

# NIXON BIDS YOUNG 'KEEP YOUR FAITH'

Party Session Cheers as He Appeals, 'Get in There and Fight for the Cause'

By R. W. APPLE Jr.  
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WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 — To the cheers of a gathering of Young Republicans, President Nixon said today that in politics one must "fight again" and "never quit."

Speaking against a gloomy background — the expected Watergate indictments of some of his closest associates and the fear of widespread Republican Congressional defeats — the President said, "You never win even when you win big and just assume that now the job is done, because the battle always goes on."

He urged the participants in the Young Republican Leadership Conference, meeting at the Shoreham Hotel here, to "keep your faith, keep your confidence." He continued:

"If you think that there are things wrong with our political system, and there are things that are wrong with it, then get in there and do something about it."

The audience gave the President one of the heartiest responses he has had in the last year. At one point, it began a chant of "Three more years . . . three more years" — echoing the chant at the Republican National Convention at Miami Beach in 1972, "Four more years."

## Watergate Not Mentioned

Mr. Nixon did not mention the word Watergate. But his remarks appeared to underline his often-expressed determination to stay in office despite the scandals that have bedeviled his Administration. One sentence typified his attitude.

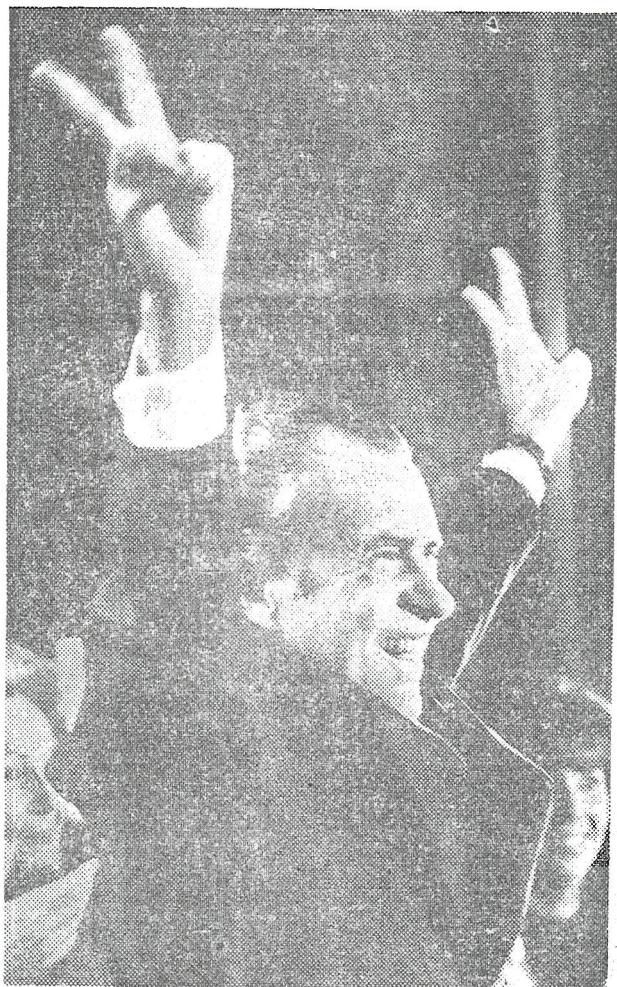
"When the battle looks toughest," he said, "get in there and fight for the cause."

At a time when Republican office-holders are deeply concerned about the outcome of a special Congressional election in Ohio Tuesday, and even more concerned about the prospects for November, the President said that Republican candidates should not assume that the only time to run for office was "when it is a sure thing."

A candidate unwilling "to get in there and fight," a candidate unwilling to "take a risk, even risk losing," Mr. Nixon said, is "a lousy candidate."

A Republican will be in the White House, he said, "for the next three years and for eight years after that."

"You learn from your defeats," the President said, "and then you go on, fight again, never quit, never quit. Always go on and fight for those things you believe in."



United Press International

President Nixon responding to cheers yesterday at Young Republicans' meeting. Mrs. Nixon is at lower left.

Mr. Nixon appeared ebullient, at one point holding three fingers aloft and at another smiling broadly in response to the cheers. His aides described his speech as part of a new "positive response" to the problems of Watergate.

## Bush Also Speaks

George Bush, chairman of the Republican National Committee, which has been feeling pressure from frightened Republican incumbents, struck an equally upbeat note in introducing Mr. Nixon.

"The relation between the party and the President is excellent in every respect," he said.

But Senator Barry Goldwater, the conservative Republican from Arizona, offered little encouragement to the President in his speech to the same Young Republican audience.

He argued that President Nixon's \$304-billion budget was a "political mistake" that could hurt Republican candidates this fall and would fail to make any progress toward "appeasing Mr. Nixon's would-be impeachers" in Congress.

In fact, Mr. Goldwater said, the budget could "make a bad political outlook for the G.O.P. much worse." As a Senator and as a candidate for re-election, he said, "I cannot live with the budget my President has presented."

"If you think our party is in trouble at this point," he told the Young Republicans, "I suggest that you take a shot at predicting what kind of shape it will be in if the inflationary dynamite of a \$304-billion budget is laid at our doorstep."