

E D I T O R I A L

Democracy has been variously described as "a dangerous notion" and as "Government of the people, by the people and for the people." We tend to favor the latter. With all its weaknesses, democracy works in our society, but be sure of this: Democracy is never easy, automatic or guaranteed. Its effectiveness and existence depend on two groups: the professional politicians and the public at large.

"Politician" - a word that has become synonymous with cheat, liar, swindler, schemer and what have you. The word conjures up fat cats, high rollers with stogies, fast handshakes and faster deals. But really, is the picture fair? Considering the basic peace, order and prosperity throughout the land, somebody must be doing something nearly right. Perfection we haven't reached, improve we must, but things could, in the hands of the wrong people, be much worse. I'm suggesting that generally an election is a process of selecting not the best of a bad lot, but the best of a good lot. Generally.

But you, the citizen? Are you informed? Are you active? Do you know the issues? Do you vote by a flip of a coin? By the moon? By your grandpa's tradition? For that matter, do you vote at all?

You've got a responsibility September 18th. Be sure to live up to it. Vote and vote wisely.

* * * * *

Pain makes man think. Thought makes
man wise. Wisdom makes life
endurable.

-John Patrick

If you want to raise the moral
standards of your community,
what do you do? You begin
with yourself.

- Norman Vincent Peale