Ghost of Dry Record May Be Plague in Landon Drive

Mudslinging Expected to Start as Acceptance Echoes Fade Out

New York Is Key

Farley's Nervousness Overr Empire State Fans Hopes of GOP

By William P. Helm
Special Dispatch to The Herald

Washington, July 18.—Nominee Landon is gaining. A perceptible change in sentiment, possibly a natural result of New Deal defections within the past fortnight, is noticeable in the attitude of observers in almost every section of the United States, as reflected here.

Governor Landon's speech of acceptance at Topeka next Thursday will quicken the feeling toward him, should it live up to advance expectations, it is believed here.

The prevalent defeatism patent in G.O.P. circles at the time of the Philadelphia convention and soon thereafter seems to have been succeeded by a healthier optimism. After all, there is going to be a fight. Even the professional glooms of New York City—glooms from a Republican standpoint—are perking up and admitting as much. They now profess that the Kansas Governor has a chance of carrying the State.

The Democratic high command knew this long before it drafted Gov. Herbert Lehman for the coming gubernatorial contest, against his wishes and personal interests. Farley has been nervous about New York ever since the row between Ickes and Robert Moses over the Triborough bridge which the President dedicated within the week. He now is reported to be genuinely concerned and is making plans to throw his heaviest artillery into the State during the coming campaign.

Accordingly, it has been pretty well determined that the President, himself will make at least two speeches in New York during the campaign, one of which will be at New York City or Brooklyn, and the other probably at some upstate point. In addition, the Democratic National Committee will send a battery of spellbinders of national renown into the State.

In the meantime, the Republicans appear to have scored consistently over the Democrats through well-timed publicity during the past week. One day, the headlines proclaimed that Henry Breckinridge, anti-Roosevelt Democrat, had conferred with Landon and pledged his support. Twenty-four hours later, George Peek was at Topeka—on the fence, but leaning Landonward. Then came the letter of ex-Senator William Cabell Bruce of Maryland, laying his heart and hand at the feet of the Kansas Governor. This parade of favorable publicity for Landon is having its effect. Indications are that it was deliberately timed for such effect and that more of the same sort of publicity is in the making.

No comparable publicity has come from the Democratic camp. But it has been busy, if not noisy. One hears that it has gone back through the years to comb the Landon record from the day he left college to the present. Washington is filled with vague reports that the Democrats have dug up a vast volume of damaging material to be used against him from his own speeches and official actions as Governor.

Also, one hears, the prohibition issue is to be revived with all possible flourish to damn Landon in the eyes of Eastern voters. This seems likely. The Democrats are reported to have assigned investigators to dig over everything Landon has said or done for the past 20 years and as he was notable in the dry councils of his state it goes without saying that his political opponents will make the most of that. Many of their own leaders were bone dry, too, but they are not running for the Presidency. Landon's dry record will be made to plague him and alienate Eastern support, if the Democrats can turn the trick.

The mud-slinging probably will start next week, as soon as the echoes of his acceptance speech die down.

"While the presidential campaign commands the spotlight, no less vigorous plans are in the making over the Congressional fight. The Republicans could not possibly win a Senate majority, even were they to elect Republicans to every one of the 23 seats to be filled—38 if one counts the seat held by Murphy of Iowa, dead this week. And they could not possibly elect Republicans to some of those seats, such as the ones now held by Pat Harrison of Mississippi and Robinson of Arkansas. So the Senate fight will be without hope of majority, so far as the G.O.P. is concerned.

Not so the House. Chairman Chester C. Bolton of the House G.O.P. committee, in Washington this week, forecast a hot fight for House control next year. He thought the Republicans had a good chance to wrest control from the Democrats by performing the phenominal task of converting 128 Democratic seats, or thereabouts, into Republican seats. He was definite as to this but vague as to details. He did not specify where or how all this would be done, but opined that the chances of doing it were good.

Nominally set for a Labor Day start, the campaign now bids fair to get under way in a handsome manner perhaps a month earlier. Mid-August according to present indications, will find the welkin ringing almost everywhere.

Two Died When Plane Crashed in Indiana

SCENE OF FATAL WRECK (AP—Wirephoto). John Klahn, W P A worker, who witnessed the airplane crash at Fair Oaks, Ind., in which William G. Leamon, 41, and Mrs. B. M. Musselman, both of Anaconda, Mont., were killed, is shown examining the wreckage of the ill-fated craft.

PILOT DIES—((AP)—Wirephoto).—William G. Leamon was killed with Mrs. B. M. Musselman, of Anaconda, Mont., when his plane crashed at Fair Oaks, Ind.

Blazing Plane Crash Takes Lives of Two

Woman and Pilot Killed as 4-Passenger Ship Falls in Indiana

Fair Oaks, Ind., July 18 (AP).—Motor trouble and inability to find a suitable landing field were given today by Sheriff Vern Michael as probable causes of a flaming plane crash which killed William G. Leamon, 41, believed to be a mining company official of Chicago and Anaconda, Mont., and Mrs. B. M. Musselman, also of Anaconda.

The ship plunged into an oat field near here last night after the pilot had dropped a flare, apparently seeking level ground for a landing.

Coroner W. J. Wright said he found three unused flares in the wreckage and declared the plane evidently fell so suddenly that Leamon had no chance to drop them.

Wright said the plane was a single-motored four-passenger ship.

The plane bore the insignia "Toro Mining Corporation, Anaconda, Mont."

Mrs. Musselman's husband said at Moose Lake, Mont., that his wife and Leamon, accompanied by Leamon's two sons flew to Chicago last Sunday from Butte, Mont., in the pilot's private plane, supposedly the one which figured in the tragedy.

Musselman said his wife went on to New York, but was to have returned to Chicago and then by plane with Leamon last night to Anaconda.

At a Chicago hotel employes said Leamon was registered there July 12 and that while there was no checkout record they believed he left Wednesday or Thursday. They did not know the whereabouts of his sons.

Mrs. Musselman's body was thrown 300 feet from the wreckage of the plane.

Sheriff Michal identified the bodies by charred paper found in clothing of the couple.

Leamon was pinned in the tangled remains of the fuselage. Pieces of the plane were strewn over a radius of several hundred feet. The motor was 100 yards from the main pile of debris. John Klahn, a W P A worker of Fair Oaks, said he saw the plane circling about a mile and a half east of here.

"Suddenly there was a burst of flame and it looked like the motor dropped out," he related. "The plane caught afire and dived with a crash."

Landon Assailed For Selling Drought Hides on Market

New York, July 18 (CP).—The Farmers' Council of America accused Gov. Alf M. Landon of Kansas today of encouraging government competition with private industry.

The council, an association of skin and hide processors, said Governor Landon was "violating the tenets of the Republican platform" by selling drought sheepskins in the open market.

Skins to which the farmers referred, they said, were given to the states by the Federal Surplus Commodity Corporation to be processed by tanners and fashioned by relief clients into apparel and useful articles for themselves. Kansas has offered some $300,000 worth of the skins for open sale, the council charged. It sent wires of protest to Governor Landon and D. L. Morrison, controller of the Kansas Relief Administration.

Dana Spans U.S. in 22 Hrs. To Win a Job

Great-grandson of Famous Author Smashes West to East Record

Mark Is Unofficial

Youthful Flier Gets Work Piloting Seaplane Over Lake Region

New York, July 18 (AP).—Twenty-year-old Peter Dana, a great-grandson of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and of the Richard Henry Dana who wrote "Two Years Before the Mast," tonight found that 22 hours behind the stick of his airplane had flown him into a much-needed job and an unofficial transcontinental junior air speed record.

The youthful aviation enthusiast set his light low winged monoplane down at Long Beach Airport on Long Island at 3:37 P. M. (E.S.T.) today to complete his flight from San Diego, Calif., in 22 hours five minutes flying time.

On Oct. 18, 1930, Robert N. Buck established a junior West-East transcontinental record of 23 hours, 47 minutes flying time.

Although believing he had established a record, young Dana tonight was happier over the acquisition of a job, which he said he "had needed like the dickens."

"In California last Wednesday," he said, "I received word that if I were in the East by Sunday, I could get this job flying a seaplane around some New Hampshire lakes. You see I have had to finance all my flying myself, and it was pretty tough, so I just had to get here, but I didn't know how or on what.

"So I fixed up my little ship and took off. I had to make 11 stops in all before I got to New York, but I guess I got here all right, eh?"

The young man said he would stay in New York overnight and fly on to Boston Sunday to take over the job. His home is in Holdiness, N. H.

Dana last year set an unofficial transcontinental records for light planes when he flew from San Diego in 25 hours five minutes flying time. Today's flight lowers that by three hours.

He also recently established a light plane record from Vancouver, B. C., to Tiajuana, Mexico, completing the distance in 11 hours and six minutes.

3 Locarno Nations Meet Wednesday

Britain, France, Belgium Will Pave Way for 5-Power Session

Session in London

Review of European Peace Suggestions Planned at Later Parley

London, July 18 (AP).—Three of five original Locarno signatories laid plans tonight for a "preliminary" meeting in London next Wednesday.

Their discussions, informed souces said, will concern additional arrangements for a later conference—whose time and location are yet undetermined—at which Great Britain, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy may review European peace suggestions.

After weeks of negotiation, France today accepted the invitation of Great Britain to send a representative to the "preliminary" parley next week. Belgium's answer was not expected until Monday, although Brussels reported Premier Zeeland's government would follow the British lead.

A brief announcement from the British foreign office announced the prospective meeting:

"We hope to hold the conference of the Locarno powers, Great Britain, France and Belgium, in London next week."

On the agenda will be only exploratory discussions of pending European problems, informed sources said, with detailed conversations of proposed peace arrangements delayed for the larger and more conclusive meeting.

Plans for the discussion called for review of the existing Locarno situation—tangled last March when Adolf Hitler denounced the mutual security treaty and sent his troops goose-stepping into the Rhineland.

The three powers to be engaged in the survey have agreed to inform Germany and Italy of their conclusions in preparation for the later session.

Acceptance by the French of the British invitation to meet in London was interpreted as concrete evidence of a compromise which for a time threatened to keep the three powers apart. Great Britain originally held and perhaps still holds the view Germany, as the treaty scrapper, should be asked to join the deliberations.

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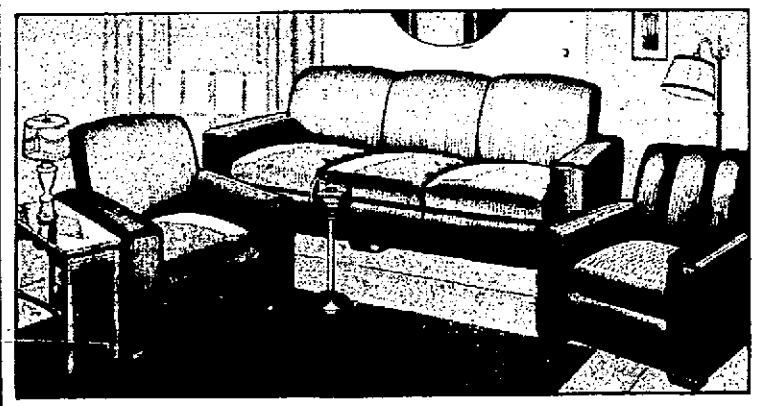

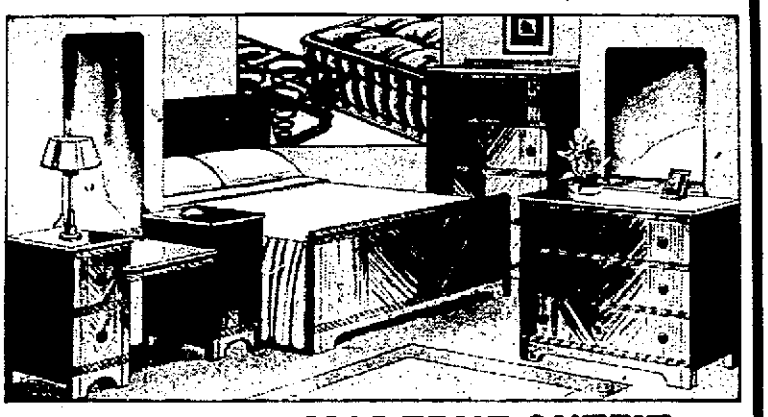

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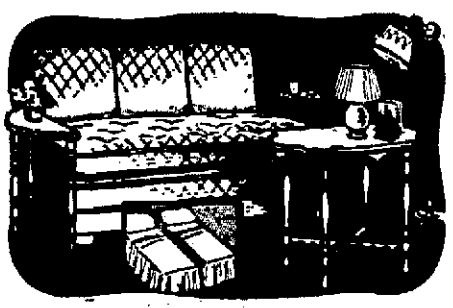

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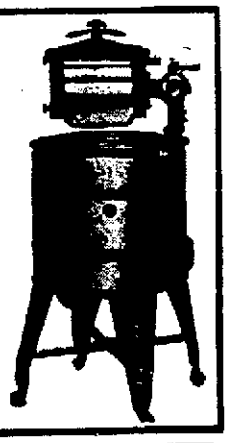

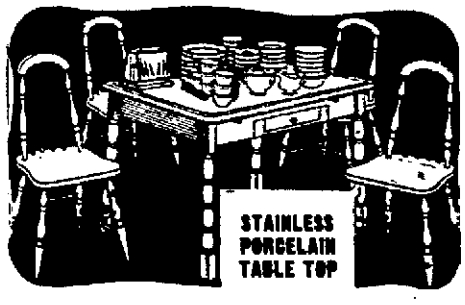

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