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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

WENDELL WILLKIE

The nomination of Wendell Willkie as the Republican presidential candidate signified a triumph of aggressive public sentiment over machine politics. And, on top of that, it was a political miracle.

Mr. Willkie has never held public office. Six or seven years ago he was virtually unknown, save in a limited industrial circle. Up to a year or so ago the public at large knew little or nothing about him. A few months before the convention, some of the leading columnists began writing about him, observing that he would make a model candidate but that, unfortunately, his complete lack of influential political backing made his nomination virtually impossible. Major newspapers editorially expressed similar views. Mr. Willkie was, in other words, the darkest of dark horses, in a field filled with political luminaries long in the public eye. Apparently Mr. Willkie himself first took suggestions that he might be the candidate, as flattering but rather idle conversation.

When the Willkie campaign got underway, it was run entirely by amateurs. His name was not entered in any state primaries—though he did receive a very large and purely voluntary write-in vote in some states. No delegate to the convention was really pledged to him. The comparative handful of votes he received on the first ballot came from unpledged delegates who, with the whole field to pick from, considered him the best man. And long before that ballot was polled, it became evident that supposed Dewey and Taft strongholds were cracking fast in favor of Willkie. Some of the party leaders, finding their influence waning, organized an almost hysterical "stop-Willkie" movement. It apparently added to his support, and on the third ballot, when Dewey lost heavily, it was clear that Willkie was to be the man.

The obvious question is, What manner of man is this, who so dramatically licked the GOP bosses to a standstill? And the obvious answer is that he is a very remarkable man indeed. No one doubts his intellectual capability for the number one U.S. job. A Jeffersonian in political philosophy (he first voted Republican in 1926, when he became convinced

the New Deal had abandoned Democratic principles and was moving toward collectivism) he has done a magnificent job of publicizing the issue of the individual versus the state—he is implacably opposed to government going into business competition with its citizens, and to dictatorial government domination of the social and economic life of the nation. But in these days, intellectual capacity is not enough—other talents are needed, and Mr. Willkie has them too. As William Allen White has written, he is extremely photogenic—he is a big man, jovial in manner, with a shaggy, leonine head. He is quick as they come on his mental feet, and has a highly developed sense of humor. As a speaker and radio platform personality, he is one of the best—many think even better in this regard than President Roosevelt. He has a strong sense of drama, and a great aptitude for the telling phrase. In brief, seasoned political observers feel that he was the only GOP aspirant with the important physical as well as mental attributes needed to battle the strongest Democratic candidate on even terms.

The Republican platform says little and means less. That is not important—Mr. Willkie will make the platform himself, and no one in these days pays much attention to the political planks. While he believes in private enterprise, he believes also in strict regulation, and the iron-handed elimination of business abuses. On foreign policy he favors aid to the allies, but is pledged against declaring war. He is especially strong in defense of civil liberties for minorities no less than majorities, and has pointed out that if we are to assure the perpetuation of freedom, we must always protect the liberty of those whose views we abhor no less than those whose views we endorse. He detests fascism, and all that it stands for.

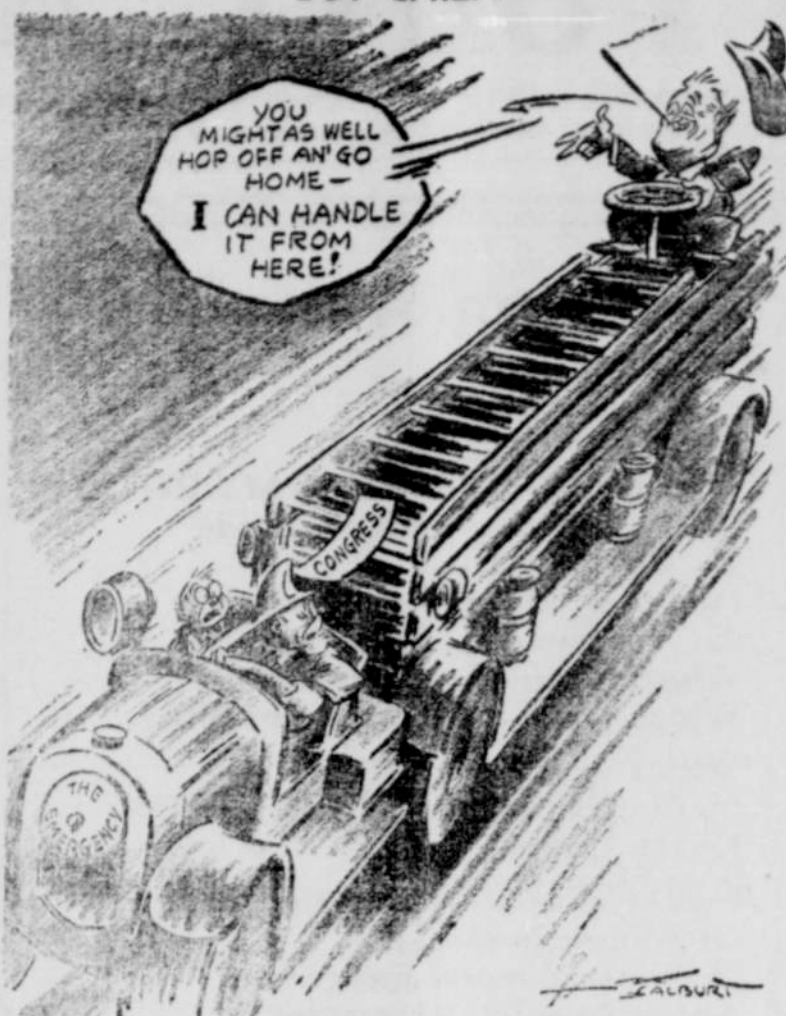
The nomination of Senator McNary of Oregon for second place on the ticket was what the sporting fraternity call a natural. No senator has so strong a following in the West, and in the all-important agricultural states. He is perhaps the ablest parliamentarian in Congress and is universally popular. His record as minority leader during the GOP's leanest days has been excellent. He is a definite asset to the ticket.

Many experts are saying that the nomination of Mr. Willkie makes the renomination, by draft if necessary, of President Roosevelt almost certain. Reason is that the Democrats must now put their best foot forward—and the President is their best foot by far. Mr. Willkie is far too strong a candidate, far too good a speaker, to oppose with a colorless or routine candidate. If these forecasts prove true, and colorful Mr. Roosevelt does run against colorful Mr. Willkie, it should be one of the most dramatic campaigns in our history.

Former Local Boy Leading in College

Harry Young, Jr. returned to college at East St. Louis, Illinois last Thursday, July 4 after spending his brief vacation at home in Medford. In order to crowd the four year course into two years, only 2 weeks vacation is allowed. Harry is taking the aviation

BUT CHIEF!



Talbot, in the Washington Daily News.

administration course at Parks, reputedly the best school in the U.S. for that work. According to word from the president of the college, Harry is "outstanding" amongst the outstanding both scholastically and personally, and tops all classes in spite of a serious math. handicap considered "impossible" to overcome. Compared to the average 16 hour university course with maximum of 19 hours, he carries from 29 to 35 hours—all class work. Though the college is selective in its acceptance of students, only about 50% of those entered are able to finish the course. Needless to say, the graduates are in great demand.

Harry and his mother and sister, Helen, spent a few days in Portland visiting Joyce, and Mrs. Young's brother recently located there from the east.

This past week Joyce has been attending the Young People's Leadership Training Conference at Turner—sent there from the First Christian Church of Portland.

Mrs. Young's mother, Mrs. F. L. Cook of Eugene, returned with Harry, Helen, and Mrs. Young for a visit at their home on S. Oakdale, Medford.

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Fishing Information

Given at Fair

Up-to-date hunting and fishing information is being provided visitors at the Shasta-Cascade building at the World's Fair in San Francisco from a special booth that is an addition this year. The display consists of a huge log framed display of heads and skins and mounted fish across the top of which is Archie Parker's magnificent fishing rod. Parker made this rod especially for the display at his home near Central Point, Ore.

A large bulletin board is kept posted with the latest information from various points in the Wonderland.

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