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John F. Kennedy [ARTICLE]

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For President . . .

John F. Kennedy

About half of the adult population of the United States will elect a new President next Tuesday. We hope they will choose John F. Kennedy.

He seems to understand, better than his opponent, the revolutionary nature of the contemporary world. And he would be more able to provide the domestic programs necessary to promote the nation's well-being in the 1960's. Both candidates are better qualified to lead the country than President Eisenhower, but Senator Kennedy seems definitely best.

The world looks different than it did a few years ago. It is undergoing a revolution in hopes and expectations. No longer are the underdeveloped nations content to remain backward and lazy; Communist China, Cuba and India will give up even indolence for progress.

African nations, ready or not, want independence from European colonizers. Latin American nations, realistically or not, want to share in the United States' prosperity. Asian nations, Communist or not, want economic and social progress badly. Senator Kennedy, writing at publisher John S. Knight's request, summarized the situation clearly: "The goals they talk about, the goals that inspire them, are national independence, rapid economic development and neutralism."

These goals frighten many of our leaders who view the world only in terms of a struggle between Communism and the free world.

Vice President Nixon has at times been worried about nations which do not commit themselves to either side in

as all Americans eventually will, that the government Castro built is not going to collapse soon. But he and the Democrats are right in demanding that the United States pay more heed to Latin America.

Newly perfected techniques will soon make it possible for more and more small-nations to build their own atomic weapons. This should present a special sense of urgency to the representatives at the three-power Geneva conference on nuclear testing, and their superiors at home. Nixon is primarily concerned that the Soviets have not cheated on the voluntary atomic testing moratorium. Kennedy, with more concern for the urgency of the problem, has said he would continue the moratorium as long as the talks showed hope of success.

According to the Republicans, Kennedy's domestic proposals would cost about \$18 billion more a year, if enacted. What the Republicans neglect to add is that, even assuming their figures are correct and Kennedy would push for everything at once, all of Kennedy's programs could not be enacted. The Congress would not let him get away with it.

Both the House and the Senate will remain the same after the election: Democratic and conservative. The Democratic majority puts Southern conservatives into key committee positions, and the conservative coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats prevents much legislation from being passed.

Some of the programs Kennedy advocates sound expensive. Massive amounts of funds for urban renewal, aid

the cold war. As usual, he has worried that these countries have no "moral" justification for their uncommitted stands. He has not always understood that more than one nation's morality is at work.

In Africa, the United States has done very little. The dark continent's particular need now is education; Senator Kennedy has shown an awareness of this need and even helped provide funds for Africans to travel to the United States for studying.

Unlike Nixon, Kennedy does not feel the need to stress "private enterprise" when speaking of foreign aid. Underdeveloped countries, such as India, characteristically do not have a strong middle class to aid private development; they need to stress socialism to progress. Private enterprise has a valuable role, but it is not the only way.

Kennedy shows a clear understanding of our own foreign policy. The Eisenhower Administration has not always felt comfortable about Chiang Kai-Shek's possession of Quemoy and Matsu islands off the Chinese mainland. United States missions have gone to Formosa to persuade Chiang to place less emphasis on these islands; the attempts have failed. It is best not to publicize such matters, but when the two candidates were called on to debate the topic, only Kennedy acknowledged the real situation.

Towards Cuba Kennedy's present stand is disappointing, though perhaps politically necessary. He should realize,

to education or public housing are not warranted; an appreciable amount of aid, however, is required in these areas merely to maintain present worthwhile programs. By demanding of Congress more than is required, Kennedy might be able to force legislators to grant what is needed.

Kennedy concentrated his party's Congressional efforts on two sensible programs this summer. If the aged were to receive medical care under social security, as the Democrats proposed, people would pay directly for the insurance they receive; the program would be most economically administered; nothing would be added to the national debt or general taxes. Nixon advocated medical aid from general revenues; Congress worked on the Nixon proposal and produced a watered-down mess.

Kennedy also worked to increase the minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25 an hour and to extend its coverage; a full-time worker can hardly live on less. Again, Nixon advocated little change in the present inadequate coverage, and conservatives prevented Kennedy's victory.

Kennedy would need to oppose only the conservatives of Congress; Nixon would have to oppose both the conservatives and the Democrats if he were to get necessary programs passed. Of course, Nixon may make peace with conservatism. His new stand against repeal of the Connally amendment, which now prevents our full participation in the World Court, may indicate he is moving closer to true conservatism.

Republicans have succeeded in making some people believe that Kennedy would, intentionally or not, bring on inflation and devalue the dollar. His programs could not possibly be inflationary, even if he wanted them to be, as long as a conservative Congress chops them down; and it is the Republicans, not Kennedy, who have started talking about devaluating the dollar.

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To save our "prestige" in the world has sunk is to relate an apparent fact. But we will not endear the world to us by smiling and saying all's well when it isn't. Kennedy understands the problems that face this nation better than President Eisenhower and better even than Richard Nixon, who thinks he can help our cause by touring the world. Americans can give Nixon a vacation to

take the tours he deems necessary by |
electing the **best man** President.

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