

ng-new Kellogg Co. dry cereal factory and plans by Nashua Corp., a New Hampshire copying-paper manufacturer, to open an Omaha plant. One encouragement to industry may well be the city's school-construction boom. The public school system, the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Omaha and Jesuit-run Creighton University are separately engaged in building programs totaling \$64 million.

Yet it is as much the style of Sorensen's administration as any concrete accomplishment to date that betokens a brighter future for the city. Example: in the face of the voters' present refusal to approve an urban-renewal program, the mayor characteristically used his personal credit to obtain federally insured loans for new housing projects that he hopes will eventually replace Omaha's 16,000 substandard homes. A school dropout, who founded his firm in 1935 with \$900 in savings and built it into one of the largest such businesses in the U.S., Sorensen recently sold out to his employees to concentrate on running the city. And he has turned over his \$17,500-a-year salary to a group of Omaha boys' clubs.

## TEXAS

### Comradely Combat

One of Lyndon Johnson's favorite anecdotes concerns the Texas judge who is informed by a friend that a legislative committee has voted to abolish his bench. "Who testified against me?" demands the judge. "Well," says his friend, "there was Banker Jones." "He's usurious," snaps the magistrate. "He cheats little ol' ladies out of their life savings. Who else?" The acquaintance lists all the other witnesses, and with growing rage the judge denounces each as a scoundrel or worse. Finally the friend confesses that he has been kidding, that the committee in fact has rejected the bill. "Now why," sighs the judge, "did you go and make me say those things about the finest group of men I know?"

The story is a distillation of Texan political mores, which permit the closest of friends to castigate one another on the hustings and get drunk together when the votes are in. Though Governor John Bowden Connally Jr. considers Lyndon Baines Johnson his finest friend, he has leveled bitter criticism at the Johnson Administration of late. Connally's blasts began last month when the Justice Department ordered FBI agents to monitor a special 15-day voter registration period that followed the abolition of Texas' poll tax. Last week the state won a court fight against a U.S. attempt to extend registration as late as October, and Connally accused the Administration of "either frivolous harassment or an attempt to take over the authority of the state government."

Hitching Waggoner. Despite press reports of a "split" between Johnson and Connally, Texas politicians—not least,



CONNALLY & FRIEND AT STATE CAPITOL  
Briefing on the horrible.

the President—understand that the crossfire is routine politics. Connally, who is up for a third term, is anxious to demonstrate that he and State Attorney General Waggoner Carr, his hand-picked candidate for the U.S. Senate against Republican Incumbent John Tower, are not Washington-controlled puppets. In the process he aims also to galvanize conservative support against the liberal faction that hopes to seize control of the party at the forthcoming state Democratic convention. While critical of the President's domestic spending policies, the Governor carefully ascribes them to "bad advice from the Eastern Establishment," and has thunderously endorsed Johnson's stand in Viet Nam.

Johnson and Connally have had their fights before; in 1948, even while supporting Johnson's first successful U.S. Senate bid, Connally was not on speaking terms with his friend for the last two weeks of the campaign. But they have remained intimates and allies for three decades. A few weeks ago, the Governor visited the President in Washington and presumably briefed him on the horrible things he plans to say about the Administration during this year's Texas campaign. Few doubt that at the 1968 Democratic National Convention Connally will control the Texas delegation—and deliver it to L.B.J. Said the Governor last week: "I'm for him now. I'll be for him in '68, and I'll be for him in '72 if we're still around."

### Little D

The architect had been commissioned, \$8,429 had been set aside for a huge chunk of Texas red granite, and last week the city fathers of Dallas approved the wording for a roadside marker at the spot where John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

"Many historic events have centered

around this site," the marker will note. "The settlement of Dallas began in 1841 when John Neely Bryan's log cabin was built near by. The first legislature of the new state of Texas created Dallas County in 1846 with Dallas as the 'Seat of Justice.' In 1855 a toll bridge crossed the channel of the Trinity River at the west end of this plaza. Years later the river channel was moved one-half mile westward and confined between flood-control levees. Dallas was incorporated as a town in 1856.

"There was navigation of the Trinity River as early as 1868. The S.S. H. A. Harvey Jr. arrived from Galveston in 1893 and anchored near the west end of this plaza. In 1872 a railroad was completed to Dallas from the Gulf. The next year another railroad from the East built its terminal a few blocks northeast of this site. Rapid growth of Dallas quickly followed.

"With a background as the center of constructive growth, this site unfortunately became the scene of a tragedy which plunged the world into a state of shock. On November 22, 1963, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, thirty-fifth President of the United States, visited Dallas . . ."

While funds have been raised privately for a memorial to the late President only three blocks away (TIME, Dec. 24, 1965), many citizens were shocked at the tawdry boosterism of the city-approved legend. The juxtaposition of "historical trivia with a happening of transcendent significance," observed the Dallas Times-Herald, "will appear to many an attempt to evade the stark fact that a President of the United States was assassinated here, or at best an attempt to pass the event off as one of minor consequence."

## UTAH

### Touched

Since he founded the John Birch Society nearly ten years ago, Robert Welch has displayed one of the most fertile imaginations in American politics. Though his fascinating statement that Dwight Eisenhower had consciously served the "Communist conspiracy for all his adult life" will probably remain its foremost figment, his mind has lost none of its youthful fancy with advancing years.

Last week Welch, 66, solemnly advised an audience in Salt Lake City that the U.S. involvement in Viet Nam is nothing less than a diabolic Communist plot—using the old Brer Rabbit reverse psychology—to speed up Government regimentation and to push the country into "socialism and totalitarianism." The policies of the Johnson Administration, he said, are "close to insanity," amount to "sheer insanity," "approach insanity," "border on insanity," and are "nothing less than insanity." They are, in addition, he said, "dangerously insane." Welch titled his speech "A Touch of Sanity."