

Stevenson Fails To Remove Hiss Case as Campaign Issue, Republicans Say

Washington — (AP) — Adlai Stevenson's camp hoped today he had removed the Alger Hiss case as an issue in the presidential campaign.

But Republicans made it plain he had not.

Stevenson publicly differed Monday with former President Truman's contention that Hiss was not a Communist spy. The Democratic presidential nominee told a news conference he "never doubted" the jury verdict that sent Hiss to prison for denying he aided a Communist spy ring.

He said he hoped that the Hiss issue would not be injected into the campaign.

"Anyone who attempts to create differences between the two parties on the fundamental issue of loyalty to the government does the American people a disservice," he said.

At the same time he accused Vice President Richard M. Nixon and GOP National Chairman Leonard W. Hall of taking "the same low road" they travelled in the 1954 congressional campaign in raising the Reds-in-government issue. Both had pressed

him for comment on Mr. Truman's Hiss remark.

"We ought to know whether President Eisenhower approves of this sort of campaigning," Stevenson said.

The White House had no comment.

But Senate Republican Leader

William F. Knowland told a news conference later the Hiss case will be an issue insofar as it indicates a "gross carelessness" on the part of the previous Democratic administration.

He also said it raises a question as to whether former Secretary of State Dean Acheson and

other "careless" Democratic officials might be brought "back into power" if the Democrats win in November.

Knowland, who headed into a 20,000-mile campaign swing today, said he will discuss the matter whenever he "feels it is pertinent."

Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.), in a statement released by the GOP National committee, said that Democratic candidates "long have resented the fact that Republicans have been able to effectively clean up the mess in Washington."

Stevenson and his staff talked

over the Hiss problem at length before his news conference. When the question came up at the conference he phrased his words deliberately.

He recalled that when his views on Hiss were asked in the 1952 campaign he said: "I have never doubted the verdict of the

jury which convicted him." "Nothing has happened since then to change my views," he said.

"Now, if what I said four years ago places me in disagreement with what President Truman says now, that is where the record must lie, must rest."

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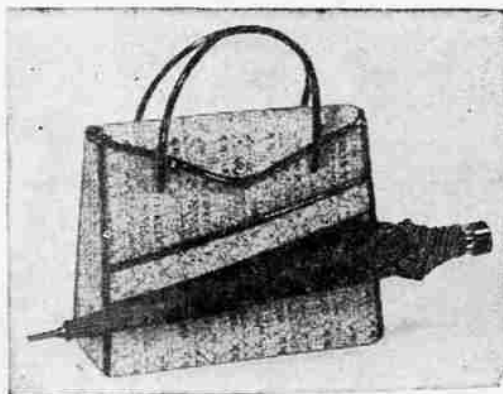
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