

Truman Gives Good Show as Dodger On Candidacy Query

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—White House press conferences are now more fun than a radio stunt show.

The game is to see who can make Harry S. Truman admit that he's a candidate for President. Reporters attending the weekly news conferences think up trick questions to catch the President off base.

Like: "Are you going to do any traveling this summer, Mr. President?" Or: "Will there be a back balcony campaign this year?" Or: "Will you support the Democratic Party's candidate for President?"

To all such questions, the President gives his sunniest smile and sometimes lets out a real good belly laugh. To hear him talk, you'd think that running for President was the last thing he had on his mind.

This game of trying to smoke out the President began way back last November.

Party Feast Awaited
Ever since then, the game has been on, and fair game it is, too. If some sponsor could just take over this program and offer a washing machine, a free permanent wave for the lady of the house, a milk coat or even a good three-rib roast of beef for the reporter who could hit what Paul Leach of the Chicago Daily News calls, "the jackpot question," the show would unquestionably get a high Hooper rating.

The first opportunity that the President will have to make a formal announcement that his hat is in the ring will be at the greater combined Jefferson and Jackson anniversary dinner.

It wouldn't be safe to bet that Mr. Truman will announce his candidacy at that time, though some party stalwart might do it for him.

But, from the way things look now, the President will probably try to beat off all efforts to make him announce that he is a candidate until shortly before the National Convention in July.

This 1948 dinner is going to be something extra special this year. In Washington at least. In some southern parts of the country the party old-timers don't seem to be showing the proper enthusiasm. But here in Washington, the Democratic National Committee already has 1800 reservations and they're home for 2000. Last year, the attendance was 1800. All but about 800 had seats out in the hall or behind a two-foot square pillar.

Epicurean Shuttle
The affair will be held simultaneously in the Mayflower and Statler hotels. There will be two head tables. The cabinet and other big shots will be split. The President will eat cocktail, soup and fish at one place, and then

move over to the other to finish the meal.

The President will make a speech from the second beanery at 10 P. M. Eastern Standard time. It will be televised—back to the other joint—and broadcast on all networks.

There's a lot of jockeying to get tickets at the place where the speech will be a live show. The dinner committee is trying to keep it a secret where the President will begin and end the evening, so as not to have all the guests on its neck.

But, since all arrangements have been made for spotlights, microphones and television cameras at the Mayflower, it's a fairly safe bet that the President will end up his evening there, starting the shindig at the Statler.

Both dinners are, of course, invitational affairs. No tickets are being sold at all, to keep out crass commercialism. Nobody is being invited, however, unless he has contributed at least \$100 to the Democratic National Committee coffers. This is to satisfy the Hatch act, and to keep the whole affair on a high moral plane as a non-political gathering to discuss the good of the country.

Average tides in the Great Lakes are about one inch while spring tides sometimes extend to three inches in most of the lakes with Superior reporting eight inches or more.

Last Broadcast Set Here on "The 10th Man"

Last of the 13 transcribed broadcasts of the program, "The Tenth Man," will be heard on Station KRNR at 4:45 P. M. Thursday.

Ralph Bellamy, star of stage, screen and radio, will be heard as narrator, supported by a well known cast. "The Tenth Man" series has been sponsored by the Oregon Mental Hygiene Society, in the interest of better mental health, and more adequate facilities and better treatment for our mentally ill.

The last episode in a thrilling manner dramatizes the burning need of a larger state budget for the mentally ill, and how these funds may be acquired.

Yoncalla

YONCALLA—Mrs. Sarah Wertz left Wednesday to spend a month with her sister in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Kellogg of Hollywood, who have been visiting at the Wilson Russell home for the past two weeks, have decided to stay in this community and have rented a house from John Bowman. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg were married Jan. 26 at Hollywood and appeared on the "Bride and Groom" radio program the same day.

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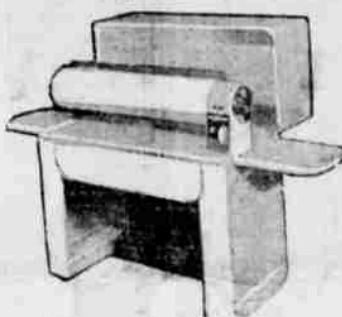
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