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ELECTION XTRA

The Seminarian

Academic Year 1952-53

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

November 5, 1952

GUSTS OF POLITICKING ROCK SEM.
INTEREST IN CANDIDATES, ISSUES HIGH; FIND GROTESQUE T.V. HUMOR

G.O.P. WINS

At 1:44 a.m., November 5, Governor Adlai Stevenson conceded defeat in his contest for the presidency opposing Dwight David Eisenhower. The Republican candidate carried with him in his overwhelming landslide most of the party's candidates. The state of Pennsylvania was conceded completely to the victors before 2 a.m. sending Martin to the Senate and a complete Republican slate to the House.

The all-winning party has gained control of the House, and the Senate while taking thirty-six states and 418 electoral votes. (5:00 a.m.)

A TV set was installed in the Seminary Lounge on the fateful election night, for the benefit of the avid men who wanted to wait for election results. It was interesting to note that all were in good spirits and joking freely. Perhaps one of the funniest things that was witnessed on the TV was Fred Waring trying to practice singing with the Republicans. One of the Seminarians who was a little bitter about the outcome said, "Who is that guy? He must be either a Communist or a low-brow Demo." One of the more jubilant boys turned and answered, "Don't be redundant!"

Some other fragments of conversation sounded like this, "...Does Ike play the piano?....There goes Margaret's career....no marriage in the White-house for another four years....I won't concede, there's still the 5 o'clock trend....God save the Republic....I wonder if Hoopes is in bed....the twins of the junior class supplied the spoils...You're singing from memory, let's follow the leader....Howdy Doody loses Hooper rating to Waring's new show....

Some of the statements made during the evening by the celebrities on TV are of particular note too. They are of a more serious nature. Stevenson: "It is typically American to fight hard before an election; it is just as typically American to close ranks after an election." The serious question of the now ex-president Truman in the light of events must also be considered. Then, too, the first meeting of the Republican dominated Congress will certainly be of historically political significance. All these questions are for the future, For the present, Eisenhower was elected and we can now all relax from the tensions of the past weeks.

It is also in order to say a special thanks to Mr. Horace Sills, without whose generosity, we would have been without the television set which afforded us a view of this historical event in 1952 in the Seminary.

"OUR SYMPATHIES
TO
THE VOLUNTEERS"



"WE'LL GET OUR
LICKS
IN '56"

Democrat: "One consolation--the war will be over in 10 or 12 days!"

Scribe's Inkpot

THE REAL AMERICAN MIRACLE

THE REAL MIRACLE OF AMERICA occurs not on Election Day but on the Day After Election Day. For on that day millions of American voters hang up their sovereignty, give it over to their new leader. A typical citizen tucks away his party registration card and picks up his lunch pail again, trusting that while he earns his bread the public officials will tend to the larger concerns of life for him. For four years, he and millions of his species will pay little heed to the swing of the big rudder of government. Like the "black gang," stoking the fires on a steamship, they rarely look to see where the ship is taking them.

Some call this a miracle of faith. That it is! But it surely is not of that breed of faith which launched American Revolutionaries on their bold venture. Their trust was never in the aims of some one else. Each one knew where he wanted to steer. The miracle of that day was that some Colonists, aflame with their aspirations, did not rebel on the day after election. But, although their new chief had his aspirations too, their one trust was in a mutual longing for the right of each individual to steer his own way. In this mutual ideal, not in armed violence, resided their independence. And each man worked at it all the time.

Yesterday's voter, however, tomorrow will comply with a new ruler life a docile, good-natured cow. Having once discerned her herdsman, she dumbly follows where he leads, be it to the meadow or to butcher.

Duly, without protest, the mother and father send their sons to kill other sons, for so their neighbors have decreed. Obediently husband and wife calculate how much of their earnings their community demands. Dare they ask what it needs their earnings for? Whether it is right to send their sons? Could it be otherwise? Yes, they ask these things once every election time. But now we are "between times." It is the Day After Election Day. Now our Miracle really begins.

—D.M.H.

Two Seminarians, raking leaves on Election Day, parried thus:

"If I were a Democrat, I'd lean on my rake for a while now!"

"If I were a Republican, I could afford to!"

"The tyranny of a prince is an oligarchy is not so dangerous to the public's welfare as the apathy of a citizen in a democracy."

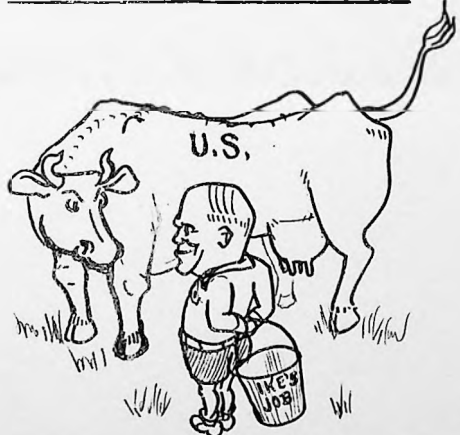
(Montesquieu, in Esprit des Lois)

"Nothing will ruin the country if the people themselves will under take its safety; and nothing can save it if they leave that safety in any hands but their own."

(Daniel Webster, before the U. S. Senate, March, 1834.)

"I have thought for a long time now that if, some day, the increasing efficiency of the technique of destruction finally caused our species to disappear from the earth, it will not be cruelty that will be responsible for our extinction and still loss, of course, the indignation that cruelty awakens and the reprisals and vengeance that it brings upon itself...but the docility, the lack of responsibility of the modern man, his base subservient acceptance of every common decree. The horrors which we have seen, the still greater horrors we shall presently see, are not signs that rebels, insubordinate, untamable men, are increasing in number throughout the world, but rather that there is a constant increase, a stupendously rapid increase, in the number of obedient, docile men." (Georges Bernanos, in Tradition of Freedom, written in exile from occupied France.)

DAWN OF A NEW REGIME ---



"EASY, NOW!"