

Three-Cornered Fight For G.O.P. Nomination Looms

Washington, Dec. 6.—(Aut. aster)—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 the District Attorney 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 looking 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 Lowther 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 Lowther to agree on him resulted in the selection of the darkest "dark horse" in the convention, Warren Harding.

Having that episode in mind, some astute lookers-on are beginning to look over the "dark horses" new 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 Gov. Bridges, Massachusetts' Gov. Saltonstall, Rhode Island's Gov. Vanderbilt, 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

Mrs. Ransom Cowan Passes

Mrs. Bonnie McConnell Cowan died at her home in Webster, Saturday morning, December 2, following an illness of several months. She was 48 years old. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon, at 2:00 o'clock, at the Webster Methodist church. Rev. G. A. Hovis, pastor of the church, and Rev. W. N. Cook, pastor of the Webster Baptist church, conducted the service. Interment was in the Stillwell cemetery, at Webster.

Mrs. Cowan is survived by her husband, Ransom Cowan, and eight children: David, Pearl, Woodrow, Kenneth, George, Bragg, Eugene and Sally, all of Webster; her father, George W. McConnell, four brothers: William Burch, Fred, and George, Jr., and five sisters: Mrs. Myrtle Crisp, of West Asheville; Misses Callie, Ida Bell, Annie Laura and Jo, all of Webster.

BALSAM

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gentry announce the birth of a son, Cleo Russell, born Nov. 25.

Mrs. Tela Peebles visited her sister, Mrs. Bob Hall on Indian Reservation last week.

Thanksgiving was quiet here. We didn't hear any turkeys gobbling around the day before, but heard some hogs squealing.

An interesting union service was held at the Baptist church Thursday night.

For the past week, we have had a variety of weather—snow, rain, sleet, very cold, and some warm sunshine. According to some diary records Tuesday the 5th a year ago was the coldest of last winter.

Mrs. Mary Shille and little daughter, Louise, who have been visiting her sister, Mrs. Hubert Esler, returned to their home in Hendersonville Sunday.

Grand Champion



LOS ANGELES . . . "Oregon Supreme," 1,000-pound Hereford steer shown at the 14th Annual Great Western Livestock Show, after he was judged the Grand Champion of the show. He is shown with his owner, Bili McDonald, a 19-year-old 4-H Club member of Dalles, Oregon.

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

Youthful English Ice Marvel in Action



NEW YORK, N. Y. . . Miss Belitta Jepson Turner, 16-year-old English ice skating star, who arrived in New York recently, is pictured during her first appearance in costume here. She won the highest European skating award when only ten years old.

Club To Sponsor Highway Beautification

The Sylva Woman's Club has adopted for its program, for the coming year, the beautification of the highway between Sylva and Dillsboro. Plans for the work have not yet been completed, but it is expected that they will be completed in the near future.

Sunday School Convention Will Meet at Old Savannah Church

The Sunday School Convention of the Tuckasee Baptist Association will meet in the regular monthly session, at Old Savannah church, Sunday, December 10th. Mr. O. V. Cagle will lead the devotional service. Features of the program will be talks by Clarence Vance, who will discuss "Plans for 1949", and Rev. Fred Foster, whose subject will be "Honoring Christ At Christmas Time", and a demonstration by the intermediate department of the church. The session will begin at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Credit Association To Meet In January

Stockholders of the Asheville Production Credit Association will hold their annual meeting in Asheville at the Court House on Monday, Jan. 22, 10:00 o'clock, according to an announcement of John A. Hudgens, president of the Association.

At this meeting, complete and detailed reports will be made by the officers of the Association on its operations for the past year, directors will be elected, and other important business transactions.

In announcing the date of the annual meeting, Mr. Hudgens said that it was hoped to make the attendance of the stockholders at this year's meeting the largest in the history of the Association. He said that the annual meetings of the Association afford the stockholders an opportunity to learn every detail of the operations of their organization.

The Asheville Production Credit Association, which makes short-term loans to finance all types of farm and livestock operations, serves Buncombe, Burke, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Avery, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Swain, Transylvania and Yancey counties and in 1939 made loans totaling approximately \$112,000.00 to its 500 members.

Tested

Every herd of cattle in the United States has been tested for tuberculosis at least once, announces the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

More Lean

As a result of consumer demand, experiments are underway in several sections of the United States to breed a type of hog with more lean meat in the bacon.

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.

Silas G. Cabe Passes

Silas G. Cabe, 63, died in Morganton, Monday, Dec. 4th, and was buried on Wednesday, the funeral and interment being at Wesleyanna Methodist church. The funeral was conducted by Rev. G. A. Hovis, Rev. T. F. Deitz, Rev. H. M. Hocutt and Rev. W. N. Cook.

Mr. Cabe, who had been ill for a number of years, lived in Sylva for several years, until the death of his wife, which occurred last January. He is survived by a little daughter, Joy, a sister, Mrs. Brown, of Cullowhee, and a half sister, Mrs. Buchanan, of Gay.

Edna Owens Wins In National 4-H Club Contest

Two North Carolina 4-H girls, recipients of state blue awards in the national 4-H home beautification activity conducted the past year by the extension service, also win national blue awards. Members from 23 states participated in the activity, for which awards are given by Mrs. Charles R. Waldgreen, Chicago garden club member.

The girls are Helen Gainey, 15, of Fayetteville, and Edna Owens, 16, of Webster. Helen submits a scaled drawing of her home grounds, indicating improvements made and pending. She set 235 trees and 35 shrubs, and planted a hedge row and 1150 bulbs along a new flagstone walk. Flowering shrubs were placed around the base of the house and periwinkle on a rock retaining wall. She values the work at \$100.

P. T. A. To Meet Tuesday

The Sylva Parent-Teacher Association will meet on Tuesday afternoon, December 12, at 3 o'clock, instead of on Tuesday the 19th, as was previously announced.

W.C.T.C. Students Take Part in Forensic Contest

Cullowhee, Dec. 6 (Special)—Nine members of the Forensic Association at Western Carolina Teachers College, who won in preliminary contests in debating and impromptu speaking at the college Monday and Tuesday nights, left this morning for Rock Hill, S. C., where they will take part in the Strawberry Leaf Tournament to be held at Winthrop College Dec. 7 and 8. The winners going from Cullowhee are: Lee Phoenix, of Cane River; Charles McCall, of Lake Toxaway; Eric Lloyd, of Nashville, Tenn.; Burke Ferguson, of Cullowhee; A. E. Leake, of Marshall; June Marion, of Pilot Mountain; Zel-da Murray, of Bailey; Joe Lance, of Hot Springs; John Wikle, of Bryson City.

Sponsors for the Forensic group at Western Carolina Teachers College are Miss Cordelia Camp of the education department and Dr. A. L. Bramlett of the history department. Dr. Bramlett will accompany the students to the tournament.

Wool

Increased domestic and foreign demand for wool brought about by the European War and reduced supplies of wool in the United States will tend to support domestic wool prices in 1940.

E. L. McKee County Chairman For Jackson Day Dinner

Success of the Jackson Day Campaign in Jackson county is indicated by appointment of E. L. McKee as county chairman. Announcement to this effect has just been made by State Director John D. Larkins, Jr.

The purpose of this campaign, which began last week and will culminate in a mammoth Jackson Day Dinner at Raleigh on January 3th, is to raise money for the Democratic campaign and convention next year. North Carolina and Jackson county have established reputations for exceeding expectations in similar efforts. Under the leadership of Chairman C. L. McKee, Jackson county is expected to be among the first to announce completion of its quota. The first county to reach this goal will be accorded very special recognition, not only at the Jackson Day dinner, but also in the permanent records of the State and National party organizations.

Official ruling that the Hatch Act will not prevent any federal employee other than relief workers, from contributing to the fund or attending the dinner makes success easier to attain.

Junior Class At WCTC Has Held Party

The Junior Class of Western Carolina Teachers College were hosts to the entire student body at 7:30 Friday evening, Dec. 1, at which time they gave a Keno Party in the reception hall of the new student union building. This party was arranged by the class in order to raise funds for financing a junior-senior banquet that will be given next spring. Business houses in Cullowhee, Sylva, Asheville, and Hendersonville contributed prizes for the occasion. The committee on arrangements consisted of the class officers, John Henry Gesser, Alwayne Delozier, Betty Penland, and three other members of the class, Mary Kathryn Gardner, T. J. Thomasson, Jr., and Alan Whitt.

Lowest

The total employment of both family and hired workers on farms November 1 was estimated at 10,762,000, the smallest November 1 total recorded in the 14 years covered by the Federal survey.

Tested

Every herd of cattle in the United States has now been tested for tuberculosis at least once, assuring the successful completion of a program to eradicate bovine TB from the United States.

Outlook

A record 1940 production of commercial truck crops for fresh-market shipment, together with improvement in demand, is indicated by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Rockefeller—Riveter



NEW YORK, N. Y. . . John D. Rockefeller, Jr., as he drove the last rivet in the last column of Rockefeller Center's fourteenth and final building at a ceremony recently marking the completion of the center's eight-year construction project.

Ample

About 2,300,000 acres for the production of clover and alfalfa seed in 1940 probably will be "fully ample" for the expected sowing requirements of 1940-41.

TODAY and TOMORROW
— by —
FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

NEWSPAPERS 13,000

Every thoughtful observer who visits America from abroad is amazed to discover how much the people of the United States know about what is going on, not only in their own country but all over the world. The American people know more than the people of England, Germany or Russia know about what's going on in their own countries.

The reason for America's wide knowledge of events and public affairs is that we are the greatest nation of newspaper readers to be found anywhere. More of us can read, more of us are eager for information—and we have more newspapers.

Few even among Americans realize that there are more than 13,000 newspapers published in the United States. About 2,000 of them are daily papers, the rest weeklies or semi-weeklies. That doesn't count the enormous number of magazines of all kinds, of which we read more than do any other people. No wonder we are so well informed.

FREEDOM

The German or the Russian or the Italian can read in his newspaper only what his government wants him to read. No editor in the totalitarian nations dares to print anything which criticizes the government. Most of them have to submit every line to some government official before it gets into print.

Nothing of the sort is possible in America. Government may not like what a newspaper says, but it can't do anything to stop an editor from printing any news or opinion he chooses to print. So long as he does not libel anyone, advocate the overthrow of the government by violence or incite people to riot or crime, or use indecent language, anyone who has access to a printing press can print whatever he wants to print.

The Supreme Court of the United States has just ruled that this freedom of the press, guaranteed by the Constitution, extends to pamphleteers, who may not be restrained from distributing circulars, handbills or any other form of printed matter. This is a restatement of what is perhaps the most fundamental of all our liberties, the right to express our ideas and to tell the truth as we see it, without let or hindrance.

POLITICS

Politicians who want to make themselves the rulers of the people, rather than their servants, don't like newspapers because they are too likely to tell the truth about what's on behind the political front. Every attempt ever made in America to suppress or control the press has originated in political cliques or gangs who were up to some skulduggery that they didn't want the voters to know about.

Up to about 150 years ago every newspaper was owned or controlled by politicians with an axe to grind. The first newspaper to set itself free from such control was the London Times. Its founder, John Walter, figured that if he could get enough small advertisers so that it wouldn't ruin him if a few dropped out, he could run an honest newspaper and print the truth about public affairs.

That was the beginning of the real freedom of the press. There are still a few newspapers tied up with political backers, but nine-tenths of American papers are free. The freest of all are the ones that have the most advertising.

CONTROL

When Huey Long was making himself "Kingfish" of Louisiana he got his hand-picked legislature to pass laws of many kinds intended to cripple the newspapers. Some of those laws were upset by the Supreme Court, but one which still stands on Louisiana's statute books is held responsible for the orgy of financial crookedness in the state since Long's death.

This law abolishes the publication of so-called "legal" advertising. Most states require all proposals involving the use of public funds, tax lists, bond issues and the like, to be advertised in newspapers in every county. Those things are the public's

(Please Turn To Page 2)