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Now It's the Donkey's Turn to Apply the Heat



Washington Column

By PETER EDSON
(NEA Washington Correspondent)

CHICAGO (NEA)—With 18 possible candidates for the Democratic nomination for President, anything can happen at the party's convention here. And it probably will.

By tradition and natural inclination, the Democrats have always put on a better show than the Republicans. The Democrats will have to go some this time, however, if they put on a better performance for drama, humor, suspense and fast action than the Republican vaudeville that is now gone but still not forgotten.

The shadow of the Republican nominee, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, of course, hangs over the Democratic fracas. If Senator Taft had been the GOP nominee every Democrat from precinct committee man up would have wanted to take him on. Against General Eisenhower, there may be some reluctance to run.

Heading the list are the Four Favorites. First is Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, who claims from 300 to 400 delegate votes and actually has a little over 250. Behind him is Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, with a claim of 300-vote first-ballot around 150.

Behind these two southerners are two northerners who are in the unusual position of hoping that they get The Nod. The Nod, of course, is recognition and an official blessing from President Harry S. Truman.

Up to now Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois has had The Nod held out in front of him on a silver platter. But since he has been so reluctant to grab it and run, there is now considerable belief that The Nod will be given to W. Averell Harriman of New York.

Mr. Harriman has a little over 100 pledged delegate votes, but hopes he can muster 150 by first ballot time. Governor Stevenson has only 54 pledged delegates without ever having announced himself as a candidate, and he makes no claim of having any more.

In the group behind the Four Favorites are what might be known as the Seven Favorite Sons. The interesting thing about this Seven Sons group is that together they have 190 pledged delegates votes.

This isn't enough to give any one of the Four Favorites the nomination. But it would give any candidate a big shove if it could be mustered behind him by the political bosses. It probably can't.

The Democratic convention will have 1230 votes, with 616 necessary for a choice. But of the 1230 delegates, 886 district delegates will have a full vote while 688 will have a half a vote apiece for a sub-total of 344.

Of the Seven Favorite Sons, Sen. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma has 38 pledged votes. Vice President Alben Barkley of Kentucky, 28; Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan, 20; Sen. Herbert Humphrey of Minnesota, 26; Sen. Brien McMahon of Connecticut, 15; and Governor Dever of Massachusetts, 15.

Others in this group are Chief

Program Called Most Important

CHICAGO, July 21 (AP)—Capsule report on the leading candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination:

GOV. ADLAI E. STEVENSON—Tells delegates, in welcoming address to opening session, that party's program is more important than his candidacy; appeals to Illinois delegation in Sunday caucus to leave him out of race, but supporters going ahead with "draft" plans confident he will accept.

VICE PRESIDENT ALBEN W. BARKLEY—Meets with labor leaders at breakfast to hear said tidings that his candidacy "unacceptable" to labor.

SEN. ESTES KEFAUVER—Division of support in his Eastern and Midwestern delegations with plea to delegates to "support me when you're through backing your favorite son."

AVERELL HARRIMAN—Backers alarmed by defections in 94-vote New York delegation which was to be Harriman's main first-ballot support; still hoping for White House support to salvage flagging candidacy.

SEN. RICHARD B. RUSSELL—Has made peace with Southern supporters who were upset earlier by his attack on the Taft-Hartley law; accuses Harriman and Kefauver of conspiracy against him.

SEN. ROBERT KERR—Seeking Southern support by opposing "loyalty pledge" rule advanced by Kefauver-Harriman forces; still claiming eventual victory.

SPEAKS THREE WAYS
WOONSOCKET, R. I.—Evelio Tiels, an 18-year-old Cuban delivered the valedictorian address in French, Spanish and English at Mt. St. Charles Academy's commencement exercises.

Strategy Meeting Called at Chicago

CHICAGO, July 21 (AP)—Oregon's Democratic national committee, Monroe Sweetland, was present at a strategy huddle Monday on a project of Kefauver-Harriman forces to bar contested anti-administration delegates from voting until the party's convention has passed on them.

Additionally, Kefauver and Harriman suggested that any delegation sent by Oregon to support the 1952 platform and ticket.

The showdown on the double-barreled proposition was postponed from Monday until Tuesday when the convention is to adopt its temporary rules.

The Oregon delegation, meantime, planned a meeting of its own today to settle a dispute over charges some delegates planned to break their pledges to support Sen. Kefauver of Tennessee.

State Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney of Portland made the charges and Howard Morgan, Democratic state chairman, accused Mahoney of using a "Russian tactic by accusing someone else of planning to do what he intends to do himself."

Conscience Gets Better Of Deserter

PORTLAND, July 21 (AP)—Lodged in the Portland city jail, awaiting a visit from Army criminal investigators in Seattle, is 73-year-old James T. Coss who after 47 years decided to give himself up for going AWOL from the Army.

Coss, whose real name is Banks C. Roddy, deserted an isolated Army post in Alaska in 1905 after embezzling several hundred dollars of Army money. Sunday, he walked into Portland police headquarters and gave himself up.

He said a preying conscience and an urge to square accounts led him to go to the police station.

In 1905, when he was 26 years old and a Signal Corps sergeant "too much booze" led him to embezzle money from a government account, he told detectives. A telegrapher, he was in charge of a four-man Army telegraph station in Fairbanks.

He came to San Francisco disguised as a prospector, wearing a Van Dyke beard and carrying a sourdough's kit.

About 30 years ago he came to Portland where he has worked as a mechanic.

His only serious brush with the law since his desertion was in 1931 when he got drunk and held up a local restaurant, for which he served six months in the Oregon state prison.

Detectives said his future is up to the Army. Notified of his surrender, the provost marshal's office said it is stumped as to what to do.

Reserve Officer Receives Star

PORTLAND, July 21 (AP)—Portland attorney Lamar Toozie was a brigadier general Monday, the first Oregon reserve officer to achieve that rank.

The veteran of 35 years in the reserves won his colonel's wings during World War Two. His single star was pinned on his collar Sunday at Vancouver Barracks, Vancouver, Wash., just before the 104th "Timberwolf" division entered the valedictorian address at Ft. Lewis, Wash. Toozie is commanding officer of the division.

American Crackdown on Red Propaganda May Boomerang

By HOMER JENKS
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

The American crackdown on Russian propaganda publications in the U. S. may boomerang.

The Soviets started it all by strangling America, a profusely illustrated slick-paper magazine published in color by the U. S. State Department to tell the Soviet people in their own language the truth about America.

The State Department retaliated by forcing the Soviet embassy in Washington to suspend publication and distribution of its English language information bulletin and other propaganda sheets.

But the Soviets may have the last word. For the U. S. embassy in Moscow is still circulating an American viewpoint behind the Iron Curtain.

The American bulletin specializes in foreign news and comment and exerts considerable influence, at least in the diplomatic circles.

United Press Staff Correspondent

Oregon Traffic Record Reported

SALEM, July 21 (AP)—Traffic volume on Oregon highways increased during June as vacationists hit the roads in what appeared to be record-breaking numbers, the state traffic safety division said Monday.

Heaviest daily traffic in Oregon shown by State Highway Department checks was on the east side Pacific Highway near Woodburn, where the volume increased 7.2 per cent over June of last year. Average number of vehicles checked at the Woodburn counting station was nearly 10,000 a day.

Heavy motor vehicle volume also was recorded on Highways 26, 18 and 30. Largest increase was reported on Highway 101—the Oregon coast highway—where average daily traffic increased 11.2 per cent over June of last year.

While travel was hitting new highs, traffic deaths jumped 40 in June, the worst monthly death record for the year to date. Safety officials said increased Oregon traffic during summer months nearly always means death to more than 100 persons in street and highway smash-ups.

Owners Assess Damage by Fire

EUGENE, July 21 (AP)—Owners of the Hills Creek Lumber Company south of Eugene Monday were attempting to assess damage done to their mill by a fire which swept through the establishment Saturday afternoon. They said they believed damage would be extensive.

The fire destroyed the planer, planer shed, the loading docks and some stacked lumber. The owners, Frank Graham and Fred Hills, said cause of the fire was not known.

Bananas stored in a refrigerator may give a mistaken indication of ripeness by premature darkening.

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COST OF TV EDUCATION

Use of television in education is an interesting idea, one with which school men toy with some degree of pleasure as they envision its possibilities. But pleasure must give way to pain when the cost is considered. If the educator does not feel pain, rest assured that the taxpayer will.

Our comment is inspired by a publicity release from Oregon State College in which the institution's president, A. L. Strand is quoted on the subject of TV, which he has discussed in the latest issue of the college alumni magazine. "It seems almost unthinkable," he says, that institutions charged with statewide education responsibilities will not use television.

There is some background for his statement in the fact that the Oregon system of higher education does operate its own radio station for the benefit of a segment of the listening public and of its own activities. From that to a TV operation attempting to do somewhat the same thing visually does not, at first glimpse, appear too long a step.

Before giving judgment, however, take a look at the cost. President Strand mentions this and the news release refers to the amount rather casually. Half a million dollars would set up the kind of TV station that the OSC head has in mind for the Oregon institutions of higher learning and \$150,000 a year would run the place, he says. No revenue, of course. It wouldn't be a commercial station, you see; just one helping out with the higher learning.

Dr. Strand's statement achieves two things, the first of which is to show how tremendously expensive a thing like television actually is. The second is to give a hint of how little a whopping big outlay need need both an educator who seizes opportunity for expansion.

The suggested cost is interesting as it indicates why television has been so slow in advancing outside the areas of concentrated population and wealth. It also raises a very serious question whether anything of the kind is justified when the short radius of TV coverage is compared with the high price of affording this coverage. Tax payers, we think, would take a long look at their remaining dollars before going on the line for this sort of expenditure to produce so uncertain a return.

They might even wonder if maximum results were being had in education from all the visual and auditory means that are already at the disposal of the schools. The question, it seems to us, would be a pertinent one.

CITY BUDGET REPORT

With its budget report for June at hand it is possible—and interesting—to see just how the city came through its latest fiscal year. Putting it quickly and summarily we should say that it did quite well.

Against a forecast of receipts totaling \$343,252.91 the report shows a take over \$7,000 greater or \$350,535.27. Some of the receipt items do not come up to the budget estimate but there is enough of a surplus on those that exceed it to provide that favorable balance. Important among these are the receipts for fines and baills, card and amusement licenses and liquor. Most important is the fact that the tax loss was nearly \$7,000 under the estimate and the taxes collected were almost \$1,500 over the budget expectation.

One item, cash on hand, usually under estimated, was only \$3,000 off. The cash, that is, found to be on hand on June 30, 1951 was \$32,397.91 as against an estimate made by the budgeters working some weeks earlier of \$35,444.90. That is a better result than that of earlier years.

On the expenditure side the figures show, for the most part, either careful spending or budgeting in excess of need. Thus, in spite of budget items over spent in a total of around \$6,000 there is an unexpended balance of \$14,763.37.

In the cash on hand table a healthy balance is shown. Especially noteworthy is the figure representing street work expense advanced from the general fund before bonding is completed. Last year in June this figure was \$66,840.29. The report now at hand shows half that figure or \$33,752.84.

While not related to the annual report there are figures on the number of water accounts that are of interest. These show a total of 3632 as against 3637 of June, 1951. Meter accounts are up by 12 but a flat rate figure of 3106 as against last year's 2123 makes the net loss five.

Bend seems to be, as the phrase has it, doing all right.

Food, Mickey Mouse Sweater First Concern of Youngster

MEDFORD, July 21 (AP)—The first concern of four-year-old Ernie Lefler after he was rescued from a night in the mountains of southern Oregon was food and his Mickey Mouse sweater.

The six-man search party which found the tot satisfied his first want with chocolate bars and a radio operator from the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm Association's network took a plaintive message to be relayed to Ernie's mother, Mrs. Marie Clark, in Medford.

The message: "Mommy, I didn't want to, but I lost my Mickey Mouse sweater."

The frightened youngster was unharmed, except for a case of poison oak welts, when he was found by a group of Medford Corporation loggers about two miles from the spot near Four-Mile Lake where he first disappeared early Saturday afternoon. He was examined immediately by a physician who was a member of the 75 to 100 persons who joined the 24-hour search.

Ernie was with a group of other children Saturday with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jones, Medford, as they prepared to go boating on the lake. He wandered off into the woods and disappeared, setting off a widespread search that included sheriffs' deputies from two counties, state police, Boy Scouts, loggers and search planes.

The loggers who found the boy were Billy Harris, O. R. Abbott, C. A. Capello, Jess Frasset, Ansel Connolly, and Bud Tugate, all of Butte Falls, Ore.

Meetings Getting Shorter in Korea

PANMUNJOM, Korea, July 21 (AP)—Allied and Communist truce negotiators held a 20-minute secret session Monday but apparently made no progress toward settling the prisoner of war deadlock.

Some observers believed the brevity of recent meetings indicated the two sides again have reached the "nothing new to say" stage in the talks. Sunday's meeting lasted 12 minutes and Saturday's 29. However, the truce teams will meet again at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

One side or the other soon may lift the news blackout imposed on the talks July 4. Both sides had agreed to conduct the talks in secret in the seemingly futile hope an agreement could be reached more speedily than in public sessions.

APPEAL ISSUED

MADRAS, July 20—Earl Bone, who heads Jefferson county's 24-hour "Operation Skywatch" of the civil defense program, has appealed to service and civic clubs to cooperate in naming members to aid in maintaining the around-the-clock search of the skies. Bone, who is being assisted in the Jefferson county program by Henry A. Dussault, Sr., and Al Surtz, says that the number of volunteer watchers needs a substantial increase to be effective and to prevent an undue sacrifice of those now maintaining it.

SISTERS AT OUTS

Geo. N. Taylor
 NEW YORK STATE—Mame and Dora were sisters. Mame's man was rich and she had the best of everything, but she had no children. Dora's man was poor but she had kids.

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Finally there are the Five Fractions. These are the candidates—willing and unwilling—with splinter strength of from a half of one vote committed, like House Speaker Sam Rayburn, up to the grand total of three pledged to Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois.

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