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# Nixon, Adams And Senators Honor Rabb

From the Herald Tribune Bureau  
WASHINGTON, May 22.—  
Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, Sherman Adams, the Assistant to the President, and Senators of both parties honored Maxwell M. Rabb, retired secretary of the Cabinet, at a luncheon today.

Mr. Rabb, first person in history to hold the Cabinet post, is about to depart for New York to become a partner in the law firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, 61 Broadway.

The Vice-President, in presenting a plaque to Mr. Rabb, lauded his work in the field of civil rights, assuring him

that it had as much importance in the international as in the domestic field.

Mr. Adams accepted a portrait of Mr. Rabb by S. Edmund Oppenheim, which will hang in the White House. Others who spoke at the luncheon in the National Press Club includes Sens. Leverett Saltonstall, R., Mass.; John F. Kennedy, D., Mass.; Clifford P. Case, R., N. J.; and Jacob K. Javits, R., N. Y.

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# District Cited for Steps Erasing Discrimination

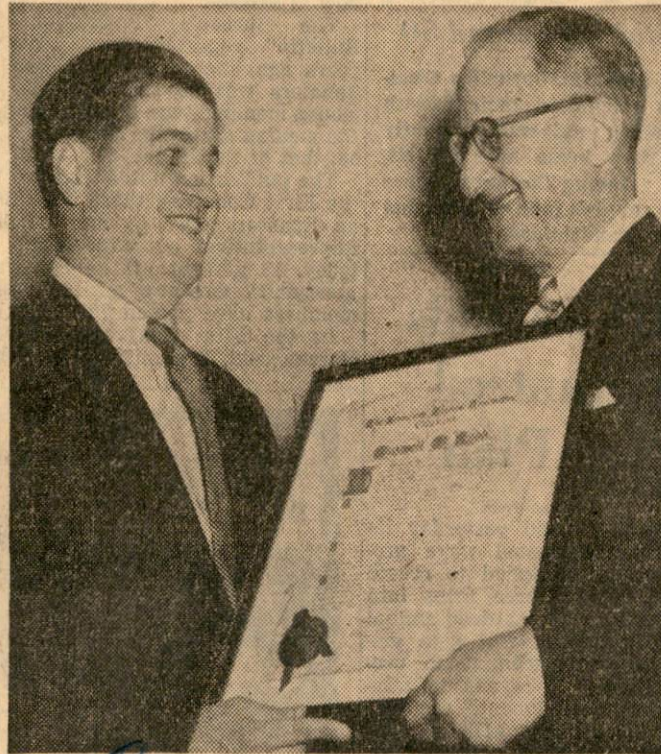
Maxwell M. Rabb, Secretary to the Cabinet, yesterday cited the District of Columbia as an outstanding example of what the Eisenhower Administration has done toward wiping out discrimination.

"You can hardly have been less than astounded at the changes that have taken place in the last two years," he told 200 leaders of American Jewry at the Shoreham Hotel. "Restaurants, hotels, theaters, schools—our National Capital is virtually free of segregation."

A citation given Rabb by the group—the Executive Board of the American Jewish Committee—praised Mr. Eisenhower for leading the way. It said in part:

"Under President Eisenhower's resolute leadership, the District of Columbia has made unprecedented strides in eliminating racial and religious discrimination. In education, in public and private employment, in restaurants, theaters, playgrounds and other recreational centers, segregation is on its way to becoming an evil of the past."

Criticizing the administration of the Refugee Relief Act for failure to admit more than a few thousand aliens, the Board



Maxwell Rabb (left), Secretary to the Cabinet, receives the American Jewish Committee citation from Irving Engel, president, National Inter-Group Relations Organization.

urged the appointment of officials who will carry out the Act "with understanding and sympathy."

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WILLIAM S. WHITE

# Retirement of Maxwell Rabb

## Secretary to Cabinet Lauded for Skill In This Job and in Civil Rights Role

The legend of the able and selfless second-tier man who "really runs the Government" for the very top people is an old favorite. Regrettably, it is almost as full of moonshine as it is of amiability.

Long Washington experience suggests that the great majority of second men are just that — usually expendable without vast damage to the public interest.

Nevertheless, once in a while there turns up an official whose example lends more than a chemical trace of truth to what is most of the time only a hardy cliché. When this happens, the reasons are worth examining for their general meaning to Government itself.

Such an exceptional man is now leaving the Eisenhower administration. He is Maxwell M. Rabb, Secretary to the Cabinet—the first such functionary in history in a post that was set up at his own suggestion.

He is also Associate Counsel to President Eisenhower. Less officially, he has been the President's chief adviser on "minority group problems" — civil rights and the like. Now he has resigned, effective in mid-May, to enter a New York law firm.

Parenthetically, Mr. Rabb, himself, has long been in a tiny minority. He is a member, along with Press Secretary Jim Hagerty, of that minute group in the White House that really knows something about practical politics.

Mr. Rabb came in, as an ex-Senate staff man, in those

brave old days of "the businessman's Government." Knowledge in politics was held suspect by the new crusaders. In their eyes a great disability of Senator Taft, Gen. Eisenhower's 1952 rival, had been the Senator's tactlessly unashamed pursuit of what had been his lifelong profession—that is, politics.

Mr. Rabb, a professional politician, too, discreetly bore and played down his dangerous competence. And from his entrenchment of anonymity, he has served with great effectiveness.

Many will argue that the Eisenhower administration's accomplishments could be adequately reported without using up a great deal of paper. At least two solid achievements, at all events, seem to this observer to stand out.

For one thing, the Eisenhower Cabinet has been run without the prolonged, and thus destructive, in-fighting that has wounded many other Cabinets. Score this to Mr. Rabb.

His system of Cabinet briefings and Cabinet responsibility for action will be seen as a genuine contribution to political science.

Secondly, the White House itself—if not always the rest of the administration—has handled the harsh complications of the racial crisis with restraint and common sense. And on these infinitely tricky matters the watchword at the White House has usually been, "Give it to Max."

It is here, most of all, that being a good politician—that is, being politically

knowing and mature—has paid off for Max Rabb.

He has fought the Southern civil rights opposition with devotion and skill—but without bitterness or passion. He has supported the civil rights pressure groups where he has thought them wise; he has told them off where he has thought them wrong.

Always, of course, he has battled the anti-civil rights pressure groups. But even these he has treated as though they had a right to have a point of view.

He encouraged the President in refusing to take that form of "leadership" which so many urged upon him—the calling of a "White House Conference" that would have given an incomparable sounding board to every thin-lipped extremist on both sides in the country.

In a word, Mr. Rabb always declined to treat civil rights as though it were civil war.

He was unwilling, of course, to dignify suggestions that the Supreme Court was unconstitutional, or perhaps unAmerican, in its anti-segregation policy. Equally, however, he was unwilling to act as though the thing to do was to send dive bombers to Alabama and Arkansas.

This position he took not as a do-gooder, but because he knew that good politics—which is usually decent politics—demanded a solution and not mere screaming.

He was a professional doing a job, and all the other professionals—Democrat and Republican, right, left and center—appreciated him.

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# Rabb Worked Well Behind the Scenes

By **ANDREW TULLY** Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Max Rabb is quitting his two White House jobs and altho his name may stump the average citizen, it is one that may well find itself in the footnotes of history.

As Secretary of the Cabinet and Associate Counsel to President Eisenhower, Maxwell Milton Rabb got few head lines.

Yet since 1953 his has been one of the most effective voices in recent years in the cause of civil rights.

Mr. Rabb's big job was the problem of the nation's minorities.

He didn't solve it, but under his aggressive sponsorship the White House took some giant strides in that direction.

For one thing, it wiped out all remaining traces of segregation at military establishments. For another, it ended segregation in the District.

### FROM SCRATCH

When Mr. Rabb took over his assignment, most Washington movie theaters either admitted no Negroes or seated them in special sections.

Mr. Rabb made no public announcements nor promises. Instead, he called in the theater owners and politely told them about the new Administration's policy.

He went to New York and Hollywood and appealed directly to the industry's leaders.

There was considerable resistance, and some public hollering on the part of industry.

But Max Rabb kept his mouth shut, except in private sessions with industry leaders, and within a little more

than a year segregation in theaters had been ended without a court fight.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rabb was pushing the Administration's immigration policies, mostly in after-hour sessions with members of Congress.

The result was passage of the extremely controversial Refugee Relief Act of 1953—a bill opposed by some of the most influential legislators on Capitol Hill.

### A FIRST

Max Rabb also will go down in the history books as the nation's first Secretary of the Cabinet—President Eisenhower created the job shortly after he took office to help streamline Cabinet procedures.

Mr. Rabb will leave the middle of next month to join the New York law firm of Stroock, Stroock and Lavan.

But there's little doubt he'll be back in the White House from time to time. President Eisenhower made that plain in his "Dear Max" letter accepting Mr. Rabb's resignation, when he said he would "put to good use," his aide's offer to help out in the future.

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(RABB)

MAXWELL M. RABB, \$20,000-A-YEAR SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S CABINET, HAS RESIGNED HIS WHITE HOUSE JOB EFFECTIVE IN MID-MAY TO PRACTICE LAW IN NEW YORK CITY.

RABB, 47, HELD A POST CREATED BY PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, THE FIRST IN U.S. HISTORY.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER ACCEPTED THE RESIGNATION, COMMENTING RABB HAD PERFORMED "A TRULY LARGE SERVICE."

IN THE SENATE TODAY, RABB DREW PRAISE FROM MEMBERS OF BOTH PARTIES FOR HIS WHITE HOUSE SERVICE.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC WHIP MIKE MANSFIELD (MONT.) PAID TRIBUTE TO RABB'S "GRACIOUSNESS" IN DEALING WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THANKED HIM PUBLICLY FOR "MANY COURTESIES AND KINDNESSES."

SEN. H. ALEXANDER SMITH (R-N.J.) ALSO PRIZED RABB AND SAID HIS DEPARTURE IS A "REAL LOSS TO THE ADMINISTRATION."

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# Rabb Resigns Post of Secretary to Cabinet

## First in History to Hold Position, He Plans to Re-enter Law Practice

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24.—Maxwell M. Rabb, the first secretary to the Cabinet in United States history, has resigned to re-enter the practice of law, the White House announced today.

Mr. Rabb, forty-seven, will leave his position May 19 to become a partner in the law firm of Stroock and Stroock and Lavan, 61 Broadway, New York.

A native of Boston, Mr. Rabb was one of the original Eisenhower-for-President leaders, helping to organize the first national headquarters for the 1952 campaign. He was in the Navy during World War II and served with amphibious forces. He has been in the White House for five years, serving as

associate counsel to the President among other duties.

The post of secretary to the Cabinet, which was created by President Eisenhower, will be filled immediately, possibly within the next few days, the White House said.

Mr. Rabb has been the President's liaison officer with the President's Committee on Government Contracts, which has made great strides in ending racial or other discrimination by governmental contractors; he had much to do with setting up the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 and arranging for emergency evacuation of Hungarian refugees to this country from Austria, whence they had fled the Russian terror.

Mr. Rabb also was active in

ending racial discrimination in the nation's capital, long an ambition of equal-rights advocates.

In his letter of resignation to the President, Mr. Rabb said:

"Particularly am I grateful, as the first secretary of the Cabinet, that there is growing national recognition of the importance of your pioneering contribution in the area of public administration where you have changed the Cabinet from what was a somewhat haphazard, inconclusive conclave into an effective, vital, coordinating body."

Replying, Mr. Eisenhower noted that Mr. Rabb would continue to be available for government service, and said

he would remember this and might put the offer to "good use." He added:

"I share your belief that the strengthening of Cabinet procedures in recent years is a significant step to more efficient conduct of the business of government. As you review in years to come the many complex problems that have almost constantly engaged our attention, your awareness of the role of the Cabinet in solving them should give you a very rewarding feeling. Particularly have the guidance and stimulus that you added to the preparation of matters for Cabinet discussions helped to ensure a firm foundation for the policies shaped there."



Herald Tribune—United Press  
Max Rabb

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- Wash. Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
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## Inaccurate Information

On February 21, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Maxwell Rabb, Secretary to the Cabinet, met with eight citizens who are influential Jews, at the request of the White House. A press story was given out suggesting that a distinction was being made between Zionists and non-Zionists and giving the impression that the eight were non-Zionists, which happened not to be true. All of them are distinguished for their services to Israel, particularly in the matter of fund raising and the sale of Israel bonds in this country. Again, there was evidence of poor service and inaccurate information to the President.

It was suggested in the news stories that were given out that these gentlemen would be primed to bring pressure on Israel, which they could not do. The word, pressure, was toned down in subsequent releases to the press. The gentlemen were embarrassed by the entire proceedings and gave out their own interviews which clearly indicated that they would continue to raise funds for Israel, John Foster Dulles and Maxwell Rabb notwithstanding.

Another instance of bad servicing is undoubtedly the witnessing of Henry Byroade before the Senate committees studying the Middle Eastern proposals of the President. Byroade is a State Department perennial who went with General George Marshall to China as an expert and so expertized that General Marshall has since been in a dilemma to explain how it happened that a long truce he advocated benefited the Chinese Reds. Then Byroade was taken off the Far East and eventually landed in Egypt where he should have known that Nasser had made a separate deal with the Russians to exchange arms for cotton and where he should have known that Nasser planned to seize the Suez Canal.

## Monumental Mistakes

When he appeared before the Senate committees as an expert witness, Byroade seemed, to some Senators, to hold the view that the United States should finance Egypt so that that country can buy more arms from Soviet Russia. It sounds queer as one says it, but some of the Senators gathered that impression.

The President of the United States has an exceedingly difficult position and when he is inadequately serviced, errors are made which often are of such a magnitude that they never can be corrected. The President should have carefully gathered and evaluated data from which the taint of emotionalism and prejudice has been cut away. No other man presently possesses such powers as the President of the United States and therefore no other man can make such monumental mistakes.

The \$72,000,000,000 budget, which if everything were included would come closer to \$100,000,000,000, is an error of judgment which even Mr. Eisenhower's Secretary of the Treasury and friend, George Humphrey, had to denounce. That budget can probably be cut by \$7,000,000,000, but the way it stands, it makes peace more devastating than war.

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N.Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN

FEB 28 1957

### THESE DAYS:

## Poor Servicing Hurts President

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY

THE first task of a President is to be sure he is well serviced. Obviously it would have been impossible for President Eisenhower to have delivered his speech on the problems of Israel had he been adequately serviced, for the essential proposition of that speech was an untenable one, namely, that although Soviet Russia committed international crimes, nothing can be done about Soviet Russia because of the enormous size and power of that country and because Russia possesses the veto in the Security Council. Nevertheless it is possible to punish a country which is smaller and less powerful than Soviet Russia and which does not possess the power of veto in the Security Council. These are the President's exact words:

"No one deploras more than I the fact that the Soviet Union ignores the resolutions of the United Nations. Also, no nation is more vigorous than is the United States in seeking to exert moral pressure against the Soviet Union, which by reason of its size and power and by reason of its veto in the Security Council, is relatively impervious to other types of sanction.

"The United States and other free nations are making clear by every means at their command the evil of Soviet conduct in Hungary. It would be indeed, a sad day if the United States ever felt that it had to subject Israel to the same type of moral pressure as is being applied to the Soviet Union."

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