

Nixon's Training for Office of President Draws Little Challenge From Either Party

Editor's Note: This is the last in a series on Vice President Richard M. Nixon's bid for the White House in 1960. The following articles with his policies and problems.

By WILLIAM THEIS
Washington—(UPI)—Does Vice President Richard M. Nixon have what it takes to win and to fill the presidency of the United States in 1960?

There are some Republicans who question whether he could win if nominated. This is what makes Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York view 1960 as a tempting prospect for himself.

There are few professionals in either party, however, who would challenge Nixon's training for the office or his capacity to administer it.

It is generally acknowledged that no vice president has been better trained for promotion. And Nixon's ability is highly respected, even by Democratic critics. Most think he would be a "strong" president if elected.

President Eisenhower, himself, made much of this training possible by directing Nixon to be a "working" partner from the day he took office in 1953.

Holds No Grudges
Those who most bitterly oppose Nixon charge that he lacks principle, that some of his past actions show a willingness to employ half-truth if it served his purpose. A term used by his political enemies — "Tricky Dick" — still plagues Nixon on occasion.

Nixon advocates answer such charges this way: "Here is a whole man, not

perfect, more complex than most, who does not fear controversy but holds no grudges; who has profited by some mistakes and has grown in stature; who stands foursquare for progressive Republicanism; who has been misrepresented at times and who has suffered his own share of political abuse without flinching. Why not judge the whole man?"

Some rough-and-tumble Democratic politicians admit they wish they had more people with Nixon's capacity on their side. They credit him with the political savvy of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.

He can claim political courage, Nixon has said that a leader "without political guts" isn't worth his salt.

Like Rockefeller, he has shown he doesn't mind taking

an unpopular stand if he thinks it is right. Nixon believes a political leader must lead not follow.

Risked Personal Violence

Friends point out that he made his comeback fight against the 1952 mid-campaign "expense fund" charges almost alone. His televised explanation helped turn what looked like possible disaster into a landslide victory.

Nixon's naval service in the Pacific during World War II was routine. But he risked personal violence as vice president a number of times in his overseas travels.

The risk became most real when he was stoned and spat upon by mobs during his 1956 South American trip. Earlier, he had brushes with danger in Burma, North Vietnam, Iran, Malaya and Korea—and areas he visited during per-

iods of war or unrest traveling as a goodwill ambassador. Nixon has thrived on crises. Each time, he kept his head.

His most severe tests came with President Eisenhower's three major illnesses. The President's September, 1955, heart attack stunned Washington—and Nixon was no exception.

But, within hours, the vice president had joined in establishing a business-as-usual atmosphere in the administration. He was painstaking in avoiding action which might indicate he was too eager to "move in."

Achieves a Balance

Less than a year later, in June, 1956, the man who is just a heartbeat away from the presidency went through the same ordeal when Eisenhower was operated upon for

ileitis. His third test came in 1957 when the Chief Executive suffered a mild stroke. Politically, Nixon has been able to balance his GOP popularity between the right wing Republicans, who first spotted him in the Alger Hiss investigation when he was a "House member," and the more liberal Republicans whose causes he championed.

With all of this, Nixon doesn't brood over critics. He often tells audiences he shares Truman's belief that "if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."

The vice president has been pretty much his own press relations man until the past year, but doesn't worry about news notices, good or bad. Unlike such colleagues as Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, who is sensitive about his press rel-

ations, Nixon lets even unfair criticism go unchallenged. Nixon, incidentally, has considerable admiration for Johnson. The Texan reciprocates that feeling.

A Tireless Traveler

Political observers believe that many Democrats—and some Republicans—have underestimated Nixon's political appeal. Nixon was credited in 1956, for example, with making telling inroads for the GOP in the ranks of college, independent and Negro voters. He concentrated campaigning with many such groups.

He is at his best in face-to-face, informal contacts. And he is tireless, as this reporter has found covering him in travels to more than 30 countries and most of the 50 states.

on is the problem of holding California intact if there is any serious Rockefeller challenge there. Nixon is confident he can do so.

If the Rockefeller forces make their move in Nixon's territory, the vice president's associates say, "he might not be able to hold back our own people in New York."

One of these New Yorkers is former GOP National Chairman Leonard Hall, who wanted the governorship nomination when it went to Rockefeller. Hall is expected to be Nixon's campaign chief when the Nixon drive gets rolling.

What will Nixon do if he loses in 1960?

The answer at the vice-presidential office is that he has given no thought to that and does not intend to.

Gunnar Asked To Use New Standard

Eugene—(UPI)—Robert W. Straub, newly-named Oregon Democratic state chairman, Tuesday called upon State GOP Chairman Peter Gunnar to "strike a new standard for politics in Oregon during the forthcoming campaign."

Straub suggested three rules which he asked Gunnar to accept and apply in coming political battles. They included:

1. Keep pettiness out of politics.
2. Avoid misleading and false campaign promises.
3. Make campaigning meaningful by focusing on the important issues that face the people of Oregon.

Tests on 57,000 Prove Success Of TB Vaccine

London (Science Service) — Contradicting the opinions recently expressed by U.S. experts that the B.C.G. tuberculosis vaccine was of little, if any, value, the British Medical Council has just made a progress report on a controlled clinical trial it has been conducting since 1950. The Council says, in a 20,000-word report, that it has proved vaccination against tuberculosis does prevent the disease in young people.

Nearly 57,000 children, aged 14 to 15½ years, living in different parts of England, were used in the tests. The tests were started nine years ago and many of the subjects are now young men and women. They have all been closely studied since they were first vaccinated. The reduction in tuberculosis attributed to vaccination which is given by injection is 83 per cent.

The trial has been conducted by a team under the direction of Dr. P. D'Arcy Hart, with the co-operation of local health authorities. "These tests establish beyond question the value of vaccination for young people," Dr. Hart said. He added that protection had been shown to extend beyond adolescence into early adult life. It lasted for at least five years and perhaps six or more years. The potentialities of vaccine were even greater than had at first been thought.

The object of vaccination is to give a person a harmless infection which will confer immunity against a later virulent infection. Protection is still well worthwhile.

Although the number of deaths from tuberculosis has fallen remarkably in recent years, many cases of the disease are discovered yearly. Last year about 30,000 were notified in England and Wales.

Two vaccines have been used in these tests: the Bacillus Calmette Guérin, named after its discoverers in Paris more than 30 years ago, and usually called B.C.G.; and a vaccine called B.C.G. and a vole bacillus vaccine discovered by Dr. A. Q. Wells, of Oxford, England, who was a member of the investigating committee until his death in 1956.

The Wells vaccine proved superior even to B.C.G. During the five-year follow-up period, the annual incidence of tuberculosis in the B.C.G.-vaccinated group was 0.38 per 1,000. This compared with 2.29 per 1,000 in the unvaccinated group. This represented a reduction attributable to vaccination of 83 per cent. The annual incidence in the Wells bacillus-vaccinated group was 0.33 per 1,000 against 2.62 in an unvaccinated group. This represented protection of 87 per cent.

The Medical Research Council says: "The present results show that a general vaccination scheme among children 14 to 15 years of age should reduce the number of cases developing between the ages of 14 and 21 by about one-half."

Tooth Paste Ads Topics of Concern

Washington—(UPI)—A spokesman for the Federal Trade Commission said Tuesday the government is "very much aware of the whole problem" posed by tooth paste commercials but has so far taken no action in the field.

The commission was asked for reaction to charges leveled by the American Dental Association that the manufacturers of tooth paste, mouth wash and even chewing gum make reckless claims for their products.

FTC press officer Sam Stowe said the commission has no false advertising cases pending against manufacturers of dentifrices. He would not say whether there were any complaints in the investigative stage.

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