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SPEECH: Dexter Douglass
(President: Younger Democrats for Bryant)

I am particularly impressed with Farris Bryant's contributions to the progress and welfare of the youth of our great State. Indeed, he has a record which demands the respect and support of Florida's younger voters as has no candidate in the State's history.

Farris Bryant is the only man ever to receive the Junior Chamber of Commerce "Gold Key Distinguished Service Award" twice. He was thus chosen as one of Florida's five outstanding young men in both 1948 and '50. . . Also, in 1948, the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce selected him for the coveted "National Distinguished Service Award." These three honors, sufficient in themselves simply head a long list.

"Better minds for better politics" is the motto of the "Florida Citizenship Clearing House" which encourages college students to participate in politics . . . a vital need for the improvement of government at all levels. Mr. Bryant has been Chairman of this unusual organization.

He also served on the "Council for the Study of Higher Education" which plans for Florida's higher education facilities. It was this organization which designed our Junior College system. . . The political science classes at the University of Florida use a text entitled "The Government and Politics in Florida." Farris Bryant is the author.

In 1949, Mr. Bryant saw a need for guidance of the legislature which could only be provided by extensive research. He therefore drafted the act, and

led it to passage, which created the "Florida Legislative Council" . . . It is the legislature's research arm today. While he served as the Council's first chairman it began our State's study of educational television . . . so while other candidates speak of their admiration of this so important asset, you may remember that Bryant's record . . . typically . . . already includes past accomplishment.

Indicative of the esteem of those who know him well, Mr. Bryant has been elected to a number of honorary societies including Phi Delta Phi, Gold Key, Kappa Delta Phi, Alpha Kappa Psi, and Alpha Tau Omega . . . all at the University of Florida . . . such fraternities recognizing outstanding accomplishment in the fields of law, education, leadership, business, and fellowship. . . Law, education, leadership, business, and fellowship . . . what a great combination for a gubernatorial candidate!

And Farris Bryant applies himself, as in all things, to his religion. In 1946, he was elected President of the "Young Adult Group" in his district and he is a former District Lay Leader of the Methodist Church. He serves today as Trustee of the Florida Conference. A devoted churchman, Mr. Bryant makes frequent guest appearances in the pulpits of churches of various denominations throughout Florida.

We respect Farris Bryant for his service record in World War 2. Not just that he served . . . so many did . . . but because he could have obtained an easy, comfortable state-side job and did not choose to do so. He resigned his first term as State Representative to enter the Navy voluntarily and served for three and a half years in foreign waters. During that tour of duty he was a

gunnery officer in all theaters including the especially disagreeable North Atlantic. Later, he directed an anti-submarine unit on Guam and was a Division Officer in Destroyer Escorts. Most of his period of service was spent under combat conditions.

Have you heard other candidate talk of our need for a revised constitution? They're entirely correct. We need one badly. But one organization has been working toward this objective since 1950. It's the "Citizen's Constitution Committee" and as you might guess, Farris Bryant serves that group as a Charter Director. Much of the argument and data which will be forthcoming during the current campaign will be obtained from the files of this organization, so while others may "quote" it, Farris Bryant created it . . . a typical Bryant position on matters of public importance.

Mr. Bryant has represented our State as a member of the Boy Scouts National Council. Having three daughters of his own, he thus might claim service "over and above the call of duty" to the youngsters of both sexes. . . He was Vice President of the Florida Jaycees. He is a graduate of the University of Florida. He later fulfilled his mother's cherished dream in obtaining his law degree from Harvard. He was one of two boys earning their way through Harvard Law School by waiting on tables and he tells us that after you can understand what those Yankees are trying to say, they aren't bad people at all.

We started our "Younger Democrats for Bryant" organization with enthusiasm stimulated by knowledge of his service to the youth of our State. Examination of what other candidates may claim as similar contributions reveals that they simply do not compare. Not only is Farris Bryant the "most qualified" and

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"most honored" candidate . . . perhaps in Florida's history . . . but he must be the choice of our younger citizens, because he has served them so exceptionally well.

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