

Survey Shows GOP Officials Protest Citizens Committee

By RAYMOND LAHR

United Press International
Washington-UPI—The National Republican Citizens committee, a pet project of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, has kicked up a first class row among GOP party leaders.

Many of them have been grumbling and asking questions since its formation was revealed in a casual announcement during the all Republican conference on the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg, Pa., June 30.

A United Press International survey showed some critics fear the project will set off warfare inside the party and drain away campaign funds. They do not want it functioning in their state. Some also are worried that it will try to dictate the nomination of the 1964 Republican presidential candidate.

Among these is Conservative Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona who protested vigorously that the new organization would be a force of disunity. Swift rebuttals came from Eisenhower and GOP National Chairman William E. Miller, who said it would help broaden the base of the party. But Goldwater, regarded as presidential timber by some party elements, refused to be appeased.

Chief purpose of the committee is to recruit support for Republican candidates from people who are not active in the regular party organization. Its sponsors regard it as a long-range program to strengthen the GOP but with no significant role to play in the state and congressional elections this November.

Both political parties have had citizens' or volunteer groups working in the past for specific candidates in specific campaigns. The new project is being set up on a permanent basis.

Republican leaders took up on Walter N. Thayer, president of the New York Herald Tribune, as father of the movement. But some also believe Eisenhower twisted arms to get it accepted by GOP national headquarters and the party leadership in Congress.

Because of the static generated by the June 30 announcement, 44 GOP state chairmen and national committee members were questioned by United Press International in 33 states.

Of these, 12 individuals in 11 states were critical or hostile, six were non-committal and 14 in 10 states said they thought the project was a good idea.

Twelve others in 11 states gave "yes, but" replies. They thought the committee could be useful if its work were coordinated with the regular party organization and did not compete with or duplicate its work.

Comments Noted

Some of the comments: "We have yet to see any demonstrable evidence as to how they can help us," said New York State Chairman L. Judson Morehouse of New York. "We welcome new people but we want to make sure they work in a coordinating fashion."

"It can drop dead," said Wisconsin National Committeeman Robert Pierce. "I don't care whether it exists or not."

"I feel that it will be a useful tool when used as an integral part of the party itself and not to increase disension," said Winthrop Rockefeller, Arkansas National Committeeman and brother of Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York.

"It's basically ridiculous," said Mississippi State Chairman Wirt Yerger Jr. "I think



GOP PROJECT—The National Republican Citizens committee, a pet project of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower (right), has kicked up a first class row among GOP leaders. Many have been grumbling and asking questions since its formation was revealed in a casual announcement during an all Republican conference at the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg, Pa., June 30. Some are worried that it will try to dictate the nomination of the 1964 Republican Presidential candidate. Among these is Conservative Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona (left), who protested vigorously that the organization would be a force of disunity. (UPI Telephoto)

it should dry up." "I haven't been impressed with any of these citizen committees," said a veteran national committeeman. "That's the consensus of most people in politics. The big thing — for Republicans or Democrats — is to line up support for candidates in a unified way. The more they splinter, the more trouble they have."

Iowa State Chairman George Nagle said he did not want to criticize Eisenhower but he regarded the committee as "an unnecessary adjunct to the party at this time."

Some party leaders conceded the new organization could tap manpower and money not available to the regular party organization. But one summed up some objections by saying that the term, citizens committee, "is just a dirty word" to many political professionals.

There is no evidence that the committee now favors any specific possibility for the 1964 presidential nomination. But there is widespread belief among Republicans that it would oppose the nomination of Goldwater.

"I think the committee is concerned with the 1964 presidential election and I think that is its only purpose," said Anthony Battaglia, Florida national committeeman.

"I think the founders are too smart to back any primary candidate in the 1964 election," said California National Committeeman Joseph Martin Jr.

Unpublicized Meeting
Preparations for the project were made at an unpublicized meeting at Gettysburg last Dec. 12 and 13. A report on that meeting was circulated to a select group of Republicans last spring.

Participants included Eisenhower and 13 other Republicans, most of whom had been active in GOP citizens committees in previous campaigns. The regular organization was represented only by National Chairman Miller.

The GOP bloc in Congress was not represented. Senate GOP Leader Everett M. Dirksen, Ill., and House Republican Leader Charles A. Halleck, Ind., later journeyed to Gettysburg to get a briefing from Eisenhower but still appeared unhappy.

The report on the meeting described the proposed committee as a long-range project to strengthen the GOP without competing with or duplicating the work of the regular organization. It also said the committee would not be a vehicle for any Republican factions.

According to that report, the committee would "stress, point up and articulate the fundamental and bedrock principles upon which all Republicans agree."

The report recalled that Eisenhower had praised former GOP citizen groups and had said he had worked to enlist the people in the regular party organization. It said this effort failed because local GOP organizations often showed "no burning desire to fill their ranks with this new kind of blood" and because many in the volunteer groups were interested in politics and candidates only at the national level.

Invitations were sent June 30 by a 17-member organizing committee to persons who might want to join after payment of dues ranging from \$10 a year for junior members to \$1,000 to \$3,000 one-shot contributions for founding members.

Thayer recently visited Goldwater to discuss the committee. According to Goldwater, they had a pleasant conversation but parted still in disagreement.

The committee is expected to open a Washington headquarters soon. Eisenhower is honorary chairman but the working chairman is still to be named.

Vice chairman named in the June 30 invitation were: James B. Black, San Francisco; Peter M. Flanigan, New York; Barbara Bates Gundersen, former South Dakota national committee member; George Herrmann, Chicago; David O. Maxwell, Philadelphia; James L. Murphy, San Francisco; Robert A. Rowan, Los Angeles; Stanley M. Rumbough Jr., New York; and James C. Worthy, Chicago.

Joseph E. Sheffield, Camden, S.C., was listed as finance chairman, John L. Loeb Jr., New York, as treasurer and Ann Whitman, Eisenhower's former personal secretary, as executive secretary.

University of Oregon has received two research grants, totaling more than \$168,000, from the U. S. office of education.

They will support research projects designed to find out how people react to educational innovations and how people make decisions concerning education at the local level.

A three year grant of \$102,866 will be devoted to a "Comparative Experimental Study of Attitudes Towards Educational Innovations in the Community."

The principal investigator will be Dr. Robert E. Agger, research associate in the Institute and associate professor of political science. He will be assisted by Dr. Marshall N. Goldstein, research associate and director of the university's current study of educational television.

Also assisting during the summer months will be Dr. Bert E. Swanson, former university graduate student, who is now a Citizenship Clearing House Faculty Fellow with the New York Housing authority and assistant professor of political science at Sarah Lawrence college.

The study will attempt to find out the extent of public awareness of innovations in the local schools, the citizens' initial reactions and attitudes toward these innovations, and the changes which occur in these attitudes as the innovations become a part of established school policy.

The second grant of \$68,750 will make possible an investigation of "Group Influences and Issues in Educational Decision-Making at the Local Community Level."

Chief investigator in the two year project will be Dr. Roland J. Pellegrin, director of the Institute for Community Studies and professor of sociology, with Dr. Keith Goldammer, director of the university's bureau of educational research and professor of education, acting as co-investigator.

This study will attempt to find out the way in which various groups in the community influence decisions concerning local education. The researchers hope to discover the extent to which certain groups may become involved in decision-making on particular issues, for instance, school bond elections, while having no influence on other educational matters.

In addition to the precise data which the researchers hope to gain, the studies also will be useful for developing new techniques and methods of community analysis, for training graduate students in the skills of field research, and for providing local educators with guidelines for understanding public opinion and community power structures and their effects on educational decisions and changes.

Plans Start For Naval Air Reserve
Plans are under way to establish a Naval Air reserve unit in the Rogue valley that is affiliated with the Naval Air Reserve in Seattle.

If sufficient interest is shown in the program, the group will fly for one week end each month from Medford to Sandpoint Naval Air Station, Seattle.

Persons who have held Naval aviation ratings, Naval officers and pilots are eligible to apply.

Additional information may be obtained from Chief Shipfitter Don Milligan, 664-1756, at 160 Bigham dr., Central Point. Information needed is name, address, age, rate, rating, date of discharge or date of expiration of enlistment.

If sufficient interest is shown in the Rogue valley for such a reserve unit a Naval Air reserve recruiting team from Seattle will visit the area.

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