

Truman Uses Every Trick in Effort to Derail Adlai

Thinks Ave to Gain Votes in Every Ballot

Old Man Never Worked So Hard as on This, Says Friend

By ERNEST B. VACCARO
CHICAGO (AP)—Harry S. Truman pulled out all the tricks in his well-thumbed political book today in a bare-knuckle fight to wrest the 1956 Democratic presidential nomination from Adlai Stevenson.

The former President set up another all-day schedule for seeing delegates, directing his lieutenants and figuring out new maneuvers in his campaign for Gov. Averell Harriman of New York. As one old friend, a backer of Stevenson, described it:

"I've never seen the old man work as hard at anything as he's working on this."

There were no outward signs to indicate that Truman had led anyone to switch his vote thus far, but Truman's team of four political pros contended some previously uncommitted delegates were lining up for Harriman.

Truman is concentrating at this point on trying to prevent a first-ballot nomination of Stevenson on the theory that the former Illinois governor will lose ground on later ballots and Harriman will begin gaining in strength.

His team includes Frank McKinney and William M. (Bill) Boyle Jr., former national chairman; Edwin G. Pauley, California oil executive; and Donald Dawson, former administrative assistant to Truman in the White House.

They are working among state chairmen. But it is primarily a one-man show, managed by the 72-year-old man from Missouri.

He did take time out from his campaign to have lunch in a public coffee shop with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Stevenson supporter.

The Truman camp denied that the former President was really working toward a Stevenson-Harriman deadlock, which would throw the nomination to some dark horse. Mrs. Roosevelt suggested that possibility at a news conference, mentioning Sen. Stuart Symington, Missouri's favorite son as a possible beneficiary.

Truman spent over two hours last night in a conference with Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn of Texas, the convention's permanent chairman, and Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, Texas' favorite son candidate.

Emerging from their dinner meeting with the ex-President at his hotel suite, Rayburn and Johnson insisted they talked mostly about keeping the party united.

"There's not going to be any row," Rayburn said, "and we are going to wind up this convention as Democrats, as united as ever."

They said Truman had not asked their support for Harriman, and that "individuals were not discussed."

Truman's lieutenants were reported to be doing all they could to persuade "favorite sons" to the early ballots, and trying to encourage others in the South to support Johnson. The idea is to keep as many delegates as possible away from Stevenson in hopes that Harriman will quickly pick up steam.

They were concentrating too on efforts to get pledges for Harriman votes if Stevenson misses nomination on an early ballot.

"There are many delegates now committed to Stevenson who say Harriman is their second choice," McKinney told a reporter.

It was difficult to measure the progress in the absence of public declarations, but no one questioned that Truman was enjoying every bit of it.

"We are going to have fun at this convention," Gov. Orval Faubus of Arkansas quoted him as saying. "It wouldn't be a good convention unless we did."

Old Soldier Over Illness

FRANKLIN, Tex. (AP)—Old Soldier Walter Williams appeared to be full recovery from his latest illness and said he is looking forward to his 114th birthday next Nov. 12.

"I'm starting all over and there will be only 14 candles on the cake," the Confederate veteran said.

"I've got no time to go to the hospital. I'm too darn busy," he said, adding that he wanted to read the big stack of mail he received during his illness.

A siege of drowsy gave him a few bad days recently.

Follow Costs Lost Autoist

PROVIDENCE, R. I. (AP)—Motorist Philip L. Billings, 23, of East Hartford, Conn., got lost yesterday.

He asked Kenneth R. Peikay, 24, of Enfield, Conn., a motorist who was halted at a traffic light, for the road to East Hartford.

"Follow me," said Peikay. Billings did.

Both got arrested for speeding, and were fined \$15.

Symbol for a Presidential Hopeful



CHICAGO—Adlai Stevenson, hopeful that he'll again become the standard bearer of the Democratic party, admires a toy donkey—symbol of his party—after it was handed to him yesterday by an admirer. (AP Wirephoto)

Harriman Aide Sees 400 Votes On First Tally

CHICAGO (AP)—Gov. Averell Harriman's headquarters contended today that front-running Adlai Stevenson now was on the defensive in his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Lloyd Benefield of Oklahoma, Harriman's campaign director, said the New Yorker already was assured of about 400 first-ballot votes and predicted the number would go higher by the time the voting at the national convention starts Thursday.

Needed to nominate are 666½. Benefield told newsmen the 400 estimated included ballots of 100 or more delegates he said had switched to Harriman since former President Harry S. Truman endorsed him.

Benefield said Stevenson had been on the defensive since Tuesday— even before Truman spoke out.

That was when Stevenson called for a strong civil rights stand in the Democratic platform and caused some consternation among his Southern supporters.

Benefield said it was then that the South learned that Stevenson, by his previous expressions of moderation, "did not mean what it thought he meant."

The Harriman camp did not contend the Southern votes would switch to Harriman, who has repeatedly urged a strong civil rights program. But it indicated belief some Southern votes that formerly would have gone to Stevenson now would go to Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas or various other favorite sons. This would block the Stevenson forces' hopes of an early victory.

In declaring that Harriman had picked up votes, his aides said they came chiefly from delegates formerly pledged to Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee or formerly uncommitted.

Kefauver withdrew from the race in favor of Stevenson.

A Smile for a Smile



CHICAGO—Modeling a Stevenson bell in Susan Weinress of Chicago, a Sarah Lawrence college freshman, as she poses in front of a Stevenson campaign poster yesterday. On the front of the hat, though you can't see much of it, the sign says Adlai. (AP Wirephoto)

At Civil Rights Hearing



CHICAGO—Roy Wilkins, left, of National Association for Advancement of Colored People, talks with Gov. J. P. Coleman of Mississippi outside Democratic platform committee session today. Gov. Coleman had left platform committee hearing on civil rights to attend credentials committee meeting when picture was made. (AP Wirephoto)

Truman Picks Harriman



CHICAGO—Former President Harry Truman announces at news conference that he believes New York's Gov. Averell Harriman is "the best qualified man" to be the next president. In his statement, eagerly awaited by Democrats assembled for their convention, Truman said Harriman is ready and equipped now to step into office. (AP Wirephoto)

They've Been Through This Before



CHICAGO—Sen. John Sparkman, left, of Alabama, has a handshake for Adlai Stevenson as two met here today. Sparkman was Stevenson's running mate in presidential election four years ago. Both Stevenson and Averell Harriman continued their maneuvering for votes for the Democratic presidential nomination as time neared for news conference at which former President Harry Truman promised to say who he would favor at the convention. (AP Wirephoto)

Today's Democratic Program

CHICAGO (AP)—Here is today's program for the opening of the Democratic National Convention: (All times are Central Daylight, the same as Eastern Standard.)

First session—
Opens 12 noon with invocation, "Star Spangled Banner."
Opening remarks by Paul M. Butler, Democratic national chairman.

Convention call—Mrs. Dorothy Vredenburg, secretary.
Presentation of gavel—Gov. Marvin Griffin of Georgia.
Welcoming address—Mayor Richard J. Daley of Chicago.

Addresses—Sen. Paul H. Douglas of Illinois; Jacob J. Arvey, Illinois national committeeman, and James L. O'Keefe, chairman of the Chicago host committee.

Resolution of thanks to Mayor Daley and host committee.
Tribute to memory of late Alben W. Barkely and other Democrats who died since 1952 convention.

Report on temporary convention officers by Mrs. Vredenburg.
Addresses—Sen. George A. Smathers of Florida, chairman of Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, and Rep. Michael J. Roosevelt.

Second session—
Opens 8 p.m. with invocation, presentation of colors, "Star Spangled Banner."

Report of Democratic National Chairman Butler.
Keynote film narrated by Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts and keynote address by temporary chairman, Gov. Frank G. Clement of Tennessee.

Address—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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Labor Chiefs Divide Loyalties at Parley

Keep Close Watch On Michigan's Delegation

By NORMAL WALKER

CHICAGO (AP)—Labor union leaders divided their loyalties today between leading contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination.

But they kept an eye on the key Michigan delegation where Walter Reuther, United Workers chief, wields influence.

However, forces supporting Gov. Harriman of New York were seeking to capture the favor of Michigan Gov. G. Mennen Williams and Reuther.

Williams, a favorite son candidate for the Democrats' top nomination, has never expressed a formal preference as between Stevenson and Harriman. At times he has been critical of Stevenson's civil rights views.

A number of union leaders attending the convention were supporting Harriman. These included David J. McDonald, steelworkers union president, George M. Harrison, president of the railway clerks' brotherhood, and Thomas

Kennedy, vice president of the United Mine Workers.

McDonald and Kennedy were working to expand support for Harriman in the big 74-vote Pennsylvania delegation, where Gov. George M. Leader claimed overwhelming support for Stevenson.

There was no attempt by the 15m-nolli member AFL-CIO to take sides officially between Stevenson and Harriman, the latter favored by former President Truman. But leaders of individual unions were openly choosing between the two.

Harrison, chairman of the party's Labor Advisory Committee, held a reception last night for Harriman. It was well attended by union officials. Harrison arranged a similar reception tonight for Stevenson.

Senator Dick Lacks Ticket For His Wife

CHICAGO (AP)—As at almost every other national political convention, the cry went up today that there weren't enough tickets to go around.

There was the familiar grumbling among the 2,477 delegate and their 1,850 alternates, many of whom brought wives, husbands and family to Chicago only to find they can't get cards of admission to convention hall.

Things were so tough that Adlai Stevenson's headquarters was circulating an appeal to state delegations to send over any unused tickets.

Even Sen. Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon couldn't wrangle a ticket for his wife, who stayed in Oregon as a result.

Neuberger explained that he gave to two "deserving Democrats" the pair of tickets assigned to members of the U. S. Senate in the belief he would be entitled to an additional one as a delegate.

"I thought that as a delegate and chairman of the Oregon delegation I could get a ticket for Mrs. Neuberger," he said. "But no, I even took my case to Paul Butler (Democratic national chairman). He said there weren't any more."

One reason for the ticket squeeze this year is the rearrangement of the seating space at the stockyards convention hall.

In 1952 alternates had seating space on the floor, but this year they have been assigned to the mezzanine in space previously reserved for the public.

It has been estimated that after all assigned tickets have been distributed, fewer than 200 seats will be available to the ordinary public.

Gals to Wear Their Hair in 'Viking' Blue

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Don't shoot, met—the blue-haired Viking in the kitchen may be your wife.

The California Cosmetologist Assn. at its annual convention displayed the hairdos of nearly 150 hair stylists—and something called the bouffant emerged as the dominant new style.

The bouffant was described as the flaring out of hair on the sides into the shape of an old Viking warrior's helmet. It's the fashion of 1912, but with a modern touch, one expert said.

"The touch" was blue tint. "Everything's blue these days," the expert said.

Quake Rocks Central Japan

TOKYO (AP)—An earthquake shook central Japan before dawn today but caused no damage, the Japanese weather bureau announced.

The bureau described the quake as "strong" in intensity and said the epicenter was located "some 12 miles under the surface" off Izu Peninsula, Shizuoka prefecture.

Political Proceedings Cry Out For Will Rogers-Type Humor

By CHARLES MERCER

NEW YORK (AP)—The television and radio audience is seeing and hearing many things from the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. The scenes and words will continue next week at the Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

But one thing we have not seen or heard, and unquestionably shall not during these weeks, is a humorous interpretation of anything political. There's a church-like solemnity to the proceedings that cries out for the wry comments of the late great Will Rogers.

An era of American humor died with Rogers and neither television nor radio has revived it—or even tried. In fact, television and radio have gone to extraordinary pains to make sure that no fun is made of politics. Can anyone recall hearing a political joke on the big communications mediums?

We have heard mild jokes concerning religion and numerous ways of life have been held up to satire, both sharp and flat.

But the pointed and often hilarious remarks on politics of such men as Mark Twain, Josh Billings and Petroleum Nasby have passed from the American scene—at least as far as television and radio are concerned. Political jokes have become an under-the-counter trade. The faithful of all parties laugh privately at the many excellent political jokes that constantly circulate. But it's a rare comedian who repeats one on the air.

It's difficult to decide whether the big communications media have abetted this state of mind or merely reflect it.

Maybe it would be appropriate to lay one small wreath on the grave of American political humor once one of the strongest voices in our country. And what will be the epitaph? Perhaps a line from James Russell Lowell, who wrote long ago: "There are some things so classic that even the heavy roller of democracy cannot flatten them altogether down."



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