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THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1936.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET

For President
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

For Vice-President
JOHN N. GARNER

For Congress
T. ALAN GOLDSBOROUGH

ONWARD FOR ROOSEVELT

While the great Democratic gathering at Ocean City next Thursday is in the main an Eastern Shore affair, so intense is the interest throughout the State for the Democratic Presidential ticket, that thousands of enthusiastic Democrats, from every section of the State, have signified their intention of being present. In the past several weeks a feeling of harmony has swept the Eastern Shore counties and leaders of all factions have dropped their several differences to join hands for the common cause, the keeping of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the White House.

Long a political hotbed where the game of politics is taken most seriously, the old fighting spirit of the Eastern Shore has been aroused as never before in recent years; harmony is now the keynote and every Democratic leader is marshalling his forces to wage a battle to continue the present National administration in power.

In preparing for the struggle at the November polls, the meeting at Ocean City will serve well the purpose of gathering the necessary strength to keep the Eastern Shore solidly in the Democratic column. The entire State will be represented, the old and the young, men and women; presenting a hopeful and helpful sign, it is a movement that that grand old patriot, statesman and Democrat, John Walter Smith, would put the stamp of approval upon were he here to help direct the affairs of the campaign.

The importance of keeping Maryland in the Democratic column is readily agreed upon by every party man from the President down, and from a spirit of discouragement and weakness Maryland Democracy has changed to a condition of confidence and aggressiveness. A real fight is on, and Maryland shall not fail—the Eastern Shore loves a good fight and she will do her share in keeping Maryland in line for Roosevelt.

VOTES THAT COUNT

President Roosevelt's popularity is as great as ever.

This is shown by the primary vote in three States, Virginia, Missouri and Kansas .

In Virginia, Norman R. Hamilton defeated Representative Colgate Darden, running with the support of Senator Byrd, one of Virginia's loudest yappers at the New Deal. It was a substantial victory and a surprising one.

In Missouri, the Democrats rolled up the heaviest primary vote in the State's history.

In Kansas, New Deal Congressional candidates went far ahead of their challengers in every district save one.

These are the figures which count. These are figures which reflect the overwhelming pro-Roosevelt sentiment demonstrated in nearly every primary and general election since the President was inaugurated.

These figures—based on votes—are the answer to the straw polls—some of them with "doped straws"—with which the G. O. P. is attempting to befuddle the American public.

"FUMBLING WITH RECOVERY"

No single utterance of Gov. Alf M. Landon in his acceptance speech was so prominently displayed in the ultra-conservative press of the nation as his near-bold assertion that President Roosevelt has been "fumbling with recovery." Editorially they proclaimed it a classic.

Then, almost immediately they were confronted with a "contra-seasonal" report from the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. And they put it inside, not always next to pure reading matter. In some of the great journals of reaction, the piece was whittled down to a few paltry paragraphs. Some left it out entirely, thus upholding the freedom of the press.

But the report was interesting, especially when laid alongside the prime utterance of the Republican nominee. It said:

"The course of events carried unemployment in manufacturing establishments in June, 1936, to a point higher than at any time since October, 1930.

"If the second half of the present year has usual relations to the first half, employment in manufacturing will be back to the level of the Spring of 1930.

"Manufacturing has not been alone in going forward. In the first six months of 1936, construction would seem to have aggregated in value at least 76 per cent more, for the country as a whole, than in the corresponding part of 1935. The figures published by the building trades unions show that more of their members are now employed than in the Spring of 1930.

"The course of 1936 may show this as the best year in physical volume of business since 1929."

The only figure mentioned was the "at least 76 per cent" improvement in construction over the first six months of 1935. According to the Chamber's previous figures, that makes the gain in construction contracts actually carried out since 1933, total 242 per cent. The Roosevelt recovery, it will be noted, as for example the gain of 1,297 per cent in net earnings of industrial corporations in three years, is cumulative.

Now while Gov. Landon's speech warned that President Roosevelt is infringing upon the freedom of the citizens, his more loquatious running mate worked himself into a frenzy on this point. As the publisher of newspapers in Chicago and New England and perhaps having in mind his experiences as general manager of the great Hearst chain of papers in maintaining freedom of expression, the colonel was more emphatic on the subject to which the duPont Liberty League is dedicated.

But the day after Col. Knox had burst our ear drums, the civil liberties committee of the American Bar Association completed its two-year study and made public its report to the convention in Boston. Concerning "Constitution guarantees of freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly and of petition" the report used these words:

"The careless assertion that the policies and practices of the present national Administration either challenge or infringe these political rights of the citizens has no justification."

Nor is that all of the blunt reproaches that have been heaped upon the Governor, the Colonel and Chairman Hamilton, even if unwittingly, from high sources that could not be called pro-New Deal. After both acceptances were recorded, we find the magazine Banking, which is issued by The American Bankers Association, saying in its current issue the following:

"Business activity continues to expand with little regard for the traditional uncertainties of an election year. The quadrennial period of campaigning finds the country assured that defeatism has itself been defeated and determined that the fruits of this major victory shall be held * * * It would appear that fundamentally more important at this juncture is the FACT of the recovery."

And this in spite of the speech Gov. Landon made to the American Bankers Association in September, 1933, against the Roosevelt policy of insuring bank deposits.

THESE DEPOSITORS WON'T VOTE TO GO BACK

(From the Philadelphia Record)

Two weeks ago the D'Auria Bank and Trust Company (Newark, N. J.) locked its doors. A small, typewritten paper announced that the bank had failed.

One week ago the East Hampton Bank and Trust Company (East Hampton, Conn.) closed its doors. One of its officials and three other men have been arrested, charged with defrauding the bank.

If these failures had taken place in 1932—before the New Deal—you know what would have happened to the depositors. Thousands of depositors of banks which went up in 1932, and in the years previous, **are still waiting for their money.**

But this isn't 1932. It is 1936.

Last week the depositors of these two closed banks were filing through the banking houses. They were collecting their deposits in full, up to a maximum of $5000 per account.

They won't have to wait and hope. They have their savings.

And they have been paid off because the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation exists to protect bank depositors by guaranteeing bank deposits.

The Roosevelt Administration created the F. D. I. C.

Governor Landon, Republican candidate for President, is opposed to the Federal guarantee of bank deposits. So are the New York bankers who are back of his campaign.

I'll Tell 'Em, Alf!

Dispelling The Fog

From now on we must expect the newspapers to be filled with straw votes sample balloting and other attempts to forecast the result of the Presidential election. In addition, various agencies have announced their purpose of telling the trends of public opinion over the radio.

That is all right provided the methods of making these alleged tests are of such a character as to indicate an honest purpose of forecasting the election even though the cross-section theory of arriving at a conclusion by no means gives a certain augury of the outcome.

When, however, the auspices under which the polls are being conducted are analyzed—as is the case of some already published or in prospect—these must be looked on with some suspicion at least. For example, there is the Farm Journal poll, which purports to give a survey of the sentiment of the farmers throughout the country. The Farm Journal happens to be the property of Mr. Joseph N. Pew, head of the Sun Oil Company. The Pew family was a heavy contributing member of the duPont Liberty League.

The Farm Journal was having financial troubles and was hawked about for sale. It was offered to Secretary Wallace, for example, at the outset of the campaign, as Secretary Wallace told the newspaper men at one of his conferences. It was finally bought by Mr. Pew.

A Part of the Landon Build-Up

In fact quite a number of newspapers throughout the country in the same situation have been acquired by the high Republican financial command in the same manner and for kindred reasons. The protagonists of Governor Landon feel as a primary necessity the creation of an impression that there is a general public sentiment for the Republican candidate. This they deem requisite not only for the attraction of what politicians call the "bandwagon vote" but to give to their local organizations something on which they can erect a structure of confidence. So Mr. Pew issued his poll and gave as a result a considerable predominance of sentiment for Landon over Roosevelt among the farmers.

To do this he had to omit from his questionnaire seven Southern states. In the report made public he only canvassed 91 farmers in Arkansas, though that state has more than a quarter of a million farmers. The Farm Journal polled nearly 4,000 in New York, which has 177,000 farms; and only 155 farmers in Texas, which has half a million farms. There are numerous other discrepancies which indicate how this poll was engineered to get a certain result. In addition to that, there is the circumstance that various farmers wrote in to the Farm Journal asking for ballots, stating that they were for Roosevelt, but instead of a ballot received a note from the editor of the paper, of which the following is a sample:

"You seem to believe very thoroughly in Mr. Roosevelt and his methods and, if so, I am sure you are going to be very unhappy if you continue to read the Farm Journal. We expect to do our best to stop Mr. Roosevelt's borrowing, spending, budget deficits and increasing taxes, which is about the only contribution that Mr. Roosevelt has made to returning prosperity.

"Would you not be happier reading some other farm magazine which supports Mr. Roosevelt, if you can find one?"

This particular letter was sent to Walter A. Hoenes at Cologne, New Jersey. The New York Evening Post and Philadelphia Record hunted up Hoenes and checked the whole incident.

This particular episode gives a line on the sort of polls that we must beware of.

Method of a Liberty Leaguer

Here is another: One of the national advertisers on the radio chartered a radio theatre in New York for his broadcast of his product and let it be known that the audience was to be polled on the election, and that the result would be announced as part of the broadcast. That sounds fair enough on the face of it, until one is advised that the president of the company whose product is being advertised, is also a high contributor to the Liberty League and by virtue of his charter controls seventy per cent of the admissions to the theatre.

One more instance that gives rise to suspicion is that the sponsor of one of the great national straw votes has sold the radio rights for promulgating the results of its poll as part of an advertising program. The purchaser is one of the great corporations and the purchase price is reported to be $75,000.

Ordinarily the polling list for this forecast has been made up largely from the telephone directories and from holders of automobile licenses. That was not a perfect system because the percentage of peopel who have telephones and automobiles is a relatively small fraction of the total number of voters. It now appears that the system has been changed and that instead they are taking their names from the official precinct voting lists.

That, too, sounds all right. But there arises the question of selecting the precincts. It would be quite easy to balance such a poll to give any desired result by picking the precincts in which there was a large preponderance of votes one way or the other.

So it all comes back to the question of how the job is going to be done.

The coincidence of a large price to be paid for the broadcasting rights and the identity of the buyer of those rights, some of the directors of which are conspicuous in the Liberty League class and its affiliates, makes one doubtful about the sincerity of the poll.

"ENTERTAINMENT" ★ "ON THE AIR" ★

By "DIAL"

That coffee sponsor of Major Bowes' Amateur Hour has pulled the biggest coup of the radio year by snatching Good Will Court out from under the watchful eyes of a dozen other rivals as the program to succeed the Major on the prize Sunday evening spot in September. . . . Good Will Court, conducted by A. L. Alexander, brings people to the microphone who have legal problems . . . they tell it to a real judge, who sits unofficially in the radio tribunal . . . Alexander acts as counsel for "litigant" and clarifies cases for the more helpless ones . . . after hearing the story the judge makes a recommendation on best course for person to follow. . . . Court appears to be the logical successor to the amateur programs as biggest draw for next season. . . . Bing Crosby's vacation, which has been hanging fire for a month or two, now seems likely for early Fall. . . . Bing plans a sea trip, possibly to the Hawaiian Islands . . . which is probably the most convenient ocean voyage for Hollywoodites at that . . . the singer has put in the hardest working year of his career so far in the twelve months just passed, with movies and his weekly assignment as master of ceremonies and singing star of the Thursday night Music Hall broadcasts.

A. L. Alexander

*** Rudy Vallee has had a long string of outside engagements this Summer . . . a series of one night stands on the way to the Texas Centennial was followed by appearances at a beach near New York . . . All this, of course, is in addition to his regular weekly Variety Hour broadcasts. . . . Story behind a recent performance of Radio Theatre never reached the light of day . . . Starred were Claudette Colbert and Walter Huston . . . In the supporting cast . . . man . . . also . . . the delight . . . Colbert and Foster chatted much during the . . . of rehearsals as friends of long standing . . . show over they parted again . . . a few listeners may have recalled that Claudette was formerly Mrs Norman Foster!

Claudette Colbert

*** Because the movie, "Rhythm on the Range," gave Bob Burns his first big screen role, chance to see the picture first goes to residents of Little Rock, Arkansas . . . That's down in Bob's home country and the world premiere was held there . . . Bob flew to Little Rock between broadcasts to attend the event . . . Jimmy Dorsey and Victor Young, diminutive but busy maestros, are working on new songs.

*** Most jovial of the maestri in radio is B. A. Rolfe, whose excellent orchestra is being heard over NBC while Fred Waring is taking a month's vacation . . . Rolfe is adding life to the programs by featuring a novelty number on every program . . . Rolfe, one of the first "big names" in radio, carries a huge radio following with him wherever he goes . . . Igor Gorin, youthful Viennese baritone, besides his movie and radio work, made his concert debut at the Hollywood Bowl . . . he's heard Fridays over CBS . . . Snappiest ad lib of the mouth was that of Edgar Guest, the household poet. When he asked the Devore Sisters what they were going to do next, one said, "I'm Just Beginning to Care." Flipped Guest, "How nice. So glad you could come!" . . . Frank Black, NBC General Musical Director, flew out to Cleveland for a week to be guest conductor for the Great Lakes Exposition which will continue to draw crowds until October 4.

B. A. Rolfe

*** Radio fans are regarding the orchestra directed by Peter Van Steeden, the youthful maestro, as the perfect band for a comedy program. His smooth tempos aid Fred Allen all year and are now heard putting zip into the Stoopnagle and Budd programs on Wednesday nights . . . Those "Sherlock Holmes" programs over WGN-WLW-WOR and other stations, featuring Richard Gordon, are now being heard an hour later, at 8:30 p. m., E. D. S. T. . . . Outstanding "Three - Minute Thrill" of the season was Charles Martin's presentation of Carl Erickson, the human guinea pig who risked his life to let doctors perfect a cure . . . Most popular day radio performers is talented Joan Marsh, heard Fridays over CBS . . . but she came from the movies to radio . . . There's a new love interest in "Pepper Young's Family," heard daily through the week over NBC . . . he is "Phil Holloway," played by Jack Cowden from the Coast . . . Phil Duey is on his fourth year for the same Tuesday night sponsor . . . Did somebody say there are no steady jobs in radio?

Peter Van Steeden

Morton Bowe, youthful tenor star of that Sunday night NBC program heard in Jack Benny's regular spot, came to radio with one of the largest established audiences in history. He is a former linotype operator and there is no more loyal group in the country to "their boys who make good" than the printers. In addition, he had a large following as the first tenor of The Cavaliers. . . . Eddie East and Ralph Dumke, "The Sisters of the Skillet," are setting records as guest stars in radio. Each time they go on they write a new silly-song. . . . B. A. Rolfe, one of radio's greatest maestri, is batting for Fred Waring on NBC during the month of August—and he's planning a big "native American" music series. . . . Harry Salter, dynamic young maestro, is still receiving congratulations on the premiere of his "sweep music," which makes the melody dominant.

Morton Bowe

*** Speaking of names, Bobby Dolan reversed the usual tradition in adopting a name for his stooge character . . . entertainers when they step out of their usual role (Bobby's is bandleading) generally pick a more informal name. . . Bobby couldn't go more informal than Bobby, so, as a stooge, he's known as Mr. Robert Emmett Dolan. . . . It was . . . Shortage of radio announcers is reported due to Hollywood if any more big time shows move there. Crosby, Ballew and Radio Theatre programs have grabbed off the best and late comers will have to look hard. . . . Unemployed spielers please note. . . . Bert Lahr is going West (to Hollywood we mean) to play radio dates. . . . Chateau spot for him is already set and others will follow.

Bert Lahr

*** Victor Young, the Chateau maestro, sent records of his new song to all the hospitals in Los Angeles and Hollywood last week . . . his friends just discovered that Vic's middle name is Verdi . . . it came out when a movie gave him credit on the screen for one of the production's tunes . . . he's sensitive about the Verdi part. . . . Everybody wonders who those pianists are on the Major Bowes Amateur Hour . . . the names are Emil Seidel and Joe Moresco . . . musicians figure them "tops" in accompanists around Radio City.

*** Tall, languid Allie Lowe Miles, of the "Husbands and Wives" program, doesn't look like a hard-working writer and radio producer. . . . Her appearance is more that of the Long Island society woman . . . she does live on Long Island but hasn't time for society. . . . Incidentally, Announcer Ben Grauer gets a big kick out of his assignment to the "Husbands and Wives" show. . . . Ben's a bachelor. . . . Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra took a holiday after last week's broadcast, spent the day at Malibu Beach, exclusive resort near Hollywood . . . next day everybody was back in the studios working on new arrangements. . . . Rudy Vallee plans to play an engagement at the Toronto Exposition late this summer. . . . Rudy may make a picture next Fall.

Allie Lowe Miles

*** One of the high spots of the Great Lakes Exposition in Cleveland was Ed Wynn's personal broadcast there. . . . He's one Admiral who rocked plenty of boats, both on and off the airwaves.

*** Phil Regan, Tuesday night CBS tenor, is the first radio tenor to be called back to the movies after making one starring picture. Phil's sponsor plans to pick him up from Hollywood during the four weeks it will take to make the picture. . . . Phillips Lord, "The Gang Buster," carries a portable dictaphone on his 85-foot sloop as well as in his automobile, so that he can dictate his scripts while he is traveling. . . . Phil Baker, famous comic, loves the theatre so much that he cannot give it up entirely. Much of his vacation from the airwaves is being spent in playing vaudeville and he is greatly in demand. . . . Bob Hope, the British born American comedian, is selling his scripts to a funny man who plans to use them over the Luxembourg radio station, but the European comic is changing "Honeychile" to "Ma Cherie." He's afraid they wouldn't get the name "Honeychile!"

Phil Regan

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