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COMES NOW CONVENTIONS

Charles V. Stanton

Oregon voters have cast their ballots in a primary election. They have expressed their preferences for candidates and have determined local issues. While the tabulation of the vote is progressing, results are clearly determined in most cases.

The next big events will be the nominating conventions of the two parties. While preferences shown by voters of the respective states will have an important bearing on the outcome of those conventions, it does not necessarily follow that the presidential aspirant receiving the largest popular vote will be the candidate offered by either party at the general election in November.

Delegates from each state will meet in their respective national conventions. Oregon's delegations are elected by the people. But this system is not followed in all states. Each state has its own method of selecting delegates. Some states still use the caucus or convention system. In a few instances there will be two delegations from certain states and the convention must determine which of the rival groups will be accredited. Seating delegates, where such contests exist, provides one of the major battles between respective convention factions.

History of Convention System

The Constitution of the United States contains no provision for national conventions. In fact, it supplies no detailed system, other than selection of a president by electors who shall be chosen as each state may direct.

In the early days of our history each state sent electors to nominate a favorite son. Thus there were about as many candidates as there were states. Nomination was difficult. As the number of states increased and population grew, the national nominating convention system came into existence through a process of political evolution.

The first convention was held in 1831 by the Anti-Masonic party, a party opposed to Freemasonry, organized in 1826 and lasting until 1835.

Since 1844, the national nominating convention has been the vehicle for nomination of president and vice-president. Convention rules are made up by the respective parties, but have changed little in recent years, having, through experience, become fairly stable. The number of delegates is based on population, with two from each congressional district, together with a number equivalent to the total of the district delegates chosen from the state at large, plus bonuses for having voted for the party presidential nominee in the preceding general election or having elected a senator of that party during the interim.

Exciting Conventions Expected

Both Republican and Democratic conventions are expected to supply ample fireworks this year.

The two parties have almost identical internal situations. The Ins are trying to stay in and the Outs are trying to get in.

The G.O.P. Old Guard is fighting the growing rebellion of the "amateurs," who in recent elections have brought forth Willie, Stassen and now Eisenhower to oppose the party stalwarts favored by Old Guard leadership.

In the Democratic convention, the New Deal and Fair deal crowd will be battling the Dixiecrats and the old-line Democrats endeavoring to turn the party from the Socialistic trend.

This year's conventions also will have a new factor which may be of much political influence. The conventions will be televised. Millions of people will see the convention activities on their television screens. The fact that millions of people can both see and hear the proceedings may materially change traditional appearance and style. We can anticipate planned acting, and, we hope, a little more responsible action because of the eyes and ears focused on the convention halls.



Have you ever noticed as you drove between Creswell and Goshen on Highway 99, a large bare patch on a distant mountain to the east? It has been called "The Barometer" for a reason dating back many years. The "Oregon Guide" (Binford's & Mort) tells the reason.

When the Klamath Indians working in the Willamette Valley saw this familiar landmark whiten with snow, they knew they must leave the valley at once if they would reach their home area before the winter snows closed in the high pass in the Cascades. The outline of the bare spot is exactly the shape of the map of South America, as children will note if they see the landmark. The elevation is Winberry Mountain, 2828 feet altitude.

How much the Oregon Guide has meant to me (and similar guides for other states) because of the many interesting bits of history, legend and helpful information contained in its motor-log form of presentation. There is to be a new edition soon, I understand. So Arizona, for instance, will show on a "side-road" I guess, since the new highway has bypassed it. The Guide mileage for that lovely loop drive of 99, 58, 97 and 60 figures 407 miles, whereas when we drove it last weekend it showed as 438 on our speedometer. We enjoy "oop drives" so much, especially if some of it is for us new ground. No matter where one starts the loop, Rose-

Big Three Prods Russia On Austrian Peace Need

WASHINGTON (AP)—The three Western Powers prodded Russia Friday to reply "at the first opportunity" to their proposal for a streamlined treaty with Austria. The United States, Britain and France, in identical notes delivered at Moscow, reminded Russia they had submitted their proposals on March 13, but there has been no response.

A State Department spokesman at the same time charged, in effect, that Russia is purposely delaying an agreement on Austria while pressing the West for quick action on Moscow's latest suggestions for a peace settlement with a unified Germany.

Armed Forces Day --- 1952



America's Armed Forces

Clad in blues and browns and greens,
These heroes do their chores;
Some quietly, behind the scenes,
Some where the battle roars.
Entrusted with men's treasured rights,
They work in unity;
Watching, guarding, winning fights,
To keep their nation free.

—By Elsie Karlin.



SAN FRANCISCO—California Democrats are calling on Washington for help in trying to stop the Kefauver drive for delegates in the state.

Senator Estes Kefauver has a state of delegates entered in the June primary race in opposition to Attorney General Edmund G. Brown. Brown heads the Truman-orphaned slate that was cut adrift by the President after the Tennessee Senator walloped him in the new Hampshire primary.

Brown and his delegates are running on a quasi-favorite son ticket, but the attorney general and almost every other anti-Kefauver Democrat in the state know that a bigger name than Brown's is needed to smother the southerner's drive for votes.

As a result of Kefauver's progress two other Democratic candidates have been voted to invade the state. Brown's faction will give them the red carpet treatment. They are Senator Brien McMahon, the Connecticut Democrat who has declared himself in the presidential race, and W. Averell Harriman, Mutual Security administrator and White House errand boy.

Whichever creates more stir in the state undoubtedly will be the one who gets Brown's blessing just before primary day. From a purely political standpoint this will more than likely be Harriman, as he is said to have received a White House blessing for the nomination. He needs it. But since he is almost incoherent as a public speaker it would be a miracle if his presence excited more than a handful of Democrats in this state.

McMahon, on the other hand, is a vigorous speaker and a shrewd politician. He will undoubtedly slit Harriman's political throat at the first opportunity.

The third importation from Washington is Oscar Ewing, Federal Security administrator and champion fair deal gabber, who has been trying to sell a socialized medical plan ever since landing on the payroll of his taxpayers.

Just what Ewing will do for Brown and against Kefauver is anybody's guess. It is a sure bet, however, that he is coming to California to do a hatchet job on the Tennessee senator. He is, in this campaign year, just as he was in 1948. Mr. Truman's stiletto artist who takes care of troublesome political hopefuls.

All three visitors from Washington's corruption and confusion have scheduled talks in the state prior to June 6; all three, of course, are trailing Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois into the state. Stevenson's recent visit set every top Democratic tongue here wagging, but the real reason for his visit remains a mystery.

His first stop was at the governor's mansion where he traded compliments with Governor Earl Warren, who is a Republican and a candidate for the G.O.P. presidential nomination, although after Stevenson's visit there was considerable doubt about both. Republicans, in fact, are wondering if Warren will now go out of his way to exchange compliments with McMahon and Harriman when they arrive.

Stevenson went through the standard routine usually associated with a presidential candidate seeking support from political bosses. All the while, however, he disclaimed any intention of seeking the nomination. But the consensus is that he is not trying very hard to avoid it.

Brown was one of Stevenson's delighted hosts but he appeared to be about as baffled as everyone else when the governor of Illinois departed. It may be, however, that much more was said over the coffee cups than reached public ears concerning the power. At any rate, Brown continues to make eager preparations for the visit of McMahon and Harriman. If he has heard something from Stevenson and has settled on him as a candidate he isn't telling the other two candidates. Stevenson, of course, could merely have been an advance runner for the demise of Kefauver.

Like Harriman, he does odd errands for the White House and this may have been one of them.

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRRR, 9:15 P.M.

'Texas' Composer To Appear Here

Ralph Carmichael, composer and director of music in the religious motion picture, "Mr. Texas," will appear briefly at four local churches Sunday, May 18. Carmichael, a violinist, and his wife, a vocal soloist, will appear at the Conservative Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m.; First Methodist, 7:55; First Christian, 8:15 and North Roseburg, 8:45.

Two radio broadcasts will carry their music. They will appear on KRRR's "Moment of Devotion," at 8:15 a.m. Sunday, sponsored by the North Roseburg Church, and on the Conservative Baptist Church program, KRRR at 7:30 p.m.

Carmichael is also music director and composer of the new technicolor narrative on Korea at war, "The Flame," by Bob Pierce. This film is scheduled to be shown Monday, May 26, at 8 p.m. in the Junior High School auditorium.

Cop Chases Locomotive To Give Fire Warning

BAKER (AP)—A state patrolman, seeing flames sweeping from the engine of the Union Pacific Streamliner City of Portland, chased it at high speed and signaled it to a halt early Tuesday.

The streamliner came to a stop four miles west of here after Patrolman Roger Armstrong had chased it 14 miles then with his lights had warned the engineer to stop.

The Baker fire department put out the blaze which caused some damage to equipment. The train was delayed about two hours, and the Portland Rose was held up the same length of time.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

On the way back from a meeting over on the California coast the other day I stopped at a little roadside restaurant for a bite to eat. It was a one-man establishment, and he was a character. Making conversation, I said:

"Who are you going to vote for?" (I know I should have said "whom," but it seemed a trifle stiff and formal under the circumstances.)

He said: "I quit voting years ago. I want no part of the mess."

I said: "Don't you think you may have been shirking? How are we going to clean up the mess if we don't vote?"

He queried: "How long have you been voting?" I answered: "Much longer than I'm willing to admit. But so far as I know I've never missed a vote." He shot back: "Have YOU cleaned up the mess?"

You know, for a minute he had me stumped. It is true, according to my way of thinking, that the mess has been getting stickier and stickier. But, looking back over the years, I feel better about it than I HADN'T voted. Anyway, having voted, I have the right to complain. That's some thing.

One word more. The little restaurant was shining, spick-and-span clean. It fairly sparkled. Its owner was pink and scrubbed, his white hair neatly combed, his white shirt and white apron spotless.

It was Francis Bacon, one of the world's great thinkers, who said back in the 16th century:

"Cleanliness of body was ever deemed to proceed from a due reverence to God."

John Wesley, one of England's great preachers and perhaps the greatest of our English hymn writers, said three centuries later: "Cleanliness is indeed next to godliness."

The old gentleman in his little restaurant, you see, may have been a little off the beam in his political philosophy, but he has his good points.

Did you ever know anybody who was WHOLLY bad?

Half a dozen people have called this morning asking what to do about voting for Presidential electors. I've answered, a trifle flippantly: "Vote for the six you'd rather see have the job. It doesn't make much difference."

I shouldn't have answered that way. We shouldn't be flippant about any of the traditional processes of our government. Maybe we'd better go into this election business a little more fully.

Each state chooses one elector for each senator and each representative (that gives Oregon six at the present time). As the Founding Fathers planned it, it was the job of the electoral college to choose the President and the vice-president. The method was for each elector to vote his choice. A list was then made of all persons receiving votes, and the one getting the highest number, providing it was a majority of all the electors, was named President, and the one getting the second highest became vice-president.

The truth is that the Founding Fathers didn't have too much confidence in the masses. Their idea was to have the President and the vice-president chosen by what they regarded as intelligent, competent and thoughtful persons.

In practice it never worked quite that way. Washington was chosen President more or less by acclamation. In most states, voters were soon found to vote directly for electors and the people began to vote for elector candidates pledged to vote for certain men for President and vice-president. Then political parties were formed and people began to vote only for those electors who would promise to support only chosen party candidates. In that way, the people took the election of President and vice-president into their own hands.

Since 1868 the voters of all the states have chosen their electors by ballot on national election day. This provides that the party casting the highest number of votes in the state shall receive the ENTIRE electoral vote of that state.

Under this system, the six electors chosen in Oregon will cast Oregon's six votes in the electoral college for whomsoever receives the majority of the Oregon popular vote for President and vice-president at the national election in November.

This, of course, is CUSTOM—not law. In 1948, one of Tennessee's 12 electors successfully defied the custom and voted for his personal choice. But that subject is too long and too complicated to be gone into here.

Scientists believe that there was a marked uniformity of plants throughout the world before glacial times, with warm temperature types extending as far north as Greenland.

The storm also brought snow. An inch of snow covered the ground at Price. Travel conditions were described as dangerous in Price Canyon.

The heavy winds knocked down a barn near Willard in Northern Utah.

The wreckage bowled over long distance telephone lines, cutting off service between Salt Lake City and Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Reader Opinions

Statewide Vote Urged On Fast Time Issue

ROSEBURG—There is one way to stop this fast time nonsense: have a statewide vote on it. And while we are doing so, see to it that the bill cannot be called tricky and unworkable and so rendered null and void, as was the fate of the \$50 pension law two years ago.

That bill was called tricky and unworkable. Could it be that its framers were tricky? Why permit tricky legislation? The bill carried by a two-to-one vote, yet was quickly rendered null and void by a few who did not approve of it.

As for the necessity for fast time, there is just about as much sense in it as there would be in having three-quarters or four-four time. I am disgusted with the time; never was in favor of it. A good old hot time would be satisfactory if we must have a change of time.

It is gratifying to see so many writing their complaints. I was tempted to say more, but the writers have said it for me. Yours for standard time all the time.

B. AMES
Roseburg, Ore.

Stubbornness Seen In Fast Time Decision

WINCHESTER—With reference to Roseburg city government's attitude in regard to so called daylight saving time, it seems as if it has taken a very stubborn attitude, and is not much interested in what the majority want.

Frequently we hear members of the city government complain about not getting any co-operation from us in regard to backing local movements, voting on school issues, settling examples for our children in regard to reckless driving, etc.

Have they considered the example they are setting? We have various rules and laws which are in effect—some by example, some by force. We voted this man McKay in as governor of our state. Regardless of whether you voted for him or not, you should, if not by law, by example, back him in these matters that are basic to honest government.

I didn't decide to have daylight saving time by tossing a coin, but undoubtedly gave it considerable thought that a lot more available information than we have.

Suppose we had some really serious emergency, that required definite action and control throughout the state. Is this an example of the co-operation the man we voted in could expect from Roseburg?

Why don't the "alarm - clock heroes" get together, pull in their lower lip, and send the governor a little note, telling him that as long as he gives us good, honest government, all Roseburg is behind him. That would eliminate a lot of confusion, and we would all feel better.

TED E. SCHULTZ
Winchester, Oregon

ATTENTION ALL LEGIONNAIRES

The election of officers for the forth-coming year will be held May 20, (Tuesday) at 8 p.m. at the LEGION HALL
This is your organization so come out and give it your support.

A Tribute To-- ARMED FORCES DAY!

The army, the navy, the air force, the marines, the generals, the admirals, the sergeants, the doughboys... God bless them all on this day set aside to pay homage to our men in uniform! Never in the history of our country have our armed forces meant so much to us as they do today; never have they been such a bulwark of strength and inspiration against aggression. We humbly pray for the preservation of every man... and woman... in Uncle Sam's protective services and cherish the day when their efforts will be directed only in the cause of permanent Peace!

TODAY IS ARMED FORCES DAY!

McO-Maid
BUTTER-DICE-CREAM

Manufactured and Distributed by
Douglas County Creamery

Established 1899

Roseburg, Oregon

We Salute Douglas County!

Eugene and Iva Springer

Book Of Month Club Given Federal Jolt

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Book of the Month Club has been told it may not advertise as "free" the books it sends to members as dividends.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) said so Thursday in announcing a 3 to 1 verdict against the book club practice.

Commissioner Lowell Mason, in a bitterly worded dissent, challenged the other members for what he called "the urge to tell someone off."

The book club announced it would appeal the ruling to the federal courts on the basis of Mason's dissent.

The first steam engines were developed to pump water from mines.

Is the Sign of Food Savings Galore
You'll See It Soon at Your Safeway Store

"A DATE TO DANCE"

with
The World's Greatest
Saxophonist
JIMMY DORSEY
and 18-Piece Band



featuring
Sandy Evans

Eleanor Russell

Shorty Sherock

Karl Kiffe

P L U S

"THE ORIGINAL

DORSEYLAND BAND"

MAY 22

at JOHN'S

CURVE

3 Mi. North of Myrtle

Creek on Highway 99