

L.T.-DELCO. THURS. AUG. 16, 1956 (Chicago)

(3rd show only.)

CONVENTION

As you all of course know this has been the day of oratory here in Chicago. Candidates placed in nomination; nominating speeches, seconding speeches - and roaring superlatives. Tonight comes the balloting.

All day it looked like Stevenson. That seemed to be clear to everybody - except ex-President Truman and Averell Harriman. Stevenson with enough votes for a first ballot nomination. News agency tabulations now give him about eight hundred. When six hundred and eighty six are all he needs.

But Harriman would concede nothing - neither would former President Truman. Both kept insisting, in spite of obvious indications - that the New York Governor would win the nomination. H.S.T. - going right ahead with ~~the~~ his intention of making a seconding speech in behalf of Harriman.

This obstinate insistence by the former President might seem curious - in a way - after the

part he played last night in averting a revolt on the racial rights issue. The general opinion was that Harriman's only chance lay -in the possibility of an explosion provoked by the compromise plan. But there

was Truman - helping to avert an explosion. You might have thought - he had given up hope for Harriman - and was merely working for Party harmony.

But - not at all. This morning, H.S.T. announced as positively as ever - that Harriman would be nominated. And, this afternoon - he made ^{his} ~~a~~ seconding speech.

~~He~~ made it - short and sweet. Taking only a minute or two. Paying his compliment to the Convention, and mentioning the importance of the office of president, and announcing: "I am supporting Averell Harriman for President of the United States."

That was all. Nothing about the "one who". And he laid off the word "great". Great American, great Democrat, great citizen, great everything in general, and great nothing in particular. We've been hearing that adjective used so much, it was a great relief - not to hear it all over again.

Likely enough - Harry Truman backing Averell ~~xxx~~ Harriman right down to the last ditch, was as much

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an expression of loyalty to an old faithful friend, as anything else.

The demonstration for Harriman was the usual thing - same old hoopla. The same words applying - to the previous uproar when Stevenson was placed in nomination. Senator John Kennedy, of Massachusetts - presenting Adlai's name. The Stevenson demonstration - the big one of the day. But even that lacking the uproar and fransy of other conventions. Maybe these convention hall parades and organized demonstrations are on their way out.

As for the rest of the time it was given over to the favorite sons, one after another - with oratory and more oratory.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The Southerners are claiming a Civil Rights victory - following events of last night. When - the Democratic National Convention okayed a compromise plank. Rejecting ~~the~~ ^{the} more drastic Civil Rights proviso, urged by Northern liberals. They made a loud effort - which was beaten down by the moderate leadership. Chairman Sam Rayburn of Texas - using the gavel with skill and decisive effect.

The Southern delegations don't like the compromise plank, which recognizes - the Supreme Court decision, outlawing racial segregation in public schools. ~~But~~ ^{but} also - decries the use of force, in an ambiguous kind of way. However, ~~But~~ the Northern advocates of racial rights took a beating - when they called for outright enforcement of de-segregation. So the Southerners can claim a victory, of some kind.

But what does Adlai Stevenson think of the compromise plank, which was adopted? Virtually certain of winning the nomination tonight, he says - he would have preferred something stronger. Recognizing - that

the verbiage of the plank does not uphold an anti-segregation ^{- in a forthright way.} position. The Stevenson statement reads: "Of course I would have preferred a specific endorsement of the de-segregation decision. However, the plank is a firm basis for moving ahead toward constructive solution of this critical problem."

Meanwhile, the Republicans are opening fire, without any delay - on the Democratic racial compromise. Chairman Leonard Hall charging - "insincerity." He says: "The Civil Rights bridge the Democrats have tried to put across a gap in the two wings of the Party, is nothing more than a spider web. The liberals," he adds, "don't like it, and it is apparent that Stevenson had to take it."

SOUTH

The South seemed to be divided, today. Some Dixieland states - going for Stevenson. Others - holding out in support of favorite sons. A number of whom - were nominated, with plenty of oratory and noisy demonstrations on the Convention floor.

All of which - traces to the racial rights issue. The Southerners - accepting it as the best of a bad job. Yet, in a way - a victory for them. While, at the same time, resenting Adlai Stevenson's comment - that he would have preferred an all-out endorsement of the Supreme Court decision.

These mixed feelings were illustrated in the Virginia delegation, today. Where - there were moves to have Virginia back Stevenson. But that was beaten down - and Virginia voted to back a favorite son, ~~Former~~ Governor Battle - who, in the Platform Committee, fought for a racial rights plank more acceptable to the South.

The meaning of the favorite son movement was made clear by Virginia Governor Stanley, ~~Who~~ said - he,

himself, was influenced by the stand Stevenson took today on the segregation issue. Regretting - that the racial rights plank was not stronger. Except for that, Virginia might have gone for Stevenson - instead of putting up a favorite son.

In the back of which is the fact - that, apparently, Adlai doesn't need Southern support for the nomination. ^{Q convention} winner - without the help of the South.

When Georgia put up Congressman James Davis as a favorite son, Governor Martin Griffin of Georgia commented bitterly on the racial rights plank. ^{Said he:} ~~commenting:~~ "It is an even bet that those who last night wanted to crucify the South - will not be able to carry their states for the Democratic nominee in November." Another of those official prognostications of defeat.

And the Harriman forces, today, echoing the Truman opinion - that Harriman, in contrast ^{to} ~~not~~ Stevenson, would be a winner.

TENNESSEE

Another favorite son withdrawing from the race today was Governor Clement of Tennessee, the orator who delivered that leather lung keynote speech. Whereupon the Tennessee delegation went over - to Stevenson. But these presidential angles were of less interest - than the vice-presidential question. Tennessee declaring for Governor Clement as the Tennessee choice for second place. Which came as a slap - at Tennessee Senator Kefauver. Considered - a prominent possibility for the vice-presidential nomination. ^{Now even} ~~Kefauver~~ - rebuffed by his own state. *Which is*

~~It is to be~~ explained by dissensions in Tennessee politics. Senator Kefauver - at odds with Governor Clement. A quarrel between political factions - Clement in control of the delegation.

Awkward for Kefauver - as it always is to a candidate, when his own state does not support him.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION *PHW - let's detour in the direction of the S.O.P. for a moment.*

^A The Republican Convention promises peace and quiet, for the most part - but even an Eisenhower love-feast, can come up with a fracas. Today - a bolt. ^A ~~The~~ Mississippi delegation - leaving San Francisco in a huff, and going home.

It's all involved in technicalities down there in the Deep South. Two Mississippi delegations - showing up at San Francisco. One - all Caucasian. Called - "The Lily Whites". The other - partly Negro and partly White. Called - "The Black and Tans."

The two factions put up an acrimonious argument before the Republican Committee, which handles the seating of delegations. The Committee finding the legal mix-up so intricate - they couldn't figure out which side was right. So they decreed a compromise. Ruling that seven delegates of the Lily White group should be seated. Eight - of the Black and Tans.

But the Lily Whites reject the compromise. Announcing - they won't yield an inch. So they ^{are} ~~are~~ going home.

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However, they're not bolting the Party.

Their Chairman declaring: "We're carrying on for Eisenhower." Leaving the Convention, but sticking to the Party.

HERTER

Governor Herter of Massachusetts tells what he'll do - if his name is put forward for the vice-presidential nomination, at San Francisco. He'll ask - that it be withdrawn! *Nevertheless,* Harold Stassen ^{is} still trying to side-track Vice-President Nixon. Urging - Herter for Vice-President. To which the Massachusetts Governor today retorted: "The continued use of my name as a candidate for Vice-President is entirely unacceptable. As I have already stated, I am happy to place in nomination the name of Richard Nixon for that office."

(All along, Governor Herter has tried to discourage Harold Stassen's campaign in his behalf. So what has ^{Stassen} ~~he~~ to say - about this new rebuff? ^{He} ~~Stassen~~ merely refers us back to what he has been saying all along. He knows Governor Herter is not a candidate for Vice-President, and that he'll have to be drafted for the number two spot on the Republican ticket.)

SUEZ

The Suez Canal Conference opened in London today. The first vote - the election of a Chairman. British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd - the unanimous choice.

The gathering of the delegates of twenty-two nations was addressed by Prime Minister Anthony Eden, who warned that the crisis is, what he called - "one of the gravest since the Second World War."

The proceedings were marked, promptly, by a sour note from Soviet Russia. The Moscow Foreign Minister, Dimitri Shepilov, declared - that the London Conference has no authority for dealing with Suez. The calling of the parley - "a violation of accepted procedures."

However, Shepilov went on with a more harmonious tune. Saying that the Soviets would not sabotage the conference. Adding that the discussions might do some good as a preliminary. Shepilov - using these words: "extremely useful, as a first step."

Meanwhile, in Egypt - things were at a standstill today. Halted by the "general strike", staged as a protest against the opening of the conference in London.

(Police and military forces - on the alert, for fear of rioting. The United Press Correspondent, Peter Webb, was driving in an automobile near the Khan Khalil Bazaar, when a band of angry youths tried to stop him. "As we drove slowly through, forcing them to give way," relates the American reporter, "they hammered on the sides of the car with their fists."

Other Arab countries were more or less affected by the demonstration strike - called as an expression of solidarity by the entire Arab world.)

PALESTINE

(Another violent incident - along the borders of Israel. A spokesman at Tel Aviv declaring - that Arab snipers shot up an Israeli bus in the Negeb Desert, today One civilian killed - three others injured.

A spokesman calls it the worst border incident since the recent peace-making trip made by the Secretary General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld.)

PEARL

Japan reports - the champion pearl. A deep sea gem - of seventy carats. Which must be about the size - of a small egg.

The word arrives in Tokyo from a Japanese pearl diving expedition to the Arafura Sea, in the South Pacific. Saying - that out of the depths of the ocean they've taken the largest pearl now known to exist. Five carats more - than the previous record-breaker. Ladies, how would you like to have - a seventy carat pearl?

KISS

Over in Darmstadt, Germany, there's a Solomon, who gives a judicial decision on the value of a kiss. Or, rather, the penalty - for stealing one. His Teutonic Honor ruling - seven days in jail, if the theft is successful. Five days in jail, if you try to steal a kiss - and don't succeed.

This occurs in the case of Hans Schoenbein. Whose behavior - was not so schoen. He kissed a girl against her will, and tried the same - with her girl companion. Hans - failing in the latter case. So he gets a combined, seven-day and five-day sentence -- in the Darmstadt calaboose.

This - in spite of an explanation that Schoenbein gave, in his own defense. He said the kissing was because of a remark by one of the girls. Hans declaring: "She hurt my honor by saying - all men are silly." So Hans proceeded to prove the point with kisses. Schoenbein convincing the two girls more than ever - that all men are silly.

It's all yours, Henry.