

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Dec. 5—With the organization by the foremost Republican leaders of New York state of a "Dewey-for-President" campaign for delegates, and the opening speech in that campaign made by District Attorney Dewey of New York county in Minneapolis, the three-cornered battle for the Republican Presidential nomination is at last fully under way.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg's organization committee has been actively at work for several weeks, proclaiming him as Michigan's favorite son, and issuing impressive "Literature" in his behalf, with almost all of Michigan's foremost Republicans, from the governor down, as signatories.

Senator Taft's personal campaign in the west, which has taken him and his politically-able wife to the Pacific coast, has also been going on since the extra session of congress ended. It has the blessing of most of the Ohio party leaders, including Governor Bricker, who was being talked of as a Presidential possibility himself before he declared in favor of "Bob" Taft.

Between Three Men

As Washington political observers view the prospects from this point in time and space, the real battle for the nomination is between those three men. Each of them, it is expected, will go to the convention with a practically solid block of delegates from his home state. Dewey's will be the largest, Taft's the next largest and Vandenberg's third. Each will have a considerable number of delegates from other than their home states, the number of whom cannot as yet be estimated even approximately. No experienced observer expects any one of these three leading candidates to have a majority of delegates when the convention opens, but each will have enough backing to be an extremely powerful factor in the final decision.

Only one man can get the first prize, and he is not always the candidate who has the greatest strength short of a majority.

Observers with long memories are harking back to the Republican

convention of 1920, when it seemed a foregone conclusion that the nominee would be either General Leonard Wood or Gov. Frank Lowden of Illinois. The convention became deadlocked and when the nomination of either of the leaders became utterly hopeless, the effort to find a candidate who would not be too objectionable for both Wood and Lowden to agree on him resulted in the selection of the darkest "dark horse" in the convention, Warren G. Harding.

Having that episode in mind, some astute lookers-on are beginning to look over the "dark horses" now in the Republican field. A three-way deadlock is less likely than one involving only two candidates, but it is possible; and there are many Republicans who have their lightning-rods in readiness in case they might be useful.

The present outlook is that many states will send delegations for "favorite sons" who have no expectation of getting the plum, but whose followers could be traded to advantage to support the likeliest winner. New Hampshire's Governor Bridges, Massachusetts' Gov. Saltonstall, Rhode Island's Gov. Vanderhill, Pennsylvania's Gov. James, are among those who are expected to have considerable numbers of delegates if not solid state blocks, when the convention convenes.

Delegation for Landon

Kansas is expected to send a solid delegation for former Governor Alf Landon, who will be remembered as the Republican candidate for President in 1936.

Representative James W. Wadsworth of New York, and Representative Bruce Barton of the same state are most often spoken of as possibilities in case it should turn out that Mr. Dewey cannot get the nomination and the New York leaders should be unwilling to throw their tremendous strength to either Vandenberg or Taft.

Hovering over the whole Republican picture is the shadow of former President Hoover. Mr. Hoover has no organization working for his nomination, he has made no public declaration one way or the other, and those in his personal confidence assert that he has no ambition or desire to run for President again.

But his recent frequent contacts with political leaders all over the nation, his public addresses and magazine articles and the quite general and definite growth in Mr. Hoover's personal popularity and the public's respect for his opinions, look to some of the Washington observers as preparing the way for his selection to lead the Republican party once more, whether as the result of a deliberate effort on his part or as the result of a deadlock from which no other way out could be found to which the convention would agree.

Swinging Toward Opposition

All of the concern, which almost amounts to excitement about the next Republican convention, is based upon the belief that the public's mind is swinging toward the opposition party, and that the right man with the right appeal whom the convention will nominate has a better than 50-50 chance to defeat any candidate whom the Democrats may put up. There are many observers here who think that does not hold good if Mr. Roosevelt runs again, but the number who think he will not ask for a third term is increasing.

As among the three leading Republican candidates, Senator Vandenberg is the first choice of those

who know him best through their association with him for ten years in the senate. But this idea is partly based upon the fact that Mr. Dewey, who still ranks first in polls of Republican voters, has not yet developed his ideas of national and international policy in public addresses. He has just begun to do that.

LETTERS TO SANTA

Rominger, N. C., Dec. 1, 1939.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl 9 years old. I am going to school and in the fifth grade. I want you to send me a box of Marshmallow candy, a wrist watch and a doll and a little toy duck, and maybe a fairy tale story book. I like to read very good for Christmas is just around the corner. Your friend,
DARE PRESNELL.

W.P. Horton Announces Candidacy for Governor

Raleigh, Dec. 3.—Lieutenant Governor Wilkins P. Horton of Pittsboro, announced formally today that he would seek the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina.

At least five other Democrats have told friends they intend to run, but Horton's is the first formal announcement to be made. The avowed, but unannounced, gubernatorial candidates are J. M. Broughton of Raleigh, Mayor Tom Cooper of Wilmington, Lee Gravelly of Rocky Mount, A. J. Maxwell of Raleigh, and Willis Smith of Raleigh.

Horton said he would issue a formal statement on his views of public questions at a later date.

Governor Hoey early last spring urged would-be candidates not to announce their candidacies for about six months. Although that period has expired, each of the candidates has appeared reluctant to make the first move. Horton's announcement is expected to break the ice.

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T. L. MAST

Lovill, N. C.

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The model illustrated is the Buick SUPER model. \$1 four-door touring sedan \$1109 delivered at Flint, Mich. White sidewall tires additional.

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