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Jacksonville

Democratic Club

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Ran
Spurful

really

What is the overriding issue of 1972? What is ^{really} at stake

in this coming Presidential election?

The issue is clear: Whose America is this? And ~~it is~~

Nothing less than

the future of our beloved country ~~nothing less~~ that ~~is~~

is at stake in 1972.

to Is this the America of the two hundred million ^{other people} who

live and work here - the farmers, the mechanics, the truck drivers,

the teachers, the small ~~businessmen~~ businessmen?

Or is ^{it is} the America of a prosperous and privileged few, of

a self-appointed and self-perpetuating elite?

Is this the America of the people who have built it with

hearts and hands?

their own ~~hands~~ ~~the~~ ~~have~~ ~~put~~ ~~into~~ ~~it~~ ~~their~~ ~~own~~ ~~hearts~~ ~~blinds~~

who

Or is it an America for those ~~those~~ ~~highest~~ ~~skill~~ ~~in~~ ~~skinning~~

~~all~~ ~~the~~ ~~cream~~ ~~of~~ ~~other~~ ~~people's~~ ~~labor~~ ~~live~~ off the sweat of other men's
brows, the fat cats who skim off the cream.

We Democrats have our answer, and you know it well.

Franklin Roosevelt

It ~~is~~ the answer of ~~R~~ ~~F~~, it is the answer of Harry Truman,

of John F. Kennedy, of Lyndon Johnson.

It is the answer of ~~many~~ Presidents, who cared
about people and cared deeply.

Like the
~~Like~~ the poet Carl Sandburg, they said: "The people, yes!"

Yes, to them it was the people of America who counted. They
saw in our country's people - ~~be they~~ ^{whether} farmers, workers, or
businessmen - its real strength.

~~But not~~
~~This is not the case for the Nixon Republicans.~~
~~Not so - most emphatically not so - the Nixon Republicans.~~

Theirs is the party of privilege, of the favored few, of
the rich and the powerful.

^{too often}
With them, the high and the mighty dine at the head table ^{of government}
~~fact~~ ^{must} the rest of us are lucky to scramble for the crumbs.

What's good for Big Business, they say, is good for America.

That's the straight GOP gospel, no matter how Madison Avenue dresses it up.

And its preacher - ~~the high priest of privilege in person~~ -
is President Nixon himself.

It is he who has ~~ladled out~~ ^{tax breaks} to the wealthy ~~tax-breaks~~

running into the billions of dollars - while ordinary Americans

Shoulder an
~~event and strain to carry their ever-mounting tax burden.~~

This is the Nixon Republican creed -
~~That each~~ - to each according to his greed, and
from each in inverse ratio to his ability to dodge the tax
collector.

~~Never, I am confident, have so many labored to benefit~~

~~as few~~ *And what is the result of this Republican creed?*

~~At least, however, they have jobs - however ill paid.~~
these Americans still

~~And what have their labors produced? Very little.~~

~~Not so with~~ *More than* ~~five million of our fellow-citizens.~~
are out of work - -

Victims of the President's so-called economic "game plan,"

~~they are walking the streets jobless.~~

~~These are the statistics. For the nation, they are bad~~
~~enough. For the individuals concerned, they are deeply, heartrendingly~~
~~tragic.~~

These millions of hard-working, ~~God-fearing~~ Americans have
seen the bottom drop out of their lives. ~~Now, the system has~~
~~opened up under their feet.~~

A ^{Element}
No ~~level~~ of our working force has been spared - from
file clerk to manager, from men and women on the assembly lines
^{spilled}
to ~~topflight~~ engineers and scientists.

Many are dazed and bewildered, still not comprehending what
has hit them.

Some - men and women who have paid their way all their lives - ^{own}

A have been forced on ~~welfare~~, much against their will, to resort to welfare.
~~We don't want welfare -- we want to work~~
They want work, not welfare, and so do the taxpayers.
They are the victims of a government, of a political philosophy,

^{and political expediency}
of a President who puts economic dogma ahead of people.

As ^{The President's}
^{great} ^{to}
As far as I can see, his compelling ambition is play a role
global
of high drama on the ~~world~~ stage.

^{dashes from one country to another}
But, while he ~~flips~~ ^{flips} ~~hither and thither~~, this country and the problems
this Nation festers and multiply,
~~its people drift deeper and deeper into trouble.~~
That is neglect -- pure and simple --
I call that neglect -- and not benign neglect, either.

Our
Our cities decay. ~~These~~ streets are not safe to walk in.

The use of drugs spreads ~~like a~~ ^{ever} The cost of living climbs higher and higher.
~~pestilence~~ ^{And,} ~~is spreading~~ like a pervasive ~~problem~~ ^{And,} ~~meanwhile,~~
~~And,~~

nobody at the White House seems to be minding the store.

Where is the President who promised to bring us together?

Where is the President who promised to end the war?

Above all, where is the vision of what America could mean - and

should mean - not only to ~~its~~ ^{own} people, but to ~~the~~ ^{all} ~~whole~~ world?

Where is the vision that made our beloved flag a beacon of hope
to deprived people everywhere?

As the Bible warns us: "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

So, I repeat, ^{whose} America is this?

It must be, it shall be, the America of every man and woman
who lives and labors in it. ^{the problem} And I promise that neither I nor any
^{this vision} other good Democrat shall rest this year of decision until we ~~shall~~ ~~we~~ ~~shall~~
once more make it precisely that.

that is neglected - false work



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