

# This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington, March 11 — As this correspondent has frequently pointed out, everything that happens or is going to happen in Washington between now and midsummer either has a motive behind it bearing on Presidential politics, or is subject to the suspicion of being in some way a manoeuvre for partisan or personal political advantage.

Some of the tactics are pretty crude and obvious, and many of the suspicions are pretty far-fetched. But no man holding public office these days can say or do anything without being suspected or openly accused of either seeking the Presidency for himself or of trying to discredit other possible candidates, either of his own or the other party.

It is no secret to anyone in Washington that there is a strong political clique of Republican politicians who are determined that the party's nominee shall not be Thomas E. Dewey. These are not necessarily the same men who are backing either Senator Taft or Senator Vandenberg.

There are some masters of political intrigue among the minority members of both Houses of Congress, and certain of them have given the impression that they are working under cover with state leaders of the party to bring about a situation which would result in all three of the leading Republican candidates killing each other off, thus forcing the

## Call at Tribune for Free Theatre Tickets



If those pictured above, photographed last Saturday as they walked along Main street, will call in person at The Tribune office, they will each be given two theatre tickets, good for admission to the Elk or Lyric theatres here. Next week watch for more pictures.—(Tribune Photos.)

convention to nominate a man who would be more to the liking of the Republican Old Guard than any of those three.

**Speculation on Hoover**  
That does not refer to Herbert Hoover, though the former President's recent appearance in Washington at a hearing of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, to tell members of Congress his views about the importance of giving prompt aid to the people of Finland and Poland, started the gossips speculating as to whether he was not laying his own plans for the Republican nomination.

It is practically impossible for political-minded Washington to conceive of any man who has once held high office not desiring to get back into the seat of power; and when such a man gets into the headlines by performing a great humanitarian service, the more sordid-minded political observers are confident that he is

seeking the limelight for the purpose of grabbing off a political prize for himself.

Those who know Mr. Hoover best are confident that he has no personal ambition to hold office again. His friends, however, understand that he would like to have a hand in shaping the party's policy, and there seems to be little doubt that his counsel and advice are being sought and acted upon by some of the foremost party leaders.

**More to Contribute**  
One of the points upon which there is wide agreement is that Mr. Hoover has more to contribute than any of the other eminent Republicans in his long experience, deep understanding and current knowledge of European affairs. If international relations should develop to the stage where an alarmed public opinion would demand that the next President must have a broad background of World politics, a genuinely pacifist philosophy, combined with wide experience in the conduct of domestic affairs, it is not entirely impossible, under such circumstances, that Mr. Hoover might be the convention's choice.

But those closest to him hold that he would have to be literally drafted, and that his recent visit to Washington had no political purpose behind it.

Those who consider Mr. Hoover as an appropriate nominee of the Republican Party point first to the recent indications of a strong Republican trend among the voters of Ohio, which is considered almost the index state by which to measure political tendencies.

Both of the two Congressional vacancies caused by the deaths of Ohio members have lately been filled by the election of Republicans. One of these was a foregone conclusion, but the other was a complete reversal on the part of the voters, who had elected a Democrat from that district in the last five biennial elections.

If that is an omen, as some political soothsayers claim, of a Republican victory next fall, then there is possible grounds for their belief that the personality of the Republican candidate will be of less importance than the policies he stands for and his qualifications as a statesman.

**Republicans Face Difficulties**  
If the election is to hinge upon the international situation, and either Mr. Roosevelt or someone whom he selects is to head the Democratic ticket, the general belief among Washington observers is that the Republicans will be put to it to name a candidate who would be regarded by the voting public as sufficiently versed in foreign affairs to stand against Secretary Hull or Mr. Roosevelt himself. All the recent polls of public opinion indicate that the President is still the most popular political figure with the mass of the voters, and that he has definitely strengthened his hold upon the popular imagination by his conduct of the nation's international relations.

Whether the European mission of the Under Secretary of State, Mr. Welles, is to develop a plan for American intervention for a peace settlement, or merely to bring back the personal views of the heads of the warring nations, it has caught the popular fancy as an American gesture aimed at bringing the war to an end, greatly to the personal and political aggrandizement of Mr. Roosevelt in the public eye.

**Daddy Only Man**  
Little Joan had been punished by her father.  
"Oh, mummy," she sobbed, "was daddy the only man you could get?"

## GRAVES OF SIAMESE TWINS TO BE MARKED

The graves of Chang and Eng, the Siamese twins who became North Carolina farmers after marrying and settling in Surry county, are to be marked by the state.

Dr. C. C. Crittenden, secretary of the state historical commission, said Chang and Eng were "probably the best known men who ever lived in North Carolina," in an announcement that a highway historical marker would be placed in Surry county to denote that their graves lie 100 yards west of the highway.

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