



# Lyndon Johnson Begins To Move On Presidential Trail

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Washington (Special)—The "western" presidential candidate with the southern drawl, Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, has now begun his move along a predetermined course he hopes will gain him the Democratic nomination and the Presidency in November.



Johnson has not said and will not say that he is a presidential contender. But in private huddles the Senate's majority leader has mapped his strategy for capturing the prize that so many seek in 1960.

Johnson is what might be called the commuting candidate. Unlike his four senatorial colleagues who have announced and are now running hard — Kennedy, Humphrey, Morse and Symington — Johnson feels obliged to stay in Washington and run the Senate during its weekday sessions. But on week ends, the Texan will climb into his chartered airplane and fly to distant states — most of them in the West — to expose himself to convention delegates and turn on his message and his most gracious image in hopes of winning his base of support.

**Well Satisfied**  
Just back from the first of these western trips, Johnson and his aides are well satisfied with the results. The senator didn't ask anyone right out to support him, but his aides claim many converts were made in the high places

of Rocky Mountain Democratic ranks. At Cheyenne, double the expected number of party faithful turned out to sup with Lyndon and then explode into applause 23 times (aides always count the number of handclapping interruptions as though they were blocks of good bullion).

In Salt Lake City and Las Vegas the big man went over well, usually at his best when he discarded the prepared speeches written for him, and branched out in the old-fashioned windmill oratory that any Texas politician must master before reaching Washington, D.C.

A western headquarters is soon to be established at Los Angeles under the direction of a former attorney general of Texas, John Ben Shepperd, who is on leave from an Odessa oil company for this important mission. Within coming weeks, Johnson tentatively plans further week end forays into Washington state, Idaho, possibly Oregon, and some of the north central and eastern states.

Going into the convention, Johnson expects to have the solid south's bloc of 380 delegates, with probable backing in border states of Oklahoma, Kentucky and Tennessee. His hope is to enter the contest with a first ballot strength of between 400 and 500 delegates, out of the 761 required for the nomination.

What Johnson is seeking to achieve in the weeks that remain before the convention opens on July 11 is to attract

a flock of other delegates to his brand of leadership, not necessarily for first ballot backing, but for the more important and decisive ballots to follow when the also-rans fail by the wayside.

The Johnson forces no longer fear Sen. Stuart Symington as a possible compromise candidate in a Kennedy-Johnson standoff. They claim Symington is not going over well with party officials and grassroots Democrats, chiefly because they doubt he could conduct a vigorous campaign against the Republicans in the fall.

**Critical Test Seen**  
What the Johnson strategists believe will be the critical test will come when Kennedy falls short and begins to lose delegates — as they are supremely confident will happen. They think Kennedy may attempt to swing his delegates at that moment to Adlai Stevenson. They are counting then on Senator Johnson's savvy as a backstage negotiator, learned through long years in climbing the political ladder, to head off any stampede to Stevenson by the big blocs of delegates. They hope to get Kennedy as LBJ's running mate.

**Time Short**  
Johnson's practical problem is that time is short. He cannot take the risk of leaving the helm at the Senate unattended to go campaigning for weeks on end as do Kennedy and Humphrey, and he must put through a Democratic legislative program — within the limits imposed by Presi-

dent Eisenhower's veto power — if the party is going to have something tangible on which to run. The GOP is already charging a congressional slate of "do nothing" be-

cause of the travelling Democratic aspirant; and if Johnson himself were to launch a fulltime campaign he would bear the full onus of this charge. So besides his geographical origin, Johnson now is feeling the impact of these other hardships as he pits himself against the field in hopes of becoming, as convention nom-

inating speakers always put it, "The Man Who..." for the Democrats in 1960.

**MENTAL HEALTH LAUNCHED** — Jimmy Piersall, Cleveland Indians centerfielder, launched Mental Health Week across the nation with his ringing of the Mental Health bell at Washington, D. C. Piersall, who staged a comeback after being stricken by mental illness in 1952, is assisted by Peggy Kehne, 3, of Washington, Little Miss Bell Ringer of 1960. The bell was cast in 1953 from chains and shackles formerly used to restrain mental patients. (UPI Telephoto)

### Marion Sheriff Finds Slot the Easy Way

Salem —UPI— Marion County Sheriff Denver Young has found a slot machine the easy way — by glancing through the open door of a utility room as he drove by a northeast Salem home.

Young said the device was confiscated but it was an ancient type, inoperative, and charges are not planned against the owner.

New York —UPI— Francis Cardinal Spellman, celebrating his 71st birthday Wednesday, ordained his nephew, the Rev. John William Pegnam, the only member of the cardinal's family to enter the priesthood since Spellman was ordained in 1916.

Tillamook —UPI— The 1960 convention of the Oregon Association of City Police Officers is scheduled here May 8-10.

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**BAILIFF GETS SMILE** — Anna Kashfi, ex-wife of actor Marlon Brando, smiles at Bailiff Edward Lathan in a Santa Monica, Calif., court as she returns for another day in a long session of court appearances in the continuing battle over visitation rights of her ex-husband to see their child, Devi, 2. Miss Kashfi assailed Brando as "an immoral man" on the stand. She stalked from the witness stand, angry, when she took exception to remarks by Judge Allan T. Lynch. At the time bailiff Lathan returned her to the courtroom and she was lectured by the judge but not held in contempt. (UPI Telephoto)

### Great Decisions Group Favors OAS in Disputes

Channeling U.S. disputes with Cuba through the Organization of American States (OAS) was urged by nearly three-fourths of Oregon's Great Decisions participants who voted on the topic, "Cuba's Revolution — Reform or Fiasco?" Seventy-eight per cent of the Jackson county voters agreed.

Opinion ballots from discussion groups in Oregon counties were tabulated this week by Oregon State college extension service. Results indicated strong interest in expanding U.S. information and cultural activities in Latin America and increasing an exchange of persons between the U.S. and Latin America.

Nearly two-thirds of Oregon voters suggested giving medical and educational aid to help raise living standards of people in dictatorships. Sixty-one per cent of Jackson county voters made the same suggestion.

**Discuss Policies**  
Before voting, Great Decisions discussion group members spent a week studying and discussing present U.S. policies toward Cuba and Latin America.

The greatest agreement, state-wide, was on the question of ambassadors. Seventy-nine per cent of the voters said to appoint only qualified specialists — not "political" — ambassadors.

Statewide voters ranked 24 U.S. policy proposals now being debated in Washington, giving other top priorities in the following order:  
Work for international agreements to stabilize raw materials prices and control surplus commodities  
Channel economic assistance through an inter-American agency.  
Provide increased loans for economic growth.

Little agreement was evident among voters on the topic of over-all U.S. global strategy — the last of eight topics discussed by Great Decisions participants all over the country this spring.

Greatest agreement came when 58 per cent of the statewide voters urged seizing every opportunity to negotiate in the cold war. Seventy-five per cent of Jackson county voters agreed.

Fifty-two per cent think the U.S. should be willing to show good faith by making concessions, and 45 per cent said to demand concessions as evidence of good faith on the other side. Only 3 per cent of Oregon's voters said to make no concessions.

In voting on foreign aid, 67 per cent of the statewide voters favor increasing U.S. contributions to the UN basic development programs.

Exactly half the state's voters said to hold the line on defense spending. Fourteen per cent said to increase, and 11 per cent to decrease, defense spending.

**COSTLY TAX BILL**  
Mount Vernon, Ill. —UPI— Jefferson County Treasurer Walter Randall paid a delinquent landowner's 12-cent tax bill himself Wednesday. The county already had spent \$2 for bookkeeping and 8 cents for postage trying to collect. The taxpayer finally sent in a check for 6 cents, promising the second installment later. But the check wasn't signed.

"Enough is enough," grumbled Randall. He dug into his pocket and handed over a dime and two pennies.

Portland —UPI— Waterborne foreign imports into Oregon Customs District during 1959 rose 33.95 per cent over the previous year, for a total value of \$121,674,159.

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