

Civil Rights Planks Of Both Parties Draw Attacks From Ranks

By Congressional Quarterly

Washington — Controversial civil rights planks in the 1952 platforms of both major parties have drawn fire from their own ranks.

The fact that neither party has fulfilled its promises on the issue in the past, as shown by a Congressional Quarterly survey, does not seem to cool the flames of controversy.

Leading the attack from within on the Democratic plank is Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., a Negro from New York. His counterpart in the GOP is Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon.

Powell told a Harlem mass meeting the Negro was "sold down the river" at the national conventions of both parties. He said the Negro vote is sufficient to control the outcome of the Nov. 4 Presidential election.

"We will vote only for our county, city and state candidates unless between now and November we can get firm assurances from Governor Stevenson and Senator Sparkman that they will campaign on a more forthright civil rights program than the ambiguous one adopted in the party platform."

On the other hand, several prominent Democrats defended the civil rights plank but they did not all agree on what it promises.

Sen. John J. Sparkman of Alabama, the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee, said in Richmond, Va., that the Democratic platform leaves it to "legislative bodies" how best to assure "that no person will be denied employment unfairly."

Sparkman said "all I ask a person to do is read and study the platform. You can't find FEPC mentioned in it, and there's no word of compulsion."

Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D-N.Y.) who helped draft the platform, said he thought the plank was much stronger than was the Democratic plank of 1948. He pointed to the fact that the 1952 platform includes a promise of modifying the Senate rule on debate. This provision, he said, "singled out the real villain, which is the filibuster."

In making his attack on the GOP plank in a magazine (New

Republic) article, Morse said:

"It is a great disappointment that the plank of the Republican platform is such a weasel-worded, compromising document of double talk. Eisenhower and Nixon must clarify it and take a firm stand for federal rights in the field of civil rights. All Americans are entitled to the guarantee by the federal government of the constitutional right to the protection of first-class citizenship."

16 Join in Statement

Defending the Republican plank on civil rights, 16 GOP officials released a joint statement saying a Republican victory in November would hasten fair employment legislation.

The statement read, in part: "It is our interpretation of the civil rights plank in the 1952 platform that FEPC with enforcement powers and similar laws will be accelerated by a Republican victory. We state this based on: (1) The plank itself which says 'We will prove our good faith . . . by enacting federal legislation to further just and equitable treatment in the area of discriminatory employment practices'; (2) because we believe FEPC and other federal legislation against discrimination and segregation to be entirely constitutional; and (3) because we see no interference in states where adequate laws are in effect and where federal and state laws and administration can be coordinated."

The statement also said that in the matter of civil rights legislation "the Democratic party can only promise but cannot achieve."

The Republicans signing the statement were Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll of New Jersey and two delegates to the national convention, in addition to the following Congressmen:

Senators—Irrving M. Ives, (N.Y.); Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., (Mass.); Leverett Saltonstall, (Mass.) and H. Alexander Smith, (N.J.).

Representatives—Clifford P. Case, (N.J.); James G. Fulton, (Pa.); John W. Heselton, (Mass.); Jacob K. Javitt, (N.Y.); Robert W. Kean, (N.J.); Albert P. Morano, (Conn.); Hugh D. Scott, (Pa.) and Charles A. Wolverton, (N.J.).

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HAPPY TALK—Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois chats with three prominent women at a reception for Cabinet wives at Democratic national headquarters in Washington. The presidential candidate, guest of honor, talks to Mrs. James P. McGranery (left), wife of the attorney general; Perle Mesta (center), minister to Luxembourg; India Edwards, vice chairman of Democratic national committee.

Number of New Polio Cases Reach 2,648 in One Week

Washington —(U.P.)—The Public Health Service has announced that 2,648 new polio cases were reported in the United States in the week which ended Saturday—a 15 per cent increase over the total for the previous week.

The weekly communicable disease summary of the Public Health Service reported "a significant increase." In the East North-Central division the weekly total jumped from 535 cases to 755. Largest increases were in Illinois and Michigan, the summary said.

212 Cases in Illinois
In Illinois, the increase was

Portland —(U.P.)—M-Sgt. Kenneth Lauer, whose nine-year-old daughter, Yvonne Louise, drowned in the Columbia river Monday, has been granted a leave from the Army in Korea to join his grief-stricken family here, Portland Red Cross headquarters said Thursday.

from 140 to 212. In Michigan the case load rose from 159 to 225.

The summary said in both Iowa and Texas, where polio had been reported in "epidemic proportions," decreases of about 28 per cent under the previous week were recorded.

In the current "disease year"—beginning in April—the overall total is 12,046, the Public Health Service said, under the 12,865 for the corresponding

American Soldier Gets Life Prison Sentence

Berlin —(U.P.)—A U. S. Army general court-martial sentenced a 26-year-old American soldier to life imprisonment at hard labor Thursday for raping a nine-year-old girl and attempting to rape a 16-year-old.

Pvt. Gordon A. Bright, Knoxville, Tenn., was the first American soldier stationed in Berlin to be convicted of rape.

period in the record polio outbreak of 1949 and far lower than the 7,056 cases in the same period last year.

Mexican Economist Lists Reasons for High Prices

Mexico City —(U.P.)—A Mexican economics expert, Santos Barcena, lists four points contributing to the current high cost of living in the country. They are: 1. The necessary volume of food is not produced. 2. Purchases are made abroad at high prices. 3. Despite scarcities at home, exportations continue. 4. Monopolies prevent competition.

Portland —(U.P.)—Joseph A. Beirne, international president of the CIO Communication Workers of America, arrives here Friday to confer with local union officials on progress of negotiations for a new contract.

Medical School Teaching Hospital Bids Turned Down

Portland—(U.P.)—Bids for construction of the University of Oregon Medical School teaching hospital have been rejected by the State Board of Higher Education because they were too high.

Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge, Silverton, chairman of the board's building committee, said bids "far exceeded available funds." He said the board had about \$5,800,000 available from legislative appropriations to build the hospital. Bids submitted totaled \$6,676,884, about 10 per cent above architects' estimates, he said.

Bids were excessive, the board said, because of material and wage increases which have gone into effect since preliminary planning and appropriations were made about two years ago. The board has asked architects to work with medical school administrators to cut costs. Findings will be reported to the board September 9.

Bids were entered on a general contract, the heating plant, electrical contract and elevator installations.

One-Time Speed King Gets Aviation Award

Washington —(U.P.)—Daredevil Roscoe Turner, whose dapper waxed moustache was nearly as famous as the string of aviation speed records he set two decades ago, came here Thursday to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross for his contributions to aerial speed and safety.

It was the first award of the DFC to a civilian in 20 years.

Gen. Nathan F. Twining, acting Air Force chief of staff, was picked to present the award to the one-time speed king, who now runs an aviation firm and airline at Indianapolis.

Jap Has Right Idea On Efficiency Plan

Tokyo —(U.P.)—An American in Tokyo was complaining about the inefficiency of the Japanese. "They are slow," he said. "They can follow a given course but get rattled when something new turns up. They waste time. They always use two men to do one man's job."

A Japanese friend of the American listened patiently and then remarked: "Perhaps you are right. But did you ever stop to think about this? If we Japanese were as efficient as you Americans want us to be, we probably would have won the war."

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