

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

DEFINITIONS:
PREJUDICE: A time-saver that enables you to form opinions without bothering to get the facts.

CELEBRITY: One who works all his life to be famous enough to be recognized—and then hides behind dark glasses so no one will know who he is.

TREE: An object that stands in one place for a century, then leaps in front of your wife when she's driving.

PERFECTIONIST: One who takes infinite pains and usually gives them to everyone around him.

INDISTINCT: Where housewives put dirty dishes.

PRACTICAL NURSE: One who marries a rich patient.

A girls' college instructor remarked, "They tell me that 'Lolita' describes a love affair between a full-grown man and a 12-year-old!" A sophisticated senior prompted, "A 12-year-old WHAT?"

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Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

KENNEDY'S POSITION

Washington - Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts has just come to the end of one of the longest pre-Presidential convention trails in American politics.

The traveler, through at last with scatter-gun barnstorming, heads now for a long-deferred rest in Florida. In January he will formally announce that - surprise, surprise - he is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination next summer.

Kennedy has been up and down and across and over the country for two years. He has examined its grass roots, North, South, East and West. He has talked with a thousand local politicians and a hundred ivory-tower characters in the universities. He has had an extraordinary education in the geography - physical, human and political - of the United States of America.

In this exhaustive enterprise he has been of service to his party as well as to his own ambitions. For his decision to go out early for the Presidency has forced an unusually early and truly nationwide discussion among the Democrats as to whom they ought to choose next year.

At this moment of pause and rest, where does Kennedy's own candidacy really stand? There is a considerable, cool confidence in this young politician (42), though he knows the way at best will not be easy. He is aware that the tradition against a Catholic reaching the Presidency puts special demands upon him.

He recognizes that to have any real hope he must go to the Democratic National convention as the repeatedly proved front-runner of all the field. He reckons he must not only still be at the top of the public opinion polls but also must have won a series of Democratic primaries in important states.

He accept without complaint his extra burden as one of the facts of political life. His people accept, too, that two of his prospective rivals, Adlai E. Stevenson and Sen-

ator Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, have some warrant for avoiding the primaries because of their higher earned positions in the party hierarchy.

They don't quite see, however, why another of the aspirants, Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri, should claim this preferred status above the battle. They feel Kennedy is entitled to engage Symington head-on in at least some of the primaries.

Their reckoning continues along these lines: that Kennedy's present momentum will hold up through the primaries - and, if it does, he will go to the convention with the largest single bloc of delegates. If this momentum does not hold up, Kennedy will be gone, and that will be that. But, if, on the contrary, his public standing is higher even than now, he cannot be put off with the Vice-Presidential nomination.

THOUGH many a determined Presidential candidate has settled in the end for the lesser place, Kennedy's whole attitude strongly indicates he will not. He knows he will be under heavy pressure "for the good of the party" to go along like a good boy - that is, assuming he cannot blitz the convention for the top spot. But he doesn't see how he would owe quite that much to the party, considering that he had much rather remain a Senator than be a Vice-President. And he also doesn't see that such a sacrifice could do the party anything but harm.

He earnestly hopes the so-called "Catholic issue" will not be further inflamed. But obviously he thinks this: If by convention time he has fallen back in any measurable way - say, by the loss of critical primaries - the convention will have every right to reject him on these purely practical grounds. But if he is still the top man and is, nevertheless, still rejected, there is this consideration:

To deny him the Presidential nomination for no discernible reason except his religion, and then to offer him the Vice-Presidency for the same reason, would be an unacceptable convention maneuver, both as to ethics and to plain political expediency. (Copyright, 1959, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

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