

Third Term Talk Is Absorbing Topic

And Nearly Everybody Is Talking About It Except President Roosevelt

Washington—The political to-do of the decade—"Third term talk"—goes into its third big year almost as though the mystifying "if" were not there.

"If" sits in the President's office, and watches the passing of reporters and statesmen who seek a clue to the year's enigma:

Will he run again? "Third term" will not be an "issue" until the President speaks. But the "iffy" argument goes lustily on.

If barbers feud with men they shave and taxi-drivers talk it up and down, they take their cue from public men. Several intimates of the President have been heard from—and many have been heard who do not follow him.

A year before the die must be cast at the Democratic National Convention, the public knows the views of Cabinet officers, Senators, Congressmen, columnists, Roosevelt relatives, Roosevelt biographers, young Democrats and old Democrats, "Bull Mooses" and straight Republicans.

But Mr. Roosevelt, like Old Man River, he don't say nothing. People discuss what they think he thinks. When a bold reporter ask him point-blank if he's going to run, the President tells the scribe to don a dunce cap and go stand in a corner. In the President's oval office, there isn't even a corner to stand in.

Why the debate? Politicians believe the American public will have much to do with Mr. Roosevelt's decision. Those who wish to see him retire hope to bring forth a popular reaction against the third term. Others hope to convince the President he is free to run or not—or show him a "draft Roosevelt" demand.

These weeks—with the approaching anniversary of Calvin Coolidge's much-argued dictum, "I do not choose to run"—debate increases.

Sounding Board

Early in June, the three granite steps of the executive wing of the White House became a sounding board for third term sentiment. Standing there, politicians delivered their views to reporters seeking news of their chats inside.

Big Nelson G. Krashel, the auctioneer who became governor of Iowa, stood there and said he would never be satisfied with any candidate except Roosevelt or someone in harmony with him.

Senator James E. Murray, a dignified lawyer from Butte, Mont., confessed he resisted an impulse to mention the third term to the President, for fear of embarrassing him. Murray added:

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Juliette Margien, Hollywood beautician, is a fingernail expert. She should know her business, as her own nails are between three and four inches long, and she seldom even chips one. Her fingernail hospital is a boon to stars who go there for nail repairs to avoid delays in production schedule.

ed: "I think the entire West feels that the President has a better understanding and appreciation of the serious problems of our country than any other man who could possibly succeed him."

And squat, pugnacious Maury Maverick, former Congressman, now mayor of San Antonio, Texas, quipped: "I think I'm against the fourth term, and I know I'm against a fifth term."

The next time reporters jam-packed around the President's desk for a press conference, someone asked about these statements. The President laughed and then declared, in effect: "I can't be responsible for interviews given on the doorstep of the White House."

Less than a month later, tanned, white-haired Paul V. McNutt, object of a two-year-old Presidential "boom," stood on the same doorstep after relinquishing his post as governor-general of the Philippines, and gave the "go ahead" signal to Indiana's McNutt - for - President club.

Through 1938 and into 1939, New Dealers have been casting about in their own ranks for a possible successor to Roosevelt—gauging the vote-getting powers of such men as Hopkins, Wallace,

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Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Crawford in "The Crawfords at Home"

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Morning Show 10:30; afternoon 3:15-3:45; adm. 10-25c; evening 7:30-9:15. Adm. 10-30. (Tax Included.)

Murphy and Solicitor General Robert H. Jackson. None seems to have won the mantle yet. Some persons have said frankly that Roosevelt may be the only "real New Dealer" who can win the Democratic nomination.

And there the thing stands. Everyone who has tried to get a hint out of the President seems to echo the experience of Miss Frances Perkins, the Secretary of Labor:

"I once asked Mr. Roosevelt himself," she confessed, "but he said nothing. He just turned and looked out the window as if he hadn't seen me."

Work Begins On Pageant For Coming Fete

South Boston Va.—With the arrival of Mr. Lehr M. Knowles, widely known scenario writer with the John B. Rogers Company, in South Boston, work on "TOBACAROMA" begins in earnest. This outdoor dramatization, staged in an amphitheatre in the corporate limits of South Boston, will trace tobacco from its earliest history, with all its phases of drama, pathos and humor. "Tobacaroma" will constitute a major feature of the fifth annual National Tobacco Festival to be held here on September 7 and 8.

Mr. Knowles, states that he is enthusiastic about writing this historic drama, and finds in this section rich historic lore from which to draw his material. He already feels this effort will surpass any of his previous performances, which number some of the most outstanding outdoor productions ever staged in America. Among these are:

The Pageant of Ottawa for the Central Canada Exhibition Association, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; The Annual Celebration for the Province, including "L'AME DIR CANADA" and "LA NIS-SANCE DU CANADA," Quebec; several annual events for the Edmonton Exhibition Association, including "The Grand Diamond Jubilee Confederation Pageant" and "The Grand Historical Pageant, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; The Pageant of Duluth, Deluth, Minn.; Wisconsin Tercentenary Celebration, Green Bay, Wis.; The Central of Georgia Railway Centennial Pageant, Savannah, Ga.; The Second Fea-

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ture Celebration for the Northwest Territory Commission, "Stars For The Flag," Merietta, Ohio; The National Anti-etiam Commemoration Pageant "On Wings of Time," Hagerstown, Md.

LABOR DEMANDS BILLION MORE

Washington, D. C.—Waning hope that Congress can be bull-

dogged into reversing its action in requiring 130 hours of work per month for each union WPA worker (about 6½ hours a day for five day week), has resulted in a move on the part of the union leaders to demand that \$11,000,000,000 extra be set aside during the fiscal year to provide extra work for union laborers on WPA projects. The move has the active backing of Communist supporters in Congress.



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