

Symington-for-President Boom Being Heard Distinctly in Democratic Party

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent
Washington—(UP)—The Symington-for-president boom is beginning to make enough noise to be heard distinctly throughout the Democratic party.

Stuart Symington is the 35-year-old junior senator from Missouri, born in Massachusetts, reared mostly in Maryland and a resident of the state he represents in Congress for fewer than the past dozen years.

He's completing the fourth year of his first Senate term, a fact which makes more remarkable the prominent position Symington holds in 1956 Demo-

cratic presidential politics. The senator has been getting some of what are known as the political breaks.

His best piece of luck so far was Truman administration service as assistant secretary of war for air and, later, as first secretary of the separate Air Force. Symington is as well grounded as any civilian on national defense in general and air defense in particular. He's chairman of a Senate subcommittee which has been investigating air defense policies to the embarrassment of the Eisenhower administration.

That investigation will con-

tinue right up to national convention time, making campaign ammunition for whomever the Democrats do nominate. It is Symington's good luck again that the Democratic party is planning to make Eisenhower defense policies a major issue in the 1956 presidential campaign. The Senate Appropriations Committee put some fire into that dispute Monday by voting to hike President Eisenhower's air defense spending by a fat \$1,160,000,000.

Most and perhaps all of Symington's congressional colleagues probably would agree that the Senator from Missouri would be

in the best position of any likely Democratic nominee to challenge President Eisenhower publicly on national defense.

Mr. Eisenhower was a glamorous, victorious general. Symington, however, was a top de-

fense administrative official. The spot from which Symington viewed national defense had some advantages over the viewpoint of a man in uniform.

Symington served briefly as chairman of the National Security Resources Board and was put in charge of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation after revelation of questionable practices there compelled President Truman to order a clean-up. The senator was a successful industrialist before coming to Washington.

This background would not project Symington far into the 1956 presidential situation but for some unrelated situations. With the presidential primaries out of the way, Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois leads the Democratic pack. Sen. Estes Kefauver, of Tennessee, who successfully challenged Stevenson, was badly

mauled in the primary stretch, especially in California. A good many practical politicians now count Kefauver as a possible vice presidential nominee, no more than that.

Gov. Averell Harriman, of New York, now is rated the No. 2 contender for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Powerful forces, including Mr. Truman, apparently are at work to block Stevenson's nomination. Mr. Truman is counted among the Harriman master-strategists.

Powerful forces — conservative Southerners — are at work to stop Harriman. The governor is

a so-called immoderate Democrat, a 100 per cent Truman fair dealer.

If Stevenson and Harriman both can be stopped for a series of convention ballots, the talk among practical politicians is that Symington would be the logical compromise choice. That is a big if, but it seems to get smaller day by day.

Salem Youth Rescued From Fall Into Creek

Salem—(UP)—A Salem youth was in a hospital here today after being rescued from Thomas creek where he fell Sunday.

The youth, Will Bateson, was fishing with three other North Salem high school graduates when he tried to prevent one

of them from falling and tumbled into the creek himself.

His companions had to float Bateson about a half mile down stream on a log before they found a spot where the bank was not too steep to remove him from the water.

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● the Countess by Springfield
A masterpiece of a blanket, all wool, 72x90", 7" satin binding finished with a smooth, velvety surface in 7 luscious colors. **14⁹⁸**

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● Frosty Morn reg. 11.98
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- 1st prize . . . Mrs. M. A. Thomasson.....1491 Thomas Road, Medford
- 2nd prize . . . A. Mueller.....472 Walker Avenue, Ashland
- 3rd prize . . . Jean Davis.....146 South Holly, Medford

● Winners in the Jantzen coloring contest will be listed in this space Friday, June 22nd.



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