

White House

~~Presidential~~ Secretary Jim Hagerty promises - to

check on one angle of the presidential statement yesterday. President Eisenhower saying - that he "would not object" to having his name entered in Republican primaries. Warning, at the same time - this does not mean he will seek a second term. The key words are - "would not object." But, would the President "consent?" It might seem to be the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee. But it has a legal point.

Today newsmen pointed out to Secretary Hagerty that, in some states - a candidate must "consent" before his name is entered in the primary. Merely not objecting might not be enough.

That's the case in Wisconsin, Ohio and California. In Wisconsin, for example, Governor Kohler says - he'll try to find a way to put the President's name in the State primary. Which is echoed by Governor Knight of California.

"Consent" instead of merely "not objecting" - would make matters clear in those instances. So Jim Hagerty says - he'll try to get a clarification from the President.

(At the same time, a remonstrance is heard - from a powerful Republican in Congress, who doesn't want his name ~~to be~~ used. He notes that President Eisenhower suggested - that other Republicans might enter the primaries. Which leads this influential G O P leader to use the word "clobbered." He says "everybody knows, they would be clobbered, if they ran against Eisenhower."

On the Democratic side, Senator Kefauver announces - that he will not go into the Ohio Primary. He won't buck Ohio Governor Lausche, who is running as a "favorite son."

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ADD EISENHOWER

Tonight the President is addressing a nationwide series of dinners. A "Salute Eisenhower" affair. But it's clear -- he won't give any inkling of his plans.

FARM

The Department of Agriculture says - it will not sell surplus agricultural products at market prices, if this tends - to drive down prices the farmer gets.

President Eisenhower's new farm program would permit - such sale. But Republicans in Congress have been protesting - that it might nullify plans to help the farmer.

So now this assurance - that there will be no sales that might lower farm prices.

FUEL -

The New York fuel strike - settled. Today, the big town was shivering with cold and snow. Three thousand drivers of fuel-oil and coal trucks - out for the fourth day. No deliveries - fuel supplies running short.

Mayor Wagner was ready to declare - a state of emergency. Deadline - eleven A.M. but the strike was called off - in time.

Negotiators for companies and union - reaching an agreement. The truck drivers - to get a ~~rise~~ raise, but not as much as they were demanding.

TEXAS TOWER

Out in the Atlantic, one-hundred-and-ten miles east of Cape Cod - is a tower with three legs. A structure standing on three steel beams - which are anchored to the bottom of the ocean. The Texas Tower radar platform, which gathers weather data. Seventy-five civilians ~~are~~ and Air Force technicians - manning the tower, which is a big one.

It stands out there ^{getting} ~~in~~ the blast of North Atlantic storms. Surprising - that the three-legged tower has been able to weather one gale after another. Today, the most severe ordeal of all.

A big supply ship was moving in - to unload water and fuel-oil. Nearing the steel structure - when a huge wave picked up the ship, and hurled it against the Texas tower. The ~~big~~ impact sounded like a bomb going off. The damage - severe. But not - to the tower. The supply ship - taking the beating.

The crash knocked a two-foot hole in the starboard

side of the vessel - above the water line. And an eight inch hole - below water. It looked as if the ship might sink. But the skipper, Captain Wilhelm Bondeson of Brooklyn, decided - he'd try to get the craft back to harbor. So, tonight, the supply ship is limping back to Boston - ~~escorted~~ escorted - by Navy vessels.

The Texas Tower, standing unperturbed, in the storm.

ISRAEL

In Israel, a report - that Syria has placed a huge order in Czechoslovakia, for tanks, anti-tank guns and ammunition. A Tel Aviv newspaper says the deal is like the one between Czechoslovakia and Egypt. The figure for the purchase - twenty million dollars. But the Tel Aviv newspaper declares - the financial aspect is mostly blind. ^{That} It's more
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a case of Communist military assistance - to Arab States.

FORMOSA

The Chinese Nationalists announce - the biggest battle thus far, in the "little war" along the China Coast. A heavy, prolonged cannonade - between the Nationalist island of Quemoy and the nearby Communist island of Amoy. The Reds - firing some three thousand rounds of high explosive shells. Heavy damage on Quemoy - and thirty-five civilians killed.

But the real havoc was raised on the other island, Amoy. Nationalist artillery fire set off a giant explosion. A communist arsenal - blowing up. Like - a "ball of flame."

This new flare-up of the "little war" may mean another crisis in Formosa Strait.

ROBBERY

In a South African court, a familiar name came up today. Luciano - that same "Lucky" Luciano, the New York racketeer. Deported - to his native Italy. Luciano's name appearing - in a South African affair of robbery.

An exceedingly South African affair - a jewel robbery at the home of Mrs. Harry Oppenheimer. A name of renown - in South African diamond history. A daughter - of the late Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, magnate of the diamond industry.

Testimony, today, told how a robbery plot was hatched by Donald Ernest Miles - while he was working at the Oppenheimer home in Johannesburg. Doing - a roofing job. In the course of which - he spotted a safe, obviously meant for jewels. And he found - a key to the safe. So he made an attempt at burglary - right there. But the safe was empty. Mrs. Oppenheimer was away - and had taken her jewels with her.

The would-be burglar was foiled, but he kept the key - and laid plans for a future attempt. Taking in - confederates.

This time the robbery worked, and they got away with seven hundred thousand dollars worth of ^{jewels.} ~~jewelry~~ Not surprising that the daughter of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, the diamond king - should have a lot.

But ~~then~~ then - what to do with the treasure? How to dispose of it? That's where the strangest part of the ~~scheme~~ scheme comes in.

Today, the prosecution stated that William Lindsay Pierson, an Australian in the plot, made a trip to Europe - to dispose of the loot. In Italy - he contacted Luciano. Whereupon, according to the story, Luciano sent a henchman of his to South Africa to help arrange matters.

But, in the meantime, South African police broke ~~the~~ the case, made arrests. And - recovered most of the jewelry.

FUGITIVE

An intensive manhunt is on - in Indiana. Police and F B I seeking a vicious killer - Leslie Irvin. Who murdered six people in robberies.

He escaped, yesterday, from the "escape proof" jail, in Gibson county. Using - keys to prison doors. Nobody knows where he got the keys - to the "escape proof" jail.

The fear is - that the killer may seek revenge on people who participated in his conviction. Which is especially the case at Evansville - the scene of two of the murders. Today, residents of Evansville were buying guns, for self protection. Tonight the manhunt is on - in Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky.

POLICE CHIEF

At Cherokee, Alabama, the local citizens are surprised to learn - their chief of police is a fugitive from the state prison. Chief Edmund Burton - disclosed as having escaped from the Hoosegow four years ago.

He was engaged as the town chief of police last October. The town fathers believing - that he had held similar law enforcement positions in Arkansas and Alabama. Today, Mayor John Henry Morgan of Cherokee declared - that the fugitive from the State prison had made an excellent police officer. "We had no complaints at all about his work. We were very well satisfied," says the Mayor.

The exposure came - as a result of a fire. The house, owned by Police Chief Burton - burning down. Fire authorities - making an investigation. In the course of which it was shown - that Burton had been sent to prison for petty larceny. He served one month - and then had escaped.

Quite a transition - from ^{prison} ~~the hoosegow~~ to chief of police

ACCIDENT

Here's one for the book of - slam-bang smash ups.

At Ripley, New York, Richard Cole was driving a truck load of lumber, when something went wrong. The truck out of control. Ahead - the New York Central Railroad tracks. The runaway, misbehaving truck rolled along ^{and} stopped on the eastbound track. The driver ^{seeing} ~~was~~ a New York Central Passenger train coming, ~~he~~ jumped, and got clear.

The speeding train hit the truckload of lumber, and the air was filled - with flying beams, and pieces of the truck.

The impact knocked the remains of the truck and timber - onto the westbound track, where ^{a few moments later} another train ~~was~~ ~~coming~~ ~~and~~ plowed into what was left of the lumber truck, ^{- a} sending ^{TP} new shower of timber ^{TP} flying through the air.

Nobody killed - although fireman Barnes of the Eastbound train was hit by a chunk of wood - and sustained a broken arm. ^{TP} The New York Central - sustaining a headache.

Traffic tied up - for three hours,

Yes, at Ripley, New York, it was one for the book. *Just*

right for
the late Bob Ripley's "believe it or not-" *book!*

BUTTONS

You know it's presidential campaign year - when Emanuel Ress appears in the news. The campaign button man - who, in New York, turns out slogans that enthusiasts wear on their coat lapels. Proclaiming allegiance - to their candidate. Especially - at the National Conventions.

Today, United Press reporter H. D. Quigg, gives us an interview with him. And you might ^xexpect - a few novelties. But ~~na~~ the political situation is in a state of suspended animation.

On the Republican side, of course, all is in doubt - until President Eisenhower makes up his mind. But, on the Democratic side, also - little novelty has appeared for the campaign [^] button man to get excited about.

In Nineteen Fifty-~~Two~~^{Two}, Emanuel Ress had rich opportunities - for sounding slogans. One of his master-pieces - "We need Adlai, badly." ^{But as it turned out} ~~But~~ not badly enough. Another - "Kefauver, take over." ^{Which} ~~Although~~ Kefauver didn't ^{do}. For Harriman backers, the campaign button said "Averell

will fill the bill." The rhyme - not so good. Anyway, the bill wasn't filled - by Averell.

So now, Nineteen Fifty six - ~~and~~ what do we find on the Democratic side? Who are the candidates - to hail with slogans? Same old three. So, will the campaign button man be able to devise ~~an~~ new ones - about them? Or, will he put out - the same old merchandise? Proclaiming - that we need ~~Adlai~~ Adlai badly^{'s}, and maybe Kefauver should take over, or perhaps Averell would fill the bill. The sloganeering prospect - not so exhilarating.

Emanuel Ress claims that he also invented "I like Ike," as early as Nineteen Forty Seven. He says, this year, he has had requests for a button reading - "I still like Ike."

Another customer, figuring the President might not run again, ordered a thousand campaign buttons reading - "Me for Milt." Meaning - the Presidential brother, Milton Eisenhower. ~~Keeping~~ it in the family.

If you like Nixon, you can have a button reading -
"My pick is Dick."

Or - do you favor Senator Knowland? He gets a pun
for a salute - "there's Knowland like my land."

The slogan man is entirely neutral. He attends
national conventions wearing a big button. Saying - "I don't
care who wins. My business is buttons."

40
Just as your business, Henry, is - batteries.