

Republican Leaders Set Campaign Goal Of 30 House Seats

Washington — (U.P.) — Republican Party leaders set up another 1956 campaign goal today by calling for a minimum pickup of 30 House seats in their drive to regain control of Congress.

This goal was announced by Rep. Richard M. Simpson (Pa.), chairman of the GOP congressional campaign committee, in the monthly publication of the Republican National Committee.

With the GOP facing no contest over the renomination of President Eisenhower, Republicans were giving much attention to their congressional problems.

'Do-Nothing' Congress
One part of the GOP strategy in the battle for Congress was reflected today in a charge by the Republican National Committee that the present session of Congress is a "do-nothing" Congress.

It said the "semi-paralysis" in Congress "is a manifestation of the mounting tensions within the Democratic Party."

On the Democratic side, where interest in the contest for the presidential nomination is still paramount, there were these developments:

Sen. Estes Kefauver, who has displaced Adlai E. Stevenson as the front-running contender for the nomination, returned to Florida Sunday night for a four-day tour. He faces Stevenson in the Florida presidential primary May 29 with 28 national convention delegate votes at stake.

Showing of Attitude
Kefauver said before his departure from Washington that his showing in the Florida primary will "certainly be a reflection" of the attitude of the people of the South toward his candidacy.

Kefauver has belittled contentions that he would be unacceptable to southerners because of his anti-segregation stand.

Stevenson today was confronted with a "scrap-Stevenson" drive in his home state of Illinois. The 1952 Democratic nominee was scheduled to address a regular Democratic organization rally at Springfield, Ill., tonight. At the same time and in the same city, John Asher, an Illinois county Democratic chairman who has switched to Kefauver, will launch his anti-Stevenson campaign.

Portland Police Thwart Suicide Leap
Portland — (U.P.) — Police grabbed a man from behind as he sat atop the fourth floor of a downtown hotel, threatening to jump to the street below.

Officers arrested 24-year-old James O'Neal on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Police said the man had been at a tavern across from the hotel where he lived and returned to his room in the afternoon. He called the desk clerk he was going to jump then went to the roof of the building.

As a crowd gathered in the street below, police crept up behind the man and subdued him after a minor struggle.

Four-fifths of the old cigar store Indian statues were said to be those of squaws.

Truman Striving For Neutral Role
Washington — (U.P.) — Former President Harry S. Truman said today he's "trying to be neutral" in the heated battle for the Democratic presidential nomination.

The ex-President, whose nod could be worth a lot to a candidate, also told reporters that he doesn't think the party will be split or harmed in any way by the current political slugfest between Adlai E. Stevenson and Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.).

On the contrary, Mr. Truman said, the Stevenson-Kefauver race can help the Democrats by "working up the people's interest" in the coming presidential election.

Mr. Truman talked to newsmen while taking an early morning stroll around Times Square in New York, where he is visiting. He steadfastly refused to say whether he personally favors Stevenson, Kefauver or Gov. Averell Harriman, an "inactive" candidate for the nomination.

"I shall support whomever the Democrats nominate as their candidate," he replied to all questions designed to flush out the secret of his preference.

Air Force Plans Giant Runway To Test Atom Planes
Washington — (U.P.) — The Air Force plans to build a giant runway, probably the nation's longest, for testing an atomic-powered plane at the National Reactor Testing Station near Idaho Falls, Idaho, it was learned today.

The House has passed and sent to the Senate an \$11,400,000 authorization to start the project. The sum is included in a \$2,000,000,000 military construction authorization.

Site Said Ideal
Informed sources said the isolated Idaho Falls area, with its sparsely populated mountainous and desert terrain, is considered ideal for testing the atomic plane. An accident conceivably might spew heavy radiation over the scene of a crash.

The Air Force, in conjunction with Convair, has been flying an atomic reactor in a B36 over Texas to test problems of shielding and radiation. But the reactor has not been operated during take-offs or landings.

The Air Force in its request for \$11,400,000 said it plans an experimental runway "with supporting facilities" such as a taxiway, dispersal hardstand, aircraft wash rack, communications and navigational facilities, a fire station, an operations building, a control tower, a decontamination facility and the necessary utilities.

Informed sources said the runway will be 15,000 feet or longer. It will be used not only for takeoffs and landings, but for working on problems of taxiing the atomic-powered craft on the ground.

Truman's Florida Church Destroyed in Big Fire
Key West, Fla. — (U.P.) — The church where Harry Truman worshipped during his presidential campaign here was destroyed by fire early today. The \$250,000 blaze also damaged the home of artist Gene Otto, a modern motel, and souvenir shop.

The First Baptist church, one of the city's oldest, was razed by the fire which broke out about 4 a.m. The fire burned out of control for an hour as 25-mile-an-hour winds fanned the flames all the way across the street to the Trade Winds Motel.

Convoy Bring Milk Into Detroit Area As Strike Continues

Florida Vote Seen As Convention Sign

Detroit — (U.P.) — Milk transports convoyed by sheriff's deputies and individual farmers using back roads defied roving bands of pickets today to bring quantities of milk into Detroit.

The milk brought into the city past pickets and other supplies sent into the state from Ohio and Indiana raised the city's milk supply enough to permit for emergency rationing. Some sources estimated the supply as high as 75 per cent of normal.

It was reported one flying farmer in the blockading group was scouting the state's roads by air to spot milk trucks heading to Detroit, then signalling their location to roving bands of pickets in automobiles.

But the situation around outside milk receiving depots and along the state's highways grew more tense.

Billy Rose Home Gutted by Flames
Mount Kisco, N. Y. — (U.P.) — The 28-room mansion of showman Billy Rose was gutted by fire today, destroying all the furnishings which included antique furniture and a world famous collection of paintings.

Four servants escaped unharmed.

Only the four walls of the red brick Georgian building were standing when Rose and bride-to-be Joyce Mathews, arrived at the scene shortly after dawn.

Volunteer firemen were powerless to halt the blaze which roared through the house on the 54-acre estate.

The volunteers from Mount Kisco, Armonk and Chappaqua tried to string their hoses to a pond nearly one mile from the huge house. The estate's swimming pool, the pride of Rose's former wife, swimmer Eleanor Holm, was dry.

Rose and Miss Mathews, comedian Milton Berle's former wife, arrived at the scene about 5:30 a.m., when only a smouldering shell remained.

Firemen said the loss was "well up into the hundreds of thousands of dollars." It was not known whether the house and its

Violence was reported at several spots Sunday.

State police were called out to stop a rock throwing melee at Ovid and Elsie in Clinton county. Trucks heading for Detroit with milk were forced off the highway in three or four spots and the milk was dumped.

Some transports had to run a barricade of sawhorses and fire pots across one of the main highways, U.S. 16, near suburban Farmington.

State police were placed on 12-hour shifts as a precaution against further violence. Sheriff's deputies, once milk trucks were on public roads, convoyed trucks to county lines where deputies from the next county picked them up. At the Detroit city limits, Detroit police brought the trucks to dairies under guard. The trouble area extended as far as 150 miles from Detroit.

Seek Higher Prices
The pickets represented the Fair Share Bargaining association. This is a rebel group within the Michigan Milk Producers' association. It wants \$6 a hundredweight for milk. It originally had wanted \$6.50, but scaled its demands down after the producers' association signed new contracts with Detroit's major dairies for \$5 a hundredweight last week. The old price was \$4.41.

The rebel group's leaders also indicated dissatisfaction with the way the producers' group has represented them, charging collusion with dairies and asking an election to establish it as the bargaining group for the farmers instead of the producers' association.

The fight appeared to be turning as much into a battle over which group will control milk coming into Detroit as a fight over prices.

Autherine Lucy Has Role in Passion Play
Chicago — (U.P.) — Autherine Lucy, the Negro woman whose attempt to enter the University of Alabama set off riots last month, appeared in an Easter passion play yesterday.

She played the role of "The Spirit of Forgiveness."

Florida's May 29 presidential primary may indicate the path the South will take at the Democratic National convention this summer.

Florida is the only Southern state where Kefauver and Adlai E. Stevenson are battling head-on for the democratic nomination.

"The primary vote here will indicate the attitude of the Southern people in general," the Tennessee senator said at a breakfast for campaign supporters. "It will have a great deal to do with the outcome of the convention."

Kefauver began a three-day stumping tour down Florida's east coast to test his Southern strength. Stevenson, who flies in here tomorrow briefly en route to a Southern Georgia retreat, will resume his campaign in Florida Friday.

The Tennessee senator, who came from behind to sweep the Minnesota primary two weeks ago, admitted Stevenson "may be running ahead at the moment" in Florida and in California where the two battle on June 5.

"With plenty of hard work out campaign here will grow and grow and grow," he told his supporters. "And in California we are gaining fast and I believe we have a mighty good chance of winning there."

St. Helens Pickets Enter Second Year
St. Helens — (U.P.) — The sometimes stormy picketing of the Fir-Tex plant here went into its second year today.

No violence marked the Easter morning anniversary. Pickets instead appeared grinning and offering free coffee to all comers.

Management of the plant, which has been operating with non-striking help, apparently had feared violence might break out when the early morning shift changed yesterday.

Shortly before the night crew was released, state police cars converged on the scene. As the officers stepped out of their cars they were greeted with shouts of "Come on in and have some coffee" from the laughing pickets.

Pope Appears on TV To Demonstrate Faith In Modern Technology

Vatican City — (U.P.) — Pope Pius XII appears today on a Europe-wide television concert of Easter music to demonstrate his faith in modern technology as a means of propagating Christian ideals.

Sunday he made use of television to gain the widest possible transmission of his address urging the world's leaders to abandon the nuclear race before "this suicidal madness" destroys mankind.

The Pope today, flanked by the cardinals of the Roman Curia and other top vatican officials, planned to watch the musical concert in the Hall of Benediction from a small throne set up on the side.

Religious Themes
The concert includes religious choral themes such as "The Birth of the Redeemer" and ranges through Mendelssohn and Wagner's Parsifal to Bach. The concert rounds off an Easter which follows the Pontiff's celebration of his 80th birthday a month ago today and the 17th anniversary of his coronation.

In his solemn Easter message, the Pontiff said the human race was almost losing hope that its statesmen could stop the day-by-day march toward total destruction.

His words appeared addressed to the five-power disarmament conference in London.

Appeals for Peace
An estimated 200,000 persons

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