

Modern Newspapers, Radio Reduce Effectiveness of Politicking Art

By S. BURTON HEATH

The life of a politician must have its bright spots, or politics would not be so attractive to men and women who have easier ways of earning livings and finding entertainment. It also has its tribulations, to which science is contributing.

Once upon a time politics was simple. The candidate and the parties' orators could each prepare a single speech as a barn-storming club lecturer does, and travel all over the country repeating it from memory.

Fast, complete newspaper coverage made that unwise, though friendly reporters could help by selecting one section a day to write up. The radio, however, made it impossible. With everybody listening in—the candidate hopes—he cannot go around repeating himself word-for-word night after night.

Radio also demanded a change in elocutionary approach. No more bellowing, arm waving, striding around the platform, hypnotizing the audience with gymnastics. The orator must modulate both voice and gestures to keep near the mike and not blow it out. Often, too, he must decide whether to play for those in the hall or those on the air. Good radio speaking is deadening dull for those looking on. The greatest charmer of them all, the President Roosevelt, was painful to watchers when he was most effective with radio listeners.

Politicians Were Goats

These thoughts are suggested by the GOP convention just passed, the Democratic convention coming up, the latter campaign in which Thomas Dewey will try to break Harry Truman's lease on the White House. They are suggested also by the debut at Philadelphia of television on a big-time basis.

The Republican politicians were the goats. They were victims of television's understandable and excusable uncertainty how to go about covering its first convention. They were victims also of their own ignorance that the candidate must don grease paint if he wants to look good to the boys and girls on high stools in the nation's taverns.

Some day we shall get used to it, as we always do to everything. For a while it is going to look strange to see big, dignified men, who aspire to govern the world's greatest nation, strolling out of the Bellevue-Stratford in full make-up, like matinee idols after the show or screen romances on their way to the shooting lot.

It will look funny, indeed, to see a Dewey, a Truman, a Taft or Vandenberg or Eisenhower, pull a pocket mirror out and check to see if the grease paint has run under klieg light heat, and repair the damage like a sub-deb in an ice cream parlor.

Carnivals Imitated
Conventions always have been carnivals. As television comes in the lid will go clear off. Ele-

phants—rubber and live—are old stuff. Bunting, buttons, ties with candidates' pictures, Indians in full tribal dress are trite. That's the sort of thing that can't stand still.

Dewey's fashion parade, Stassen's Hawaiian ukulele singers were good enough for a start. The model who stole the Dewey show by coyly raising her skirt to display garters with pink elephants must have swayed less votes—though Stassen did lose—than did Virginia Davis, daughter of the band leader, when she raised her skirt to show the picture of her Minnesota hero high on her thigh.

If this keeps up, television ought to be fun. It can bring other pleasures, too. Former Gov. Alf Landon suggested one. Political speeches, he says, used to run for two or three hours. The demands of radio cut them down by about two-thirds. He thinks, and hopes, that television boredom will chisel off another third of their length.

When that time comes let us know. We'll start listening to some of them then.

Fourth Generation Of Missionaries Marry in China

BOSTON, July 7.—(AP)—A missionary romance was reported from China by the American Board of Foreign Missions yesterday with the marriage of fourth-generation missionaries in Tientsin, China.

The bridegroom is Edward Clark Riggs, M. D., of Denver, Colorado, a former Army medical corps captain, and the bride is Frances Louise Whitaker, R. N., herself a native of Peiping, and daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Whitaker, Congregational Christian missionaries in Tientsin.

The couple are re-establishing a mission hospital at Shaowu.

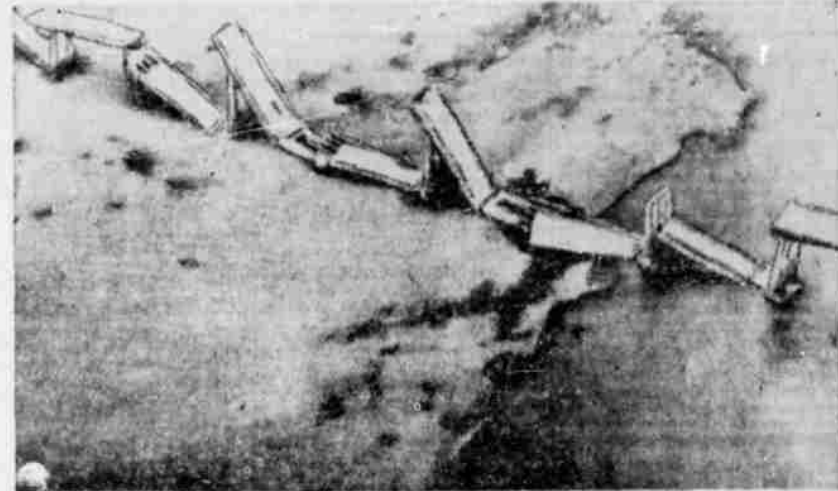
Dr. Riggs is the son, grandson and great-grandson of missionaries in the Near East and lived in Turkey as a boy. His wife's great grandfather, Peter Guick, from 1828 to 1857, had an obscure rural parish in Hawaii and his children and grandchildren carried on the missionary tradition in Spain, Japan, China and the South Seas. Educated at Willamette University, she has relatives in San Francisco, Corvallis and Sacramento, Calif.

Four—Count 'Em—Four Indian No-Hits



Cleveland pitchers show the number of no-hit games they have pitched. Latest to claim the honor is Bob Lemon, who shut-out the Detroit Tigers. The trio (left to right): Don Black, one game; Bob Lemon, one game, and Bob Feller, two games.

Super Chief Derailed in Yards



The Santa Fe Super Chief plunged off a curve in the railroad yards at Winslow, Ariz., hospitalizing the engineer and one passenger. A dozen other passengers were shaken up. This diesel engine, baggage car, mail car and lounge overturned.

Well, Who Wouldn't Kiss Him?



Defying convention, Niville Mason gives proof of her liking for her employer, Chicago advertising agency owner, M. Glen Miller. And why not? He gives employees a full year's vacation with pay after six years service. After a tour of U. S., Canada and Mexico, Miss Mason registers her appreciation as she returns to work for the first time since July 1, 1947.

Record Flood Of Wheat Pours From Farms in Kansas

KANSAS CITY, July 7.—(AP)—A 7,200,000-bushel wheat flood poured into town over the Fourth of July holiday, setting a new-all time record here.

The three-day wheat receipts reached 4,578 cars. The old mark was 3,570 cars recorded on July 5, 1938.

The record flow of grain represented about one-eighth of the elevator capacity here. Less than 10 percent of the receipt here were expected to be sold. The bulk is expected to go into storage on government loans under the 90 percent parity guarantee.

The rush of wheat here was repeated at other markets, with 1,229 cars at Wichita, 1,066 at Enid, Okla., 1,038 at Salina, Kas., 940 at Hutchinson, Kan., 888 at Fort Worth, Tex., and 425 at St. Joseph, Mo.

Receipts here for the three days were Sunday, 1,376; Monday, 2,082, and today 1,126.

Minerals were first discovered in Canada in 1604 by a French mining engineer known as Master Simon.

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Lady Needs Pipe for Wash Day, Writes to President, Obtains It

By CHARLES MOLONY

WASHINGTON, July 3.—(AP)—The government hasn't become so big that it can't lay aside its own troubles sometimes to help a lady in distress.

Not when she writes the President that "every wash day is tear day for me" because she couldn't get the pipe her modest home needed to bring in city water.

So a whole truckload of pipe was delivered yesterday at the home of Mrs. Paul Ondrey of Hillsboro, Ill., who hit a responsive chord with this plea:

"Dear Mr. President: "I am a mere housewife and realize I am taking your too valuable time but I am frantic.

"Today (June 21) is the longest day of the year and extra long for me. I am trying to do a wash for five of us and we have no water to do it with. Every wash day is tear day for me.

"For one year we've done everything in our power to get two-inch pipe for our water which is 700 feet from us (city water). We are one of four families who need pipe. We all are building our own homes (ourselves) and have only the basements finished and are living in those until we have money to finish ...

"I have a son seven, a daughter and I really make my (water) problems worse we have a surprise visit from the stock in April ...

"A family of four needs a lot of water—and then a new baby! He must be kept clean ...

A White House secretary relayed Mrs. Ondrey's letter to the Commerce Department.

The letter drifted along to the desk of a steel company official on loan to the office of Industry Cooperation.

It found the right man there, all right.

Yugoslav Reds Give Proof Of Supporting Tito

BELGRADE, July 7.—(AP)—Yugoslavs were reported yesterday to have given evidence of support for Premier Marshal Tito, who has been denounced by the Soviet-controlled Cominform. The Yugoslav Communist newspaper Borba said that in five days the public subscribed \$50,000,000 of the \$70,000,000 national loan. Other press accounts said local committees of the Community party all over the country are

Jackie Cooper Rescues Wife, Son From Fire

DENNIS, Mass., July 6.—(AP)—Film Actor Jackie Cooper fashioed a rope of bedsheets to rescue his wife and two-year-old son when lightning started a fire in their summer home last night. After being stunned momentarily, Cooper knotted the sheets, helped his wife and son out a second floor window and then slid to safety himself. The flames were confined to a bathroom on the second floor. The damage was reported by police as slight.

The three greatest commercial fishing grounds in the world are near the coasts of northwestern Europe, northeastern North America and northeastern Asia.

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