

Jacqueline Balk-Tusa

November 19, 1986

I went back to the office to get poll data and had a short talk with Jacqueline. She was bitter, a little teary, very outspoken.

At the end of our talk when I said how upset I was because I knew how upset he would be at being "kicked in the stomach by his neighbors" (my words), she said. "He said to me, 'I'm not loved, I'm not needed, and I'm not wanted',--and that's when I broke down, Wednesday morning."

She thinks the Republican party did him in. "They did everything in their power to defeat Mark Andrews. The Democrats didn't have to do a thing. Any excuse, any reason they could find to strike at Mark Andrews, they did. They resented him because he was too successful, because he turned on the establishment, because he ^{loved} used people including his wife, because he had an eastern staff. They did it any way they could."

She got angry at the way they treated his wife. "They wanted her to die for for him to put her away. They didn't want to see her. It was a story about a family fighting back after a tragedy and the people of North Dakota turned ugly when confronted with it. They romanticize their small town life, but they are ugly small town."

"They have taken shit from legislators for years and they love it. Langer was nothing, absolutely nothing. Young was not much better. Burdick has been braindead for years. Dorgan just prints press releases. But they love all these people. There isn't one legislator in the lot. There has only been one legislator in North Dakota history. And that is Mark Andrews. It's a tragedy. North Dakota is an intellectual gulag. They get what they deserve."

"If Mark Andrews had not been there the last 6 years, the North Dakota economy would have been devastated--utterly devastated. Wait till the pork stops coming in. And it has begun to stop already. Then maybe people will know what they have lost."

Mark a moderate on principle. Weicker says that MA was the man who held the gang of 6 together. Stood up for education, health, good on defense - J. Says he's a populist - an independent - nobody more independent.

She sees the young, dynamic Democratic party as a vivid contrast to old Republican party. She also sees new generation of media people who cotton to Dorgan's style and not Mark's. Bismarck Tribune reporter, re detective story "Now I'll get that fat son of a bitch's ass". They have no history, no memory, no sense for accomplishment - all this is generational and Mark is on the wrong side of that. I think that is important. He's the Tip O'Neill of North Dakota. The old warhorse, old warrior.

She says Conrad "ran a good negative campaign and people believed it or accepted it. They wanted to accept anything bad about MA."

*put in
the
Bismarck
Tribune*

That Conrad took his positive ads off because "nobody believed them" and just stayed negative. I said I didn't think Conrad beat Andrews--or could beat Andrews--that it had to be something already in the air. She agreed and kept coming back to the anti-Andrews feeling in the party and the press. Conrad ran anti-Andrews campaign in an anti-Andrews atmosphere.

She also thought that the switch from 2-6 year term may have kept Andrews away from ND more than he had been.

"Can you imagine anyone in North Dakota believing that Mark Andrews wants lower wheat prices? He has spent his whole life working for higher wheat prices--his whole life." But that's what had happened to him.

Moyer - MA best friend family farm ever had - 3 concerns ff, ff ff and 3 platforms money, money, money.