

NYT

Jonanthan Kandell, "Economy Is Prime Issue in Eastern Connecticut Race."
NYTIMES , Oct. 5, 1972

"As a freshman Congressman, Mr. Steele quickly stepped into the limelight by focusing on the heroin addiction crisis among G.I.'s in Vietnam and the role of some South Vietnamese officers in the trafficking."

NYT

John Noble Wilford, "Corps of Engineers Caught Up in Battle Of the Builders Against the Preservers," NYTimes, Feb 20, 1972

No quotes necessary here. But this is a long feature article telling how the Corps is increasingly getting hassled by environmentalists.

NYT

Eileen Shanahan, "Special Tax Bills Blocked By Reform Drive in House"
NYTIMes, March 1, 1972

a batch of "members' bills" sponsored by W&M members.

A groups of liberals (led by Patman) has mounted an attack that led to withdrawal of 15 of 22 bills that had been scheduled for consideration by the House"

"The attack in the House today was the first that has ever been made on the basic procedure used in passing members' bills, which has been in effect for more than two decades."

Bills require unanimous consent; if not a postponement.

Patman attacked lack of public hearings, secrecy.
A Patman vs. Mills tussle.

NYT

making his peace

"Thurmond Image Seen as Changing" NYT, Oct 17, 1971, p. 46.

apparent change came after West's victory in 1970, with big black vote.

"Since then, the Republican Senator has done the following things:

- Hired Thomas Moss, a black political organizer who directed Negro voter registration efforts for the South Carolina Voter Education Project, for his staff in South Carolina, and a black secretary for his Washington Office.

- Announced Federal grants for projects in black areas, including at least one occasion when he addressed a predominantly black audience to announce a rural water project and remained afterwards to shake hands.

- Issued moderate statements on racial issues."

In a statement to Ebony magazine that aides say Senator Thurmond wrote himself, he said: 'In most instances I am confident that we have more in common as Southerners than we have reason to oppose each other because of race. Equality of opportunity for all is a goal upon which blacks and Southern whites can agree.'

"...Charles Ross, the black Mayor of Lincolnville, a biracial community near Charleston, says Senator Thurmond actively helped his town secure a \$13,000 grant for a day care center two months ago and helped get assurances of \$320,000 for a water project."

NYT

NYT, Jan 29, 73.

Here, in covering Nixon's budget message (in Cong file), it said that he wants to cut down on impacted areas program, as did JFK and LBJ.

"The third 'sacred cow' that Mr. Nixon mentioned was aid to schools near Federal facilities, such as military bases. Presidents Kennedy and Johnson tried in vain to cut back on this program, which is popular in Congress because it pumps more than \$500-million a year into local school districts."

NYT
John Herbers, "Nixon's Presidency: Crisis for Congress" feature article, NYT,
3/5/73

I don't excerpt this here. But it's available. It gives some Nixon adm. thinking on Prexy vs. Congress on spending programs (special vs. general interest), including some specific programs.

NYT

John W; Finney, "Recalcitrant Republicans Likely to Compound Nixon's Problems With Senate," NYTIMES, Dec. 4, 1972 p. 25

"Among conservative as well as liberal and moderate Republican Senators, there is a commonly expressed feeling of critical detachment, at times verging on bitterness, about the Nixon White House. They contend that Mr. Nixon concentrated on a ~~h~~opsided re-election victory at the expense of support for Republican Congressional candidates."

"Many Republican Senators and aides believe that Mr. Nixon now faces the prospect of defections by Republicans as an indication of their exasperation with, or independence of, the White House."

NYT

Marjorie Hunter, "Hollings Fight on Hunger Is Stirring the South"
NYTimes, March 8, 1969.....

This was a real demarche for him (last month).....

He appeared before a special Senate committee and said "There is hunger in South Carolina. There is substantial hunger. I have seen it with my own eyes."

(My interpretation—the changed electorate, etc.)

Mail reaction to Hollings was overwhelmingly favorable.

"Already, Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Democrat of Georgia, has indicated he will begin a hunger crusade in his own state. Other Senators have hinted that they may do the same."

NYT

David E. Rosenbaum, "Firm Congress Stand on Jews in Soviet Is Traced to Efforts by Those in U.S." NYT, April 6, 1973, p. 14

Organized Jewish pressure on the issues in D.C. —a rundown of it.
An amendment that wd block any trade concessions to USSR until Jews are allowed to leave without paying high exit fees.

The number of Senate sponsors stands at 76. Why sign?

"Why did so many people sign the amendment?" a Northern Senator asked rhetorically.
"Because there's no political advantage in not signing. If you do sign, you don't offend anyone. If you don't sign, you might offend some Jews in your state."

NHT

Elizabeth Drew, "Members of Congress Are People," NYT, Jan 29, 1973, p. 29 op ed.

"The quality of ego that motivates people to seek political office is not conducive to collective action once they succeed. Each member of Congress is wont to consider himself a sort of autonomous principality, sent forth to Washington by an adulatory constituency. Having arrived, they find it difficult to accommodate their views, work for legislation that does not bear their name, or spend time on the dreary business of seeking each others' support and counting the votes on forthcoming bills. What's more, the lawmakers come to learn that this is not the sort of thing to which glory attaches. A thumping speech is more likely to attract the attention of the press galleries and the hometown papers than is quiet work in the corridors to change national policy."

"Members of Congress are human beings whose careers are based on ambition and dealing and manipulating. 535 of them, assembled under one roof, need a law of the jungle. When they say that the alternative to the seniority system would be chaos, they know whereof they speak. Recent alterations in the mechanics of the system did not change the results; the most senior members still have supremacy. The rules of procedure which give representatives of some of the citizens more voice in national policy than representatives of other citizens do help to keep all hell from breaking loose."

Drew #2

"There may be no greater motivation on the part of politicians once they get to Congress than the desire to stay there. The powerful instinct for self-preservation informs a Congressman that it is the better part of wisdom not to stray too far from what is seen to be the political mainstream. They remember ~~the~~ their fearless, and former, colleagues. The more a politician considers the choice between being an elected pussycat or a defeated lion, the more likely he is to purr. Moreover, the assumption on Capitol Hill is that it is not the work on the great issues, but the little things that count."

NYT

John Wl Finney, "Study in Absenteeism: One Senate Committee's Work"
NYTIMES, Jan. 30, 1972

Fulbright: "This ~~is~~ the kind of committee that Senators like to be on, but they don't like to do anything." (lamenting attendance problems)

FRC has real attendance problems.....Senatorz busy elsewhere....

NYT

Richard L. Madden, "Buckley After 100 Days in Washington: At Ease in Senate Role"
NYTIMES May 2, 1971

"He has been surprised, he said, to discover that so many things happen in the Senate 'for symbolic reasons' rather than practical reasons, such as the practice of Senators offering amendments that they know have absolutely no chance of passing."

NYT

John W. Finney, "Senate's Inaction Exasperates Leaders"
NYTIMes, Feb. 7, 1972

absenteeism a real problem...

Mansfield: "How we can work in a situation like this I don't know. ~~Index~~ But I am at the end of my wits. I do not know any way to keep them here, unless perhaps the local newspapers start publicizing the absenteeism of their Senators."

poll calls so far this year: absenteeism running at 25-30%.

John W. Finney, "Mansfield, Berating Absentees, Deplores the Senate's Record"
NYTimes, Feb. 9, 1972

Mansfield: a public scolding on the Senate floor.

"None of us were drafted for this job," he told his colleagues. "I would hope that we would face up to our job with maturity and that each Senator would act so we can do the job the people are paying us to do." And it's not just the Prexy candidates.

NYT

Marjorie Hunter, "O'Neill of the House: A Majority Leader's Perspective"
NYT, Jan 20, 1973, p. 21.... (in Congress file)

O'Neill quote:

"The Country's becoming protectionist again," he said. "You get a tariff bill on the floor today with an open rule, and there will be 4,000 amendments to it. There are ~~xxx~~ going to be people who want to protect the shoe industry, protect the glass industry, protect the fish industry...."

NYT
NYTimes, Oct 4, 1971, p-10

Israeli foreign aid

"Israeli Schools + Hospitals Seek Funds in Foreign - Bill"

"The House has included \$10.7 million in the foreign aid authorization bill for schools + hospitals in Israel, and the total seems likely to be increased by the Senate."

"The Sen FR Comm, which is drafting the foreign-aid bill, has before it requests from Senators to add \$9 million for five other schools + hospitals in Israel not included in the House bill."

— Apparently this is a "growing practice" — a "growing practice of using the foreign-aid bill as a vehicle for providing funds to foreign schools + hospitals, particularly in Israel..." — This is causing concern in Senate FR Comm. For over 10 yrs, the FIDA law has contained authority to give \$ to foreign schools + hospitals "funded or sponsored by U.S. citizens." "Until recently, however, the money has been provided as a general grant to the aid agency, without the specification of the projects by Cong. committees."

"In the last two yrs, however, the practice has developed within the Hon. FRC, the SFRC, and the H+S Appropriations of specifying the projects, with schools + hospitals in Israel being the principal beneficiaries."

"This, in turn, acc. to Senator Foyt, has led to considerable lobbying, with the members of Congress recommending projects for inclusion in the foreign-aid bill (to cultivate the favor of some of their constituents!)"

Israeli foreign aid, NYT 1971, #2

(10) This yr's foreign aid bill:

Admin asked for \$10,175,000 for 10 foreign schools + hospitals,

— 3 in Greece, 3 in Egypt, 2 in Turkey, 1 in Jordan, 1 in Lebanon

(principal beneficiaries = American U in Beirut (\$5.75M)

+ Roberts College in Istanbul)

Bill is approved by House FRC and by House:

\$28,760,000 for 30 foreign schools + hospitals,

of which 12 were in Israel



2d Israeli Freyman :

NYT, Oct 26, 1971, p. 4

"Senators Ask Halt in Earmarked Aid"

— rec to end earmarked aid included in FA bill comm report.

— prompted by a "proliferation" of projects, esp for Israel.

(What happened afterwards to this rec I don't know.)

JWF: "Individual members, seeking to cultivate favor with their constituents, recommended projects for inclusion in the FA bill sans scrutiny from a single expert on their validity." . . . "It is a deplorable example of private lobbying."