

# First Murmurs of Battle Heard for Democratic Presidential Nomination

## Adlai Stevenson, Harriman Expected Main Candidates

By LYLE C. WILSON  
United Press Correspondent  
Washington—(U.P.)—The first murmurs of battle for the 1956 Democratic presidential nomination are sounding in the news about Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois and Gov. Averell Harriman of New York.

Stevenson let it be known in late May that he was of a mind to make a fight for renomination next year. This was revealed in a New York Times story which did not quote Stevenson but which obviously was based on authentic information.

The nub of it was that Stevenson hoped to obtain the support of the conservative Southern elements of the party, but would fight them, if necessary. Harriman, meanwhile, was deferring to Stevenson's claim to another shot at the White House. The New Yorker acknowledged his own strategic political position but said he was for Stevenson. That's the way it was until last week end when Tammany Boss Carmine DeSapio said that the New York delegation to next year's Democratic national convention would be for Harriman. DeSapio guided Harriman to the governorship and remains close by as secretary of state in the Harriman cabinet. Furthermore, DeSapio is cleaning up Tammany Hall to make it again a powerful political weapon.

**Prendergast Plugs Harriman**  
His pledge of the New York delegation was followed this week by a plug for Harriman by Michael H. Prendergast, newly elected Democratic state chairman in New York. Harriman's reaction simply was to say he was honored by the suggestion but that he still was for Stevenson.

To make it short, Harriman is in the hands of his friends—ambitious friends. Neither Harriman nor his backers will do anything soon to bruise Stevenson's feelings. But the atmosphere of amateur ping pong cannot long prevail in the tough game of presidential politics. Stevenson is expected to announce in the early autumn his availability for renomination. Harriman and company may be expected to lay back to measure the Stevenson strength.

If there is a general rally, outside the South, to Stevenson's banner, Harriman will get a courtesy vote from the New Yorkers at the Democratic convention, and that's about all. But if local leaders around the country hesitate, DeSapio would be expected to go to bat with a big pre-convention campaign for his man.

In all of that there is no comfort for conservative Democrats. Thousands of them bolted Stevenson in 1952. Harriman was closer to the New Deal and Fair Deal than Stevenson ever was. Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan would not be much of an improvement from the conservative standpoint.

**Kefauver Compromise**  
Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee might be a compromise candidate, but it would be over the dead body of Harry S. Truman and others. Under those circumstances, there is a whisper around this town that Speaker Sam Rayburn could be the 1956 Democratic dark horse. Mr. Sam is 73 years old, which is an enormous handicap. But he's hale and hearty if looks and appetite count for anything. After 42 years in the House and in the midst of a sixth term as speaker, Rayburn is the senior member of the Congress. He is a popular party figure.

The other standout Democrat if the party seeks a strong and popular man is Gov. Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, now serving a fifth term. He is 59 years old. Lausche is a Catholic and it is nearly 30 years since the Democrats defied tradition to nominate a member of that church for president.

Catholic Alfred Emmanuel Smith of New York lost to Herbert Hoover of California in 1928. A great many traditions and prejudices have gone over the dam since that election. Either

### Police Check Teller's Story of Blackmail

Pittsburgh—(U.P.)—Police and FBI agents today checked the statement of a 59-year-old bank teller who said he embezzled \$24,000 for a "final" payoff to a blackmailing husband whom he had already given \$25,000. Emil H. Groszglass, teller of the Farmers National Bank at Beaver Falls, Pa., refused to name his alleged blackmailing husband during persistent questioning by FBI agents yesterday.

er Rayburn or Lausche could look mighty good to Democrats assembled in 1956 if they became convinced that the nomination of a left wing leader would split the party again.

## Popular Songs of Another Era Making Strong Comebacks in Films, on Records

New York—(U.P.)—A record combining the voice of Sammy Davis Jr., and a song called "Love Me Or Leave Me" is sliding upward on the best-seller charts. The song and Davis have something in common. Both are about the same age.

Davis is a 28-year-old showman of infectious enthusiasm whose voice has made him a bright new star at Decca Records. "Love Me Or Leave Me," also is 28, is one of those older tunes that has had color put back in its cheeks for another turn before the footlights.

There always are some old tunes returning to popularity, but chances are during the next year people will be whistling

more and more tunes out of the late 1920s and 1930s.

"It's A Sin to Tell A Lie," which Kate Smith used to sing over the radio in 1936, is back in the guise of a banjo number played by Somethin' Smith. "The Breeze And I" and "Darling, Je Vous Aime Beaucoup" are others of early vintage being heard again.

### Only Beginning

But, as the interlocutor used to say, that's only the beginning. Word has come from Hollywood, that important detour of Tin Pan Alley, that "standard" tunes 20 or 30 years old will be getting the most plugs in movies in months to come.

It's because of the kind of

movie musical occupying the major studies right now—the backstage saga. And the era that seems to be fascinating the producers most is the roaring twenties and the not-so-soaring thirties.

The film biography of Ruth Etting provided the impetus for the revival of the title song, "Love Me Or Leave Me." Another number from the film, "I'll Never Stop Loving You," also is on the climb as a single record.

A collection of all of them, sung by Doris Day on the Columbia label, is No. 1 this week on Variety's list of best-selling popular albums.

**More To Come**  
Tunes from the same era will

be given a whirl when MGM releases its film version of the Lillian Roth autobiography, "I'll Cry Tomorrow."

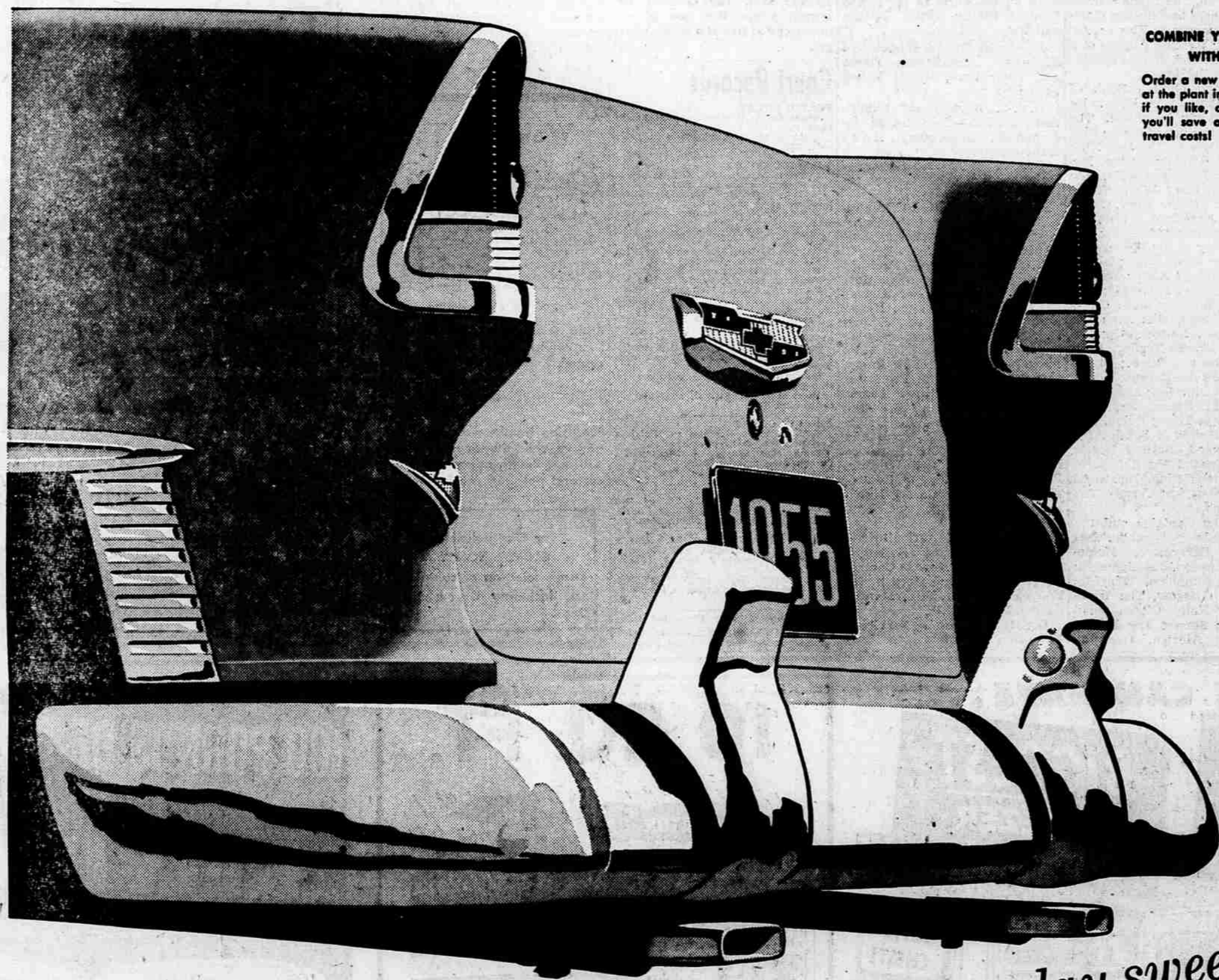
Then there will be a cascade of 1930 swing music when Universal comes out with "The Benny Goodman Story," and the same musical epoch is the subject of Columbia's forthcoming "Eddy Duchin Story."

"Gentlemen Marry Brunettes," the Jane Russell-Jeanne Crain musical soon to come from United Artists, doesn't tell any real-life story but it illustrates Hollywood's fascination with old music. The film has nine musical numbers but only one is new. The rest include such museum pieces as "Daddy,"

"Miss Annabelle Lee" and "Ain't Misbehavin'." And to do it up brown, none other than Rudy Vallee is along to sing them.

**SIGNS AUSTRIAN TREATY**  
London—(U.P.)—Queen Elizabeth signed the Austrian treaty Thursday.

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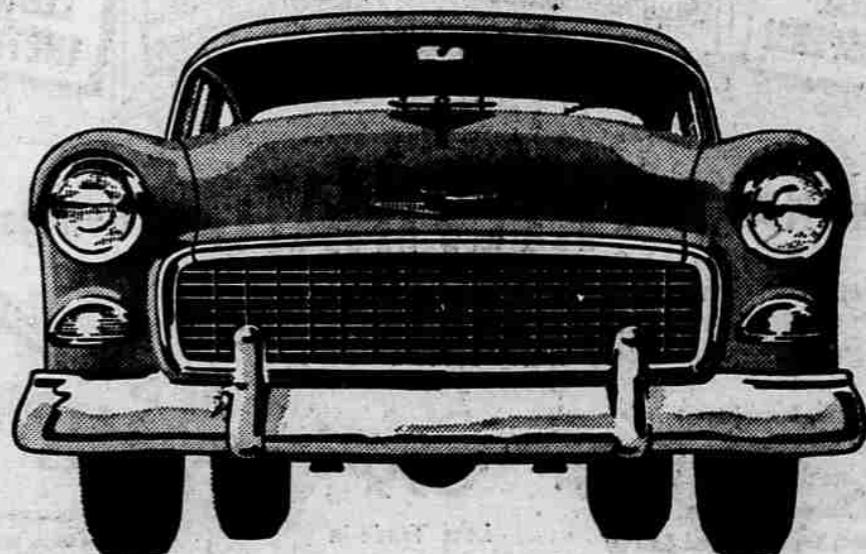
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