Speech By:

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ROBERT MORGAN Attorney General Beaufort County Democratic Woman's Club Washington, N.C. February 22, 1973

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

I. A VERY DEFINITE NEED EXISTS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO RECOG-NIZE THAT IT MUST STICK TOGETHER IF IT IS GOING TO WIN ELECTIONS IN THIS STATE IN THE FUTURE. CANDIDATES MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THEY ALONE DO NOT POSSESS ENOUGH POLITICAL STRENGTH TO WIN. RATHER, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THEY GATHER SUPPORT FROM OTHER WINGS OF THE PARTY. IN SHORT, FACTIONALISM MUST CEASE.

2. Along the same line as above, statistics provided by an article in Popular Government show that from January 1972 to October of 1972, more people, on a percentage basis registered Republican rather than Democrat. Still, the Democrats did, in the same period, get more people, on a numerical basis, to register Democrat rather than Republican.

But, over the last 30 years, the trend has been for an increasing number of people to vote for the Republican candidate for Governor. Only in 1948 and 1964 was this trend reversed.

Thus, it is essential that the Democratic Party continue its organizational work at the grassroots level. In addition, we must continually have persons speaking across the State on the good progressive things that the Democratic Party has done in the past AND WANTS TO DO IN THE FUTURE.

3. CAMPAIGN COSTS ARE SIMPLY TOO HIGH. WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT GOOD CANDIDATES ARE NOT PRICED OUT OF THE MARKET.

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ONE WAY THAT CAMPAIGN FINANCING COULD BE REDUCED WOULD BE TO CHANGE THE PRIMARY DATE TO A LATER TIME. THIS ALSO WOULD CHANGE THE TIME IN WHICH CANDIDATES WOULD HAVE TO FILE FOR OFFICE, THUS MAKING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD SHORTER.

Several bills in both Houses have been introduced on this subject. Alternate dates which have been suggested are June, July, August and September.

4. AN ADDITIONAL SUBJECT THAT COULD BE DISCUSSED IS THE NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN ORDER FOR THEM TO MAKE A DECENT SALARY. PERHAPS SOME OF THE BUDGET SURPLUS COULD BE USED FOR THIS.

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