

L. T., OLDS, FISHER, MONDAY AUGUST 17, 1964

That Democratic Platform Committee challenge in Washington today was expected; the Mississippi challenge. Civil Rights leaders had been vowing to fight for- what they term - "a truly representative delegation"

The cases of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands - are not so familiar. But - their delegations will have to prove that their credentials are all in order; or - give way to their rivals.

Secretary of State Rusk was there to defend the Administration foreign policy; and its strategy of what he termed - "no reckless deeds, no reckless words."

Also, Defense Secretary McNamara told the platform writers that this country's nuclear strike capability will remain superior through the decades of the 60's and 70's.

On this, Senator Goldwater, who has predicted it might drop sharply in the next decade, made no comment.

MEDICARE

That vote in the Senate Finance Committee - is a defeat for President Johnson. The President has called for quick passage of the Medicare Bill / sent to Capital Hill by President Kennedy. The proposal to increase the scope of Social Security - to include medical expenses for senior citizens.

~~Now~~ The Senate Finance Committee - rejects that ² idea. The main argument - too costly. But the backers of the President promise - a fight on the floor of the Senate. Which could be a hot issue - in this election year.

KENNEDY

The silence of Mayor Wagner - has some folks guessing tonight. Will he or won't he - endorse Attorney General Robert Kennedy as New York's Democratic candidate - for the U.S. Senate?

Sources close to the Kennedy family say he will- within a day or two. Others say Mayor Wagner doesn't like the idea or possibility of Attorney General Kennedy supplanting him - as de factor head of the N. Y. State Democratic Party, which some think could happen.

The two conferred at length today - at Gracie Mansion. So far no comment from either.

Upstate Congressman Stratton- has already announced his candidacy for the Senatorial post. So a floor fight at the Democratic Convention next month - is also in the offing.

G. O. P. FOLLOW KENNEDY

Meanwhile on the Republican front Mrs.

Clare Boothe is still saying she may run - if Senator Keating enters the race as an independent Republican - and refuses to support the Goldwater-Miller ticket.

Mrs. Luce's intentions are causing dismay - among Keating supporters, who think she might attract enough votes from Keating - to hand over the victory to the Democratic hopeful.

Whatever happens - a fight looms for both Parties.

GREECE

The latest decision by the Greek government - washes out a lot of Allied diplomacy. The fear was that the Greek-Turkish dispute over Cyprus - might hurt Nato. And it did today when Athens announced that all Greek forces - are being pulled out of Nato. Reason, in the words of - the Greek government - "to face up to Turkish threats."

CYPRUS

Diplomatic sources in Moscow claim that Khrushchev has a scheme to bring Cyprus - within the Soviet orbit. Russia is cut off from Cyprus by the "upper tier" - of Greece and Turkey. No chance to use the Red Army - or even the Red Navy, except submarines. Besides, Nato has forces - in the Mediterranean, with a U.N. detachment on Cyprus. But we hear the atheist in the Kremlin is conspiring with the Archbishop of the Orthodox Church, hoping to bring about - an independent Cyprus, guided by Moscow. Khrushchev conniving with Makarios.

MALAYSIA

The band of Indonesians who landed on the southern coast of the Malay Peninsula - appear to be Commandos. A small unit - of highly professional soldiers specially trained for the Malay jungle.

But on the beach, they met a Malaysian patrol. Fourteen of the invaders - killed or captured. Some twenty more - escaping into the forest.

Tonight, the Malaysian army is hunting for - the Indonesian Commandos, while the captives are being interrogated in Kuala Lumpur - about the assignment Suharno gave them. The question: are these Commandos the vanguard - of a full-scale Indonesian assault on the Federation of Malaysia?

HOFFA

The sentence passed on Jimmy Hoffa by a Federal judge sitting in Chicago - could have been worse. ~~The~~ The law would have permitted thirteen thousand dollars in fines - plus twenty years in jail. For Hoffa, the figures are - ten thousand dollars. And - five years. *That* ~~The penalty for having been found guilty of~~ *the way Hoffa* ~~found Hoffa's rather odd manner of handling~~ *ed* the pension fund - of the Teamsters Union.

FIRST LADY

Today the First Lady dedicated the Flaming Gorge Dam - on the Green River, on the border between - Utah and Wyoming - in the Uinta Mountains.

Ladybird Johnson, standing on a platform - at the Flaming Gorge, snipping the ribbon, and officially opening - the eighty-one million dollar dam, a key to the series of engineering works - controlling the waters of the Upper Colorado Basin.

FIRE

The word for the fire in Nevada - is "inferno."

And For once, the allusion to Dante's "Divine Comedy" is not being overworked. The Nevada desert is as hot as Hades - and just about as dry - at this time of year. A fire in the scrub - makes it ten times worse.

Well, ^a ~~the~~ fire ^{near} ~~beyond the town of~~ Elko ^{is said to} ~~is the~~

be the

biggest in the history of Nevada. Two hundred and fifty thousand acres - burned out. The blaze, continuing to spread - because of the high winds. And despite the efforts of - two thousand firefighters.

Hundreds of cattle - have been lost. Thousands of the wild creatures that live on the desert - are in flight from the smoke and flames. ^{The} Nevada ~~is~~ - inferno.

HOBOS

The Platform Committee in Britt, Iowa - has come up with some specific proposals. To wit - a three hour day, a three day week, and three square meals a day. But there's a split in the Committee - over the first two provisions. Quite a few "delegates" demanding to know - why work should be mentioned at all.

Yes, the Hobo Convention - is meeting in the ~~city of~~ ^{with} the Hawkeye State. The ~~is~~ first order of business - just like any other convention - to draw up a platform. Then ¹ select - a candidate, ^{a new} ~~the~~ King.

The old King of the Hoboes - he was dethroned.

The "Pennsylvania Kid," caught in - a rather unethical act, ^{when} ~~he~~ stabbed another hobo in a boxcar - in the freight ~~xxx~~ yard at Mandan, North Dakota.

~~from New York. They call him~~
The new King of the Hoboes ^{is} "Beefsteak Charlie";

~~from New York. He was by an eyelash - over the~~
Albright Dick,
~~"Hardest Kid" from Trenton, New Jersey.~~

L O R D

Here's a story about a noble lord - and a merry-go-round. Sir Stephen Holmes, formerly British High Commissioner in Australia, likes to take a morning stroll in the park - at Sandhurst in England, of course. And he always takes a ride - on the merry-go-round.

Today he complained to the County Council - that the dashed moter isn't strong enough. Whereupon, one of the Councillors retorted - that it has enough power for the youngsters. And called for a vote - barring adults from the ride.

Result - Sir Stephen Holmes grounded - ordered to stay off that Sandhurst playground merry-go-round. And s-l-u-t-m.

AERIAL-SPACE CRAFT

The latest Soviet idea for the coming Space Age - sounds interesting. As well as - practical.

The Chief of the Soviet Air Force, Chief Air Marshal Konstantin Vershinin revealing tonight that his country is developing an airplane-spaceship. A kind of cross between a conventional plane - and a space vehicle, which will be able to take off and land - on an ordinary, earthbound airstrip as well as fly in outer space. Our generation will definitely see such a craft - in his opinion. But, needless to say, he doesn't reveal - any of those technical details. Which our scientists would probably find - fascinating.

Now, Dick!

MUSICIANS

The Soviet jazz musicians who defected to the West - are taking the long way around. In fact - around the world.

Boris Midney and Igor Berukstis asked for asylum - at the American Embassy in Tokyo. Whereupon, they were placed aboard a plane and flown to West Germany - by way of the United States, ^{because} ~~Why? American~~ ~~officials say that~~ our best processing facilities - are ~~at~~ Frankfurt, ^{- am Main, where} ~~Because of the number of~~ refugees from East Germany - who are being handled all the time.

^{So} ~~It looks as if~~ Boris and Igor ^{may} ~~will~~ soon be ~~in~~ ^{here to give} ~~this country~~ ^{Giving} us some of that red hot ^{Russian} ~~jazz~~ rhythm, ~~with a Russian accent.~~