

Are Democrats Getting Overconfident? Some Party Chieftains Worry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (AP)—Democratic chances in next year's congressional elections look so good to some party members they are worrying about over-confidence.

That was the plain implication today in a sum-up of the political situation given a reporter by Senator Kerr (D-Okla.). Kerr is a former governor and national convention keynote speaker who keeps his eye on the national barometer.

Optimism

"The people are so aware of the nation's progress both at home and abroad under democratic leadership that I think they will give their approval in the 1950 elections," Kerr said.

"At the same time, they are so

unaware of any constructive effort by the opposition as to be even less impressed than usual with that opposition."

Kerr didn't put it into words but there was evidence that he believes along with some other democrats that things look a little too good politically for their party.

Some of them frankly, if privately, are afraid the democrats may fall into the over-confidence trap they say was sprung on Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York and the republicans in the 1948 presidential election.

The feeling that the democrats are riding something of a political crest now seems to be shared by some of the republicans. These party members say privately they don't see any signs now of a GOP resurgence.

Opera Singer Now Known As Moanin' Mona

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 1 (AP)—Dark-eyed Mona Bradford, the operatic beauty who came here to sing the lead in "Carmen" and stayed to warble torch songs in a night club, packed the house last night.

One of the largest crowds in the history of the swank Plantation Club turned out for the brunette singer's night spot debut.

Stranded

The raven-haired Mona says she wants to make enough money to ride back to New York in style. She got the night club engagement after her complaint that she was stranded here when the New York Civic Opera company called it quits after an unprofitable tour of about 60 one-night stands. The show folded in Danville, Ill., Saturday night.

In New York, the managing director of the touring opera company denied that the glamorous "Carmen" had been stranded.

"I carried three 'Carmens,'" William Reutemann told newsmen in New York. "Miss Bradford would go ahead and steer a little publicity for our show. So when we were in Danville, she was in Nashville. It just happens that way."

Wowed 'Em

Be that as it may, Mona the sinner wowed the night spotters here last night.

She opened with "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," shifted to a couple of rousing songs from "Carmen," and wound up with a hip-shaking "Miserlou" which brought loud whistles and stomping. The "Miserlou," Mona confided, was done in the original Arabic.

"I like to be versatile," she said after the show. "You know, from straight opera to sort of vampish roles. I kind of like vampish roles."

What would she do when her week's engagement was up?

What's Cooking?

"Ride back to New York on the plane," she beamed. "I've got to see what's cooking there."

The management at the Plantation Club expressed regrets that Mona couldn't stay longer. Things were certainly cooking down here.

It Pays to Use the Want-Ads!

Army Starts Releasing Draftees

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (AP)—The army starts releasing its draftees today.

It announced yesterday that 30,000 men drafted or recruited under the 1948 selective service act will be given a choice of four alternatives:

1. Take a release after 12 months' duty and enter the reserve.
2. Complete 21 months of active duty.
3. Stay in service for a total of 33 months, after which they need not join the reserve.
4. Accept a discharge "for the convenience of the government," and then enlist for a full term in the regular army.

The program affects 24,000 draftees and another 6,000 men who enlisted for 21 months under the 1948 act.

MORE POLIO

PORTLAND, Dec. 1 (AP)—The state board of health reported yesterday that 13 new cases of polio were reported the week ending November 26. This was an increase in the incidence of the disease from the previous week.

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Rita, Aly Baby Expected Soon?

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Dec. 1 (AP)—Arrangements for Film Star Rita Hayworth and her husband, Prince Aly Khan, to move to their winter chalet around Christmas time led to the belief today she expected her baby before that time.

Aly and Rita have been in Lausanne for nearly a month and have made secret reservations at Montchoisi maternity clinic here. No word has leaked out as to when Rita expects to enter the clinic.

Rita lives in almost complete seclusion while she awaits the birth of her baby. When she does leave her hotel suite she is always accompanied by Prince Aly or his half-brother, Prince Sadruddin.

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