye will be saved!

— or maybe
get a good appointment!

[Signature]

~~Yesterday~~, I am always willing to
repent, to admit my mistakes. For
example, I admit now that Richard
Nixon was right in one of his campaign
statements. The birth of John F.
Kennedy, Jr. confirms Nixon's warning
about a rash, immature, young man in
the White House.

With a new administration and
a new Congress and a New Year, there
is a liberal mood in the air -- a mood
of change, of action, of vitality.

We have new hope, my friends --
hope for a government with purpose,
ideas and imagination; full time
government with hard work and heart --
enough heart to care about the needs of all

new baby

may be ant

Americans and all free men today, and
tomorrow.

Progressive
This will be a "go-ahead" Congress
and administration which will strengthen
America to meet the massive needs of our
times.

The real challenge of our generation
is not only the threat of Communism, but
even more so, the challenge of Democracy.

~~We cannot merely accept the~~ Democracy
must be more than
~~as an abstract principle, to be~~ protected.

~~It must be a growing, expanding~~
Democracy.

We must work -- and work

hard -- to build a society of freedom,

~~a society of compassion which seeks the~~ *fulfills the*

difficult goals of peace, security, dignity

and justice for all men.

! - no less!

Some say this is an impossible
assignment.

I say this age requires the leadership
of men who dare to undertake what many people
consider impossible. This is what we mean
by the New Frontier.

Unafraid - Pioneer!

~~I offer~~ one more bit of advice to my
conservative friends. I offer competitive
peaceful co-existence for liberalism and
conservatism.

Conservatives and liberals can and will
work together. Neither of us is perfect. Again,
I quote Emerson, who said:

"Each is a great half, but an impossible
whole. Each exposes the abuses of the other,
but in a true society, in a true man, both
must combine."

Liberals & Conservatives -

We share a faith in society under
law, a belief in civil freedom, a commitment
to the wide distribution of political
and economic power.

In a world of conflict and want,
we both see the need for strength. We
must make sure ^{both} we feel and understand the
need for compassion.

Working together we will meet our
nation's needs. We will protect the cause
of liberty, and we will answer ^{the} call of
humanity, *We dare do no less!*

#####

January 3, 1961

Win
COPY
ADVICE TO CONSERVATIVES

Address by
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Women's National Press Club
Washington, D. C.
January 3, 1961

The title of my address tonight is
"Advice to Incoming Conservatives in the
New Congress -- How to Be Happy, Though
Conservative."

They need it, because loneliness is
a terrible thing. This is going to be
the besetting malady of any new conservative
in the Congress but he ought to be thankful
for small favors -- at least it won't be
as bad in 1961 as it will be in 1963!

-2-
COPY

Now I have a little New Year's
message for new comers to Washington.

It is a brief verse which I call
"Ode To Incoming Republicans":

Mother, may I go out to swim?

Yes, my darling daughter.

Hang your clothes on a hickory limb

But don't go near Goldwater.

Please don't misunderstand. I
am fond of the Senator, and have the
deepest respect for him. He is, truly,
a man of commanding presence. He is also
so handsome that visitors frequently mistake
him for a movie star. As a matter of fact,

COPY

he has been offered a movie contract --

by 18th Century Fox.

Well, my real assignment tonight is to offer advice to incoming conservatives in the new Congress. I am supposed to tell them, "How to Be Happy, Though Conservative."

There are some problems to the assignment. Really, how can anyone be "happy, though conservative?" I might as well try to advise someone "How to be bold, though timid".

I just don't know if there is a happy conservative. Take New Years, for example. Liberals celebrate the New Year. Conservatives don't celebrate -- they just hold a wake for the Old Year.

COPY

Then there is another problem.

If I were to address my advice to outgoing conservatives, I would have a rather large audience. But incoming conservatives?

What incoming conservatives? Seems to me that there is a sizeable exodus of conservatives from Washington led by a five-star General and a southern California attorney.

But I suppose there are some incoming conservatives in the new Congress. I am sure they aren't as numerous as the Kennedy Harvard roommates in the new administration.

COPY

Now there is one other problem.

Conservatives are not generally inclined to listen to advice from Humphrey. I have been advising them in Washington for twelve years now. Long before Joe Clark, I even advised Senator Byrd but what good has it done? They are still busy fighting the creeping socialism of Oliver Cromwell.

Ralph Waldo Emerson's definition of conservatism can help us: "The castle which conservatism is set to defend," he said, "is the actual state of things, good or bad."

Here is the issue. If the world changes do we have to change too?

⁻⁶⁻ COPY

I think so. We are now on the threshold of the epic of automation and atomic power. We can expect the tempo of change in the coming years to be constant and swift.

Can we -- can America -- stay the same? If Africa explodes, if Latin America is on fire, if the Middle East and Asia are on the brink of vast transformation, can we be content with doing business as usual? The answer seems obvious.

So the liberal says "yes" to change and improvement. He seizes it. He knows that change is the means by which we preserve the essence of our traditions and our values.

COPY

Hamilton knew this, and Jefferson knew
it, and Lincoln.

But let me return to the present.

Some of today's conservatives are trying
to confuse the opposition with semantic
warfare. They have labeled themselves
"Dynamic Conservatives" or "Progressive
Conservatives." For awhile, they even called
themselves "Humphrey Conservatives" -- George,
that is.

There is really no such thing as a
"progressive conservative." It's refined
terminology for "dynamic apathy."

The only real conservative is an old-
fashioned conservative. But here's the rub
for liberals. Today's old fashioned conservatives

COPY

no longer defend the wagon train as the most efficient means of transportation. They are no longer led by a man in a surrey with a fringe on top.

Today's conservatives are under the command of the only licensed jet pilot in the United States Senate, my friend Barry.

It's unfair. You have spoiled our stereotype. You have blurred the image.

But we liberals do not despair. We know the first law of aerodynamics:

A jet cannot fly -- or at best can fly only in circles -- if it has only one wing -- the right wing. Or imagine a modern jet airplane -- even with a good pilot -- if it has two right wings.

COPY

We liberals are optimists. And
I am so liberal and so optimistic that I will
try once again to give advice to the
conservatives.

Here is the Humphrey guide to happiness,
boiled down to a brief suggestion:

Become liberals! Join the future!
Get with it!

I offer more. Simple happiness isn't
enough. I want my conservative friends to
be saved, to know the heavenly joy of progressive,
Democratic, New Frontier liberalism.

So again I beseech them with that Biblical
admonition:

Repent, and ye will be saved!

~~-10-~~ COPY

You know, I am always willing to
repent, to admit my mistakes. For
example, I admit now that Richard
Nixon was right in one of his campaign
statements. The birth of John F.
Kennedy, Jr. confirms Nixon's ^(WARNING) ~~warning~~
about a rash, immature, young man in
the White House.

With a new administration and
a new Congress and a New Year, there
is a liberal mood in the air -- a mood
of change, of action, of vitality.

We have new hope, my friends --
hope for a government with purpose,
ideas and imagination; full time
government with hard work and heart --
enough heart to care about the needs of all

⁻¹¹⁻ COPY

Americans and all free men today, and
tomorrow.

This will be a go-ahead Congress
and administration which will strengthen
America to meet the massive needs of our
times.

The real challenge of our generation
is not only the threat of Communism, but
even more so, the challenge of Democracy.
We cannot merely accept ~~the~~ Democracy
as an abstract principle, to be protected.

We must strengthen and broaden our
Democracy. It must be a growing
Democracy. We must work -- and work
hard -- to build a society of freedom,
a society of compassion which seeks the
difficult goals of peace, security, dignity
and justice for all men.

¹² COPY

Some say this is an impossible assignment.

I say this age requires the leadership of men who dare to undertake what many people consider impossible. This is what we mean by the New Frontier.

I offer one more bit of advice to my conservative friends. I offer competitive peaceful co-existence for liberalism and conservatism.

Conservatives and Liberals can and will work together. Neither of us is perfect. Again, I quote Emerson, who said:

"Each is a great half, but an impossible whole. Each exposes the abuses of the other, but in a true society, in a true man, both must combine."

-13-
COPY

We share a faith in society under
law, a belief in civil freedom, a commitment
to the wide distribution of political
and economic power.

In a world of conflict and want,
we both see the need for strength. We
must make sure we feel and understand the
need for compassion.

Working together we will meet our
nation's needs. We will protect the cause
of liberty, and we will answer a call of
humanity.

####

January 3, 1961



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org