

# Eisenhower's Remarks at Key West Causes Republicans To Fret

By LYLE C. WILSON  
 United Press Correspondent  
 Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower's Key West comment on his political future is being analyzed here as though it were a newly discovered one-act play by Shakespeare.

No one knows for sure what Mr. Eisenhower actually meant by his talk of health, duty and public office. There is one passage, however, which frets his Republican friends considerably. It was that one in which he referred to the possibility that a man in his condition might die in office.

Fret is hardly the word for it. It is causing some real unhappiness. It was a passage to-

ward the end of the Key West news conference in which the President said:

"Remember this: Now, it is not merely what the doctors say to someone else, what the doctors say to me. It is a very critical thing to change govern-

ments in this country at a time that it is unexpected—we ac-

custom ourselves and so do foreign governments, to changing our government every four years, but always something happens that is untoward when a government is changed at oth-

er times.

"It is a rather startling thing. They tell me that there was even some disturbance in the stock market at the time I got sick."

The point raised by Mr. Eisenhower is precisely the campaign

issue Democrats will most urgently press if he is a second term candidate. They must be cautious and discreet about it. But they will get over to the voters this line of argument:

"Sure, Ike is a great guy. But suppose he dies. Look at that

fellow running with him. Do you want him in the White House in a year or so?"

The Democrats are going to campaign against the vice-presidential nominee, no matter who he is, if Mr. Eisenhower again heads the Republican ticket. It is an issue which will require careful handling because, literally, it is a matter of life and death. Voters could be offended if it were overplayed.

Why, in heaven's name, some Republicans are asking today, did the President raise the issue himself? The Democrats now have a handy campaign quote from Mr. Eisenhower, himself, to pass on to the voter. It looks like a substantial political misplay, one of the few charged against the President.

Moreover, if he was surprised that the stock market bobbed a bit at his heart attack, he was among the very few grown men and women who could not have predicted with much confidence that a presidential heart attack would jar the market. He must have tossed that line in to build up the idea that the death of a president in office is a world shaking event.

It is a world shaker, all right. But there is not much precedent for the idea that the shake is more than superficial. Lincoln's death in office unquestionably changed the course of American history into the channel of the brutal reconstruction of the South.

But, three of 10 presidents elected in this century have died in office. Neither the word nor the nation suffered permanent

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## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Second Section MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1956 Pages 1-6

### Patterson's Recommendation for Oregon Official on ICC Said Quietly Buried

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
 Mail Tribune Correspondent  
 Washington — Gov. Paul Patterson's recommendation of an Oregon official for a seat on the Interstate Commerce commission here in the nation's capital has been quietly buried by the Eisenhower administration.

The governor last month sent President Eisenhower the name of Clifford W. Ferguson, who is rail transportation director for the Oregon Public Utilities commission. Patterson urged that Ferguson be named to fill a vacancy on the ICC.

A high official of the administration told this reporter "there isn't a chance that Ferguson will get that position."

**None From Oregon**  
 Patterson had pointed out to the president that currently none of the commissioners on the 11-man body are from Oregon, whereas Oregon had been represented for many years by the late Clyde Aitchison, who served until July 10, 1952.

But the administration official in a position to know about the ICC vacancy explained:

"The West already has three men on the commission. It can hardly expect more than that."

He was referring to Owen Clarke of Yakima, Wash., John H. Winchell of Colorado, and Howard G. Freas of California. All three men are Republicans appointed by President Eisenhower to serve 7-year terms.

Although there is no rule requiring wide geographical spread of the membership of the ICC, it is commonly observed in the president's selections of commissioners.

**Two From Midwest**  
 In addition to the three westerners now serving, there are

two from the midwest — Iowa and Indiana; two from the south — Texas and Georgia; one border state — Kentucky; and one easterner — Connecticut.

A second factor weighs heavily against Ferguson, it was ex-

plained, and that relates to his past service at the ICC from 1936 to 1942.

"Even if there were no westerners on the commission now," the official went on, "Ferguson wouldn't get the job."

He said the Oregon official is not spoken of highly in all ICC quarters among those officials of the agency who worked with him during his term of service with the commission. He indicated this was a major factor in the fact that the governor's recommendation is not being given any serious consideration.

### Quotes From the News

**By UNITED PRESS**  
 Hollywood—Grace Kelly, to reporters questioning her about any change in her career plans because of her forthcoming marriage:

"I had planned to do a play next year but I now have cancelled that plan."

Washington—Chairman Philip Young of the Civil Service commission, testifying about the security check on government employees:

"Rarely does an individual get tagged with being a security risk. Most of those doing the most shouting tagged themselves."

Philadelphia—Mrs. Gertrude Silver, in admitting she arranged the abortion attempt which killed her daughter, Doris Jean Ostrecher:

"When you love your child, you will do anything for that child."

Washington—House Republican Leader Joseph W. Martin Jr. (Mass.) after attending a meeting with President Eisenhower and House and Senate GOP leaders:

"This was not a political meeting."

Chicago—Adlai Stevenson, on President Eisenhower's nine-point farm program:

"The President's message is recognition, at last, that the farmer needs help—at least in an election year."

Miami—Police Chief Walter Headley during a heated Miami Board of Review meeting discussing a photograph of Marilyn Monroe in a bathing suit:

"I don't see anything obscene about the human breast."

Miami—Mrs. Regina McLinden, chairman of the Board of Review, replying to Headley:

"Neither do I, but let's keep the breast in its place."

New York—Former Vice-President and former Agriculture Secretary Henry Wallace on the President's soil bank proposal:

"I am quite enthusiastic about it."

### Orange Crop To Be Under Last Year

Washington — (U.P.) — The Agriculture department has estimated the early and mid-season orange crop at 66,965,000 boxes, the same as indicated on Dec. 1 but about 2,000,000 boxes less than last season's crop.

Valencias were forecast at 63,050,000 boxes, 2,000,000 less than a month earlier.

The grapefruit crop was placed at 46,200,000 boxes, an increase of 1,000,000 boxes over a month earlier.

California lemons were forecast at 13,200,000 boxes, 6 per cent below last season.

The department said the indicated production of all oranges for five states for 1955 was 130,015,000 boxes. Production by states: California, 36,000,000 boxes; Florida, 91,000,000 boxes; Texas, 1,800,000 boxes; Arizona, 1,000,000 boxes; Louisiana, 215,000 boxes.

The grapefruit production by states: Florida, 39,000,000 boxes; Texas, 2,200,000 boxes; Arizona, 2,400,000 boxes; California, 2,600,000 boxes.

The department estimated December milk production at 9,023,000 pounds and 1955 production at 124,462,000,000 pounds.

Egg production in December was estimated at 5,467,000,000. The production for 1955 was estimated at 67,355,000,000.

Portland — (U.P.) — City Commissioner Stanley W. Earl, 46, has filed for reelection to the post he has held since 1952.



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