

Political 'Pros' Will Oppose Stassen

Former Minnesota Governor Is Playing Lone Wolf Role

By BAUKHAGE
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(This is the third of a series on the men most talked about as candidates for the Republican presidential nomination.)

WASHINGTON.—When the bakers were down in Washington sweating out a grain conservation program for their industry, my friend from Minnesota, Harry W. Zinsmaster, who is what the personal column calls a "frequent visitor" in the capital, gave a little luncheon for his colleagues and some press and radio men.

We had finished eating and were gathered around to listen to the bakers' troubles when suddenly the door opened and 220 pounds of blond, smiling, political potentiality burst upon us.

Our host shouted a happy "Hello, Harold!" then turned and announced: "Gentlemen, the next President of the United States."

I daresay most Minnesota Republicans will say "aye" to that. What the rest of the country says is awaited with interest by the candidate.

I suppose I have had 50 people ask me about Harold Stassen. "Why hasn't Stassen a chance?" they query.

Most observers seem to agree that if he has a chance, it's a pretty slim one to date.



Baukhage

The reason is always the same: The professional politicians don't want him.

Not because he's a political "unknown." He could hardly be called that. Sure he took the job of county chairman at the age of 21. He was elected governor of Minnesota three times, could have been senator from that state, had he wanted the job.

In his case, it's not so much that he's a newcomer as it is the way he came up. That way is characteristic of his whole campaign, and two words describe it: "Lone wolf."

The situation favored Stassen when he forced his way into the gubernatorial race in 1938. Minnesota was in a bad way. There was vandalism and corruption, and the Farmer-Labor party, which had held a stiff grip on the state, was disintegrating through its own weakness and graft. Stassen entered the race against the wishes of the Republican Old Guard, but he eventually forced them to help him to some degree. It was largely his own efforts, however, that elected him.

In other words, "he butted into the governorship," according to old guard critics. Others say he did it merely as a step to the presidency, and that it was part of his overweening ambition—the same thing they say about Governor Dewey of New York. But the old guard fears Stassen's type of ambition more than Dewey's. They fear it because they feel that should Stassen be-

come president, he might build up a strong personal following and thus get a stranglehold on the Republican party.

Conventional candidates don't commit themselves too heavily. His supporters claim that Stassen is a middle-of-the-roader, a little to the left. But it is not too much his liber-



HAROLD STASSEN
Does he have a chance?

ality to which the politicians object. I doubt if any practical politician expects us to turn back the clock. But in his highly unorthodox campaigning, Stassen has violated two rules.

One, by announcing himself early in the present campaign. Today he is the only official candidate for the presidential nomination.

Two, he has made and he repeats sharp criticism of the Republican program.

As Roscoe Drummond of the Christian Science Monitor puts it, "If they pick him to ride the elephant, they'll have to get a new elephant." Certainly, Stassen has hinted this was necessary when he said the Republican program must be more constructive, more dynamic. He doesn't consult with anybody else when he announces how to make it so. That's part of the lone-wolf complex.

He comes up from the soil with a dirt-farmer father. He worked his way through college. He has a good military record as deputy chief of staff to Admiral Halsey. He is younger than Dewey (Stassen is 39), and taller than Taft—a sandy-haired, slow-spoken and deliberate six-footer.



NOT FOR SISSIES . . . There was plenty of raw action during the girls' field hockey game between Bryn Mawr and Drexel Institute of Technology. Like when Doris Tarquinio (left) of Drexel slugged a hard one in an attempt to score a goal and the Bryn Mawr goalie stopped it.

NEWS REVIEW

Congress Will Convene; No Russia: Chile, Brazil

TRUMAN CALLS

Congress to Meet

Congress, summoned by President Truman, will convene in special session at noon, November 17, to deal with:

1. "The alarming and continuing" high prices at home and,
2. The pressing need for rapid-fire emergency aid abroad.

President Truman's summoning of congress a month and a half before it normally would have convened marked a definite climax in U. S. domestic events for 1947. Although doubt existed for a long time as to whether a special session would be called to meet the two problems which have been screaming with urgency all year, it was the only really logical step to take.

Mr. Truman took it decisively. He conferred with his cabinet, and he conferred with key congressional leaders of both parties. He did not ask their advice on a special session; he informed them simply that he was calling one.

"It is urgently necessary," he said, "for the congress to take legislative action designed to put an end to the continued rise in prices . . . and to meet the crisis in Western Europe!"

Concerning prices, the President would not ask for consumer controls, but for authority for allocation of certain materials. European relief, scheduled to be given priority over the price muddle in congressional action, was highlighted by the growing desperation in France and Italy.

DENIAL:

No Force

James F. Byrnes, said James F. Byrnes somewhat angrily, was and is a patient man. Moreover, he did not advocate in his recently published memoirs, "Frankly Speaking," that force should be used, if necessary, to drive the Russians out of Germany.

The former U. S. secretary of state made that rebuttal after widely printed reviews of his book had stated that he was urging the building of more and bigger atomic bombs and the use of force against the recalcitrant Red army.

He reiterated his belief that the U. S., Great Britain and France should proceed with a general German peace conference, regardless of the Soviet Union's attitude. If the Russians refused to sign the treaty, then the other nations should appeal to the security council of the U. N. to order the Russians out because, Byrnes said, "we will then be facing a situation likely to endanger the peace."

He Ate Nails—and Stuff

When surgeons operated on James S. Payne, inmate of Kansas state prison, to remove a nail from his throat, they discovered that the man was virtually a perambulating junk shop.

Three and a half pounds of metal, including two complete safety razors without blades, was the loot the doctors recovered from Payne's case-hardened stomach. The convict, serving an arson term, gave no reason for his metallic diet.

THE BREAKS

Chile, Brazil Kiss Russia Good-By

Acting almost simultaneously, two South American nations—Brazil and Chile—curtly announced severance of diplomatic relations with Russia because, as they both implied, they couldn't stand it any longer.

Brazil, which beat Chile to the gun by a few hours in breaking relations, had the less valid reason for its action, on the surface, at least. Stated reason for the move was given as the "extremely outrageous and even calumnious" articles in the Russian press attacking Pres. Enrico Gaspar Dutra and the Brazilian army.

Russia's Literary Gazette had called Dutra an incompetent soldier and a Fascist. It was the same magazine that had compared President Truman with Hitler, to which the U. S. strongly objected but took no further action.

Chile, however, had a more deep-seated grievance. Communist infiltration in the nation's southern coal zone, leading to recent labor difficulties there, undoubtedly spurred the decision to sever relations.

Chilean Pres. Gabriel Gonzalez Videla previously had accused the Communists of planning to cripple Chile's production of copper, ni-

trates and other strategic materials and hamper defense of the western hemisphere and the United States. He also had announced his intention to "end once and for all" what he called Communist dictatorship over Chile's mine workers.

And in a burst of thoroughness, Chile also ended diplomatic relationships with Czechoslovakia.

If no other end is accomplished, the action by Brazil and Chile at least may answer the question of whether Communist penetration into a nation actually can be halted by breaking diplomatic relations with Russia.



JACK KRAMER, the tennis star, was talking about the difference between golf and tennis. We had just asked him if there was any chance that he would follow in Ellsworth Vines' path and later take up golf for a living.

"Not the slightest chance ever," the astute Kramer said. "It may be tough to make a living out of tennis. But it's far tougher in golf. For example, in a tennis match if you can beat an opponent in straight sets or in three sets out of four, you usually can keep on beating him. Not always—but usually, it's nothing like that in golf. You can beat a star one day and next day some unknown will knock your brains out."



J. Kramer

"In tennis we knew pretty well who should reach the semi-finals and the final round at Forest Hills. We figured at least that most of the leaders would be hanging around. But at Pebble Beach they were scattering the dust of beaten stars all along the Pacific. Just about the time this golf championship really got under way, Frank Stranahan was out, Bud Ward was out, Smiley Quick was out, Ted Bishop, defending champion, was out—most of those picked to win were packing their clubs and heading somewhere else. Fellows who had lost in the first round at Baltusrol, a year ago, now were decorating their wigwams with scalps of leading stars."

"Tennis also has its upsets," I suggested.

"I like golf as a game, but not as a way of making a living. It's too tough. Ellie Vines has played a long number of brilliant rounds. But he rarely wins a big money tournament. And Vines has practiced thousands of hours at golf."

"Don't forget," I put in, "that tennis is played over a few square yards of space. A round of golf covers over five miles and some 150 acres. A tennis court is perfectly massaged. A golf course is full of trees, bunkers, traps, matted rough, ponds, lakes, maybe part of an ocean, hills, ravines, bushes and jungle. Irv Cobb told me once that he got so deep into the woods on some western course that he was attacked by two pumas. Also, there are few cuppy lies in tennis. No bunker heel prints in the sand."

"That may have something to do with it," Kramer said. "All I know is that I don't want any part of pro golf—even if I was 15 strokes better than my 85."

There is another angle that Kramer might have figured on.

The tension in golf is about four times the tension in tennis—or any other sport. There is only one cure or relief for tension that every other sport carries. This is action—movement. Golf has no such relief.

Psychology always plays a far bigger part in golf than in any other game. In almost every other game you are playing against some opponent. In golf you are playing almost entirely by yourself. No one can interfere physically with anything you do. You can only beat yourself. Your main opponent is yourself—not the other fellow.

Golf demands no speed, no brawn, no quick mental reflexes under fire. There are no split seconds of mental action in golf as there are in baseball, football, tennis, polo and all games of physical action.

Knut Rockne, who played most games well, gave up golf. "It's too tough for me," Knute said.

Fred Stone was one of the greatest natural athletes I ever saw—acrobat, boxer, a star performer in most sports. "Fred learned how to ski in two hours," Rex Beach told me once—yet Stone tried and quit golf. It was a different game.

And those who have played other games so well hate to be duffers and dubs in a game that looks so easy and simple.

Sammy Byrd and Ellsworth Vines are the only two men I know who have starred at other games—baseball and tennis—plus golf. Byrd was a better golfer than he was a ball player, but he turned first to baseball.

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Vandenberg Won't Fight

Early this year, according to credible authority, a secret poll was taken by Republican senators as to their informal, off-the-record preference for a presidential candidate. Sen. Arthur Hendrick Vandenberg of Michigan won it.

In the same month, the senator made a statement in a national magazine in which he said he thought it was easier to run for president than not to run. He explained how difficult it was to deny that one is a candidate, once the story got started. He mentioned the question of the "draft" and expressed an opinion similar to that of Roy Roberts



Vandenberg

of the Kansas City Star in connection with Gen. Dwight Eisenhower—namely, that there had never been a real "draft" in his day. Vandenberg said that, of course, no man would refuse the nomination if it were handed to him as an accomplished fact.

He concluded his remarks with this statement: "I am not a candidate. I do not expect or wish to be a candidate. I shall seek no convention delegates or approve of others in this behalf. I think my place of service is filling out my tenure in the senate."

Few men's stature has increased as Vandenberg's has as a result of his participation in international affairs. I think it is fair to say that Vandenberg not only made non-partisan foreign policy possible, but that his efforts in carrying out the non-partisan principle made a unified foreign policy itself possible.

A part of Vandenberg's influence in the field of foreign affairs is due to the fact that he has the enthusiasm of a con-

vert. He was once frankly an isolationist. Today he has converted many others, and I believe that no single man has done more than he to break down the provincial attitude, especially in the Midwest, which before World War II prevented America from taking leadership in world affairs—leadership which might have postponed, if not entirely prevented, the war.

I do not believe that he is actually eliminated from the nomination, but we can be certain he will not fight for the job. He had the high vote at the Republican convention of 1940 when the Willkie blitz struck.

Vandenberg's support of bi-partisan policy doesn't mean that he gives a blank check to the administration. He favors the Marshall plan and aid to Greece and Turkey, but he refused to recognize that aid as the "Truman Doctrine," insisting it was not a doctrine at all.

FARM DISASTER LOOMS

Rain Is Needed To Save Wheat

Serious cuts in meat production and wheat selling for \$5 a bushel may be in prospect if rains do not relieve the serious drought plaguing the country's vast wheat fields from Texas to the Canadian border, a survey discloses.

A dry summer and below normal rains this autumn have delayed wheat seeding, kept planted wheat from germinating properly and forced farmers to "dust in" their grain in a manner reminiscent of the dust bowl days of the 1930s, crop experts report.

In addition to the damage to the plantings of winter wheat, farmers have not been able to use their wheat grounds for grazing, and mil-

lions of animals usually fattened on wheat during the fall either will move to market at lighter weights or without the fattening benefits of the wheat fields.

The Texas Panhandle, whose thousands of acres normally provide both grain and cattle pasture, has little topsoil moisture and only a scant supply of subsoil moisture. Texas cattlemen estimated that the state would have only 20 to 25 percent of the normal pastureage this winter.

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