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Ireland Losing Population

A recent debate between Irish Republicans in the Dail Eireann (Parliament) shows that party leaders are seriously alarmed over the gradual depopulation of the country. Speakers include Prime Minister John A. Costello, and the leader of the opposition, Eamon De Valera, former president, and others stressed the net decline since 1951, and blame it on the grave economic difficulties that Ireland has been facing.

Costello said that it was the attraction of Britain with her higher standard of living and steady jobs that lures Irishmen. Perhaps it is due also to the fanatical isolationist and non-cooperative spirit Ireland has shown since her independence and the lack of enterprise and initiative that characterize those who haven't migrated. In fact you will find enterprising Irishmen all over the world except in Ireland. There are over 20 million Americans of Irish birth or extraction.

It is admitted that a sense of gloom, but not defeatism, characterize the Irish of today in the homeland, but leaders are said to have a sense of realism absent in the past and are starting to do something. They will have to do it themselves for they won't let others do it.

The census taken last April shows Ireland's population is at the lowest figure ever recorded—2,694,822, a net decline of 65,771 from 1951.

The decline was not attributed to decline in births but to emigration. Births exceeded deaths in the five years by 134,623. But the marriage rate is low and the age of those marrying relatively high. The average marrying rate is 63 percent of the rate in England and Wales.

The net number of those who emigrated in the 1951-56 period rose from 119,563 to 200,394, an average of 40,078 persons a year, higher than any year since 1881.—G. P.

Dam Construction To Go On

The last hope of the Hells Canyonites of halting construction work on the Idaho Power company Snake river dams in the near future evaporated Wednesday when Justice Black of the U.S. Supreme Court refused to issue an order to this effect.

Black had indicated that he would take this position, but he exacted a price. The company was required to sign an agreement not to sue the government if its license from the Federal Power commission is invalidated by the courts and it also posted a three million dollar bond to help pay the government for removing its dams from the river, insofar as they would obstruct construction of a high dam later.

The Hells Canyon people professed to doubt the ability or willingness of the company to do this, but the company met Black's terms, evidently confident its license will be upheld by the courts, whose decisions may be several months hence. Therefore its work will go on.

If the government should ever decide to build a high dam it can do so any time but it will have to compensate the company for its investment in the canyon. The agreement just signed is effective only if the license is voided by the courts.

It is doubtful if the improbable election of a Democratic president in November would change this picture, for the Senate has shown that it will not pass a Hells Canyon dam bill. Meanwhile the first two Idaho Power dams will be completed and producing power. After that it is extremely unlikely that any administration would be silly enough to destroy an investment of upwards of \$150,000,000 in order to spend three times as much to do the same job.

Adlai's Strategy Vindicated

Adlai Stevenson was wise, as it turned out, in leaving to the convention the selection of a vice presidential candidate. His decision was bitterly opposed by as shrewd a political operator as Speaker Rayburn, chairman of the convention.

Had Stevenson indicated his choice the man would have been named, but there would have been bitterness among those passed over. As it was this was avoided. There was as fair and open a race as there ever can be in a convention, some of whose delegates are controlled by bosses. But most of the delegates must have voted their choices, as the many splits within delegations indicated.

Whether the party got its strongest available man is extremely questionable. We can think of several better qualified. But it was seeking first of all a strong candidate and it got one. Further, everyone likes a "horse race" and this contest was much more thrilling than that for top spot, which Stevenson had pretty well sewed up before the voting began.

They Make Themselves Useful

A local organization that isn't content with meetings for the edification of its members, but is making itself very useful to the public, is the Marion County Historical Society.

Just off the press is a Marion County History, Volume II. It is a small book of 62 pages, paper-bound, which detracts nothing from its value as a book to be placed on any reference shelf in schools, libraries and offices, or in the bookcase at home. It is full of interesting articles by society members, and featured are covered bridge pictures by Ben Maxwell, which have attracted a lot of attention. Mirphah Blair, who was for many years assistant Oregon state librarian, is editor and Sylvia Kraps associate editor.

Here are the main contents of the book. The titles are intriguing:

Covered Bridges in Marion County, by Ben Maxwell; The Penitentiary, Our First Institution, Sgt. J. R. Johnson; Wilamette, Oldest in the West, Kenneth Lottick; The Story of Tabitha Brown, Roy Ohmart; William Parker and Parkersville, George Strout, Jr.; Our Unmarked Fur Posts, Helen E. Austin; Champoug, the Birthplace of Oregon; Chester C. Kaiser; A History of Hubbard, Clark Moor; The Rise and Decline of Oregon Flax, William N. Lee; Sketches of Salem, Lewis Hubbell Judson.

The book will be sold at Salem stores.

The Big Democratic Loser

Stevenson and Kefauver were the winners at Chicago and the greatest loser was equally apparent. It was Harry Truman, not Harriman or the other candidates for president, who never had much chance and lost no prestige.

Truman, who prides himself on being an expert political operator and a great "elder statesman," took a terrible beating. He endorsed a candidate without helping that candidate a particle. He took a stand on the civil rights plank with the faction he opposed when he endorsed Harriman and which he has steadily opposed, the moderates who look to Stevenson for leadership. Actually his endorsement of Harriman will help Stevenson by freeing him from the "Trumanism" handicap he struggled with in 1952. The only damage he did was in providing the Republicans a weapon when he expressed the belief that Stevenson cannot win.

Truman had no business mixing up in this family fight and he got the traditional punishment meted out to those who do. It ought to shut him up "for the duration" though it probably won't. Even if the Democrats could keep him buttoned the Republicans will be sure to needle him into bellowing.

We are intrigued by people who lend a quiet dignity to their jobs and try to avoid an offensive attitude toward other people. For instance the polite young man who has twice dined at the same hotel in Salem this week.

NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG

Women Being Wooed by Both Democrats and Republicans

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON, August 21—The prominence and headline role accorded to women in the proceedings of both the Republican and Democratic national convention is no accident. More than at any time since they obtained suffrage in 1920, the women will be wooed by the two major parties in wondrous ways.

Economic statistics help to explain this new concern with the feminine element of the electorate. They show that more women are working now than ever before, that they own more property than men, especially securities, and that their handling of the household budget gives them a singular interest in politics and economics. So have two world wars into which they sent their sons, and husbands.

Women's Political Importance. In short, the politicians believe, women have come of economic age as well as political age. Magazines generally devoted to feminine topics—fashions, foods, home decorations have found it necessary to run articles on public affairs and personalities. The "woman's page" in daily newspapers today specializes in material that appeals to women. F.D.R. and President Eisenhower thought it wise to include a woman in their Cabinets.

Women's political importance, although it was not realized or publicized at the time, was responsible for President Eisenhower's approval of two measures which he had opposed. They were the proposals fixing \$1 as the minimum wage per hour (like had favored 90 cents), and lowering to 62 the age at which women may collect partial Social Security payments.

Republican research informed the White House that it is women doing part-time or full-time work who would benefit most from the \$1 per hour minimum. Although this standard applies only to people engaged in interstate commerce occupations, it has tended to increase the scale for all women workers. In fact, it has inflated baby-sitters' charges at Washington.

Beneficiaries May Give Ike Credit. Social Security applications under the new law indicate that

about 500,000 women will take advantage of the lower-age retirement plan before the election. With their husbands, relatives and friends, they make a sizable number of voters.

It is true that Capitol Hill Democrats forced both the \$1 minimum wage and the 62-year Social Security program upon the Administration. The Republicans never forget to mention this fact in its campaign speeches and advertising, seeking to obtain what ballot-box good will it can because of its legislative efforts.

But, the Republicans will reply, it was President Eisenhower who approved this legislation, bowing to the will of the Congressional majority and political evidence, and put it into effect. And, so hopes Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall, the beneficiaries will be thankful to Ike for immediate favors received, and forget that basic credit should go to the Democrats at the eastern end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Wooing Feminine Bloc. In their wooing of the feminine bloc, the Republicans admittedly suffer because they have nobody to match such a greatly admired and respected woman as Eleanor Roosevelt. Her moderate advice behavior at the Democrats' national convention erased many bitter memories which her conduct as "First Lady" had stirred.

Ambassador Clare Boothe Luce will not fill the role. She is too sharp-tongued, aristocratic and controversial, in the opinion of GOP strategists. She is not a moderate or middle-of-the-road Republican. She blasted the Marshall plan and subsequent foreign aid programs as "globalism," whereas Ike has expanded these. Roosevelt-Truman systems of loans and grants. She will sit in Rome.

So, Ike's offset to Eleanor will be "Mamie." She will accompany him on all his campaign trips, and appear with him discreetly, of course on all of his television programs.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Peace Accomplishment Most Potent Republican Argument

By GEORGE GALLUP

(Director, American Institute of Public Opinion)

PRINCETON, N.J., Aug. 18—The Republican campaign argument with the greatest potency to the independent voters of the country is that "the Republicans got us out of the war in Korea and have kept the country at peace."

Forty-five per cent of independent voters told Institute reporters that, in their case, this was a strong argument for voting Republican in November.

On the other hand, the argument used by Republican party spokesmen to the effect that "the Republicans have cleaned up the mess in Washington left by the Democrats" carries the least weight with independents, or "shift" voters.

This is the evidence which comes from the latest Institute survey of public thinking on the appeals which Democrats and Republicans are using to win voters. Obviously, these appeals are aimed chiefly at the all-important bloc of independents, without whose support neither party can win.

As reported Friday, independent voters rate the Democratic claim that "the Republican party is the party for big business and forgets the working people" as the Democrats' strongest argument, while the argument that "the Republican foreign policy is all mixed up and has made enemies for the U.S. throughout the world" was rated the least effective of four major Democratic arguments.

In today's survey, each independent voter was handed a card listing four Republican campaign arguments. The four were named by GOP county chairmen, polled by the Institute, as the arguments they thought would be the most effective ones against the Democrats in their respective counties in 1956.

Here is how independent voters rate each of the four Republican arguments tested in today's survey:

1. The Republicans got us out of Korea and have kept the country at peace.

Independent voters included in the survey voted 45 per cent that this is a strong campaign argument for voting Republican, 39 per cent say it is a weak argument and 16 per cent have no opinion.

2. The Republicans have balanced the budget and cut taxes.

A total of 24 per cent of independent voters interviewed say this is a strong argument, 38 per cent say it is a weak argument and 14 per cent express no opinion.

3. The Republicans have brought the highest level of prosperity in history to America.

About one independent in four, or 26 per cent, vote this a strong argument, 34 per cent say the argument is a weak one and 20 per cent have no opinion.

4. The Republicans have cleaned the "mess" in Washington left by the Democrats.

Of the four widely used campaign arguments, this one turns up with the smallest number of independent voters who say it is a strong argument. Only 19 per cent say it is a strong argument, 62 per cent say it is a weak argument and 19 per cent have no opinion.

One of the interesting sidelights of the survey is that one Democratic voter in every three, 33 per cent, admits that the argument the Republicans have kept the country at peace is a strong one.

Sample Script For S. F. Speech



Stevenson Acceptance Speech Seen as Possible Boomerang

By DAVID LAWRENCE

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 21—The Republicans have been expecting that Adlai Stevenson's academic type of campaigning would be an involuntary help to them as in 1952—but they didn't anticipate he would furnish them so soon with a number of statements palpably vulnerable from a political viewpoint.

Adlai Stevenson is, of course, capable of making much better speeches than he delivered at Chicago and of coming to grips with issues more directly.

The Stevenson speech laments the fact that there are still "30 million Americans" in families with incomes under \$2,000 a year. He didn't say that this represents only 2.5 million families and unattached individuals and that the corresponding figure was 11.3 million when the Democrats were in power in 1950. Nor did he mention that there are in America today a record total of 23 million families with incomes above \$5,000 a year.

The Democratic nominee did concede, nevertheless, that "this is the age of abundance" and argued that "the quality of living" could be improved "now that the terrible, grinding anxieties of daily bread, of clothing and shelter, are disappearing." That's quite an admission for a candidate to make who earlier in the speech had made as his major point against the Republicans the assertion that "everyone is not prosperous."

But what did Adlai mean when he said in this speech: "Once we were not ashamed in this country to be idealists"? Not content with that cryptic statement, Mr. Stevenson went on to say:

"Once we were proud to confess that an American is a man who wants peace and believes in a better future and loves his fellow man. If we must reclaim these great Christian and humane ideas, we must dare to say again that the American cause is the cause of all mankind."

Have't President Eisenhower and a host of government officials uttered this same thought time and again in the last three years or more? Maybe the key to what's running through Stevenson's mind is to be found in another sentence in his speech, when he exclaims:

"There doesn't appear to be much ardor in America just now for anything." For that reason, he suggests that "it's time to elect a Democratic administration and a Democratic Congress."

Adlai Stevenson may have put his finger on the biggest political fact looming up in this campaign—the apathy of the voters. Their lack of ardor may mean that there is economic contentment in the nation and, on the whole, satisfaction with things as they are. Maybe the Republicans will be stimulated to indulge in a little of the ardor of yesteryears and dust off some old slogans which the Democrats used so effectively: "You Never Had It So Good—Don't Rock the Boat—It's Not the Time for Change."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Joseph Schultz has got everything all fixed up.

He's a research chemist in the cosmetic industry, and he's sure that science is on the threshold of some exciting discoveries that will make every American girl a technical knockout.

Joe points out that today's face powder, lipstick and eye shadow are good, but a girl doesn't get too much mileage out of them. If she doesn't get a new paint job every couple of hours, she begins to look like last year's model.

He feels sure the men of science laboring in the chemical laboratories can come up with something better. Say a semi-permanent makeup that a girl can apply with the knowledge that it will stay fresh for days.

Joe, no diplomat, says this would make American women easier to look at in the morning. Semi-permanent make-up, he says, would not wash off with soap and water. But, he adds, it will come off easily by other means. Perhaps, we suppose, with permanent perms.

Best of all, with this technological breakthrough will come other bold departures from the past. Chemist Schultz thinks the ladies may go for a little livelier color scheme. He suggests, for example, that they may be wearing blue lips, green hair and an orange complexion by 2000 A.D. Of course, as he points out, the combinations are endless.

And now, would somebody please lead Mr. Schultz back to his laboratory?

Meanwhile, we'll go out and look for a sweet, old-fashioned girl. You know, the kind with red lips and their own natural-colored hair.

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POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

American Housewife Leads In Crime of Shoplifting

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—The American housewife, who has many virtues, also leads the nation in one form of crime—shoplifting. Light-fingered customers cost department and specialty stores at least 300 million dollars a year, and probably much more.

"The greatest loss comes from the housewife," said Mrs. Mary Congemi, one of the nation's top store detectives. "She is a good customer in many ways. She pays her bills, keeps up her charge accounts—but she steals, too."

"And if she keeps at it she soon learns all the tricks of the professionals."

Mrs. Congemi, special agent for William F. Alexander, a former infantry officer who acts as a security consultant for 34 department stores throughout the United States, has caught nearly 5,000 shoplifters in the last 10 years.

"Most shoplifters are amateurs," she said, "but the amateurs account for 75 per cent of the losses."

"They range in age from 8 to 80. A lot are teen-agers, but most are housewives between 20 and 40."

Women shoplifters outnumber men at least five to one. But in either sex the person who actually steals from hunger is unusual. Many people believe that most shoplifters suffer from kleptomania, or an irresistible compulsion to take something that doesn't belong to them, whether they have any real need for it or not. Mrs. Congemi grimly says this is pure legend.

"Kleptomania, if there really is such a thing, is very rare," she said. "I've never encountered a kleptomaniac. Shoplifters simply want something for nothing."

"They often have the muddled idea that taking something from a big department store really is not stealing. They don't understand the real moral issue until they are caught."

"But I'll say this about the average housewife who turns amateur shoplifter. Once she has been caught, even though she has stolen many times before, she usually swears off forever."

Shoplifters are common in all walks of society, from the slum kid to the wealthy dowager.

Recently, in a single men's store here the following were picked up for shoplifting within a 20-day period: An insurance doctor's wife, a factory owner, the manager of another store, and a federal employee.

Mrs. Congemi, dark-haired and attractive, is married to a locksmith and has two children.

Recently Max Hess, owner of an Allentown, Pa., department store, gave a training course in shoplifting techniques to 1,600 employees.

Then, to put them to the test, Mrs. Congemi, who was unknown

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