

Administration vs. liberals: A box score

Who are the Senate "radical liberals" so often criticized during the campaign by Vice President Agnew.

The New Republic, a leading liberal weekly, recently rated senators on what it considered a dozen-key votes and found nine Democrats and four Republicans with 12 votes that were either all "correct" or all "correct excepting abstentions."

The Democrats are Vance Hartke of Indiana, Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Philip Hart of Michigan, all of whom are seeking re-election; Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota, who is retiring; and Alan Cranston of California, Harold Hughes of Iowa, Walter Mondale of Minnesota, Fred Harris of Oklahoma and Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, all of whom are not up for re-election.

The Republicans are Charles Goodell of New York, who is seeking election to an appointed Senate seat; and Charles Mathias of Maryland, Clifford Case of New Jersey and Jacob Javits of New York, not up for re-election this year.

Other liberals, those scoring 75 per cent or higher excluding abstentions, but having at least seven "correct" votes, include 22 Democrats, of whom 9 are seeking re-election, and 5 Republicans, none of whom is seeking re-election this year. Joseph Tydings of Maryland is among the nine Democratic incumbents seeking re-election.

All this shows that 31 of the 57 Democratic and 9 of the 43 Republican senators can be termed liberal, at least according to the New Republic rating system.

All this might also explain, for instance, why only a third of the guests at an Agnew fund-raiser in Baltimore two weeks ago, at which the Vice President labeled Mr. Tydings a "radical liberal," stood to applaud when Mr. Mathias was introduced.