

ditorial

A Wider Credibility Gap

It is fair, we think, to say that most observers were shocked to hear Lyndon Johnson take himself out of the coming Presidential election. Now the question comes: Did the President mean what he said? Or is this more of the same? More of the credibility gap? For those with long memories who have watched Lyndon Johnson through the election years of 1948, 1952, 1956, 1960, and 1964 have every reason to doubt his words now.

Johnson loves power, and he is not about to give up the most powerful position on earth without a fight. He fights dirty, but he does fight hard. If he meant what he said Sunday night, he is most certainly handing the election to either Robert Kennedy or Richard Nixon. Lyndon hates both in the order named.

Those who have read "The Accidental President," "The Gay Place," and "A Texan Looks At Lyndon" know what to expect. Most of us from Texas know that Lyndon will win one way or another, and Lyndon's aides do not leave a dirty battlefield. If you have ever tried to pick up evidence after a Johnson raid, you have earned what you learned.

We are in the most dangerous time of our history since the Civil War. Every citizen must move vigorously into the political field. Millions of people scare Lyndon. We must work in politics as we have never worked before. We must make doubly sure that Johnson sticks by his word that he will not be a candidate for President in the election of 1968.

Even then Johnson could declare martial law and have no election in order to have his way, but we must oppose him regardless. We must fight him tooth and nail in case he does declare martial law and suspend the Constitution. Our country is at stake.