

V.P. Seal!!

- Ant Poinier

Scott Long

Roy Justus

(~~Welshman~~) Leekie Slingworth

Taking notes  
Making sketches

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

EDITORIAL CARTOONISTS CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

② Nixon - one of best defense  
Welshman

MAY 18, 1968

② Sorensen (Rep. Grant)  
in chair of local Minn. warriors!

Gene Payne  
Charlotte Observer  
Pulitzer Prize  
1968

Response to Introduction. (Scott Long of Minneapolis

Tribune. His daughter, Bobbin, is also on dais, sitting  
in for her mother).

-- (Something personal about Long).

- Bobbin, I'm glad you're here. When

I was your age I would have been

tremendously impressed by a Vice

President of the United States. Now

that I'm Vice President I'm tremendously

impressed by you -- and by almost

everybody your age.

\* \* \*

Recognition of other head tablers. Probably also Leslie  
Illingworth -- world known cartoonist with London  
Daily Mail and Punch.

\* \* \*

We were last together at your meeting here in

1959.

⌞ I have tried to remember what I talked about then.

I can't.

⌞ I asked the folks in my office to try to find some  
record of what I said then. There isn't any.

⌞ One of them asked some of you if you could  
remember anything that was said. You couldn't.

⌞ So here I go -- setting out to be forgotten again.

\* \* \*

1959  
not  
Doubtful

He could come - Some Doubt if I could

-3-

It's interesting that the one thing I do remember --  
and what you recall, too, Scott -- is that it was possible  
for me to help you find a gallery here in Washington  
for your 1959 cartoon show.

There is a moral in this. One cartoon is worth  
ten thousand words. So is one little act of friendship.

I'm on your Program tonight

So I'm not going to make a speech tonight!

Your questions will let us talk about what is on your  
minds, ~~instead of on mine~~ And if it's on your minds

it ought to be on mine. One of the real improvements

in the current practices of politics . . . traceable in  
part I suppose to the Sunday afternoon television shows . . .

is that the dialogue is more and more replacing the  
monologue. It means that the speakers learn something

too . . . and that's probably more important.

\* \* \*

∟ I do want to say just a few words about our common  
enterprise . . . and responsibility . . . of informing  
the public.

∟ No, I don't mean a sermon from me on the  
obligations of the press.

∟ I have long since made the politician's . . .  
and public servant's . . . necessary peace with the press --  
which is unconditional surrender -- to the press.

∟ I may feel . . . as Mr. Justice Jackson said of  
the Supreme Court . . . that this is less a case of your  
being accepted as final because you are infallible than of  
your being considered infallible because you are final.

∟ But it doesn't matter. I have come meekly . . . even  
with some degree of conviction . . . to the conclusion that  
it is good for democracy for the press to have the last word.

∟ I have found myself thinking . . . as this evening approached . . . of how much editorial cartoonists and politicians have in common . . . and yet in what uncommonly different ways we go about our jobs.

∟ I guess the long and short of it is that politicians are the long of it and cartoonists are the short of it.

∟ You think for a long time and then draw one picture -- in that order.

∟ We talk for a long time and then think it over -- also . . . too often . . . in that order.

∟ This gives you . . . and especially your public . . . a considerable advantage.

Our common problem is how to deal fairly with the whole truth when we are in a position to include only part of the Facts -- and have to over-simplify even those.

I repeat that I am not lecturing you . . . but more reminding myself.

A typical political speech -- like a ~~typical~~ *an* editorial cartoon -- is a caricature / It exaggerates certain elements in the situation . . . for deliberate emphasis.

This is right. <sup>and</sup> It is effective!

It also establishes an even higher order of responsibility.

You put back a five o'clock shadow Mr. Nixon has removed -- or give Mr. Kennedy back some hair he has cut off -- or give me <sup>hair</sup> some poundage I have tried to take off.

↳ You do it with an added pen line. We do the same thing with an added adverb . . . an adjective.

↳ We both tell what I suppose are little lies . . . to get what we think is the big truth across.

↳ Of course what bothers me . . . ~~so that I bring this up~~ . . . is that I am clearer about this being right in your end of the business than I am about it in mine.

It's a little . . . not much, but a little . . . like that old story of the chicken and the pig walking past the restaurant and seeing the Ham and Eggs sign in the window. "See" the chicken said, "We're partners." And the pig answered: "Yes, I guess we are. But for you it's a day's work. For me it's a lifetime job -- and I'm not so sure about it."

*Mr. Huchenthal*

Just one other way of putting it: Your luncheon menu yesterday noon (Note: perhaps also for this dinner) carried on its cover Thomas Nasty's cartoon -- with you cartoonists in the good Don Quixote's role -- and some of us ambitious candidates . . . stubble-faced, long haired, and chubby . . . whirling around as the blades on the windmill.

∠ My point is in that one line of Don Quixote's in Man of LaMancha: "Facts are the enemy of truth."

∠ That line, too, is a caricature . . . a cartoon. . . a political speech. And it is what I wanted to say tonight.

\* \* \*

And now let's get down to the business of the evening . . . the issues of the day. And, Bobbin, my answers to these questions are going to be made with you in mind . . . because you are young . . .



and because I believe very deeply that most American young people are intent today upon holding all of us to a sterner discipline of Truth than the one we had gotten used to.

∟ Ladies and gentlemen, your questions.

---

POSSIBLE QUESTION

Question: What would be the hardest question for you to answer, and how would you answer it?

Answer: Why, the hardest question would have to be "What do I think I can do to end the war in Viet Nam?" There can't be a harder question than that.

President Johnson felt that the answer, for him, had to be his own withdrawal from political leadership.

Part of my answer . . . in this campaign . . . will be to act with equal responsibility.

This will include doing everything I can to create that unity of the national spirit which the President correctly considers an essential part of winning not only the war but the peace.

It will include speaking soberly to the facts of the Viet Nam situation and of our policy there.

Beyond that -- if that war continues -- and if I then share responsibility for this nation's stewardship -- I will count it the over-riding responsibility to find . . . in the circumstances as they are then . . . that combination of firm purpose in the field and unrelenting initiative at the negotiating table which will produce the earliest possible effective peace.

\_\_\_\_\_

# # # #

On  
Speech  
Typewriter

Notes  
Vice President HHH

Editorial Cartoonists Convention  
Washington, DC  
May 18, 1968

~~Notes. Not for Release.~~

Response to Introduction. (Scott Long, of Minneapolis Tribune. His  
~~(CHECK)~~  
daughter, Bobbin, is also on dais, sitting in for her mother.)  
re

-- (Something personal about Long.)

~~(CHECK)~~  
-- Bobbin, I'm glad you're here. When I was your  
age I would have been tremendously impressed by  
a Vice-President of the United States. Now that  
I'm Vice-President I'm tremendously impressed by  
you -- and by almost everybody your age.

\* \* \*

Recognition of other head tablers. Probably also Leslie Illingworth --  
~~(CHECK)~~  
re  
world known cartoonist with London Daily Mail and Punch.

\* \* \*

We were last together at your meeting here in 1959.

I have tried to remember what I talked about then. I can't.

I asked the folks in my office to try to find some record of what I said then. There isn't any.

One of them asked some of you if you could remember anything that was said. You couldn't.

So here I go -- setting out to be forgotten again.

\* \* \*

It's interesting that the one thing I do remember -- and what you recall, too, Scott -- is that it was possible for me to help you find a gallery here in Washington for your 1959 cartoon show.

There is a moral in this. One cartoon is worth ten thousand words. So is one little act of ~~friendliness~~ *friendship*.

\* \* \*

So I'm not going to make a speech tonight. Your questions will let us talk about what is on your minds instead of on mine. And if it's on your minds it ought to be on mine. One of the real improvements in the current practices of politics . . . traceable in part I suppose to the Sunday afternoon television shows . . . is that the dialogue is more and more replacing the monologue. It means that the speakers learn something too . . . and that's probably more important.

\* \* \*

I do want to say just a few words about our common enterprise . . . and responsibility . . . of informing the public.

No, I don't mean a sermon from me on the obligations of the press.

I have long since made the politician's . . . <sup>and</sup> ~~or~~ public servant's . . . necessary peace with the press -- which is unconditional surrender -- to the press.

I may feel . . . as Mr. Justice Jackson said of the Supreme Court . . . that this is less a case of your being <sup>accepted as</sup> <sub>1</sub> final because you are infallible than of your being <sup>considered</sup> <sub>1</sub> infallible because you are final.



But it doesn't matter. I have come meekly . . . even with some degree of conviction . . . to the conclusion that it is good for democracy for the press to have the last word.

~~It is just that~~ I have found myself thinking . . . as this evening approached . . . of how much editorial cartoonists and politicians have in common . . . and yet in what uncommonly different ways we go about out jobs.

I guess the long and short of it is that politicians are the long of it and cartoonists are the short of it.

You think for a long time and then draw one picture -- in that order.

We talk for a long time and then think it over -- also . . . too often . . . in that order.

This gives you . . . and especially your public . . . a considerable advantage.

*Our common problem is how to deal*  
~~The one thing that sticks out in my mind is the common problem we~~

~~have of dealing~~ fairly with the whole truth when we are in a position to include only part of the Facts -- and ~~we~~ have to over-simplify even those.

I repeat that I am not lecturing you . . . but more reminding myself.

A typical political speech -- like a typical editorial cartoon -- is a caricature. It exaggerates certain elements in the situation . . . for deliberate emphasis.

This is right. It is effective.

It also establishes an even higher order of responsibility.

You put back a five o'clock shadow Mr. Nixon has removed -- or give Mr. Kennedy back some hair he has cut off -- or give me some poundage I have tried to take off.

You do it with an added pen line. We do the same thing with an added adverb . . . an adjective.

<sup>Both</sup>  
We <sub>1</sub> tell what I suppose are little lies . . . to get what we think is the big truth across.

Of course what bothers me . . . so that I bring this up . . . is that I am clearer about this being right in your end of the business than I am about it in mine.



It's a little . . . not much, but a little . . . like that old story of the chicken and the pig walking past the restaurant and seeing the Ham and Eggs sign in the window. "See" the chicken said, "We're partners." And the pig answered: "Yes, I guess we are. But for you it's a day's work. For me it's a lifetime job -- and I'm not so sure about it."

Just one other way of putting it: Your luncheon menu yesterday noon [Note: perhaps also for this dinner] carried on its cover Thomas Nasty's cartoon -- with you <sup>cartoonist</sup> in the good Don Quixote's role -- and some of us ambitious candidates . . . stubble-faced, long haired, and chubby . . . whirling around as the blades on the windmill.

My point is in that one line of Don Quixote's in Man of LaMancha: "Facts are the enemy of truth."

That line, too, is a caricature . . . a cartoon . . . a political speech. *And it is what I wanted to say tonight.*

\* \* \*

And now let's get down to the business of the evening . . . the ~~(CHECK)~~ issues of the day. And, Bobbin, my answers to these ~~many~~ questions are going to be made with you in mind . . . because you are young . . . and

because I believe very deeply that most American young people are  
intent today upon holding all of us to a sterner discipline of Truth  
than the one we had gotten used to.

*Ladies and*  
Gentlemen, your questions.

On  
Speech  
Typewriter

Editorial Cartoonists

On speech typewriter

Add for Editorial Cartoonists

Question: What would be the hardest question for you to answer, and how would you answer it?

Answer: Why, the hardest question would have to be "What do I think I can do to end the war in Viet Nam?" There can't be a harder question than that.

President Johnson felt that the answer, for him, had to be his own withdrawal from political leadership.

Part of my answer . . . in this campaign . . . will be to act with equal responsibility.

This will include doing everything I can to create that unity of the national spirit which the President correctly considers an essential part of winning not only the war but the peace.

It will include speaking soberly to the facts of the Viet Nam situation and of our policy there.

Beyond that -- if that war continues -- and if I then share responsibility for this Nation's stewardship -- I will count it the over-riding responsibility to find . . . in the circumstances as they are then . . . that combination of firm purpose in the field and unrelenting initiative at the negotiating table which will produce the earliest possible effective peace.

The fuller answer to your question, sir, lies partly . . . and importantly . . . in how this campaign is conducted. That part of it I can answer . . . for myself. It will be conducted responsibly -- recognizing the absolute priority of peace over politics.

~ - P 1:30

Janette Williams

1206

MAZ-9157



# 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](http://www.mnhs.org)