

# A View From The Right

The conservatives are stirring!

Despite a crushing defeat at the polls, in 1964, there is a growing spirit of optimism on the Right. The inability of the Johnson Administration to win the war in Vietnam and the possibility of widespread inflation at home due to faulty fiscal policies are fueling the flames of conservative anger and hope.

Barry M. Goldwater says that those 27 million conservative voters in 1964 have grown to a "few more now." The ex-senator from Arizona predicts that three-fourths of the delegates to the next Republican national convention will be conservatives. Prof. Milton Friedman, famous conservative economist from the University of Chicago, estimates that half of the political activists on the American campus today are conservatives.

Since November 3, 1964, however, the conservative movement has been without a national leader. Every movement needs a leader, and such a figure will be essential as conservatives start preparations for the 1968 presidential sweepstakes.

It seems to me that if Ronald Reagan wins the California governorship in November, he will automatically emerge as the acknowledged leader of the Right na-

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tionally. He would have a major voice at the 1968 Republican convention because of the tremendous block of delegates he would control.

If not Reagan, who else do we have? Goldwater considers former Vice President Richard M. Nixon a conservative, and Nixon is, at the present time, the leading contender for the Republican nod in 1968. However, many conservatives consider Nixon a "no-win" prospect, Bruce Alger, former Representative from Dallas, is articulate, personable, dynamic and magnetic. Unfortunately, Alger now enjoys no national forum. Former Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson is being promoted for the presidency by a Birchist organization and therefore would not attract broad support from the Right. Sen. John G. Tower of Texas is a great conservative in Congress, but he lacks certain qualities as a popular leader.

Wm. F. Buckley Jr., Russell Kirk and Dr. Walter H. Judd, to name a few, command their own personal followings. Will the needs of the times, as an old adage insists, bring forth one who by his own stature will earn our united benediction?