

JEREMY CHRISTMAS

A Yuletide Story

BY WALT SCOTT



Demo Selection For Chief Said 'Wide Open' By HST

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Harry S. Truman said today the 1960 Democratic presidential nomination contest is so wide open at this time he hasn't any idea who the winner will be.

Truman, who backed Gov. Averell Harriman of New York for the 1956 nomination which went to Adlai E. Stevenson, said he is keeping hands off in the scramble at this point.

"We have got a lot of good young men in the party who would make fine candidates, and I

don't want to do anything to hurt the chances of any of them," Truman said in an interview.

"Everybody will know in plenty of time who I am for."

While Truman's support is not likely to be decisive, the former President's backing might provide the impetus needed for one of several individual aspirants to forge ahead in what now appears likely to be a closely bunched field of contenders in 1960.

The prospect that several may arrive at the July 1960 convention with about equal strength revived speculation at weekend Democratic meetings here of the possibility of a third nomination for Stevenson.

Stevenson himself merely repeated his recent statement that he won't be the nominee. And Jacob M. Arvey, Illinois national committeeman, said he thinks the party's 1952 and 1956 standard bearer would be a "very reluctant dragon" so far as a third race is concerned.

Nevertheless, Arvey said he is not ruling out the possibility the convention might turn to Stevenson if several rounds of balloting should indicate a deadlock.

Similarly, Gov.-elect David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania said that while he doesn't think Steven-

son wants to run, he can see where the balloting stalemate might bring the former Illinois governor to the front again as a compromise candidate.

However, Gov. A. B. (Happy) Chandler of Kentucky, himself a candidate for the 1960 nomination, said he doesn't believe the convention will nominate a man who has lost two elections.

"Stevenson can't win," Chandler said.

Some other Democrats disagreed. They said that if the con-

trovercy over civil rights is sharpened within the party in the next two years, as appears likely, Stevenson may be regarded in 1960 as something of a moderate on this question.

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USN Renames Missile Subs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Because the Navy's Polaris ballistic missile submarines are an entirely new type of submersible, with a new mission, they are being named under a changed system.

The new craft are being named for famous Americans.

Until now, all U.S. submarines have carried the names of fish, sea creatures or items of sea mythology.

Five of the nine Polaris submarines now being built or authorized for building have been assigned names — the George Washington, Patrick Henry, Theodore Roosevelt, Robert E. Lee, and Abraham Lincoln.

The first of them, the George Washington, will be launched at Groton, Conn., next spring. But more months will be required for completion and commissioning.

There was a move afoot earlier this year to give the powerful Polaris subs the names of states.

Instead, Secretary of the Navy Thomas Gates, with President Eisenhower's approval, issued verbal instructions to name the missile submarines after famous Americans.

The Navy wants to keep state names for its battleships. Even though there are no battleships in active service, the big ships retain their names while in commission in the reserve fleet.

The missile submarines eventually will operate under a special unit designated Squadron 14. It will be headed by Capt. Norwood G. Ward, a submarine specialist in both offense and defense.

ROMAN HORRORS
LONDON (UPI) — High school classics teacher Robert Reeves says interest in his Latin classes has been heightened considerably since he began turning out comics written in the language of the Romans.

Typical stories are entitled "The Bodies in the Fish Pond" and "The Werewolf."

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Ex-President Holds Big Election Lead

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — After 10 years of exile and outlawry, ex-President Romulo Betancourt and his leftist Democratic Action party held a big lead today in returns from Venezuela's first free election since the overthrow of dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez.

With more than half of the votes counted, unofficial returns from the voting Sunday gave Betancourt 561,644, Rear Adm. Wolfgang Larrazabal 523,137 and Rafael Caldera 244,862.

Democratic Action candidates also were ahead in the few returns available for congressional races. Betancourt's party came to pow-

er in the 1955 revolt which overthrew Gen. Isaias Medina Angarita. The party elected writer Romulo Gallegos president in 1948, but he was turned out by Perez Jimenez in a military coup later in the year. The party was outlawed and Betancourt went into exile.

Larrazabal, 47, was head of the junta which ruled the country after the ouster of Perez Jimenez last January. He was the candidate of the Democratic Republican Union and also accepted the Communist party's endorsement.

Caldera, 42, a lawyer and labor expert, leads the Christian Socialist party (Copei).

No matter who wins the presidential and congressional races, the new Venezuelan government is expected to lean to the left for the next five years. There has been no organized right-wing

group since the overthrow of Perez Jimenez.
Final election results are not expected for several days.

ARCH THEATRE
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Science Shrinks Piles
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New York, N. Y. (Special) — For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the astonishing ability to shrink hemorrhoids, stop itching, and relieve pain — without surgery.

In one after case, while gently relieving pain, actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

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Demo Leader Outlines Plan

PORTLAND (AP)—Democratic party leaders have been urged to identify their party with liberal action and constructive leadership in the coming two years by state Chairman Dave Epps.

In a speech Saturday to party leaders, Epps said Oregon has a Democratic Legislature for the first time in 76 years.

"Its work will be complicated but effective, and the state party will publicize each legislator's accomplishments, constituting a major part of our effort to bring Democratic Party principles in the hearts and minds of the Oregon public," he said.

Epps said the Democratic victory in Alaska showed the new state is a politically mature one.

"Furthermore, Alaska will be an important part of the national Democratic Party's severing of its obsolete ties which for so long have given unfair advantage to states of the solid South," he said.

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