

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO
27-29 North First St. Phone 2-6141
ROBERT W. RUEL, Editor
HERB GREY, Advertising Manager
GERALD LATHAM, Business Manager
ERIC ALLEN, Jr., Managing Editor
EARL H. ADAMS, City Editor
HARRY CHAPMAN, Telephone Editor
RICHARD JEWETT, Sports Editor
OLIVE STANTON, City Editor
DALE ERICKSON, Circulation Mgr.
An Independent Newspaper
Entered as second class matter at Medford, Oregon, under Act of March 3, 1879.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail—In Advance: Per Copy 10c
Daily and Sunday—One year \$12.00
Daily and Sunday—Six months \$6.50
Daily and Sunday—Three months \$3.50
Sunday Only—One year \$2.50
By Carrier—In Advance: Medford
Assistant Central Point Eagle Point
Jacksonville Grants Hills Phoenix
Shady Cove Home Rule Talent
and all postal routes.
Daily and Sunday—One year \$15.00
Daily and Sunday—Six months \$8.00
Carrier and Dealers—5c per copy
All Terms Cash in Advance
Official Paper of the City of Medford
Official Paper of Jackson County
United Press—Full Leased Wire
MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION
Advertising Representative:
WEST-HOLLIDAY COMPANY INC
Offices in New York Chicago De
troit San Francisco Los Angeles
Seattle Portland St. Louis Atlanta
Vancouver B.C.

TV And The Convention

If it were to be left to the television audience, the five-day national political convention would be doomed. Portland Oregonian.

This condemnation of the convention system, it is hardly necessary to add, referred only to the Democratic show at Chicago, not the GOP convention at San Francisco, a very different form of entertainment to the Oregonian, of course.

Speaking as one member of the TV audience, however, we not only disagree 100 per cent with that statement but are convinced a vast majority of the TV audience would, if permitted, do likewise.

We have never seen a drama on TV, that could arouse our interest and hold our attention for over an hour, and usually 30 minutes has been enough. But in Chicago were five days and several nights, that not only aroused our interest and held our attention but gave such a human and intimate view of the American convention system and what makes it tick, presented such a living breathing chunk of political "Americana" in such an exciting and dramatic way, that instead of dooming such a performance to extinction the TV audience would, we believe, almost as a unit vote for its continuance.

WHAT need was there to call in Alfred Hitchcock to provide mystery and suspense, as the Oregonian suggests, when "the rise and fall" of Harry S. Truman was depicted day to day there on the screen. There was his first press conference for example and his startling announcement of his support of Governor Harriman and his opposition to Adlai Stevenson. Then his final retraction, head bloody but unbowed, he turned his guns away from Stevenson and Kefauver, and turned them on the GOP in his most approved "give 'em hell" fashion.

When and where did TV ever put on a more exciting "hoss-race" including Swaps and the Kentucky Derby than that "photo finish" for the vice presidency between Senators Kennedy and Kefauver, neck and neck to the finish line.

NOT only does the Oregonian suggest if the party convention is to be saved Alfred Hitchcock must be called in to handle the suspense, but Phil Silvers should handle the comedy, and the five-day show then should be replaced by "a 90-minute spectacular."

The Oregonian is not serious, of course, this is only its way of checking off the Chicago convention as a lot of "noise and fury and signifying nothing"—just another partisan circus, according to Senator McCarthy.

AS IN everything else the Oregonian is entitled to its opinion, of course, but in the judgment of this department seldom before has it been so completely wrong.

We venture the judgment that of the millions who viewed this convention 99 per cent of them were thrilled by it, held in their seats by the "noise and fury" and at the end felt like extending a word of thanks and an acre of orchards to the TV companies for the superb service they rendered.

PERHAPS there wasn't, as the Oregonian notes, much in the way of the "smoke-filled" rooms reporting, but they did get everywhere else including the private quarters of the leading candidates, and the halls and corridors leading to them. They also covered the caucus rooms of many states, and every newspaper man who has ever covered a convention knows how hard that is to accomplish. Moreover there were not "smoke-filled rooms" in the Blackstone this time,—the Republicans originated them and still have a monopoly.

In fact the members of the TV audience were not only given drama, mystery, suspense and excitement, but they were given "a magic carpet" that took them all over the Chicago area six miles to the stockyards and back to the city again, and all for free, with a front row seat at every scene of important action,—only well out of the hub-bub, the dirt and the humidity, and safely and comfortably in one's living room.

Even the Weather Man cooperated (perhaps he is a Democrat)—at least not until the show was over did the thunderstorms come on. And it was a superb absorbing spectacle that TV put on from the opening gavel to the final curtain.

We must grant there was not much comedy in the stockyard performance, there was at least one member of the TV audience, in fact, who would have preferred Phil Silvers to Governor Clement as far as the keynote speech was concerned.

But that was, after all, a mere detail. All in all it was a GREAT show, and TV is to be congratulated on its vivid, thrilling and comprehensive coverage.

Instead of the five day convention being doomed if left to the TV audience, we have no doubt that a poll of the millions of viewers, including Republicans, would be practically unanimous for a "repeat" if the high quality of the Chicago performance could be maintained.

The only fly in the ointment is that judging by the San Francisco "cocktail party" thus far (August 22) we fear it can't be.—R.W.R.

GOP Praise for Morse

As a postscript to the above we would like to pin a rose on the Oregonian for its fair and objective covering of political news, and its generally restrained and enlightened political attitude editorially.

The Oregonian naturally is for the Republican party and all Republican candidates as it has been approximately since the battle of Bull Run.

But it doesn't slant its news, it gives a fair break to the opposition in publicity and communication columns, and editorially it is always well written, well

Today and Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE REPUBLICAN HARMONY

The harmony which reigns at San Francisco is not something automatically given because the Republicans, unlike the Democrats and for the first time in their own recent history, all think and feel alike. The harmony has been arrived at by skilled political maneuver and negotiation during the few months preceding the convention—since, one might say, February when the President announced that he would run again.

Among the professional politicians, who are hardboiled, the President's decision was, of course, welcomed unanimously—even by the anti-Eisenhower wing of the party. But at the same time it posed the problem of the succession: Who was to control and lead the party after Eisenhower? This problem was posed not only because of the President's age and his illnesses but also because, now that the Constitution has been amended, he will be the first President debarred by the Constitution from running or threatening to run for a third term.

The crucial question of who is to control the Republican party may therefore arise in the next four years, and is bound to arise at the end of the next four years. If anybody thinks that Chairman Hall, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Knowland, or Mr. Dewey have not been acutely aware of all that, he does not know American Politics.

EARLY in the same it was evident that the old Taft wing of the party, including the fringe which was to the right of Taft, had picked Nixon as their man. They became hot for his renomination, being justifiably convinced that they would be dominant in the party if he succeeded Eisenhower during the second term, or at the end of it in the Convention of 1960. They are far more ardent for Nixon than for Eisenhower, and indeed have often sounded as if they were shouting for Eisenhower in order to be sure that they might get Nixon elected.

The Eisenhower wing, in which Dewey is the most powerful figure, was faced with a choice—to displace Nixon or to embrace him for the purpose of enhancing on to him. Among the Eisenhower professionals and their big supporters a lot more went on behind the scenes last Spring for publication in the newspapers. I believe from what I have heard from men in a position to know that the movement to displace Nixon gained considerable headway and then collapsed because the President refused to assist it.

Parentetically, it seems reasonably clear that Stassen played no part in this episode, and that it occurred while he was in London at the disarmament conference. This may explain why Stassen, though he has been saying what so many Republicans think, has in the practical politics of his effort been so wide of the mark. He has tried to reopen an issue which had already been fought out and settled among the Eisenhower leaders.

WHEN the leading figures in the Eisenhower wing saw that Nixon's renomination was certain, they followed the old rule that if you can't fight them,

mannered and persuasive, if not—to this department at least—ALWAYS convincing.

WE WOULD like to pay a special compliment to its coverage of the conventions by its staff-writer, Herb Lundy.

Lundy's offerings have shown intelligence, keen perception and—considering the necessary partisan fixation—a refreshing impartiality.

In his offering of Wednesday, for example, Lundy almost paid a compliment to Senator Wayne Morse, one of the paper's pet aversions—ALMOST, but not quite. Here it is, quote:

General Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles, Langlie recalled, had been chosen by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman for the highest military and diplomatic assignments, and President Truman "offered (Eisenhower) his party's presidential nomination in 1948."

"And the American people could see for themselves that the only offense these two fine Americans have committed, in Democratic eyes," said Governor Langlie, "is to be Republicans. This is a naked admission that they are now addicted to the principle that loyalty to a political party comes ahead of devotion to our beloved country. We reject that false concept; and so, I believe, do the overwhelming majority of American citizens."

But isn't this just what Senator Morse, who flipped from Republican to independent to Democrat in two years, has been saying all over the land? It is thus, on the allegation of high principles outweighing loyalty to party, that he explains his apostasy. It was no help to Doug McKay, the Republican nominee running against Morse, to have the keynoter he introduced lay this out as the party line.

How true! But Governor Langlie when he declared putting principle above politics represents a moral position an overwhelming majority of American citizens WOULD sustain, was 100 per cent right.

All they need is an opportunity to vote on this issue.—R.W.R.

you must join them. That is what Dewey and the others have done, thus assuring themselves a countervailing if not a controlling voice in the Nixon Administration which they regard as predestined.

This is the structure of the harmony which prevails in San Francisco. What it amounts to is a political truce between the two wings of the party. The terms of the truce, one might say, are Eisenhower and Nixon to win the election, for the succession equal access to Nixon, and, no doubt, assurances from Nixon that he will stay in the middle of the road. In Gov. Langlie's keynote speech there was, I thought, in the overtones, an assurance to the liberal Republicans that the campaign would not be conducted in the old Nixon style.

As the campaign develops, the terms of this truce are likely to become a dominant consideration. For this is what the Republicans have done about the crucial question of the President's health with Nixon as his successor. (c) 1956, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.

Communications

Labor and The Farmer

To the Editor: Isn't there some way in the long reach of the press whereby some sort of an explanation can be had from the union labor power combines as to what their objectives might be, what they are up to? They just won a three year contract from the steel companies that guarantees them some 6 to 8 cents per hour increase each of the three years, fringe benefits, retirement pension and on top of all this according to news releases, 50 weeks of paid vacation for those of proper seniority, over the three years.

Just how did the union chiefs show their appreciation for all this? From Chicago, Aug. 15, came a pictured news release showing George Meany, of the AFL-CIO, barking in to a bunch of microphones that relayed his orders to the builders of the Democratic platform committee that the unions would stand for no "weasel words, glittering generalities or the advertising man's glib sincerity."

Would their answer for the above be the same glib evasive one they have for the reason of the bankruptcy-faced farmers who cannot pay the high cost of today's farm machinery? They don't like to talk about that or the number of farm machinery factories on part time output or closed down.

What can the union brass be up to? On one hand they make demands on industry that, if complied with, threaten bankruptcy. Yet, in the same breath, they demand retirement pay for life. In the name of all that is fair to live and let live, how can they make such preposterous, unreasonable demands that if granted by the bedeviled industry, will pitch us into the dread economic inflation spiral. And when the cashier at the market and bank takes that first hesitant, reluctant look (like they once did at the sadly remembered school-warrants) at our social security and unemployment cheques, the debacle will be on and we can "thank" the labor unions for it.

F. J. Clifford, 1211 West Main st., Medford, Ore.

Tom Dewey Said Vastly Changed And Matured in Political Ken

By LYLE C. WILSON United Press Correspondent

San Francisco (U.P.)—There's a long, long trail a winding between Mechanics Hall, Boston, Mass., back there in 1940 and this Cow Palace where the Republicans and President Eisenhower have just re-plighted their troth.

Nobody knows that better than Thomas E. Dewey, of New York. It was in Mechanics Hall some months more than 16 years ago that a brash young county attorney made his first big speech as a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

Your correspondent was there. It wasn't a very good speech. Moreover, it ran over the allotted 30 minutes of radio time—there wasn't any television—by a good 12 minutes. And Dewey, in his freshman's uncertainty how to handle a crisis in public, tried to cram all the words into that fleet 30 minutes. He had realized midway through his effort that the speech was far too long.

That January, 1940, swing from New York through Rhode Island and Massachusetts to Maine was Dewey's first clutch toward high office. He missed that year when Wendell L. Willkie charged out of the Wall Street boomdocks to kidnap the Republican nomination. Won Two Nominations

Dewey's capacity to make friends and enemies was hardly strained in 1940. But in 1944 and 1948 he won the big nomination prize and piled up a big score of those who admired him. More especially, those who did not.

Next time there was a war on and 1944 was not a fair test. The Republican candidate was hobbled, handcuffed, almost halted by the opposition of FDR. Four years later after 1948 there was another story which usually began like this:

"If that so-and-so Dewey had got off his pants and made a real campaign, he coulda licked that Truman."

It is fair to say that Dewey, after the 1948 election, was bucking for top honors as the Republican Party's most severely criticized public figure.

Times have changed. Dewey, more than any other, obtained Dwight D. Eisenhower's nomination for president in 1952 by making his own 1950 gubernatorial campaign a stem-winder. He was plugging like-for-president then, and he continued to plug.

More than any other, Dewey obtained the defeat in 1952 of the late Sen. Robert A. Taft who sought the Republican presidential nomination. The loose and sweating, down there on the 1952 convention floor and in the hotel huddles, Dewey was a skillful strategist, and successful. More than any other, Dewey had to do with putting Richard M. Nixon on the 1952 ticket with Mr. Eisenhower.

There was that crackling night in 1952 when Illinois' Sen. Everett M. Dirksen fingered Dewey from the convention platform. Pointing to him out there with the New York delegation, Dirksen indicated Dewey as the author of Republican disaster and defeat. There was a time when such would have blistered Dewey and he might have slid hunched-shouldered low in his seat to escape the fire. But, times had changed and Dewey was standing on his chair seat the night Dirksen went after him to get the full flavor of the attack.

During recent months when some men-around-Eisenhower and elsewhere have been trying to ditch Nixon, Dewey backed his man. He said he had retired

from politics, but it was known among Dewey's friends that if Nixon were knocked out he would take the vice presidential nomination had Mr. Eisenhower requested. From any angle, there would not have been a better qualified candidate.

Speech Struck Fire Dewey made a speech Wednesday during the nominating doings here. It was not a nominating or seconding speech, but it struck more fire from the delegates than anything which had gone before. His listeners whooped and cheered and a lot of them told each other: "There's a new Dewey about."

There's been a new Dewey about for some time now. He's only 54 years old and stands a reasonably good chance to be renominated for president again in 1960, or even in 1964. He's a man to watch and a lot of people have been watching him with vastly changed opinions since way back there in 1940 when the 38-year-old district attorney of New York county first aspired to the White House. It was then that the late Harold L. Ickes convulsed a nation with the crack: "Tommy Dewey has thrown his diaper into the ring."

Thomas E. Dewey has come of ripe political age.

Matter of Fact

By Joe and Stewart Alsop

THE SEWED-UP CONVENTION

San Francisco—The endless babble about an "open convention" here in San Francisco simply proves that American politicians are just about the most superstitious people on earth. There is a superstition in favor of open conventions, so they go on talking about an open convention. But this is a sewed-up convention—just about as completely sewed-up as a convention can be.

Furthermore, this could never have been an open convention, because there were only two ways to open it up, and neither was feasible. The President was not willing to open it up by sponsoring a movement to get another vice president. And no other serious Republican contender was willing to open it up by coming forward as an active candidate and seeking nationwide support for his candidacy.

This leaves only one question unanswered. Why has the President himself, a deeply sincere man, gone on talking about an open convention and even making gestures to suggest that the convention really is open?

THE answer, clearly, comes in two parts. Eisenhower was not at first fully aware how far key people in his entourage were taking advantage of his own passivity, in order to sew up the convention for Dick Nixon. And when he was finally confronted by the accomplished fact of a sewed-up convention, he was just superstitious enough to go on with the elaborate pretense of encouraging a convention open to all contenders.

The crucial stage of the sewing-up process occurred in the period between the President's decision to run again despite his heart attack and the President's emergence from his ill-effects attack. The man who carried the ball in public was Republican National Chairman Len Hall, who kept saying that "it was still going to be Dick Nixon."

The efforts of Hall, the attitudes of such leaders as Thomas E. Dewey of New York, the ex-Taftites' liking for Nixon, all combined to create what might be called a Republican consensus. In this period, no pledges were asked or given. But by the time of the President's operation for ileitis, when Hall declared that "it was still going to be Dick Nixon," he was stating a practical fact.

THIS stage was ended by the sudden intervention of Harold Stassen. Stassen was sinking

into political oblivion. His action seems to have been as purely instinctive and un-thought-out as the last desperate wallowings of a mouse just before the quicksand sucks it down. At any rate, the principal effect of Stassen's intervention was to produce a blitz campaign to round up delegate pledges for Nixon. Stassen's call for support for Gov. Christian Herter was taken as liberating Nixon from the self-denying ordinance, by which he had previously refrained from seeking delegate pledges.

Former Governor Dewey, Sen. Andrew Schoepel of Kansas, Rep. Richard Simpson, other Nixon supporters, and Nixon himself got on the telephone to sew up the votes. Before very many days had passed, they had sold pledges from a very great majority of the future Republican delegates. After that the convention was sewed up in form as well as fact.

EVEN so, partly because of the impression left by the exciting Democratic Vice Presidential race, President Eisenhower was still anxious to preserve the open convention fiction. To this end, he actually requested his chief of staff, Sherman Adams, his close friend, Gen. Lucius Clay, and one or two others, to do something about it here in San Francisco. These men in turn briefly tried to encourage Governor Langlie of Washington, Governor Thornton of Colorado and one or two more to come forward as Vice Presidential candidates.

But this was just for the look of the thing. There was no intention of stopping Nixon, if only because it was already well known that Nixon had a solid majority in his pocket. But for exactly the same reason, the curious attempt to maintain the pretense of openness was doomed to early failure. No other candidate could muster even the minimum number of delegates that would seem respectable. To avoid ridicule, the invited contenders all declined.

IN THESE circumstances, the President's renewed invitation to possible contenders to come and have a jolly chat with him at the St. Francis Hotel, is as near to being a phoney stunt as anything Dwight D. Eisenhower has ever staged. When he keeps saying that the convention is open because he is perfectly willing to accept any suitable substitute for Nixon, he is being technically sincere of course.

But he knows very well that the convention has already made up its mind in Nixon's favor, and that he and his lieutenants have helped it to do so. Why, then, go on with these gestures? Copyright 1956, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.

McCANN ON VACATION Charles M. McCann is on vacation. His weekly news outlook and daily foreign news commentary columns will be resumed upon his return.

MAKE A WILL! As Funeral Directors we know only too well how much confusion, heartache, and even financial distress can be created by the lack of a will. Where only small amounts are involved, it is even MORE important that both husbands and wives make a will. If you haven't made yours, don't delay! Chapel Mortuary Across from the Courthouse Frank Morgan—Harold Snodgrass FUNERAL DIRECTORS