

1956 Election Year Appears as Bad One for Democrat Presidential Dark Horse Candidates

Editor's Note: This is the last in a series on the 1956 Democratic presidential hopefuls.

By **LYLE C. WILSON**
United Press Correspondent
Washington — (U.P.) — This presidential election year is a bad one for dark horse Democratic candidates.



Lyle C. Wilson for President. He was the first dark horse and he defeated Kentucky's Henry Clay.

Polk's platform demanded "re-annexation of Texas and reoccupation of Oregon." It favored tariff reform. Texas and Oregon will be factors in the fate of 1956 dark horses, but in conflict with each other.

The most discussed dark horse might expect some substantial support from Texas and some substantial opposition from Oregon. He is 60-year-old Frank J. Lausche, the five-term governor of Ohio. Lausche is the Democrat who publicly states that he voted in 1950 for Republican Robert A. Taft for the Senate, and that he did so because he thought Taft's Democratic opponent would be controlled by the labor bosses. Lausche also is a Catholic.

But it is far less his religion than his political independence that causes practically everyone to agree that Lausche could not be nominated in a Democratic convention this year or for some time to come. Organized labor cannot handle Lausche on his home grounds. But organized labor is ready for him in the

party convention. **Tough Coalition**

The great states of the north, east and west are the areas of the Democratic-Labor coalition. That coalition has the votes to stop Lausche cold, although he will own Ohio's 58-vote delegation as a favorite son. Lausche is shooting this year for the Senate seat of Republican George H. Bender, who succeeded Taft.

To the north, Democratic Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan reigns as one of the real political surprises of current politics. Williams was once regarded as more an amateur than a political operator. He is 44 years old, a folksy, green man who has made a nasty and white polka dot tie his political trademark.

In and out of the Roosevelt and Truman administrations served a hitch as Michigan's attorney general. He was elected

Approval Predicted For Medical Program

Washington — (U.P.) — Congressional leaders today predicted approval of a multi-million-dollar federal program to provide more doctors and scientists for the nation's fight against disease.

But Democrats served notice they will drive for adoption of their own bills, which call for more government aid than the administration has recommended.

In his special health message Thursday, President Eisenhower asked Congress for \$250,000,000 in federal grants over five years to expand medical schools and build badly needed research facilities. The Democratic bills would provide \$340,000,000 for the same purpose.

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governor in 1948 and he's still there with none in sight to displace him. His position in the Democratic party is secure.

Williams is in close partnership with organized labor, notably the CIO wing led by Walter Reuther which is dominant in Michigan's automotive industry. Williams would be strong wherever Lausche would be weak, but probably not strong enough anywhere this year.

The list of dark horses would reach from here to way out yonder. Count in two very old men, Sen. Alben W. Barkley, 78, of Kentucky, and speaker Sam Rayburn, 74, Texas. Neither is a likely nominee. But if the 1956 Democratic convention were deadlocked as it was 32 years ago in Madison Square Garden, New York, the party would be forced to a holding operation—a caretaker ticket. Barkley and Rayburn would be safe and generally acceptable. So would a good many others.

Many Possibilities
Every native born Democratic governor and United States senator plus numerous members of the House of Representatives has at some time dreamed of being President. Some dream it night after night. The dark horses are too numerous to list. But they will be on hand in Chicago, ready, willing and, possibly, able.

Of the senators, Stuart Symington of Missouri is most often mentioned in Washington debates. Symington, at 54, is serving his first Senate term to which he was elected in 1952. He was first secretary of the separate Air Force. Although not born in a log cabin, Symington can and does claim in his self-edited biography that he got his first job at the age of 12—office boy—and earned \$2 a week.

He used to be a newspaperman himself, a reporter on the Baltimore Sun. The record establishes Symington as a successful businessman and government administrator. He held high office under both Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

There have been booklets for Oklahoma's Sen. Mike Monroney, another former newspaperman on the Daily Oklahoman and the Scripps-Howard Oklahoma City News. Mike broke in on the Oklahoman to succeed your correspondent on a sports desk assignment back there in 1920 or thereabouts. He is 53 years old. Monroney, like Symington, would be a candidate in the left-of-center tradition.

Oklahoma's senior Senator, Robert Samuel Kerr, was a dark horse candidate four years ago and might be again. But Kerr did not accumulate a vast fortune in gas and oil by throwing good money after bad. Chances are he won't go in this year.

New Stars
There are bright new Democratic stars in the East: Pennsylvania's Gov. George M. Leader and New Jersey's Robert B. Meyner, the latter favored, too, by the reports of romance with charming Miss Margaret Truman.

Meyner and Leader are serving first terms to which they were elected on the left-of-center foundations, which usually are essential to the Democratic candidates outside the South. That is not to say that the South is

wholly conservative. There are New Deal southerners who would meet northern and eastern specifications, bar one. That is the matter of racial integration.

That is bad enough. Georgia's Sen. Richard B. Russell generally is regarded as among the most able men of his party. He made the race four years ago, lost to the labor men who would have none of him. What he failed to lose there he lost to those delegates who rate racial integration the top issue. Russell had enough. He's not a candidate this year.

There are others. But as previously reported, this does not seem to be a dark horse year.

Neuberger Raps Plan To Help Egypt Build Dam

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) asked today how the United States could help build an Egyptian dam when it was "too poor" to build one at Hells Canyon.

"Apparently high dams are for export only," Neuberger said in a speech for Senate delivery. "Not to be taken internally" is the administration's label on the high-dam bottle.

He said the administration plans to help Egypt build a high dam on the Nile which will cost \$1,300,000,000.

In some sections of the country about 98 per cent of all the babies are born in accredited hospitals.

Friday, January 27, 1956

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

Lie Test Out For Train Crew

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — The district attorney's office today dropped plans to give lie detector tests to the crew of a Santa Fe commuter train which overturned in California's worst train wreck in history.

The Sunday crash claimed its 30th victim yesterday. Mrs. Laura Bryning, 32, Camp Pendleton, Calif., died in Good Samaritan hospital. The woman's son also was injured when the two-car train tipped over while speeding 70 miles per hour on a curve.

Dist. Atty. S. Ernest Roll said train fireman, Howard Smith, 42, had refused to talk to his investigators about taking a lie detector test and Conductor George R. Spickard, 68, refused to take it on "advice of counsel."

Engineer Frank B. Parrish, 61, agreed to take the test. Parrish accepted responsibility for the wreck. He said he blacked out at the train's controls. Smith insisted, however, that an emergency brake which Parrish applied failed to work and the wreck resulted.

Roll said it would be useless to give only Parrish the test if the other crew members did not take it.

Windsor, Ont. — (U.P.) — Customs officials today classified a dismantled human skeleton as "used business equipment." A doctor who bought the bones during a vacation trip to Chicago was allowed to bring them into Canada duty free.

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Diana Lynn, the usually sweet-faced star of the movies, may startle viewers when she shows up sizzling at the stake as Joan of Arc on television. There have been many distinguished Joans on the stage and in films—Ingrid Bergman, Uta Hagen and Julie Harris. Diana's latest Hollywood movie is a Martin and Lewis comedy. So Hollywoodites were impressed when she was announced for the part of Joan on a "You Are There" program over CBS-TV.



The show will be seen in the West Feb. 12 at 6 p.m.

Role Draws Excitement
Diana admits she was so excited about the role she agreed to portray Joan practically for nothing. The show's budget doesn't allow for big-name stars.

"They called me and said, 'You probably wouldn't want to do this and we can't afford you,'" Diana said.

"I accepted!" she smiled. "But I get billings as 'Miss Diana Lynn,' a practice often followed to 'save face' for stars taking small roles or less money."

Diana was paged for the Joan role because, "They thought I looked like Joan." The resemblance became more obvious when she got one of those short mop haircuts and put on a doublet and black tights.

"Every actress wants to do

Joan," said Diana. "Where can you get this kind of girl intelligent, heroic, spiritual, noble?" Her dying scene was a rough acting experience. For two days on the set Diana slowly cooked. The flames were not a result of trick photography—real fire raged around here.

"Everything was fireproofed, but if anything had gone wrong, I was chained at the stake," she said. "That scene I played Joan as a very frightened 16-year-old."

US Troops in Germany Running Out of Pennies

Heidelberg, Germany — (U.P.) — The U.S. Army has shipped 17 tons of pennies to GIs in Europe since the end of the war but the supply is running out again.

The penny is the only U.S. coin used by troops in Europe. All other currency is paper military scrip. Army finance officials here issued an appeal to soldiers to dig the coppers out of piggy banks and put them back into circulation.

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