



WHAT'S HE FIGHTING?—Leonard Wilson, 19-year-old pro-segregation student leader at the University of Alabama, talks to reporters at Birmingham after the university expelled him for taking part in campus riots against Negro coed Autherine Lucy. "I have just begun to fight," said Wilson.

Electoral College Reforms Would Cut Influence of Large Minority Groups

By LYLE C. WILSON
 United Press Correspondent
 Washington—(U.P.)—The electoral college reform proposal poised now to pass the Senate would shrink the influence of racial and other large minority groups in presidential elections.



It is known, for example, that under the present system a substantially united Negro vote in any of more than a dozen states could determine the presidential winner in that state in any moderately close election. The same is true of religious minorities in several states.

Minorities, enabled by their numbers to exercise constant or occasional balance of power influence in presidential elections, would find their political importance considerably reduced under the reform proposal.

Minorities Get Protection
 But there also would be considerable protection for minorities in the proposed method of electing presidents. Minorities too small to achieve balance of power status under any likely circumstance might still cast a sufficient vote to win an elector or two, or a share in one.

At present, a state's entire electoral vote goes to the presidential candidate who gets a plurality of that state's popular vote, no matter how close the vote.

Under a proposed Constitutional amendment endorsed by 51 members, each state could choose between two methods of allotting electoral college votes on the basis of popular votes cast:

1. The state's electoral vote would be divided on a percentage basis among the three presidential candidates receiving the most votes, or—
2. Each congressional district would vote for one elector of its own and two at-large for the state. That is, electors would be chosen exactly as congressmen and senators now are chosen.

Supporters Favor Compromise
 This was a compromise proposal combining in one package the conflicting proposals which long have been pending in deadlock. Supporters of both proposals now are joined in behalf of the compromise. Further endorsements are likely. Senate adoption of the suggested amendment seems assured. Then it would go to the House, where a favorable two-thirds vote also would be required. If approved

there, it would be submitted to the states. It would not affect this year's presidential election. The proposal's spokesmen insisted that it would not encourage third parties any more than does the present electoral college system, although the sug-

Trustees Authorize New Methodist Church

Portland—(U.P.)—Trustees of First Methodist Church in Portland have authorized contract awards for construction of what will ultimately be one of the largest Methodist churches in the West.

General Contract went to Howard Brewton on a bid of \$1,445,000 for the main sanctuary, two education buildings and an office at the site on Southwest Jefferson street. Total cost for buildings will be \$626,000. The site cost the church \$145,000.

gested allocation under No. 1 would be among the three candidates polling the most popular votes. The proposal definitely would discourage splinter or regional parties. The system most favorable to their growth is called proportional representation.

The idea of the reform proposal is to distribute the electoral vote more equitably among the major parties and the overall advantage would be to the smaller of the two major parties.

Ice Harbor Dam Will Prevent Barge Traffic

Walla Walla—(U.P.)—Construction of Ice Harbor dam on the Snake river will halt barge traffic through the construction area until late 1961, District Army Engineer Col. Myron Page estimated Thursday.

Suspension of barge traffic was approved by three barge firms who normally use the Snake river. The dam will have navigation locks when it is completed.

Stevenson, Kefauver Face Real Test Next Week In Minnesota

Minneapolis, Minn.—(U.P.)—Adlai E. Stevenson and Sen. Estes Kefauver, the two top contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination, get their first real test of comparative strength in Minnesota's primary next Tuesday.

Both men have put a big effort into winning a Minnesota victory, Stevenson making two swings through the state and Kefauver three.

The outcome here will be of much greater significance to the

two than was the nation's first primary this week in New Hampshire. Stevenson had purposely avoided a test of strength there and Kefauver's victory came as no surprise.

Opportunity For Nixon
 The Minnesota voting will not afford another opportunity for Republicans to give another write-in endorsement to Vice-President Richard M. Nixon such as he received in New Hampshire. Minnesota primary law provides only for presidential candidates.

President Eisenhower himself faces only the limp opposition of die-hard supporters of Sen. William Knowland. Knowland allowed his name to be filed as a candidate before the President announced his willingness to seek reelection. Knowland said he would have withdrawn after that announcement had state law permitted.

Stevenson has the almost solid backing of the leaders of the Democratic-farm-labor organization of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey and Gov. Orville L. Freeman.

Kefauver Underdog
 Kefauver, as a result, has tagged himself the underdog and pinned his hopes on making an impressive showing against the organization support for Stevenson. Both have steered away from attacks on one another, but concentrated on the Republican farm program and foreign policy.

Their contest is for the state's 30 Democratic national convention votes, divided at one-half vote apiece among 60 delegates.

The Republicans will name 29 convention delegates with a full vote each. Both delegations will be bound to the candidates to whom they were pledged in the primary until released.

Couple Arrested for Income Tax Evasion

Portland—(U.P.)—Federal agents Thursday arrested a Portland couple and accused them of evading \$85,850 in federal income taxes for the years 1946-1950.

L. Fred Talbot and his wife, Mildred Talbot posted \$8,000 bail each after a hearing in Federal court here.

A secret indictment returned Monday by a federal grand jury accused the Talbots of understating their income by \$177,000. Talbot told Judge Gus Solomon that his business was income property and business rentals.

The government claims the Talbots had an income of \$289,000 for the four-year period.

Washington Court Rules in Riot Case

Olympia—(U.P.)—The State Supreme court has ruled that charges against four leaders of last July's riot at the state prison should include kidnap.

In a 5-0 departmental decision, the court reversed an order by Walla Walla Superior Court Judge Glenn L. Bean quashing kidnap charges.

The prisoners, also charged with the prison riot, are John Davis, Kenneth George, Charles Lambert and Russell Summers.

Permission Granted To Drop Application

Washington—(U.P.)—The Federal Power Commission said Thursday that Puget Sound Power and Light Co., Seattle, Wash., has been granted permission to drop its application to build a hydroelectric project on the Columbia river.

It said a Feb. 8 decision by FPC Examiner William C. Costello to grant the withdrawal became final March 9 since the company did not file exceptions and the commission did not order a review within 30 days.

The FPC in September, 1954, issued a preliminary permit to public utility district number one of Douglas county, Wash., for the proposed project at the Wells site on the Columbia river. At the same time, an application by Puget for a preliminary permit to build a project there was denied.

Later the FPC granted Puget's application for rehearing of its decision. But Puget requested withdrawal of its application. The company did not state what prompted its action.

Wreath To Be Placed On Cleveland's Grave

Princeton, N. J.—(U.P.)—A wreath from President Eisenhower will be placed on the grave of the late President Grover Cleveland here Monday on the 119th anniversary of the former Chief Executive's birth. The wreath will be presented by Lt. Col. David Giles, Princeton University military science professor, during ceremonies at Princeton Cemetery.

Cleveland, who served as the nation's 22nd and 24th Chief Executive was a resident of Princeton from his retirement from the White House in 1897 until his

Ask That Marlowe's Tomb Not Be Opened

Maidstone, England—(U.P.)—The Kent Archaeological Society said today its has written the Home Office a plea not to permit the opening of the Walsingham tomb to see if Marlowe really wrote Shakespeare's plays.

Frank Jessup, honorary secretary, said the society felt the evidence so far was "not strong enough" to justify desecration of a tomb.

death in 1908. He was an active member of the university's board of trustees.

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