

Newsweek

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The Magazine of News Significance

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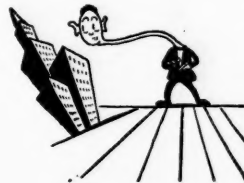
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For Your Information

DOUBLE PLAY: On the masthead to the left this week there are a couple of changes which should not go unnoticed. In Chicago, Ed O'Brien officially takes over as bureau chief, moving down from Detroit. Typical quotes about O'Brien's reports: "Ed will even tell you how many blades of grass there are on a lawn." "It's almost an insult to suggest any angles he ought to pursue on a story because he'll have thought of them and a dozen others." Already the wires are burning from the Loop. Taking over in



Detroit, one of the hottest news centers in the country these days, is Norman E. Nicholson, who moves out of the slot in the United Press news desk in the Motor City.

DEMOCRATIC DATA: Once again NEWSWEEK's team of Washington-New York political specialists has produced a comprehensive and detailed account of an explosive convention which, in advance, looked to be cut and dried. The story, beginning on page 17, was based almost completely on talks in Philadelphia with top-flight Democrats at meals, in their quarters, and, especially, in NEWSWEEK's suite at the Bellevue-Stratford. At one time in one room Ernest K. Lindley and National Affairs Editor Bob Humphreys were discussing things with a group consisting of Jimmy Roosevelt, Jim Farley, George Allen, and Leon Henderson. At another, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, Secretary of the Interior Krug, and ex-Secretary of Agriculture Anderson were closeted with the NEWSWEEK staff while waiting to go on a DuMont-NEWSWEEK television exclusive. Such were the contacts that enabled our National Affairs department to put the convention story together and enabled Lindley to anticipate, in last week's Washington Tides, before the first convention session, the calling of a special session of Congress by President Truman. Periscope predicted the special session in the issue of June 28 and suggested that the Presidential call would put the GOP on the spot. That sounds a lot like what many other people are saying now—nearly a month later.

WATCH THAT BIRDIE: One of the flock of white doves released from the rostrum at Philadelphia was responsible for the outstanding pictures to come out of Convention Hall via television. James Caddigan, director of programs and production for the DuMont television network, caught the white cloud of birds in his camera as they were released. His men followed the darting doves all over the hall, and Caddigan wound up the spectacle with a magnificent close-up of one bird sitting on a huge electric fan, a 16th of an inch away from disintegration. And speaking of television, on page 52 there's a report on the job done by the NEWSWEEK staff in cooperation with DuMont, which furnished excellent facilities and direction for the operation.



THE COVER: In 1936, when the Olympic Games were last held, no American girl swimmer won a title. This year one of our best hopes for female natatorial honors is 22-year-old Ann Curtis of San Francisco. Miss Curtis has won 31 national titles since 1943 and holds three world records. In the Olympics she will swim in the 100- and 400-meter free style. She will also be a member of the 400-meter relay team (photo by Guillumette).

The Editors

Missouri, Mr. Truman's home state, and Kentucky, Sen. Alben W. Barkley's home, they proposed to put up rival electoral slates pledged to Thurmond and Wright. They were positive of carrying Mississippi and Alabama (20 votes). They felt the odds were in their favor in Georgia (12), South Carolina (8), Florida (8), Arkansas (9), Louisiana (10), Texas (23), and Virginia (11). In Tennessee (12) and North Carolina (14) they counted on taking enough Democratic votes from Mr. Truman to swing the electoral vote to Dewey.

Even if they didn't catapult the Presidential election into the House, they were confident they at least would enjoy the satisfaction of having made Mr. Truman's defeat certain.

NOMINEE:

The Admirable Barkley

In his 43 years in politics, Alben W. Barkley had been the Democratic Party's Admirable Crichton, a faithful retainer who had seldom let pride or principle swerve him from his duty. Like the butler in the James M. Barrie play, he frequently had been wiser than his masters, but he served them all with undeviating loyalty, and only once did he even dare to question what they had done.

Though a fervent Prohibitionist, a leader in the fight for the Eighteenth Amendment, he did not blink when the 1928 convention at Houston voted in favor of repeal. Instead, he seconded the nomination

of Alfred E. Smith and campaigned for him vigorously. To the raised eyebrows, he gave the answer that was his Golden Rule. Party regularity, said Barkley, was the all-important issue.

Woodrow Wilson was in the White House when Barkley first came to Congress in 1913 as representative from Kentucky, after having served as McCracken County prosecutor and judge. He championed every measure of Wilson's New Freedom as devoutly as though it were his own, including the farm loan, Federal Reserve, and antitrust legislation. In the same way, he was later to become the leading spokesman in Congress for Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and still for Harry S. Truman.

He fought doggedly for the court-packing

Perspective

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Bad Faith Without Good Judgment

by RAYMOND MOLEY

THAT Machiavelli suggested to the Prince the priceless value of deceit and of the disregard of promises is well known. It is not so well known that he added that immorality must have the appearance of morality. And most important, that the means used must succeed.

Bad faith, hypocrisy and the appeal to sordid motives are so common in politics that they seem to be taken as legitimate tools of the trade. But a certain fastidious skill in their use has come to be expected. Immorality, when properly clothed, can pass in the market place of virtue. Because it has at least the value of restraint, of peaceful agreements, of grace and of disdain for violence and grime. But when bad management consorts with bad faith, when sharp practice exposes itself, when the hidden ace protrudes from a torn sleeve, nothing can excuse the offense. There is nothing so repellent as clumsy deception.

ALL of this occurred to me as I witnessed Bastille Day in Philadelphia. One great politician, who made no public appearances and who rather sadly remained almost alone in his hotel room, remarked about Truman that no President in his memory had been so badly treated by so many and with so little justification. The scramble to ditch Truman in the past few weeks was, except for the Southerners, led by people who owed the most to him. As President, he has given the Hagues, Kellys and Arveys what they have demanded. He is the

same Truman that they helped to make the Vice Presidential candidate in 1944.

The Hendersons and Jimmy Roosevelt have posed as liberals and heirs of F.D.R.'s policies. Truman has advocated everything that F.D.R. left undone and,



as a senator for ten years, he voted straight New Deal. And yet, these spurious New Dealers would have dropped him for Eisenhower, whose views, as far as they know, might be those of General Grant. These people showed they

care more for power than principle.

In fact, the whole Eisenhower movement was phony. The great name of the general was used as a stopgap until anti-Truman sentiment could find someone else. But these promoters were too stupid to find someone else. Even Justice Douglas, to whom they later turned, was an unknown quantity. These anti-Truman people by chasing phantoms made Truman's nomination inevitable. In some cases, like that of James Roosevelt, a sworn promise to support Truman was violated.

McGrath has been a colossal flop as national chairman. He has never or seldom consulted old hands in the party. The Truman trip West was a fiasco. Truman himself has contributed to the confusion. It is freely known that it has been many months since he has called upon

Barkley or Rayburn individually for consultation and advice. He did not want Barkley as a running mate nor did he, up to the day of nomination, ask him outright. Barkley has the melancholy satisfaction of running with a President, despite that man's opposition to him and despite inevitable defeat. And to fill Barkley's cup, he believes that in 1944 F.D.R. first preferred him and then dropped him for Truman.

BLUNDERING has marked the whole course of the civil-rights issue. Instead of consulting Southern leaders and soliciting their help in achieving more equality through cooperative action with the states, Truman hurled the book at Congress.

As the convention approached, Truman and McGrath tried to get a compromise in the platform. That was almost achieved when three political midgets got before the convention the offensive plank which was finally adopted. Efficient convention management could have kept that plank from a vote. When the vote came, delegates who really wanted a compromise were compelled to support it because of the pressure of minorities in their home bailiwicks.

To crown it all, the final night's welter of yapping, stalling, clowning and crowing could have been cut by 90 per cent by stronger management.

The donkey whose likeness dominated Broad Street is a maligned beast. The donkey is an efficient and trustworthy servant.