

# 1952 Spirit of Political Revolt 'Only Flickering in Southland'

(Editor's Note: The political discontent in the South before the last presidential election — which later snowballed into a drive for Ike that carried four southern states — is not evident today. But there are rumblings which again could cause a rupture among Democrats. Here's how today's situation compares with that of four years ago, as interpreted by a reporter who went south in 1951 — and again this year to find out.)

By DON WHITEHEAD

NASHVILLE (AP) — The spirit of political revolt in the Southland hasn't been snuffed out — but it's flickering only feebly these days. In comparison with the fiery passions which were mounting four years ago.

At this time in 1951, rebellious Dixie leaders were waving rebel banners and gathering legions of followers for a "Beat Truman" drive.

Harry S. Truman, then president, hadn't even said he would run again. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower still was in his western defense command post outside Paris listening to pleas that he run for the presidency. No one was certain whether the general was a

## Bygone Eras Funny, Says Musical Star

By WILLIAM GLOVER

NEW YORK (AP) — "There's nothing so funny," says Broadway star Carol Channing, "as the good old days."

Miss Channing, a comedienne renowned for remarkably huge eyes and a crackling soprano voice that includes a bass falsetto, has just returned to town in a new musical "The Vamp." It is her third consecutive deadpan spoof of the not too distant past.

"There's nothing so funny as an era that has gone by and that we're not a part of," she explains. "Twenty years from now we'll be just as funny."

The opus at the Winter Garden dissects the early days of movie-making and especially the heavy-lidded sirens of the silent screen. Previously Carol took apart the hoop-a-doo, bathtub gin era in "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," and the great depression in "Wonderful Town."

**Fitting Respect**  
She approaches her satires with fitting respect.

"You can't do it by exaggeration, but have to play those days straight — and believe it with all your heart."

"The Vamp" provides Carol's most strenuous part. She sings seven numbers and variously leaps, romps, slinks and gyrates on stage virtually the whole performance. Despite such exertion she has put on five pounds so far.

"The physical work never bothers me," she explains. "It's like a good tennis match — relaxing."

Some of the critics on opening night found the overall production somewhat disappointing — but they agreed unanimously that Carol herself was superb. She has, it appears, reached that upper strata of stardom where, like Shirley Booth, the Lunts and a few others, the player can do no wrong.

**Notable Asset**  
Besides Miss Channing "The Vamp" has another notable asset — it is the first musical comedy to reach town this season and few are billed in the weeks ahead. Box-office activity indicates that it is not to be one of those shows on which audiences overrule split critics.

A few blocks away from "The Vamp," there's further evidence that Carol is right about memory lane being great for laughs. . . . the New York City Ballet Company has come up with a new item "Souvenirs" which kids high life in 1915 . . . and just by coincidence the central figure is also a vamp.

**Fabulous Widow**: A remarkable triumph of the show season involves a tiny Viennese actress named Lotte Lenya, whose late husband Kurt Weill provided some of Broadway's greatest music.

She is one of the main reasons why the revival of Weill's "The Threepenny Opera" at the Greenwich Village theater Dellys is playing to a packed house.

**Career Entwined**  
Lotte's career is strangely entwined with "Threepenny." She sang in its first Berlin production in 1923, recurrently appeared in it thereafter and was present for its sensational success last season here. She has made six recordings of a single song from it — the two latest being a Dixieland version and one corolled in duet with Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong.

Oddly, this "pirate song" didn't originally belong to her role, and she sang it first for a recording when another player didn't show up.

"I guess it must have been fated for me to sing it," Lotte says.

At the moment, she has dashed off to Germany, to attend a revival of another Weill show — and to make more records. At the end of next week she comes back to resume the part that has been hers for 27 years.

**Broadway Roundup**: The town's newest high-tension drama is "A Hatful of Rain," which concerns the problem of narcotics addiction and which displays Shelley Winers and Ben Gazzara in some superlative acting. . . . a single first night is due this week, the arrival of Margaret Sullivan, Robert Preston and Claude Dauphin in a romantic comedy "Janus" by Carolyn Green at the

Democrat or a Republican at that point.

But rebellion was stirring. Some southern political leaders were predicting darkly that Eisenhower might be able to split the "solid South" even if he should run for the presidency as a Republican. An "I Like Ike" boom already was developing.

**Drive Begins**  
And then the uprising that started as a "Beat Truman" campaign became a drive for Eisenhower which carried Texas, Virginia, Florida and Tennessee into the Republican camp.

Compared with 1951, the South today is calm and passions are not being flaunted openly. No southern leader with any real stature has emerged to call for rebellion within the Democratic party. There is (at this time) no tide running even comparable to the anti-Truman tide. There is (at this time) no "anti" feeling that has mounted to red-faced anger.

**'Fairly Normal'**  
In short, the South's political blood pressure is fairly normal. But this relative calm doesn't mean that a man, an issue or some unforeseen development can't come forth to cause a rupture within the Democratic party.

There still are rumblings of discontent against "northern control" of the party. . . . against union labor's close relationship with the party. . . . against "left-wing" influences. . . . against choosing a nominee who isn't a "moderate" and a platform that doesn't have the same tag.

But if southern political leaders have gauged the temper of the people correctly, this discontent hasn't yet become a threat either as a revolt or as a third party movement. The weight of opinion seems to be that the southerners for the most part will try to achieve their aims within the Democratic party.

**Interesting Trends**  
At this time, the most interesting and significant political developments below the Mason-Dixon line include:

1. The emergence of a strong effort to present the Democratic party as a "party of moderation" in which the "moderates" have the controlling voice. Texas' Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson is the key man in this effort.

2. What looks like a surge back toward "party loyalty" due primarily to the likelihood that Eisenhower will not be the GOP presidential candidate due to his heart attack.

3. Efforts by supporters of Tennessee's Sen. Estes Kefauver to gain broader southern support at the national convention by breaking through the barriers raised against him mainly by professional politicians.

4. Efforts by backers of Tennessee's handsome, 35-year-old Gov. Frank G. Clement to make him the Democratic convention keynoter and thus project him into the national spotlight and perhaps the vice presidency.

**'Moderation' Idea**  
Placing the Democratic party in a frame of "moderation" is an idea that is southern in origin but it is by no means a sectional effort. Those who are developing this approach to the campaign see it as a tent large enough to accommodate all except the "extremists" among the liberals and conservatives.

In his role as senate majority leader, Johnson has been the adroit middle man bringing Democratic liberals and conservatives together in the senate in what was at times a remarkably united front. Now this same effort in substance is being projected to the national field.

The move to encourage moderation has come at a time when a good many Democratic leaders — both in the north and in the south — seem to be pulling back into a wait-and-see position of neutrality before making commitments on a nominee.

**Adlai 'Strongest'**  
The consensus among southern governors at their recent conference was that Adlai Stevenson, the party's 1952 nominee, is now the strongest potential candidate. But there also is a feeling as recently voiced by Sen. Richard B. Russell of Georgia that Stevenson and Gov. Averell Harriman of New York both may be a bit "too far to the left" to suit a good many southerners. The name of Ohio's Gov. Frank Lausche is being mentioned with increasing frequency by southerners.

Politicians in Dixie agree generally that without Eisenhower to lead the Republican ticket in 1956, the Republican chances of breaking into the south will be immeasurably more difficult. The main reason for this, they say, is that no other Republican can come

close to matching Eisenhower's personal popularity with the people.

**'Kefauver Failure'**  
One of the most intriguing aspects of the southern situation is the past failure by Sen. Kefauver to win wide support in the South for his presidential aspirations — and what is happening today.

In the 1952 convention when Kefauver piled up 340 votes on the first ballot — more than any other candidate — he failed to get a single vote from eight of the 11 southern states. These states were Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Missis-

ippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

On the second and third ballots, Arkansas gave him 1 1/2 votes but the other seven states didn't even pay him this small courtesy. Kefauver's southern support came from Tennessee's 28 votes; 8 of Alabama's 22 votes (this total dropped to 7 1/2 on the final ballots); and 5 of Florida's 24 votes.

**Supporters Hopeful**  
Kefauver's supporters are hopeful that their man again will have Tennessee's support; that he will win Florida's preferential primary to capture all its votes; that Ala-

bama and border-state Kentucky will line up behind him; and other southerners will discover that Kefauver is more acceptable to them than any other candidate.

But Kefauver's position in Tennessee is muddled because the young man sitting in the governor's chair has national ambitions of his own. And neither Kefauver nor Clement has shown any inclination to step aside for the other.

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Kefauver people argue that the governor can't afford to be in the position of denying support to a fellow Tennessean at the national convention, and that in a final

showdown, Kefauver will have Tennessee's delegation behind him.

**Uncomfortable Position**  
But on the other side, a strong Clement supporter says: "If Clement sides with Kefauver, then he will have double-crossed his best friends."

That is the uncomfortable position Clement finds himself in while his supporters, as discreetly as possible, are plugging for him to become the convention keynoter. They believe Truman is looking with favor on Clement as the man to light the fires of enthusiasm at the convention — and they are counting on Truman's support.

But even if Clement does have Truman's support, this can be a complication in itself because Truman is known to be bitterly opposed to Kefauver. This opposition was born in 1950-51, politicians say, when Kefauver was directing his spectacular crime investigation — to the embarrassment of a good many Democratic leaders in the big cities.

To this day, many Democratic chiefs believe that Sen. Scott Lucas of Illinois, then senate majority leader, was defeated by the backlash from Kefauver's inquiry into crime in Chicago even though Lucas wasn't remotely involved in the inquiry.

**Ambition 'Vice'**  
In a business where excessive ambition is regarded as a vice rather than a virtue, Clement's friends are trying to avoid any appearance that they are pushing him too far too fast. But they don't conceal the hopes they are placing in his future.

One of his enthusiastic admirers said:

"If Clement can become the keynoter, he'll set that place on fire. He's young. He's handsome. He looks good on television. And there's not another orator in the country, including Alben Barkley, who can match him as a speaker."

"If he speaks before that convention, he may come out of it as the vice presidential nominee. The least he can do will be to put himself in line for some high administration post if the Democrats win. He's young — and he can go on from there."

## Cans of Food to Admit Kids to Movie



To collect canned food for Salem area Christmas baskets, Salem Active Club will sponsor a three-hour movie program for children, with admission price to be one can of food. Standing by the kind of canned food stack the club hopes to obtain are (left to right) Active President Jack Ricketts; Harold Noble, 5, Sandra Brooks, 9, and Sandra Breithaupt, 9. The movie, including a Western and six cartoons, will be staged at noon Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, in Hollywood Theater. Doors will open at 11:30.

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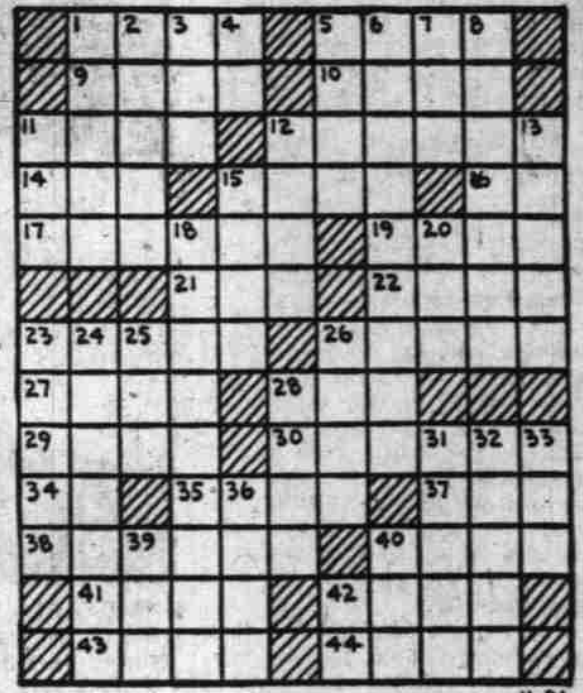
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## DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Equipment
  - Vipers
  - Forsarm bone
  - Pack away
  - A shade of blue
  - More clamorous
  - Evening (poet.)
  - News
  - Twice preak
  - Quicker
  - Fall handle
  - Particle of addition
  - River (Fr.)
  - Majestic
  - Full of moths
  - Upper story of a warehouse
  - Famous U. S. editor and writer
  - Wheat flour (Ind.)
  - Declare
  - Neuter pronoun
  - Final
  - Disfigure
  - Go to bed
  - Dexterously
  - Level to the ground
  - A son of Adam
  - Prosecutes judicially
  - Careful
  - DOWN**
  - Kind of jelly
  - Sprites
  - Some



- 20.** Island in a river (Eng.)
- 23.** White of an egg
- 24.** Worthless people
- 25.** Asterism
- 26.** Great amount
- 28.** Foundation
- 31.** Live coal
- 32.** Revive
- 33.** Attempt
- 36.** God of war (Gr.)
- 39.** Greek letter
- 40.** Arabian garment
- 42.** Exclamation (slang)



## Group Demands End to Congress Seniority System

WASHINGTON (AP) — Abolition of the congressional seniority system and effective curbs on Senate filibusters were among legislative reforms recommended Saturday in a report published by the National Planning Assn.

The association defines itself an independent, non-political organization of leaders in business, agriculture, labor and the professions. Ten years ago it published a report by Robert Heller which was the basis of many reforms embodied

## TRADE TRIP STARTS

ROME (AP) — Foreign Minister Gaetano Martino is off on a 17-day tour of Japan and Thailand with hopes of drumming up trade between Italy and the Far East. He will make another trip in late December to Ceylon, India and Pakistan.

in the 1946 Congressional Reorganization Act.

The current report, titled "Congress and Parliament," was written by George B. Galloway, American government specialist in the Library of Congress. It is a comparative analysis of the operation of Congress and the British Parliament.