

"Frank Discussion" Of Foreign And Domestic Issues Asked By Taft

WASHINGTON, July 29 (AP)—Senator Taft of Ohio called today for a "frank discussion" by his fellow republicans of domestic and foreign issues.

The Ohio senator, scheduled to receive his state's "favorite son" endorsement for the GOP presidential nomination at Columbus Thursday, said he plans to bear down during his western trip in September on issues likely to arise before the next session of congress.

"I plan to talk about the issues before the country," including the Marshall plan for economic aid for Europe," Taft told a reporter.

"Before congress meets again (in January), I think all of these matters should be freely discussed throughout the country, particularly by republicans."

Challenge

Although they declined to link it in any way to any other potential presidential candidate, his statement was interpreted immediately as a challenge to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York to speak out.

On his own western trip Dewey remained silent on major political developments. He declined to discuss his views on the new Taft-Hartley labor act and refused to comment on the Marshall plan after Secretary of State Marshall explained it to the governors conference at Salt Lake City.

Friends said Taft hopes to emphasize on a tour of California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and possibly Wyoming that he is willing to state his stand on every domestic and international issue of importance.

Political Testing

Taft will begin what he regards as a political testing tour with an appearance before the American Bar association convention in Santa Cruz, September 12 as one of a panel discussing the Taft-Hartley act. He will swing into political meetings with an address before the

California Young Republicans clubs at Los Angeles on September 16. On quick succession he has scheduled talks September 19 before the Commonwealth club at San Francisco; September 20 at Reno; September 25 before the Associated Service clubs of Seattle and September 28 before Tacoma's world affairs council.

A day later, Taft will address the republican clubs of Oregon at Gearhart, going on to Boise, Idaho, the following day.

Although Taft intends to maintain until after the western tour that he is not an announced presidential candidate, scheduled functions at Columbus Thursday will leave little room for doubt.

As plans now stand, Senator John W. Bricker will announce before the Ohio state republican committee meets that he is supporting Taft as the state's favorite son.

The state committee promptly will endorse Taft and, at a night banquet speech, the latter will say that he is highly honored but wants to await the results of his western survey before he decides finally.

Gift Of Cat Gives Zoo New Inmate

NEW YORK, July 29 (AP)—The kitten that a sailor friend gave John McLaughlin, a machinist of the Bronx, looked a little strange when he got it home.

The Bronx Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals explained why:

The kitten is going to grow up to be an ocelot, a wildcat of the American tropics, now seven inches high.

Portland Ponders 1954 World's Fair

PORTLAND, Ore., July 29 (AP)—A proposal to stage a world's fair here in 1954, based on the hydro-electric and atomic age, will be considered by the Federation of Community clubs of Multnomah county.

Peter W. Welch, spokesman for the group, broadcast on the federation's radio program last night that the event would come just 50 years after the Portland Lewis and Clark world's fair of 1905.

Welch said the Swan island site of the Kaiser shipyard provided adequate utility installations for such an event.

Roseburg Votes On Tax Limit

ROSEBURG, July 29 (AP)—Voters balloted again today in a special city budget election on whether to exceed the constitutional tax limit to provide funds needed for administrative purposes.

Voters rejected the budget in a June election, principally on an item of \$6000 for a city manager's salary. A subsequent July 8 vote was postponed when a technical error in income estimates from the 2 1/2 mill levy was discovered.

The levy above the tax limitation asked in today's election is \$42,818.47. The city has been without a manager because of the tax issues involved.

Flaming Tug Runs Wild

SEATTLE, July 29 (AP)—A flaming, pilotless 91-foot tug, the Alltak of San Francisco, plunged wildly through Puget Sound waters for more than an hour late yesterday overturning a 600-ton barge loaded with crushed gravel and menacing other shipping before being brought under control.

Fire broke out in the engine room of the craft as it neared the canal entrance. The Skipper, Capt. W. G. Sampson, Seattle, who with his two crewmen, Paul Rineberg, San Francisco, and Gene Langstaff, Seattle, leaped to safety to the deck of another tug, said flames spread so rapidly it was impossible to reach the controls.

Not even the tremendous impact which drove a gaping hole in the barge slowed the vessel's wild careenings. As a coast guard cutter stood by prepared to sink the tug, her engines died and fireboats moved in to quell the flames. Sampson said the ship was a total loss.

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