

Government Has Failed Youth, Blatchford Says

Joe Blatchford, Republican congressional candidate in the 17th District has accused his opponent of being incapable of leading the state and representing the district in Congress.

Speaking at a local business luncheon, the young Republican said Democratic candidate Glenn Anderson, former lieutenant governor, represents "the old politics of indecision, inaction and inability that had its chance and lost it."

"Our district can't afford to play around any longer," Blatchford said.

"There are too many problems—crime in our streets, war in Vietnam, rising taxes, rising prices, alienated youth, frustrated minorities—to keep relying on the old-style politics of promises but no action."

BLATCHFORD accused the government of attempting to assume responsibilities that local communities and states could best fulfill on the one hand, and of ignoring the responsibilities it should take up on the other.

"Particularly, our government has failed to inspire the youth of the country. It has given them an example of indecision and dishonesty that would be comical if it wasn't so real, and then turns away when young people resort to crime, riots and drugs in an attempt to drop out."

"Let's stop giving them reasons to drop out, and let's give them something vital and real to drop back into," Blatchford said.

THE YOUNG Republican said the federal government should make a special effort to stop the growing amount of drug abuse by college, high school and even junior high students.

"The problem is here in the 17th District," he noted. "It's in every school your children attend. These kids are turning to marijuana and speed and mind drugs as a thrill, and as an escape."

"But they're not escaping from anything. Our kids are being turned off physically and psychologically by drugs they don't understand, and they are likely to be put in jail if caught and carry a record for the rest of their lives."

BLATCHFORD said the federal government should conduct a full Federal investigation into drug use, including the aspects of new mind drugs, and then conduct a broad and honest education program for both youth and their parents.

He also recommended stricter laws and increased penalties against dope pushers, and said the government should work with Mexican authorities to stop marijuana importation across the border.

"But we're not going to stop drug use until we get at the reason kids use drugs," Blatchford said, "and that's to escape a society they don't want to join."

"IT IS THE role of the government to turn them on with the fantastic potential for development and change within our country. We need to enlist their support, to take their ideas, to work with them and give them a responsibility for action."

"But they're not going to listen unless our leaders set an example of honesty and dedication and concern that they know is real. The old-

style politics just hasn't done this. There has been too much corruption, too much indecision, too much talk and too little action."

"Glenn Anderson has had his chance. He had it on his own in the Assembly and he

had it under Gov. Brown. Now it's time for new blood and new leadership to take over."

"WE NEED new approaches to foreign aid, new approaches to the ghetto and the citizen."

job new approaches to fighting the criminal and protecting the citizen."

Blatchford, 34, is a graduate of UCLA and the Berkeley Law School. A lawyer, he has spent the last seven years as executive director

of ACCION, the nonprofit organization he founded to help solve urban slum problems in Latin America.

His work with ACCION, which was based on the principles of showing the poor how they could get together and help themselves without relying on government aid that never came, has been raised by such national leaders as Richard Nixon, Nelson Rockefeller, Hubert Humphrey and Robert Kennedy.

Nixon Wins Straw Vote

In the presidential race Nixon received 77 votes to 49 for Humphrey, 23 for Eugene McCarthy, 18 for Wallace, 14 for Eldridge Cleaver and 7 for Pat Paulsen.

In the senatorial race it was Cranston 93, Rafferty 67 and Paul Jacobs of the Peace and Freedom Party with 26.

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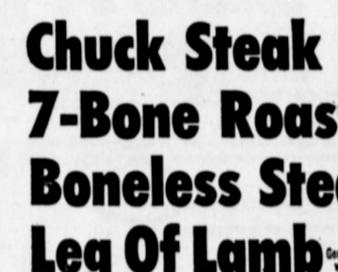
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