

Harriman Closest To FDR Pattern Among Democrat Presidential Hopefuls

Age Handicap In Contest With Younger Aspirants

Editor's note: This is the third in a series on the Democratic presidential hopefuls.

By **LYLE C. WILSON**
United Press Correspondent
Washington—(UP)—Closest to the Roosevelt pattern among the three most discussed Democratic presidential hopefuls this year is Gov. Averell Harriman of New York.



Harriman is an "inactive" candidate for the nomination. He is a son of great wealth and, like FDR, benefits from the aggressive business triumphs of his forebears.

The Harrimans who preceded probably would not be voting for him this year if his number came up. Harriman is 64 years old. That is a handicap in a contest with younger men before an electorate acutely aware now of the importance of a President surviving the term to which he has been elected.

His reach for the Democratic nomination in 1952 was a failure beyond mere defeat. It was from Harriman's young, overenthusiastic and aggressively New Deal supporters that the move came in 1952 to toss some old timers out of the convention. Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan was coyly in the background of that movement.

Bold Effort
Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., the late President's son, was among the leaders as was the late Blair Moody of Michigan, then U. S. senator. These young men took on such party figures as Sen. Harry F. Byrd, Virginia, and elder statesman James F. Byrnes, South Carolina. But it was Moody, Roosevelt and company who went to the woodshed in the end.

Conservative Southerners will not have forgotten that this year. Neither will they overlook Harriman's recent statement that there is no room in the Democratic party for moderation. Such things add up against him. Harriman is no political weakling, however. Since 1952 he has established himself as a professional politician by winning New York's governorship against one of the smartest campaigners in the Republican party, Sen. Irving M. Ives. If Harriman had slight claim on his party four years ago, he is a major party figure now by reason of his public office.

Carmine DeSapio, new boss of New York's new Tammany Hall, is master-minding Harriman's inactive pre-convention campaign. DeSapio is a soft spoken, friendly and attractive man with political skill. But his campaign efforts outside New York State have not produced much.

Some Competition
On his home grounds, DeSapio has lined up the state organization in good shape. But a New York citizens' committee for Adlai E. Stevenson, sparked by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, among others, has been set up and is flourishing. The California Democratic organization slapped down DeSapio's effort to make a big deal there.

Of today's top flight Democrats, Harriman was most closely associated with the Roosevelt and Truman administrations. He was the only 100 per cent I-Love-Harry Fair Deal candidate in 1952. Some of his most publicized services for Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Truman had to do with the Soviet Union.

This has not rubbed off on Harriman, however. He was at Yalta. But there is no record that Harriman ever was much taken in by the Communists or that he failed sturdily to call fouls on them when others in the administration did not.

At the United Nations Organization conference in San Francisco in 1945, Harriman was fresh from Moscow. He was telling all hands, including your

correspondent, that the Russians were double dealers with whom it would be difficult if not impossible to do business. That background could be of considerable help to Harriman in the campaign to come if he were nominated for President in Chicago next August.

Compromise Candidate
Harriman has announced that he will enter no presidential primaries. His only hope is that Stevenson and Sen. Estes Kefauver knock each other out, opening the way for a compromise candidate.

Last week Harriman said "It doesn't seem likely that I ever will be President." He was not far off the target there. If elected, Harriman would be well left of center, true to his New Deal and Fair Deal beliefs. Mr. Truman, who brushed him off in 1952, doubtless could find it in his heart to make an all-out campaign for Harriman as he were nominated this time.

Here are some of the governor's points of view:
Basic Political Philosophy
"A liberal and progressive government demands action to eradicate abuses which develop in our economic life, action to

improve the standards of living of those not sharing in the benefits of the growth of America, and action to expand social security and welfare. Liberal and progressive government likewise demands action to preserve and strengthen the individual rights and liberties of our people."

Farm-Labor
He is a high farm subsidy man; demanded in his annual message to the Legislature that the federal government support farm income; increase the minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25; modify the Taft-Hartley Act; end the concentration of economic power in large corporations.

Taxes
Harriman proposed that New York income taxes be reduced with a \$5 credit for each taxpayer and each dependent, plus substantial deductions for the aged, blind and working mothers. He said Republican tax reductions had favored big business.

Foreign Policy
At Seattle, Nov. 21, Harriman said Republican policy is "a classic in the history of bungling," based on "ill-conceived experiments and flashy slogans." He called the Korean truce a

bungled failure for lack of an "iron-clad and enforceable agreement with the Chinese regarding Indochina . . . and, sure enough, the Chinese heavy artillery released from Korea turned up in Indochina and the fat was in the fire." He accused Mr. Eisenhower of over-optimism on the Geneva summit conference with a consequent psychological disarmament throughout the free world.

On AFL-CIO Merger
The governor accused Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson and Interior Secretary Douglas McKay of conducting a "powerful and systematic attack . . . to weaken the influence of labor in American life. There are people in high places who don't like your (AFL-CIO) marriage. Of course, these are the same people who didn't like you when you were single."

Big Business in Government
"We Democrats have always objected to the domination of the national government by a single, powerful group within the population—and that is what we have in Washington today. You see it in the utter neglect

of agriculture . . . the Republican tax cuts . . . the Republican failure to make good on their promises to labor . . . and the Republican unconcern about this

country's educational crisis." **Public Power**
Harriman ridiculed the administration plan for partnership between private and public power

interests on grounds it was merely a "giveaway philosophy." A gentleman farmer, himself, Harriman said the partnership benighted him of the owners of a

cow. "The public seems to own the front half—the half that has to be fed. The private owner would own the half that gives the milk."

Ellsworth Reports On Budget Items For District Work

By **HARRIS ELLSWORTH**
Congressman, Fourth District
Washington, D.C.—(Special)—The President's budget contains considerable good news for many communities in our Fourth Congressional District. As I count it, the total for the district is \$8,380,100.

The breakdown of that figure shows: \$2,400,000 for construction on the Talent irrigation project in Jackson county; \$2,000,000 to continue construction of Hills Creek dam on the Willamette east of Eugene, and \$1,500,000 for construction on Cougar Dam on the McKenzie; \$100,000 for construction of Eugene's Amazon project; \$100,000 to continue planning of the Green Peter dam on the Santiam; completion of funds for \$489,300 for Detroit dam and \$164,300 for Lookout Point Dam.

On Coos Bay, \$439,000 is asked to complete the Charleston project plus \$613,500 for dredging the main harbor and \$480,000 for the repair of structures, presumably the jetty.

The Schofield River project at Reedsport will get \$54,000 and \$40,000 is included for dredging the harbor at Bandon.

Need More for Surveys
The weakness in the budget so

far as we are concerned is the failure to provide enough money for needed river surveys. For the whole country only \$1,650,000 is asked for preliminary survey reports such as those which have long been authorized for the Coquille, the Umpqua, the Coos Bay area (flood control) and the Rogue.

When I appear before the House Appropriations Committee I shall lay heavy emphasis on the need for additional survey money so that flood protection in those areas may be planned and ultimately provided under the Federal Flood Control Acts.

Here is some good news about flood damage survey and repair money which is available right now. The law known as P.L. 99 of the 84th Congress requires the Army engineers, immediately upon the occurrence of a flood, to survey the damage sustained to all previously constructed flood control or prevention works. Having determined the nature and extent of such damage the district engineer is then allocated money with which to proceed immediately in making repairs or reconstruction.

This law applies to flood control works whether they are privately or publicly constructed

and owned. The money comes from a continuing fund held as an emergency fund in the Army Engineers' allocation for operation and maintenance.

Up to \$1,000,000
The chief of engineers informs me that a preliminary survey indicates that as much as a million dollars may be needed for this work in our part of Oregon. Most of the damage is on the Willamette and its tributaries where the most flood control work has been done. However, this money will be available for use on any river in our area where such damage has occurred.

Contact for information about this work should be made with Colonel Jackson Graham, District Engineer, Pittock Block, Portland.

Boy Scouts

Cub Scouts, Pack 8 will hold their regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Jackson school. A skit will be presented by den 3 of the pack. Bob Cat awards will be presented to new members. One or both parents must be present for the member to receive the award. All parents are urged to attend the meeting.

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