

Nixon Good Bet for 1960 as Candidate for Presidency

By LYLE C. WILSON

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A good winter book bet today would be Richard M. Nixon against the field for the next Republican presidential nomination.

The political breaks have been going for the young man from California in the weeks since his reelection as vice president. The biggest break, of course, was the fact that he and President Eisenhower polled a record vote last November.

Their tally seems to have refuted the claims of Nixon's opponents that he would cost the ticket some millions of votes. Nixon's greatest political disadvantage is the fear of some Republican leaders that he would not be a prime vote getter on his own.

Doubts Hurt Taft
Identical doubts served to kill off the late Robert A. Taft's chances for the Republican presidential nomination.

"I like Taft, but—" was the way millions of Republicans backed into their explanations of why they wanted some other presidential nominee. These doubts will severely handicap Nixon.

Otherwise, political events are breaking well for Nixon in terms of prestige and Republican party influence. Mr. Eisenhower continues to demonstrate his confidence in Nixon. Good publicity is just as valuable to a politician with himself to sell as to a manufacturer with some other fancy product.

Takes Filibuster Stand
To their further confusion, Nixon was given an opportunity last week to take a position on the Senate filibuster dispute. Nixon's position placed him right in the middle of the so-called liberal camp. Moreover, it placed him on record with Negro voters as one of those whose interpretation of Senate filibuster rules would favor enactment of far-reaching civil rights legislation at this session of Congress.

The Communists and some others who dislike the vice president for less reason called a personal feud on Nixon for his Senate filibuster position. They held that he had acted in self-interest. The facts are that there is a scramble among politicians of

Construction Mark Set 10th Straight Year

\$44 Billion Spent for Building in U. S. In 1956

By NORMAN WALKER

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Americans spent a record 44½ billion dollars on construction in 1956, setting a new money peak for the 10th successive year.

The report was made today by the Commerce and Labor departments, which have predicted construction outlay will soar to a new 46½-billion-dollar peak in 1957.

In 1955 expenditures totaled just under 43 billion dollars—20½ billions for private construction and \$12,400,000,000 in public building.

The physical volume of new building in 1956 was 2 per cent below the unprecedented 1955 level. This indicated that construction dollars bought less, with costs being somewhat higher than in 1955.

Industrial construction passed the three-billion-dollar mark for the first time in history, but home building investment declined by 16 per cent, from 15 billion dollars to 13½ billions.

The government report said housing mortgage demands had to compete increasingly in 1956 "with the heavy demands for funds from many other sectors of the economy."

"Even so," the report said, "the 13½ billion dollars of new private housing put in place in 1956 was second only to the extraordinary volume of the previous year."

"The comparatively high level of home building in 1956 reflects in part the continuing pressure of a sustained demand for larger and better equipped homes, backed by rising incomes; a steadily increasing and highly mobile population; and accelerated rehabilitation of urban centers."

Virtually all categories of private construction activity gained in 1956 other than housing, farm construction and hospital building.

Private construction expenditures combined totaled \$30,000,000,000 in 1956, only a little above the record 1955 figure. But public construction rose 8 per cent to a new high of \$13,400,000,000.

More Paid to Jobless Than Taken Into Fund

PORTLAND (UPI)—Oregon paid \$3,147,000 more in unemployment compensation than it took in from employers last year, T. Morris Dunne, chairman of the state Unemployment Compensation Commission, said yesterday.

He said a 1955 law was to blame. That law increased maximum benefits from \$25 to \$35 weekly, and resulted in average benefits going up from \$21.92 to \$28.44 weekly, he said.

Death in the gas chamber is the penalty for murder in Arizona, California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon and Wyoming.

Ship Missing Mysteriously

LONDON (UPI)—Shipping circles Thursday posted "missing" after the name of the 7,124-ton British freighter Nordicstar, last heard from 13 days ago in the winter-

whipped North Atlantic. Fear was expressed that the ship may have floundered with her crew of 37, most of them Greeks. Royal Air Force planes flew out soon after dawn, concentrating their search some 300 miles west of Land's End. Ships of all nationalities doubled lookouts and scanned the horizon for some trace of the Nordicstar. The missing steamer, bound from Philadelphia for Le Havre with a cargo of coal, last was sighted Dec. 27 to say she expected to arrive on schedule at the French port Jan. 3.

The mystery of the Nordicstar was heightened by the fact that she was traveling a busy shipping lane. Mohammed was born at Mecca, Arabia, in 570 A.D.

Top Japanese Pilot Killed In Jet Crash

HAMAMATSU, Japan (UPI)—One of Japan's best pilots, a veteran of the Pearl Harbor attack, was killed yesterday in the new Japanese air force's first aerial collision in its three year history.

Sabre jets piloted by Lt. Col. Masanobu Ibusuki and Maj. Gen. Hachiro Setoyama brushed while flying in formation and went out of control. Both pilots were ejected from their cockpits but Ibusuki's parachute did not open. His body reportedly plummeted into the ocean.

Setoyama, who is commander of the air force's 2nd wing, was slightly injured. Ibusuki was a veteran of Pearl Harbor, Rabaul, Saipan and other Pacific war battles. Setoyama was a navy bomber pilot during the war.

ONE SCRATCH CRASH TOLL
MIDWAY, Ky. (UPI)—A scratched finger was the only injury among five persons in a grocery store when a car rolled 130 feet down a street and smashed into the building. Officers said the brakes on the parked car apparently failed. Damage to the store was estimated at \$1,500.

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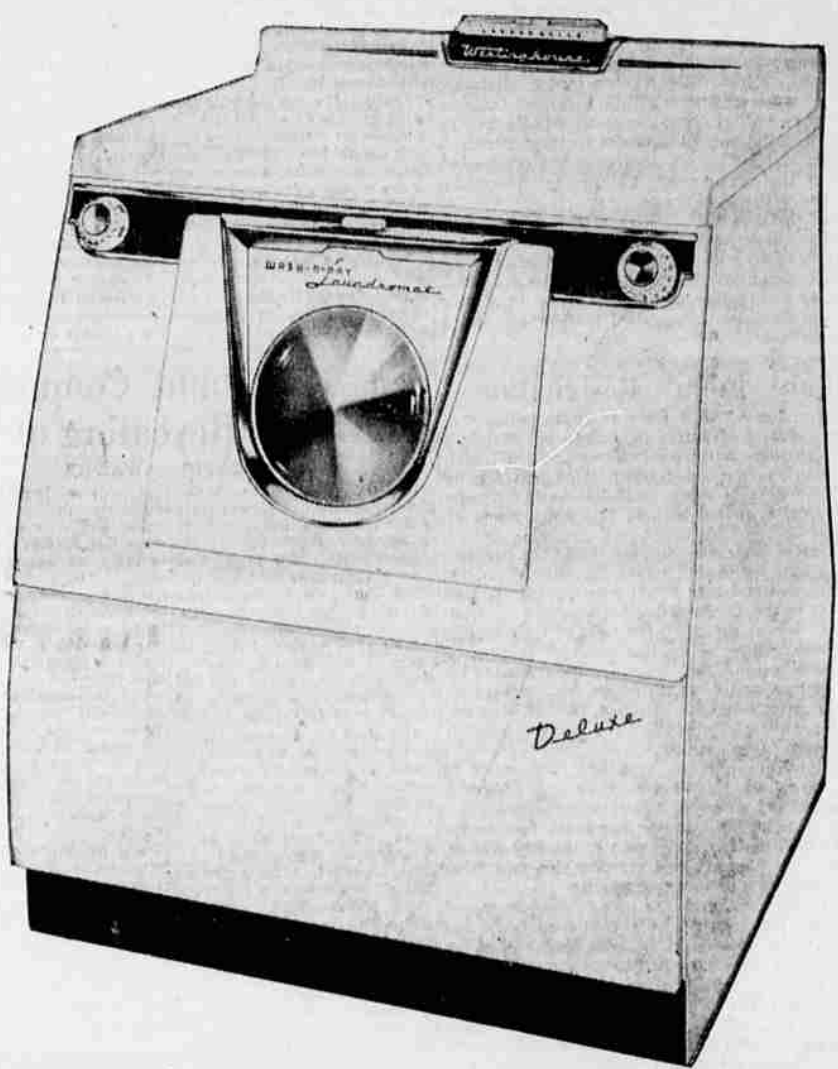


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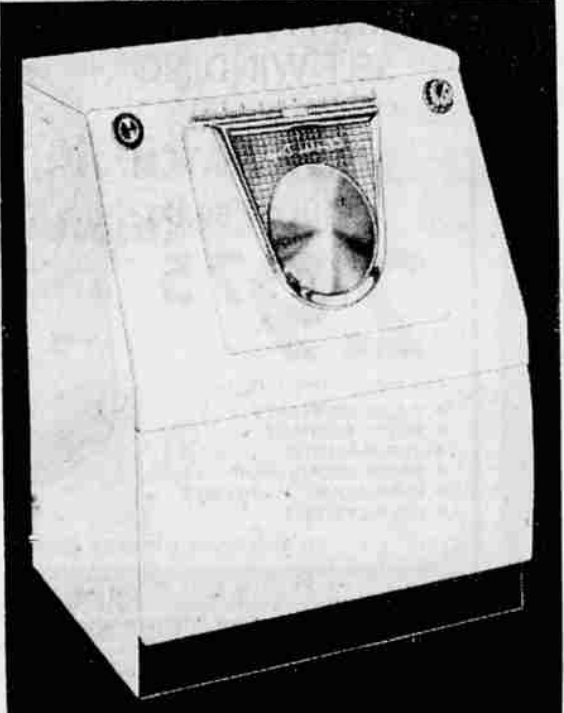
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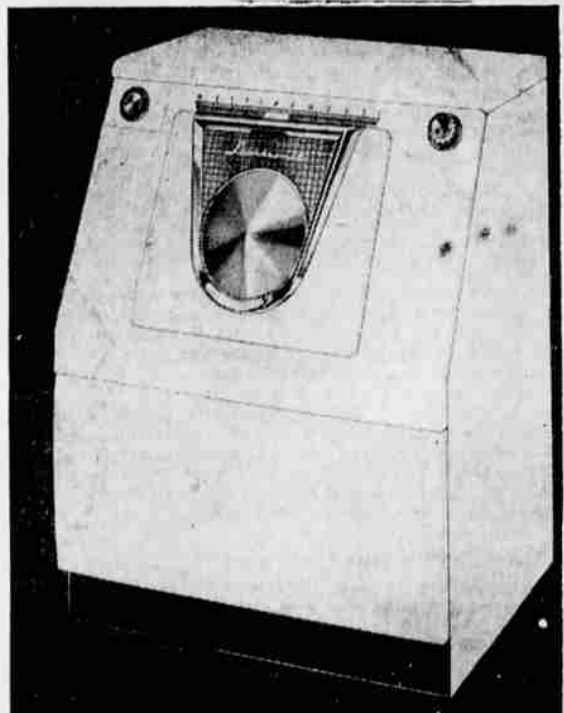
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