

Highlights of 1956 Platform Adopted at Democratic Convention

Domestic Policy Plank Cites 'People's Needs'

Chicago—(U.P.)—Highlights of the 1956 Democratic platform: **General Domestic Policy**

Republicans have reversed 20 years of Democratic accomplishment, substituting deceptive slogans and dismal deeds for Democratic progress. Republican prosperity is a myth. Hard money and GOP tax policy have favored monopoly while wages lag, farm income collapses, and small business failures increase.

Democrats will restore funds for education and health, old age assistance, slum clearance and resource development, and other "needs of the people." They will balance the budget, under a 500 billion dollar national economy. Farmers will get "full parity" of income; necessary school rooms will be built.

"This country of ours . . . is blessed with ever-increasing productive power. The Republicans have not permitted this potential abundance to be released for the mutual benefit of all. We reject this stunted concept . . ."

Human Welfare

America can and must adopt measures to assure every citizen opportunity for full, healthy, happy life. Democrats will expand and improve great social welfare programs. Social security will be broadened and strengthened, and benefits increased.

Unemployment insurance will be liberalized. Public assistance will be expanded. New aids will be provided for senior citizens. Federal aid will be provided for medical education; support will be increased for hospital building and public health.

Public housing will be revived. Democrats believe every American family is entitled to a decent home. Republicans have sabotaged that goal. "Federal aid and action should be provided, within the traditional framework of state and local control," to build public schools.

Civil Rights

Democrats are committed to support and advance individual rights and liberties. All citizens are equal before the law and should enjoy equal political rights, as well as equal chance for education, economic advancement, decent living conditions. "We will continue our efforts to eradicate discrimination based on race, religion or national origin."

Recent Supreme Court rulings against race segregation in public schools and elsewhere are of vast consequence to the nation and especially the South. "We reject all proposals for the use of force to interfere with the orderly determination of these matters by the courts."

The party recognizes the Supreme Court as one of three branches of government, superior to any political party, and that its decisions are part of the law of the land. Every child, regardless of race, has full right under the Constitution and law, "without discrimination," to educational opportunity.

Senate rules should be revised to let the majority work its will, so filibuster can't be used to block passage of civil rights legislation.

Labor

Free collective bargaining is the best way to determine wages and working conditions. The Taft-Hartley Act loaded this in favor of management. President Eisenhower aggravated the problem by stacking the National Labor Relations Board with biased pro-management personnel.

Democrats unequivocally urge repeal of Taft-Hartley. They also oppose state right-to-work laws enacted under its terms. "A new legislative approach toward the entire labor-management problem will be adopted, based on past experience and the principles of the Wagner National

Labor Relations Act and the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law."

The federal minimum wage should be raised from \$1 an hour to at least \$1.25. Additional workers should be covered. Legislation is needed to assure equal pay for women. Jobs must be provided for depressed areas.

Atomic Energy

The government must build plants for production of atomic power; under the Republican administration, this is left to private industry, and other countries are forging ahead. The Atomic Energy Commission must be taken out of politics.

Democrats will sponsor a comprehensive survey of radiation hazards, from bomb tests and other atomic work, to see if further protection is needed. Atomic production will be stepped up to assure supplies for both peaceful and military uses.

Financial Policy

An expanding economy can produce enough taxes to balance the budget and at the same time support a tax cut. Democrats favor correcting inequities in GOP tax law. They propose to increase personal tax exemptions from \$600 to at least \$800. Republican increases in interest rates will be reversed.

Free Enterprise

"We recognize monopolies and monopolistic practices as the real barriers between the people and their economic and political freedom." Republicans have fostered monopoly, stifling small business. Democrats pledge new aids for small business, including tax relief.

Foreign Trade

Democrats always have worked for expanding world trade. They will continue vigorous support for Cordell Hull's reciprocal trade agreements act. However, Republicans have failed to use the act's escape clauses as needed, with resulting "serious economic injury" to hundreds of American workers. Democrats will correct this.

Foreign Policy

Eisenhower administration policies of "bluff and bluster" have "unnecessarily and dangerously subjected the American people to the risk of atomic war." President Eisenhower "has failed to seek peace with determination." Administration leaders have been "fraternizing with the Communists and weakening the positive Democratic policy of halting Communist expansion."

Suez Canal crisis results from "inept and vacillating" GOP policy. Democrats support internationalization of the canal. They promise "defensive weapons" for Israel and economic aid to Arab states and Israel. They oppose admission of Red China to United Nations, and support the "great goal of enforced disarmament" and the strengthening of UN.

Democrats condemn the GOP for "heartless record" of broken 1952 campaign promises to liberate captive peoples behind the Iron Curtain.

National Defense

"Political considerations of budget balancing and tax reductions now come before the wants of our national security and the needs of our allies." Republicans "have stifled our Air Force, starved our Army and weakened our capacity to deal with military threats of any sort save by retreat or by . . . massive retaliation and global atomic war." Democrats stand for strong defense forces "so clearly superior in modern weapons to those of any possible enemy that our armed strength will make an attack upon the free world unthinkable."

Agriculture

The Eisenhower administration "has failed utterly to develop any programs to meet the desperate needs of farmers . . . and has sabotaged" programs in-

Stevenson Ponders Selection Of Vice Presidential Mate

Chicago—(U.P.)—Adlai E. Stevenson sought a running mate today from a field of at least six hopefuls. A spokesman for the prospective Democratic presidential nominee said the race for second spot on the ticket was "still wide open."

Known entries were Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee; Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota; Sen. Albert Gore of Tennessee; Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts; Gov. Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey; and Mayor Robert F. Wagner Jr. of New York.

There could be others. Only Stevenson know for sure, and he was closeted in his hotel suite today, studying the possibilities of all the contenders, and keeping his own counsel.

Stevenson turned his attention to the choice of a vice presidential nominee after it became obvious that he would be nominated for President on the first ballot tonight. His selection of a running mate almost certainly will be quickly ratified by the convention Friday afternoon.

Studies Abilities

Aides said Stevenson was weighing the qualifications for of the available candidates on two sets of scales, taking into account not only the question of their vote pulling power but also their competence for the nation's second highest office, with particular reference to their ability to serve as a liaison with Congress.

They stressed that the former Illinois governor has made "absolutely no commitments" involving the vice presidency. Having clinched the nomination without any deals, they said, he has a free hand to pick the running mate he considers best for

the party and the country. All of the top contenders for the post can claim certain special qualifications. Kefauver, the best known of the group, is well regarded in the strategic farm areas and fought hard for Stevenson after bowing out of the presidential race.

Humphrey is regarded as one of the Senate's quickest minds and best campaigners. Gore and Kennedy are regarded as bright young men, and they also happen to be handsome, no negligible asset in this era of television campaigning.

All Have Debts

Meyner and Wagner also have youth going for them, and have successfully shouldered important administrative responsibilities.

On the debit side, Kefauver is thoroughly disliked by many

powers in the South. Humphrey, a prime mover in civil rights battles in the 1948 and 1952 conventions, has also provoked some Southern opposition. Gore was not included on a list of acceptable candidates which, according to informed sources, was compiled by a group of labor leaders.

Both Kennedy and Wagner are Catholics and Democratic strategists are uncertain whether this would be a net political asset or liability.

Kennedy has opposed the Democratic program of high, rigid price supports for basic farm crops.

Meyner is a bachelor. That would not normally be considered a great handicap. But, as Stevenson's running mate, he would complete an all-bachelor ticket.

Older people are steadily increasing in number in relation to our total population. The number of persons 65 and over

has quadrupled since 1900, while total population has only doubled, says a new report of the Twentieth Century Fund.

The largest county in the United States is San Bernardino in California, which is 20,160 square miles in area.

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