

Tuesday's Election Issues

Any election may be regarded as an opportunity, a duty, a chore or something to be avoided. It depends upon the point of view.

The Times believes the election on Tuesday cannot be avoided by any man or woman possessing the intelligence sufficient to care for his or her own security and endowed with sufficient wisdom to seek the welfare of all.

The Duty to Vote

Certainly the selection of a President of the United States is an occasion which any citizen eligible to participate in such a choice should regard as an opportunity.

This logic applies to the election of the other candidates seeking retention in or election to public office. Each, as occasion arises, will contribute to or detract from the sum total of good or bad national, State and local government.

There may be some room for disagreement on the degree of duty a voter owes to his country, his State, his neighborhood and his neighbor when he marks a ballot.

But the most casual study of Tuesday's ballot, with its many candidates and possibly too many State and local propositions, should convince any thoughtful voter that the main duty owed on election day is to himself.

Made abundantly clear during the weeks and months preceding the election of 1956, The Times believes Dwight D. Eisenhower to be one of America's great, one of the world's most needed leaders and a man whose occupancy of the Presidency during the next four years represents the best hope that we and other free people could ask.

A Great Leader

The election arguments have been made. The people have a choice which they may freely decide. And whatever that choice it should be truly representative of all, a genuine expression of the popular will.

This will be possible only if the voter, laying aside all other occupations and preoccupations for a time, goes to the polls and marks his ballot according to the dictates of his own conscience.

There is more at stake than individual prejudice or interest, more than partisan pride or personal advantage.

In today's issue of The Times, after weeks of research, study and conclusion, will be found the newspaper's comments and recommendations on the men and measures appearing on the ballot.

The Times believes and recommends that President Eisenhower should be re-elected and that the voters should protect their own interests by giving him a working majority of Republican Senators and members of the national House of Representatives.

In this connection, one of the President's most faithful and effective supporters, U.S. Sen. Thomas Kuchel, who has been one of California's best friends in the Congress, deserves a vote that will send him back to Washington.

Kuchel's record is his recommendation. Opposed to that record are the campaign promises and political appeals of an antagonist who has nothing more than promises to recommend him.

In this summary there has been mention of opportunity, duty, avoidance and a chore.

Possibly the ordinary voter will regard the necessity for passing judgment on the many ballot propositions as falling within the latter category. But if so, it is a chore that cannot without great risk be disregarded.

To inform itself and serve its readers The Times has scrutinized each of the proposals, considered arguments pro and con, and made its recommendations in accordance with what it believes to be in the public interest.

The Times has no direct or indirect interest in obtaining votes for or against any measure and simply makes its recommendations in the form of suggestions to be accepted or rejected by its readers.

This newspaper feels that each voter, having informed himself to the best of his opportunity and ability, should now proceed to mark his ballot according to his best judgment. There are no strings on the ballot. It affords a free choice and the full exercise of individual preference.

Making this choice and expressing this preference assure the strength and permanence of the United States.