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The Observer Article - 'Voter Turnout at Lowest Level in Six Years'

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Voter Turnout at Lowest Level in Six Years

New Observer Staffer Lindsay Davis interviewed the Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, concerning the crisis that we have in this country. He asked the Senator if he planned to introduce any laws for the New Year, and the senator told him that he was going to start working on it around the 5th of January. Mr. Davis explained that it was a bad situation, when they took the prayers out of the schools. The senator said that he was going to introduce this bill to the Senate and feels that he can get it through the Senate. However, it might be more difficult to get it passed through the House, Mr. Davis said if senate passes the bill, it would be passed by the congress and president. Also that this was the reason for the law breakdown in this country and especially in the metropolitan area schools of D.C. The senator agreed and said that this will be his first assignment when he returns to the District of Columbia in January.

Ranger Reports Overwhelming Response in Favor of Empeachment

Congressman Charles B. Rangel (D-Manhattan) today reported that in the two weeks which have elapsed since the firing of Special Watergate Prosecutor Archibald Cox by President Nixon, his Congressional Rules for Impeachment of Government Officials

Any member of the House may introduce an impeachment resolution. The speaker may then call for an immediate vote, a simple majority is all that is needed.

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If the resolution goes to a committee (Judiciary or a special unit), that committee may hold hearings or conduct an investigation, hiring whatever staff it deems necessary.

If the committee approves the resolution and sends it to the House floor as articles of impeachment, the House then votes. A simple majority is all that is needed.

If approved, the impeachment case is presented to the Senate, sitting as a jury, with a delegation of House members acting as prosecutors and the Chief Justice of the United States sitting as judge.

During the Senate trial, the impeached official may have lawyers of his own, present evidence or testify himself.

If the Senate, in its entirety, finds the official guilty of the charges, he is removed from office and disqualified from holding any other office in the future. Further penalties if any, are left to the courts.

The history and procedures of the impeachment process have been catalogued in a 718-page manual recently authorized by the House Judiciary Committee and published by the Government Printing Office.

The number of Washingtonians voting, in the school board election, was less than ten percent of the total of 32,253 registered voters. This is the lowest than any previous election, held in the city, since the elected school board was created in 1968. This is a great blow to building a strong school board. It shows a lack of interest among those who are always attacking school board members. The people of this town, will never have a great working organization until they take part in helping to form the operation. Talk is cheap and is not effective without concrete efforts. The turnout was really a sad affair because eleven board seats were up for election. The votes, on Tuesday, had a chance to determine the future direction of the board and its new superintendent Barbara Sizemore.

In Tuesday's election Albert A. Risenfield, a board member since 1967, won his third term in ward three. Bill Treanor, a youth social worker in Dupont Circle, now replaces the incumbent (Continued on page 3)

The Federal Highway Administration announced that three trainees in its Equal Employment Opportunity Training Program have completed the first phase, of the six-month course, in Regional Offices, and are now into the second stage of their training at the Washington, D.C. Headquarters

"The mail from my Congressional District," Rangel said, "is running 99% in favor of impeaching the President. Although the heaviest volume of mail is coming from the upper West Side, I am receiving letters from all parts of the community, with approximately 40% of the mail originating from the Harlem and East Harlem communities.

NOTED BLACK EDUCATOR Dr. Alvin D. Loving, Sr. (2nd from right), former Assistant Dean, School of Education at the University of Michigan, is congratulated by Vice President-designee Gerald Ford, also a Michigander, upon being named Special Consultant for Education to the House District of Columbia Committee. The appointment was announced by Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (2nd from left), chairman of the House District of Columbia Committee, at a Capital Hill reception in honor of Dr. Loving and his wife, Mary (left). Dr. Loving is also serving as a liaison to a program sponsored by the Institute for Educational Leadership, under the auspices of George Washington University. A native of Detroit, Dr. Loving has taught on the college level both in the United States and in Africa and India, and was the first and only Black to serve as President of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development of the National Education Association.

As an educator of such prominence, Dr. Loving will provide the House District Committee with particular expertise and a link with other outstanding educators and educational institutions as the Committee attempts to deal with educational issues facing the District of Columbia.