

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

L.J. - P. & G. Thursday, June 24, 1948.

(It is typical of the artist to rise to the occasion, and ~~to~~ do his best at the big moment. This was evident at the Dewey acceptance speech tonight. [#] Tom Dewey has always been a ~~fine~~ forceful public speaker, logical, incisive -- though in his earlier time he was still something of the District Attorney. There was a touch of legality and formalism in the style he used -- something of legal argument. Of late his manner of speaking has become more mellow, with a greater ease -- more fluently expressive. ² Tonight he was at his best, with a speech of acceptance completely devoid of the shouted cliché and the raucous noise ~~is~~ too common in political oratory. He passed from thanks and courtesies to the convention, from gracious words addressed to his rivals in the hard fought contest -- passed from those amenities to higher political things -- and a call for national unity, on a lofty ^{plane.} ~~plane.~~ And that was the ~~part~~ part of the address of acceptance in which he was at his very best. As when he ^{said} ~~cried~~ "Our people are turning away from the meaner things that divide us -- they yearn to move to higher ground, to find a common cause in the finer things which unite us." After which he continued by saying: "If this unity is to be ~~securely~~ won and kept, it must have great

dimensions, its boundaries must be far above and beyond politics,
Freedom can be saved -- it can ~~only~~ only be saved -- if free
men everywhere make this unity their common cause."

These were high abstractions but Tom Dewey gave them
warmth and life by a tone and an expression of persuasion and
fervor to which a true artist rises, ~~in~~ in a great moment.

CONVENTION HEAT

Yes, the Dewey forces
The Governor from New York, this afternoon encountered
one opponent that would not give way. Old Sol blazing ^{out of a} ~~with a~~

scorching June sky turned the Convention Hall into a veritable

Sense the recess.
furnace. For two and a half hours some fifteen thousand

delegates and on-lookers sweltered in their seats, ~~and~~ their
coats off, ties loosened, and shirts steaming with perspiration.

They were attentive during the balloting, but showed their
impatience when requests were made to ~~poll~~ poll delegates.

Maine was the first delegation to be polled. For some mysterious
reason on the first ballot they cast only twelve votes, of the
thirteen they were entitled to.

A little later, Delegate Powers' request for a poll
of the Michigan delegates brought on lengthy boozing ^{— amid much} ~~that could~~
founding of
~~only be subsided by~~ Speaker Martin's gavel. The patience of

the audience was so shattered when a request was made that

Wisconsin be polled, that a great cry of "no, no" went up

from all sides. ^{Then} Governor Duff of ~~the~~ Pennsylvania rose at the

end of the second ballot and moved that the Convention adjourn

Whereupon the
until seven-thirty this evening. Convention Hall rang with

yeas and nays, some people anxious to flee the heat, others

desirous of finishing up the business. ^{Penn.} The Governor's motion

was quickly seconded by the Chairman of the California delegation

"in the interest of cold showers and cool heads - we second

Governor Duff's motion," ^{was the way he put it.} Speaker Martin was unable to ~~ascertain~~

^{figure out the} ~~the general~~ consensus ^{on this, so} of opinion, ~~so~~ loud were the crys of

approval and disagreement. ^{Only after instructing} ~~He ordered~~ the Sergeants-At-Arms

to clear the aisles ~~on the floor where the delegates were~~

~~sitting~~ of all these but delegates, ^{was he} ~~Then he was able to~~

recognize the general desire, ^{and} and the Convention was adjourned. ^{Most}

^{observers seemed} ~~Most everyone~~ agreed that a little deliberation and cooling

off before the third ~~ballot~~ ^{and} ~~might~~ probably decisive ballot, ^{can}

~~would do no harm.~~ ^{make no difference in} the outcome,

BANDWAGON

This big day in Philadelphia began, where the news left off yesterday (the Dewey bandwagon continued to roll.) There were increasing signs of this, right down to the moment the balloting began. This morning came the announcement that (Kansas had broken for the New York Governor) the delegates deciding to give twelve of their nineteen votes to Dewey, *as I forecast last night.* (Then West Virginia announced that all sixteen votes of that state would go to Dewey.) This included West Virginia National Committeeman William Hallanan, who had been a Taft supporter; - but now he ^{was} ^{that} announced he would vote for the New York Governor.

Top headlines went to Massachusetts - an announcement before the balloting began. (Favorite Son Governor Saltonstall of Massachusetts withdrew and announced he would support Governor Dewey.) The word was that a large majority of the Massachusetts delegation of thirty-five would follow their favorite son into the Dewey camp.

Then the Chairman of the Maryland delegation

predicted that Dewey would get all sixteen Maryland votes - after the first ballot. He said that Maryland would be split on the first ballot - Dewey eight; Taft five; Stassen three. Immediately after that the delegation would hold a caucus, and the Chairman predicted a unanimous Maryland vote for Dewey on the next ballot.

And so the bandwagon rolled on; but, the anti-Dewey coalition was not idle. There were more Taft-Stassen

discussions, and Colonel McCormick of the Chicago-Tribune,

— he had an exceedingly long face talk —
made a very definite ~~sounding~~ statement that Dewey could

not be nominated.

Also, Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin, a Stassen leader, predicted that Dewey would get a maximum of four hundred and seventy votes, and then would be held at that peak.

~~It is to be noted that~~ *But* all through the balloting Dewey ran consistently ahead of the estimates made, not only by his opponents, but also by neutral newsmen. ~~That month~~

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ That was one striking feature of the early

GERMANY

But now let's turn for a moment from our own political thriller, and look over across the ocean, to Germany, Berlin - where ominous signs are to be noted tonight. (It is feared the Soviets may now be launching a decisive attempt to get the Western Allies out of the German capital.) Tonight U.S. Army tanks and jeeps are patrolling the western sector of Berlin, the American occupation zone, on guard against Communist violence inspired by the Soviets. These military precautions following the (cutting of all railroad and highway traffic to and from the American, British, and French areas - the Russians blocking all the supply lines on the ground.) As we know, they control territory across which transportation must pass to get to Berlin. On previous occasions, they halted or gravely impeded the supply route and now they're doing this in a more determined way than ever. Moreover, the Soviets cut off the electric power for the Western Allies of the German capital. The power plants on which they must depend for electricity, are in the Russian zone, and the supply

~~from these has been stopped:~~ The American authorities in Berlin believe that this may be the beginning of the long-expected attempt at a freeze-out. Such is the apprehension in Washington too, as intimated in a declaration made by the State Department today. But we're not going to be frozen out - not, at least, according to the American commander in Germany, General Lucius Clay. He stated today that the ~~Musikam~~ Western Allies will not be expelled from Berlin by anything - short of war.

~~This newest Russian move in the cold war derives from the question of money. The Western Allies have set up a government for their zones of occupation, a government of Western Germany. In the process of this, they underbook to reform the currency, and do something about the muddled financial situation of conquered Germany - where the unit of currency, the Mark, was an exceedingly doubtful kind of money. So, for the new ~~government~~ government of Western Germany, a new issue of Marks was decreed - new good money~~

~~to take the place of the old bad money.~~

Soviet Russia was angrily opposed to the establishment of a West German government - in the first place. But what irked the Soviets the most was the financial reform - the new issue of money. It is easy to see why this disconcerted the Russians - because the Germans in their area would naturally prefer the new good money put out under the sponsorship of the Western Allies - prefer it to the old bad money, still used by the Soviets, the previous issue of Marks, ~~the value of which is highly dubious.~~

~~In addition to which the new money of Western Germany gave the Soviets various other angles of financial trouble.~~ So Moscow, to do something about it, called a meeting of the Soviet satellites, a conference of the Red puppets which met in Warsaw. There they decided on counter-measures. One decision was to set up a government of Eastern Germany, as against the new regime of Western Germany. Another ~~xxxxxx~~ was to establish a new currency for that Soviet puppet state

of Eastern Germany - new Soviet-sponsored Marks to compete with the new currency issue under the control of the Western Allies. So now the bedeviled Germans are in the middle between two new kinds of cash, left bewildered in a battle of rival money.

In all of this, it would be of great advantage to the Soviets to get the Americans, British and French out of Berlin - and that seems to be the point of these new Soviet moves - the cutting off of transportation and electric power for the Western Allies in Berlin. It looks as if the Cold War might be culminating in a determined attempt at a freeze-out. I'm not an alarmist in these matters, but the danger is obvious - a freeze-out might turn the Cold War into a Hot War.

HOPKINS

We now have a revelation concerning one of the important days in history, the day of Pearl Harbor. How did President Roosevelt feel about it? What was his mental reaction to the Japanese attack? We are told he felt - "great relief."

This is the latest in the disclosures from the private papers of Harry Hopkins, intimate adviser to F.D.R. Published in Colliers Magazine, now the Hopkins Papers have been put into running narrative form by author and playwright, Robert E. Sherwood, himself a confidential adviser to the late President.

In the Collier's article, which will appear tomorrow, Sherwood quotes memoranda left by Harry Hopkins, and these indicate that F.D.R. felt the Pearl Harbor attack solved a difficult problem for him - took him off the horns of a dilemma. The late President believed that, if Japan invaded the Dutch East Indies, the United States would have to go to war. But, at the same time, the people of this country wanted to stay out of the war. The American people had little of

what Sherwood calls - "the will to battle." So, if the Japanese were to push into the Dutch East Indies - how could the American people in Congress be persuaded that this is cause for war? That was the dilemma, and it was solved immediately by Pearl Harbor. The attack was, as Sherwood states, "so challenging, so insulting, and enraging" that Americans, as he puts it - "were instantly rendered unanimous and certain."

On December Seventh, Nineteen Forty-One, Harry Hopkins was having lunch with President Roosevelt at the White House. They were at a table when at one forty P.M. a telephone call came from Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, who gave the President the news - Japan had struck! A mere few minutes later, at five minutes past two, the President had a conference with Secretary of State Cordell Hull and the chiefs of the armed forces. That night, Harry Hopkins made elaborate notes, and here's what he says about that gathering to consider the news of Pearl Harbor. "The conference,"

he wrote, "not in not too tense an atmosphere, because I think that all of us believed that, in the last analysis, the enemy was Hitler, that he could never be defeated without force of arms - that sooner or later we were bound to be in the war, and that Japan had given us an opportunity."

~~So the atmosphere was not too tense, because the~~

The
^
Pearl Harbor attack gave a way out of a dilemma, and at the White House ^{*it*} ~~there~~ was a source, of what Robert Sherwood calls - "great relief."

COAL

A coal contract has been agreed upon - that's the late news from Washington. The Companies and the Union, meaning John L. Lewis, came to terms this afternoon -- which ends the threat of a ~~XXXXXX~~ soft coal strike.

When the Convention adjourned this afternoon there was an air of suspense, nearly everybody wondering if anything could happen during the two hour recess to change the picture. In that short time, would it be possible for the other candidates to get together, and at the last moment work out a plan to stop Governor Dewey on the third ballot? The moment that Governor Duff made his motion, asking for a recess, without waiting to hear the vote on it, I jumped into a cab, dashed across the city to Dew ^{my} headquarters at the Bellevue-Stratford.

As we drove, on the radio I heard the news that the New York delegation had agreed to the recess. And the first thing I wanted to ask Governor Dewey was, why, when things were moving so swiftly in his direction, ~~when~~ the New Yorkers had agreed to go along with Governor Duff of Pennsylvania? Why, of all people, should the backers of the winning candidate vote for a recess?

At the Bellevue, it didn't take long to find out.

I discovered that the Dewey forces were so confident of victory that they felt they were taking no risk at all. As a matter of fact, as it developed, their strategy was perfect. Had they not agreed to a recess, and if the roasting, broiling delegates had out-voted them and decided to have one anyhow, that might, conceivably, have changed the picture. Although I doubt it now, for the swing to Dewey was so overwhelming.

At Dewey headquarters I found the utmost confidence.

I (On the second ballot Dewey was within thirty-three votes of victory, as you know. And he himself told me that on the third ballot he expected further support from at least twenty states, support that had definitely been promised.)

At Dewey headquarters on the eighth floor of the Belleview, the excitement was intense, when the recess was announced. But not a person there had any doubt but what the New York Governor would be the victor on the third ballot, when the Convention convened at seven thirty. I saw the Governor alone, and he told me that at no time in recent American history

had the candidate ever gotten that close to victory at a convention, without getting the nomination. He was in his shirt sleeves, laughing, just ~~about~~ about the coolest looking person at his headquarters -- relaxed and exuding vitality.

As I sat with him alone, those cool green fields of his on his Quaker Hill farm in Dutchess County, New York, seemed far, far away. The White House seemed just next door.

He had been through all this before. He knew what he was facing. He had told me a number of times, and he repeated it again this evening, that he really doesn't want to be President. Not that he doesn't want to serve his country. But, his face grew serious, and there was no twinkle in his eye when he said that he knew the prpsidency would shorten his life, and that his personal freedom would be gone. X But, he had charged a course along that road, and we knew as we sat there that within three hours or so he undoubtedly would be the Republican candidate, with the odds all in his

favor of being the ~~N~~ next President, the most powerful one individual on this earth.

The other day I refused to shake hands with him because he had shaken hands with so many thousands. This evening I shook his hand -- or rather he shook mine. That is, he got the jump on me, and got my hand in his powerful grasp. And then, he passed through a door into an adjoining room, and the next time I saw him was in the midst of all that pandemonium, as he passed me on the platform near the rostrum, stepping forward to deliver his speech of acceptance. — with the White House right ahead — at any rate that's the prospect. And now Nelson what from you?

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The suspense here in Philadelphia tonight is -- *well,*
it's
something! The Convention sweeping along, almost to a
Dewey victory. Then the *dramatic* recess. *#* Everybody in Philadelphia,
in the last hour has been asking the same question: "Why did
the New York delegation agree to the recess? Why, of all
people, should the backers of the winning candidate vote
for Governor Duff of Pennsylvania's motion for a recess,
nearly *supposed*
when everyone ~~knew~~ that Governor Duff was proposing it in an
eleventh hour desperate attempt to gain time, to hold back
the Dewey tide?

So why did the New Yorkers agree to the recess? I
don't know for sure. But, I think I can tell you. The Dewey
forces are so confident of victory that they felt they could
take the risk. On the last ballot, as you know if you were

following it, Taft lost strength, so did Stassen, so did Vandenberg -- only Dewey was gaining, and gaining at a great rate. And the Dewey field generals are expecting to gain still more votes from approximately twenty states on the third ballot.

Those television lights and all the other lights in the auditorium, are far hotter than any lights we've ever faced before. There were plenty of delegates in both camps who wanted a recess just to get away from them - time out for a shower and a cool drink. Apparently the Dewey camp could well afford to go along and vote for Governor Duff's motion.

ENDING

At Dewey headquarters on the eighth floor of the Bellevue-Stratford, the excitement ^{was} ~~is~~ intense ^{during the balloting} -- that is in the corridors. ^{Right now} There isn't a person there who has a doubt in his mind but what the New York Governor will be the victor on the next ballot, and that ^{sometime after} ~~around nine or nine thirty~~ tonight Thomas E. Dewey will get in his car, ride down Broad Street, ^{out} to the Convention Hall, and there go through the usual formality of delivering the speech of acceptance. ^{And} Everyone in Philadelphia, so it seems, is certain that the man chosen tonight will be the next President of the United States, the most powerful one individual on this earth.

And what was he doing ^{blazing that} ~~this~~ afternoon? and how does he look at the moment? Like all the other candidates, he was in his shirt sleeves, with some of his lieutenants at his side, and his field generals on the floor at the Convention -- Brownell, Sprague and Jaeckel at the Convention Hall. Elliot Bell, Paul Lockwood, and others at the Bellevue.

I saw Governor Dewey, the man who at this moment is

within thirty-three votes of the nomination -- that near the presidency, everyone says -- I saw him only a moment ago.

He was laughing, just about the ~~most~~ coolest looking person at the Bellevue, relaxed, and exuding vitality. I sat with him alone a little while, and those cool green fields of his, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ on Quaker Hill in Dutchess County, seemed far, far away. The White House seemed just next door. The other day I refused to shake hands with him because he had shaken hands with so many thousands. Today I shook his hand, or rather he shook mine. Because he got the jump on me, and got mine in his powerful grasp.

He has been through all this before. He knows what he's facing/. *a number of really* He has told me ~~many~~ times that he doesn't want

And he said it as tho' he meant it. to be President. He knows it will shorten his life, that his personal freedom will be gone. But, that's the road he ~~is~~ *has*

ew, ~~taking~~ Before this evening is over, it looks now as though he ~~would~~ *ll* be chosen as the Republican Candidate -- meaning

the chances are he that ~~he very likely~~ will be the next President!
And now Nelson, back to you in N.Y.

DEWEY VOTES

Most of you no doubt know how the voting went **On**
the first two ballots. ^{Today} - there must have been one of the
biggest of afternoon radio audiences. **On** the first, Governor
Dewey ran ahead of all predictions, doing substantially
better all along the line than had been forecast.

Then, on the second ballot, he picked up strength
consistently. New Jersey swung to him with twenty-four votes
out of thirty-five - as had been announced in advance. That
was a large block of votes, but mostly his gains were small
but steady - and impressive for just that reason. He'd pick
up a couple or a few, and ^{he} kept doing that continuously, as
long ~~xxx~~ as the ballot lasted.

MEETINGS

Still, Right now three meetings are being held, and if I knew

the decisions being made, *at them* I could ~~give~~ *give a final* answer, the question of

exactly what will happen tonight, *- a more positive answer.* The leaders of three state

delegations, Connecticut, Michigan and California, have taken advantage of the recess to talk over - what to do now?

Whether or not to throw their votes to Governor Dewey *on the next.* ~~tonight.~~

All three states have favorite sons, for whom they voted

solidly ~~solemnly~~ in the first two ballots - Connecticut nineteen for

Governor Baldwin, Michigan forty-one for Senator Vandenberg,

California fifty-three for ~~Senator~~ Governor Warren. They have

a hundred and thirteen votes in all - and Tom Dewey needs

those only thirty-three for the nomination.

So, ~~likely enough~~, the issue is being decided right

now - as the leaders of the Connecticut, Michigan and

California delegations, are *discussing that* ~~trying to decide whether or not~~

~~to~~ swing to Dewey on the next ballot.

TICKETS

The state of the ticket situation here in Philadelphia is indicated by the touching story of a woman who made a pathetic appeal at Republican headquarters. She told them how in the war her son went down with his ship, and that melted even the stony hearts of the dispensers of convention tickets. So that war mother got, not one pasteboard, but two - with badges and all.

It was a sad story, and the saddest part for the Republican ticket handlers came, when it was disclosed that the lady's son had indeed gone down with his ship, but only temporarily. He came up, and was rescued a few minutes later. The story becomes truly tragic when the final detail is added - the lady is also a Democrat! *And she had taken her son in with her - on that second ticket.*