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Measure No. 3—No

The first section of the Declaration of Rights in the North Dakota Constitution begins, "All men ... have certain inalienable rights ..." A proposed amendment to that section would change "men" to "individuals." That seems fair enough, until we consider the rest of the amendment, which appears on the Nov. 6 ballot as Measure No. 3.

This initiated constitutional amendment goes on to add to the rights already enumerated. It gives "all individuals" the right "to keep and bear arms for the defense of their person, family, property, and the state, and for lawful hunting, recreational, and other lawful purposes, which shall not be infringed."

Under existing constitutional law, however, "all individuals" would not enjoy that right. Children and incompetent persons, for example, would be excluded. Nor can a gun be fired in defense of property unless a citizen's life is endangered. Property protection is a function of law enforcement agencies.

This amendment would add nothing to, nor subtract anything from, the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, relating to "the right of the people to keep and bear arms." This state version is merely an ornament, and a flawed one at that. Therefore, we recommend a "No" vote.

Reagan Avoids Trip To Boston

By ROWLAND EVANS and ROBERT NOVAK
An Opinion Article

Shock waves spread by an obscure meeting of the John Birch Society a decade ago are stopping President Reagan from coming to Massachusetts to campaign for Republican Senate nominee Ray Shamie and party realignment.

"We are on our knees begging," Joe Malone, Shamie's campaign manager, told us. Indeed, chances for an upset by Reaganite Shamie in this bastion of Democratic liberalism depend on the president's coat-tails.

Shamie can get off his knees. A visit to Boston has been given the lowest priority by the president's men, ostensibly because Shamie is too far behind. But Reagan is going to West Virginia and perhaps Nebraska, where Republican Senate challengers are no closer than Shamie (who trails by 8 to 9 percentage points).

The overriding reason actually is disinclination by Reagan's cautious managers to embrace anything smacking of "ultraconservatism." Although Shamie takes positions less rigidly conservative than Reagan's, the fact that in 1974 he briefly belonged to and attended one meeting of the John Birch Society has earned him a political Scarlet Letter.

The emphasis on this incident instead of the issues represents a triumph for Democratic campaign tactics. But it also reveals the Reagan campaign's lack of commitment to the quest for new congressional seats, much less party realignment.

The potential prize is dramatic. Massachusetts is a unique one-party state where the dominant Democrats demand liberal ideology. Shamie's opponent for the open Senate seat, first-term Lt. Gov. John Kerry, is a former anti-Vietnam War activist whose doctrinaire opposition to new weapons systems exceeds even Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's.

Against this ideological monolith

has been a shrinking, me-too liberal Republican Party. Elliot Richardson, the properly liberal holder of so many Cabinet portfolios, did not frighten Democrats as the probable Republican Senate nominee.

But Shamie, surprise landslide victor over Richardson in the September primary, certainly worries them. A self-made millionaire and self-educated engineer of mixed ethnic (French and Syrian) stock, he may lose votes among dwindling Yankee Republicans. He is, however, the first Republican to take advantage of what has been happening in Massachusetts beneath superficial politics.

This state has been transformed from "Taxachusetts" to the focus of the tax revolt, with lower tax rates accompanying high growth and only 4.8 percent unemployment. The same climate that in 1978 propelled anti-tax conservative Democrat Edward King into a single term as governor gives Reagan a 10-point lead in the only state won by George McGovern in 1972. Walter F. Mondale has not set foot in Massachusetts.

While Shamie cannot match Reagan's appeal, he counts on Democratic support — including some old-line politicians. George Collela, the Democratic mayor of Revere, has been working with Shamie's staff on a Reagan administration urban grant for his city and turned up recently at a Shamie fund-raiser there.

When Shamie said his announcement of federal money awards "irritate" Democratic politicians, Collela yelled back: "Make another announcement, and we'll irritate them a little more." On the next morning, two prominent conservative Democratic politicians agreed over breakfast that, once inside the booth, they would vote for Reagan and Shamie.

To encourage such defections, Shamie's newest television commercial tries to exploit revived patriotism by quoting Kerry's description of the United States in Grenada as a "bully." A new radio spot cites Kerry's pro-tax-hike stance before pulling away from Mondale's politically poisonous plan.

Kerry's response is to label Shamie an extremist, attacking him for opposing the nuclear freeze and Equal Rights Amendment (though Shamie, unlike Reagan, supports modified versions of both). The soft-voiced Shamie hardly fits his stereotype. An admitted "supply-sider," he talks more about "compassion" than fiscal integrity, more about cutting taxes than cutting the budget.

But having entered politics in 1982 at age 61 by running against Teddy Kennedy, he remains politically naive. To the consternation of aides, he still muffles his own criticism of Birchers as "conspiratorial" by lauding the "sincerity" of individual members. The media-fueled Birch furor could be fatal. Whatever damage it has done among Jews, Richardson Republicans and some independents, its most serious effect is to keep the president from pursuing the richest realignment prize possible in 1984.

By PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

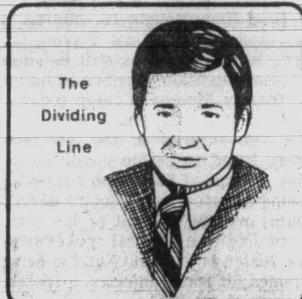
An Opinion Article

Citing President Reagan as the most detached, out-of-touch, ill-informed president in modern American history, Fritz Mondale is entrusting his political fate in the final 10 days of the campaign to the "leadership issue." As, heretofore, leadership has been considered Reagan's long suit, his greatest asset, it is hard not to conclude that Mondale, having lost Sunday's debate, has run out of options and decided to play out the hand.

Still, the Mondale emphasis on leadership is odd, because Mondale has never himself been considered a strong leader, but rather the always available consensus choice of those who could not decide upon someone else. He was not first elected attorney general in Minnesota; he was appointed. He was not first elected to the Senate; he was appointed to fill a chair left vacant by the elevation of Hubert Humphrey to the vice presidency. His first run for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1974 having ended ingloriously, he dropped out, citing his weariness with the accommodations provided by America's Holiday Inns. In 1976, lightning struck when he was selected by Jimmy Carter as an acceptable Northern liberal to balance the ticket.

What has Mondale ever led? Contrast Mr. Consensus with Mr. Conservative.

After eight years as governor of America's largest state during the



turbulent late '60s and early '70s, Reagan arrived in the White House with more executive experience than Nixon, Kennedy, Johnson, Ford, Carter and Mondale combined.

In 1976, Reagan led a conservative rebellion which almost took the nomination away from a sitting president of his own party, a feat not accomplished in a century. For 15 years, before coming to the White House, he had been the acknowledged national leader of one of the great political and social movements of the 20th century — the postwar conservative revival. In 1980, with his 44-state landslide, he became the first nominee in 50 years to take away the presidency from an elected incumbent seeking a second term.

Decided in America's and Europe's capitals as a simple-minded cowboy, he forged a coalition which imposed his ideas upon the American economy: deregulation, across-

the-board tax cuts, a reduction in the rate of growth of federal social spending.

Now, one may consider these ideas foolish then and foolish now; but there is no doubt who alone imposed them upon Congress and upon the country. By 1984, with recovery well in hand, and America the envy of the industrial world, small supply-side revolutions were being promoted in the once-skeptical socialist countries of West Europe.

Through his negotiation strategy, and his perseverance, the president won deployment of the Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe, holding the NATO alliance together, enraging and discomfiting the Soviets. Then, in one bold stroke, he recaptured Grenada from Castroism. Mondale, who first disparaged Grenada as America's moral equivalent of Afghanistan, now says that — given subsequent evidence that the medical students were indeed in danger — he too, would have launched the rescue mission.

Many of Reagan's initiatives — the IMF bank bailout, for example — have angered his conservative constituency. Yet, about his leadership capacity, there is no question. He appears to be the first president since Eisenhower headed for two full terms. He is the first president in the television age not to have been eviscerated by a cynical, hostile press. No one is saying today what was commonplace four years ago: that the job is too big for one man.

One may be as repelled by Reagan's ideas and ideology as is Tip O'Neill; yet, the House speaker's outrage and exasperation speaks volumes that Ronald Reagan is a successful leader.

There is a measure of truth in Bob Strauss' jibe that the reason Bill Clark was moved over to Interior was that Nancy Reagan felt the staff squabbles were causing the president too many sleepless afternoons. Perhaps Reagan does ride horses in the morning, take naps in the afternoon, doze off at boring Cabinet meetings and take long weekends to enjoy the "oldies but goodies" — movies he recalls from bygone days. So what?

The essence of presidential leadership is not mastery of detail; else, LBJ and Carter would have been our greatest modern presidents. It is a strong, deeply grounded philosophy, a concept of the nation and the world that is realistic, the ability to decide and act, and, most important, the capacity to communicate and inspire and persuade. Reagan has all these in spades. His collegial style may be exasperating; he is perhaps too indulgent of the foibles of friends and subordinates; he is a dismal disciplinarian. Yet, as Lebanon showed, he is a leader who knows when to cut his losses, and how to cover a necessary retreat.

Speaking of leadership, how many national Democrats has Fritz Mondale lined up behind that \$85-billion tax increase?



Welcome to the third and, we hope, conclusive debate...

Capital Quips

By MARK RUSSELL

Our standards certainly are high. The final debate was a draw — because Mondale didn't whine and Reagan didn't stammer.

Although a bit dull, the debate was the biggest thrill for Kansas City since Hallmark came out with a new Groundhog Day card.

I was hoping for some surprises — maybe a double negative from Edwin Newman, anything!

Mondale was correct when he said a president must know what he's doing. He must know the difference between a submarine missile and a kite. The missile has a longer string.

Although Mondale didn't do as well as he had hoped, he still can win the election if he gets two breaks — a famine and a depression by a week from Tuesday.

Candidates Differ On Supreme Court

By DAVID S. BRODER

An Opinion Article

It was not the most gracious or diplomatic thing that Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., has ever said. It was, in fact, a classic double standard.

When it comes to President Reagan, the 81-year-old Thurmond told the crowd awaiting Reagan's arrival for a campaign stop in Greenville, S.C., the "age issue" is strictly a phony. "He's not too old," Thurmond said. "He's nine years younger than I am."

But when it is the Supreme Court, five of whose nine members are older than Reagan but younger than Thurmond, the age factor is something to count on. "In the next four years," he said, "we're going to have four or five vacancies on the Supreme Court — if some of 'em get off, as I hope they do."

"Get off" may or may not have been a euphemism, but Thurmond's meaning was unmistakable. After a decade of remarkable stability, in which Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan each made one appointment to the high court and Jimmy Carter made none, the aging tribunal is likely to undergo major reconstruction.

"Who do you want to appoint them?" was the question Thurmond threw out to the crowd, and it is probably the most important unpublicized issue in this election.

A president may influence the budget of the U.S. government — at the margins. He may impose his will on the bureaucracy — a bit. He may, if he is lucky, warm up relations with another country — by two or three degrees.

But he can profoundly alter the direction of the nation and its government by his appointments to the



Supreme Court, and the effects will be felt long after his own time and in ways that go far beyond the scope of his own office.

I cannot think of any area of public policy where the intentions of Reagan and his opponent, Walter Mondale are clearer or where their differences are more stark and striking.

Mondale as senator was a prime sponsor of the legislation creating and expanding the program of legal services for the poor. Reagan as governor fought that program in California, and as president has tried through budgetary restraints and appointments to curtail its work.

Mondale as vice president recommended the appointment of many of the most liberal judges Carter named to federal district and appellate courts — including many of the minority and women appointees who changed the face of the judicial branch.

Reagan has used his powers of appointment systematically to fill the courts with conservative jurists — among them his one Supreme Court appointee, Sandra Day O'Connor.

tence on appointing conservative jurists. The battle between his appointees and those of the two liberal Democratic governors who immediately preceded and followed him in Sacramento politicized and polarized the California Supreme Court. Since O'Connor joined the conservative bloc in the closely divided U.S. Supreme Court, it too has become a real political and personal battleground.

Mondale is the product and exponent of a very different view of the law, but he is equally committed to his ends. From law-school days onward, he has seen the work of lawyers and judges as being part of the ongoing struggle for social justice and individual rights.

Some of the most eloquent speeches by this not terribly eloquent man have dealt with the issues of providing legal aid to the indigent and the accused. Some of the most courageous political acts by this inherently cautious politician have come when he was championing legal rights for those seeking social reforms.

As president, either of these men would know exactly what he wants on the Supreme Court — and how to get it. In choosing between them, the voters are really deciding the kind of laws under which we will live.

Tell It Like It Is



25 Years Ago

The attorney general's office in Bismarck notified Ward County that it must publish in the official county newspaper a list of names of delinquent personal property taxes for all years.

The new St. Aloisius Hospital at Harvey will be ready for occupancy in November.

Rehearsals for the 31st annual community presentation of Handel's Christmas oratorio, "The Messiah," begin next week in McFarland Auditorium at Minot State Teachers College.

Town grade schools as well as rural schools will participate in the Minot State Teachers College music class by radio this year, aired over KLPM.

Officials at Minot State Teachers College are moving closer to the institution of a master's degree program.



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