

Booming Employment, Flow of Income Biggest Republican Political Asset

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent
Washington—(U.P.)—The cold statistics of booming employment and the flow of income to individuals and corporations add up to the biggest political asset right now in the Republican locker.

President Eisenhower was the party's most valuable possession until he was stricken Sept. 24. His political value must be marked down somewhat until and unless it is determined that he can lead another presidential campaign.

If he decides not to run again, the Republican campaign will be waged on the issues of peace and prosperity plank as of today, just 12 critical months before next year's presidential election. The boom is on. The reports of personal and corporate income and treasury revenue sound it loud and long.

Way back in the early Roosevelt years there was a familiar saying around election time: "You can't shoot Santa Claus."

Count on Prosperity
The late Alfred Emmanuel Smith wisecracked that one in recognition of the fact FDR was pouring federal funds into channels which led shortly to the

pockets of grateful citizens. Republican strategists are convinced that what relief and other federal spending did for Mr. Roosevelt, a basic national prosperity will do for the Republicans and their candidate in November, 1956.

What the Republicans have to fear is the possibility that the boom will ease off between now and election day. That could be deadly.

Even though some farm prices are down and others—pork example—are seriously depressed, the national economy is setting new records. Personal income in September was reported the highest in the nation's history—at a rate of \$307,500,000—000 annually if sustained for a year.

Only last January, Mr. Eisenhower estimated that personal income in the fiscal year ending next June 30 would be \$298,500,000,000. The figure steadily has been revised upward. Personal income broke through the \$300,000,000 level last May and hasn't dropped below that figure.

Earnings Exceed Estimates
Corporation annual income was estimated first at \$38,500,000,000, then \$40,600,000,000. But third quarter earnings were at an annual rate of \$43,000,000,000.

With these money figures come government reports that October employment was 65,161,000—up nearly half a million over September and more than 3,000,000 above October, 1954.

All of this represents a lot of money, a lot of buying and a lot of jobs—a boom time economy. The political significance is that the treasury will get more revenue this year than it had counted on. A tax cut next year, a presidential campaign year, seems almost assured. And there seems a fair prospect that the budget shortly will be balanced—a feat Mr. Eisenhower promised when he ran in 1952.

Prosperity, a tax cut and a balanced budget would add up to powerful campaign issues for the Republicans in 1956.



Lyle C. Wilson

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Second Section

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Back Stairs: Telephone Expansion Plan

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Writer
Denver—(U.P.)—Backstairs at the Denver White House:

The White House is not financing any of the expansion of telephone, telegraph or press facilities at Gettysburg, Pa. The expansion of telephone facilities is part of a three-year program that is being speeded up, however, because of the influx of reporters following President Eisenhower.

If the weather at Gettysburg is uncomfortable for any prolonged period, it still is a good bet that Mr. Eisenhower might spend part of December in the South.

An amazing amount of "get well" mail has come to the President from school children. Literally thousands of postcards have arrived at the Denver White House, proclaiming in childish scrawl and sometimes illuminated in wavering but colorful crayon, that the sender wishes very much for the chief executive's recovery.

School kids of entire communities have joined in well-wishing by mail.

The President also has received hundreds of phonograph records from people who had read how recorded music has made his stay at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital more pleasant. One of his finest assortments of records was a gift from Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, former secretary of health, education and welfare.

Two unsung heroes of the tense around-the-clock watch by

Pinnell said Wirths reenacted the details of his entrance to the Woodward home and that they "checked out."

Detectives said Wirths would "definitely" be a witness in the forthcoming grand jury investigation.

No date for the hearing has been set and it presumably depended upon Mrs. Woodward's release from Doctors' hospital in New York where she has been confined since the day her husband was shot.

Portland—(U.P.)—The 60th annual convention of the Oregon Wool Growers association opens here Thursday.

Prowler's Story Alters Complexion In Woodward Case

Ostery Bay, N.Y.—(U.P.)—Police indicated today the belated confession of a delinquent prowler may clear Mrs. William Woodward Jr., of all suspicion in the shotgun slaying of her multi-millionaire husband.

The prowler, Paul W. Wirths Jr., admitted to police Monday he probably made the noise which alarmed Mrs. Woodward into firing at her husband in the dark.

He said he climbed to the flat roof of the Woodward mansion about 2 a.m. on Oct. 30 and forced open a door to a guest room directly above Mrs. Woodward's sleeping quarters.

Gen Hits Door Jamb
Wirths said the butt of his shotgun banged against the jamb of the guest room door and he became entangled in a curtain as he stepped inside the room.

A few minutes later, he said, he heard the roar of a shotgun blast. The shot he heard was the one which felled Woodward in the darkened hallway on the floor below.

"It sounded like a cannon. I ran like hell and jumped off the roof," he said.

Wirths volunteered the confession which changed the complexion of the case.

When he was first arrested Nov. 1 he maintained he hadn't been on the grounds of the Woodward home the night that Woodward was shot.

Detective Chief Stuyvesant



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Diner Patrons Hear Campaign for Mayor

Columbus, O.—(U.P.)—During the election eve campaigning for Mayor of Columbus, a man poked his head into a diner and shouted:

"Vote for Sesenbrenner!"

"Who was that guy?" a customer asked.

The campaigner was the Democratic nominee for Mayor, Mayor Sesenbrenner.

Portland—(U.P.)—Interior Secretary Douglas McKay left Sunday by plane to return to Washington, D. C., after a two week visit to Oregon.

Portland—(U.P.)—Lloyd Gift of Bonanza, Ore., has been named the Pacific Northwest "Grassman of the Year."



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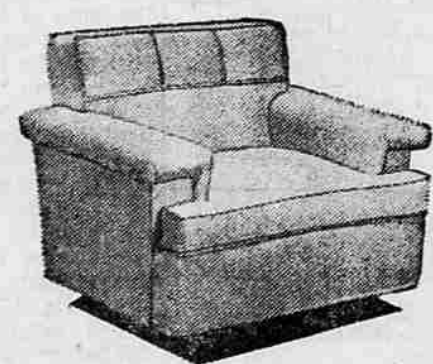
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