

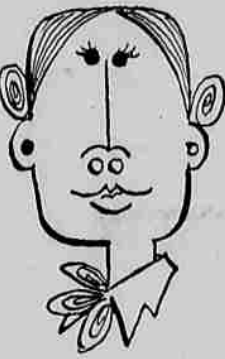
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Russell's

Russell Plans Western Trip To Woo Voters

Taft Backers Hail Home-State Victory

By RAYMOND LAHR
United Press Staff Writer
WASHINGTON — (AP) — Sen. Richard B. Russell's campaign organization claimed Thursday that his Florida primary victory "stops Kefauver completely."

The claim was made by Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.), chairman of Russell's campaign strategy board, as Russell announced plans for a cross-country trip to bid for western delegates to the Democratic presidential nomination convention.

George said the Florida returns show that Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) "can't carry a southern state, although he has been doing very well in some states where the Democratic primaries don't mean anything."

SEN. PAUL H. Douglas (D-Ill.), a Kefauver backer, retorted that the Tennessee crime-hunter made a "remarkably good" showing in Florida against the "organized political machine" which was backing Russell.

In the Republican arena, Sen. Robert A. Taft's campaign manager said his sweeping home-state victory in Ohio "makes it more apparent than ever that he is the choice of Republican voters of the nation."

Campaign manager David S. Ingalls said the 56 delegates Taft picked up in Ohio ran his total up to 404, exactly 200 short of the total required to win the Republican nomination. Ingalls credited Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower with 286 delegates.

A united Press tabulation, based on the legal pledges or public commitments of delegates already chosen, gave Taft 330 to 297 for Eisenhower.

THE EISENHOWER total includes six which the general gained Wednesday in New York. Russell defeated Kefauver by about 80,000 votes in Florida's "popularity contest" presidential primary. But Kefauver said he still hopes to win a majority of the state's 24 convention delegates who will be elected in separate balloting on May 27.

Kefauver now has 119½ convention votes legally pledged or publicly committed to him, including the 27 he picked up in Ohio Tuesday.

OVERLOADING a washing machine prevents the clothes from circulating freely enough in the water and produces an uneven or spotty washing action. It also produces excess wear due to friction.



SCREEN ACTRESS Marilyn Monroe stretches for the last time in her Hollywood hospital bed before leaving for her home. She underwent an appendectomy a week ago.

Two Candidates Speak in State

PORTLAND — (AP) — Two candidates for the Republican presidential nomination were campaigning in Oregon Thursday.

Harold E. Stassen arrived here by plane Thursday morning and spoke a short time later at Reed College. It was Stassen's first visit to the state since the 1948 primary election campaign in which he was defeated by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

He was to remain in the state for two days.

Gov. Earl Warren of California, who has been in Oregon since Monday, spoke at Lewis and Clark College, on the other side of Portland. He was to leave by plane Thursday night for Los Angeles to address a cotton shippers conference. He was to fly back to Salem Friday for a night address.

At Albany, Ore., Wednesday night, Warren accused the Democratic administration of inefficiency and lack of financial responsibility.

In an address before a joint meeting of Albany civic clubs and the Linn County Republican Central Committee, Warren said: "The administration is worn out, old, and has lost its vision and its sense of financial responsibility."

"Instead of solving problems, the administration is standing them on end for someone else to solve, which means they are leaving them for our children," Warren said.

Contractors Claim Previous Testimony False

Sharp Clashes at African Air Base Hearing

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Clashing testimony alleging and denying wide-scale graft and malpractice at huge U. S. airbases in French Morocco was marked Thursday for Justice Department investigation.

Sen. Johnson (D-Tex.) announced his Senate Preparedness subcommittee will hand a transcript of the testimony to the Justice Department "for appropriate action."

Johnson's group is exploring charges that corruption and mismanagement have added tens of millions to the cost of the bases, started as a rush project during a war scare in early days of the Korean fighting.

THE FIVE bases, estimated to cost between 300 and 412 million dollars, ultimately will be handed over to the French government.

They were built by Atlas Constructors, a combine of five contracting firms.

Two contractor-bosses of the big project accused four recent witnesses of having given false testimony that corruption was big-scale and the job grossly mismanaged.

J. B. Bonny of Ellensburg, Wash. and Lyman D. Wilbur, the bosses, denounced the four and

also objected to testimony given by E. V. Huggins, assistant secretary of the Air Force, and Lt. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, chief of Army Engineers.

They described Huggins and Pick as mistaken, but challenged the "veracity and credibility" of Col. Ralph Reed, chief of Army audit; William J. Cassidy, a civilian auditor for the Army; Joseph Connolly, a former inspector on the job, and John W. Leahy, whom the contracting group had fired as a minor official in the policy dispute.

John said all six would have a chance to reply under oath.

Bonny, vice president of Morrison-Knudsen Co., Boise, Idaho, was one of the principal witnesses during a heated committee session highlighted by charges the congressional investigators were "headline dunting" to promote Johnson for President.

Bonny said he agreed with the charges "in general" but later withdrew the statement and apologized.

Johnson raised the issue when he produced a copy of the Morrison-Knudsen Co.'s house publication and pointed to an article which charged the Atlas Constructors had been made "scatter-

shot targets" of political attacks in congressional investigations. The article asserted that President Truman as a senator and Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.) gained national attention by heading Senate investigations.

IT SAID COMMITTEES of both houses of Congress were "vying furiously for headline-producing games in this presidential election year."

Sen. Stennis (D-Miss), a committee member, said he interpreted that to mean Johnson, as a committee chairman, was being promoted. Johnson promptly denied he

was a candidate "for anything" and accused Bonny of trying to smear the committee, smearing subcommittee staff, and smearing the witnesses.

Bonny returned to the stand later in the day and told the committee he wanted to withdraw endorsement of the accusations against Johnson, on behalf of himself and the Morrison-Knudsen Co.

"I would like to state for myself and for my company," said, "That we do not challenge and do not impugn the integrity of the chairman and the committee."

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