

Stevenson's Foreign Policy Views

Apparently Favored by Khrushchev;
Question Asked: Is He an Appeaser?

Does Nikita Khrushchev want to see Adlai Stevenson elected President of the United States in November so that he can negotiate a deal at the next summit conference?

Does Mr. Khrushchev hope that Mr. Stevenson, if not nominated, will be considered for the post of Secretary of State in a Democratic administration, as Senator Kennedy hinted the other day?

Why was Mr. Stevenson, in an interview published in Paris a week ago Sunday, quoted as favoring an allied retreat on the Berlin problem?

Why did Mr. Stevenson last Thursday night tell a political dinner meeting in Chicago that the administration has "helped make successful negotiations with the Russians—negotiations that are vital to our survival—impossible so long as they are in power?"

These questions are prompted by a strange sequence of circumstances. Thus on March 9 last the New York Times printed a United Press International dispatch from Moscow which read:

"Soviet Premier Khrushchev has his opinions about the United States' Democratic Party's presidential possibilities, he revealed to-night. He put Adlai Stevenson at the top of his list in comments to Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco at a dinner. Mr. Khrushchev's rating of the Democrats:

"Mr. Stevenson: The best among United States politicians.

"Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts: Able, but some reservations about his youthfulness.

"Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri: He's a 'good' man."

No other presidential aspirants were mentioned, not even Senator Humphrey, who had once participated in a marathon conference of several hours with the Soviet Premier. Mr. Stevenson also conferred at length with Mr. Khrushchev in Moscow and wrote articles about him, but they did not contain any of the stinging that the Minnesota

Senator included in his published remarks.

Mr. Stevenson, therefore, apparently is the favorite of Mr. Khrushchev, who has brushed aside the old rule of diplomacy that a foreign government must not interfere in the political campaigns of another country. The Soviet Premier evidently thinks that Mr. Stevenson, as the titular head of the Democratic Party, speaks for it.

But James A. Farley, former Postmaster General in the Cabinet of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and a former chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has just issued a statement urging the Democratic Party to repudiate Mr. Stevenson's speech of last Thursday night. Mr. Farley said in part:

"The unwarranted attack of Mr. Adlai E. Stevenson on the President's conduct of the summit negotiations, in my opinion, in no way represents the thinking of the Democratic Party. . . . In his few remaining weeks as titular spokesman of the Democratic Party he has indicated every reason why the Democratic Party in convention should select a spokesman who speaks for it in fact. I can think of no more effective way of doing so than by a unanimous resolution of condemnation and repudiation of his absurd speech in Chicago as representing the views of the Democratic Party."

The strangest episode of all, however, is the interview with Mr. Stevenson which Soviet Premier Khrushchev read in Paris-Press L'Intransigeant just after his recent arrival in Paris. That interview was written by Robert Boulay after a visit to Mr. Stevenson's home at Libertyville, Ill., where he said he spent an afternoon, together with other guests. The article, with a streamer headline across the page, said that Adlai Stevenson had proposed virtually a retreat from Berlin and American troop withdrawal from Europe.

The published interview was a shock to Americans abroad, coming as it did just a few days before the summit conference was to open. Evidently Mr. Khrushchev

read it carefully, because in his own speech at East Berlin last Friday he paraphrased one of the points in his interview to charge that Chapellor Adenauer had succeeded "in worming his way to the post of Secretary of State of the United States."

Mr. Boulay, in his interview, quotes Mr. Stevenson as having said:

"For 10 years there has not really been a Secretary of State for American foreign policy. During that period the real American Secretary of State has been German Chancellor Adenauer."

In other parts of the same interview, Mr. Stevenson is quoted as favoring American concessions, such as a substantial decrease in allied troops in West Berlin. He is reported to have declared also that he could foresee in the future the pulling of American forces out of Europe. When asked whether there would be a change in American foreign policy after the November elections, Mr. Stevenson is quoted as having said: "There will be important changes in American foreign policy."

Mr. Stevenson last Tuesday denied ever having given any interview at all to any Paris newspaper. But he issued a statement to the Chicago Daily News the next day admitting that he had talked with Robert Boulay but calling the published interview incorrect. He said it did not represent his views and that "The most charitable explanation of such irresponsibility, presumption and discourtesy is that his English was poor and my French no better."

In Paris, however, Americans who know Mr. Boulay say he writes and talks English very well and is a reliable reporter. Just what did Mr. Stevenson really say to Mr. Boulay? Maybe all this is something for the Democrats in Congress to include in their investigation of recent events. For there is no doubt that an appeasement faction exists today inside the Democratic Party, and certainly Mr. Stevenson's speech—just four days before the all-important debate at the United Nations Security Council—helped to wreck bipartisan unity in this country. (Copyright, 1960)



"I told you when I put you on my payroll, Hubert that you had to stop calling me Cousin!"

POTOMAC FEVER

By FLETCHER KNEBEL

Republicans ignored history's great moral lesson in handling the U-2 incident: All of George Washington's troubles at Valley Forge stemmed from the day he admitted he chopped down that darned cherry tree.

Jack Kennedy wins Oregon. He's kind of glad the primaries are over—or people would start calling him the rich man's Kefauver.

Khrushchev returns to Moscow. He boasts they never laid a glove on him in Paris and what's more, they never will as long as he has the strength to walk out of the ring before the first bell.

Religion is still an issue in the Democratic race. Big fight looming on whether they'll pick a Southern Baptist or a Yankee Congregationalist to run with Jack Kennedy.

Airline schedule: A monument to the greatest of human virtues—faith, hope and charity.

Since he walloped Wayne Morse in Maryland and Oregon, Democrats are hailing Kennedy as "Jack, the Midget Killer."

Nixon on Spot in North Dakota

Reluctant Plunge Seen into Campaign
To Save Senate Seat for Republicans

The presidential primaries, like the one just run off in Oregon, continue to win the audience ratings with the public. But these are mere trial heats, the shadow before the substance. The real race, the hot focus of the struggle for the Presidency, lies in no primary.

It now lies in the heart of the Middle West, specifically in North Dakota. There, the voters are going to speak not simply in an advisory way, but for keeps, in a special election June 28. And it is on this not too populous State, of which the voters of the country at large have heard so little, that the national professionals in both parties are directing their true energies.

Officially, the issue is whether the Democrats or the Republicans will win the Senate seat left vacant by the death early this year of Senator William Langer. He was a maverick Republican; but, for the record, a Republican all the same. Actually, North Dakota provides an enormously critical battleground, far the most critical to develop thus far in this election year.

It will give some pointers as to Republican prospects for holding Senate seats that are up now not only in North Dakota but also in five other Midwestern and Western states. Much more importantly, it will help test how deeply the Republicans are in trouble in the farm belt in general.

It will be a farm belt showdown on the agricultural policies of the Eisenhower administration; a rural referendum on the immovable Eisenhower Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson.

And, finally and most important of all, it is putting Vice President Richard M. Nixon, the prospective G.O.P. presidential nominee, in a sweat box of the most clammy kind. The intense heat is ruefully admitted by him and his people. He is being pressed to go into North Dakota to speak for the Republican Senate candidate, Gov. John E. Davis.

And whatever he does about this rather ill-omened invitation, he is in for difficulty. If he decides to go in, it is bad. For he cannot do that and stand up for the Eisenhower-Benson policies, of which he disapproves and which he knows to be bad news politically. Moreover, a Republican licking in North Dakota with Nixon on the scene would do him some national harm.

And if he decides to stay out, it is bad. For he cannot shun North Dakota without having it said that he ran from a fight while fellow Republicans were sorely engaged by the Democrats.

In the end, Nixon probably will take the plunge into North Dakota, simply because he recognizes his responsibilities as the more or less inevitable head of the whole G. O. P. ticket this fall. But, understandably, he will not gladly go upon this errand. For this, as the Republicans here glumly concede, looks to be "a tough proposition." The present outlook, as seen by the Republicans themselves, is pretty dim for Davis and correspondingly fairly bright for his Democratic opponent, Representative Quentin Burdick.

Khrushchev or no Khrushchev, cold war or no cold war, always and forever there

is "the farm problem." And in this problem there is no rest for the weary Nixon.

He has just spent some time in upstate New York trying to scotch those Republicans who are again attempting to promote Gov. Nelson Rockefeller into a Nixon rival for the presidency at the G. O. P. national convention. There has been some success for this Nixon sortie into Rockefellerland; the troops there are growing a bit nervous about being held back from the Nixon bandwagon. Plainly, many wish Rockefeller would let them go over to Nixon while the going looks good.

But corn-hog-wheat land is something else again. And Nixon's dilemma is not exactly eased by the fact that Rockefeller has already agreed to lend his beaming presence to the harried North Dakota Republicans in their campaign.

Czechs Honor Cyrus Eaton

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, May 23 (AP).—Cyrus Eaton, American millionaire industrialist, today received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from Charles University in a special ceremony on his visit to Communist Czechoslovakia.

The 800-year-old university is one of the oldest in Europe. In addition to the faculties of Charles and other Czech universities, the Czech Minister of Education and Culture and the President of the Academy of Science attended the ceremony.

Mr. Eaton, who is personally acquainted with Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev and is a winner this year of the Lenin Peace Prize, received a diploma and gold chain.

New Facts Confront Candidates

Watching Their Footwork as Events
Grip U.S. Public Will Be Fascinating

America has been seeing and approving of the attractive author of "Profiles in Courage." Washington during the next few weeks will be getting a taste of the best-selling analyst of England's unpreparedness for World War II as set down in "Wily England Slept."

Both of course are Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts. For while Kennedy was hanging up his unbroken string of primary successes, the whole frame of reference of the next presidential campaign shifted. Not only the emphasis but the facts are different than they appeared even two weeks ago.

Like all the candidates, Kennedy has collided with the situation created by the events in Paris. Because he is the front runner, he will be the more pressed to say what he thinks, what he would do and how he would do it.

The translation of the thoughtful student of England's behavior during a threatening period not too unlike the present into a political man of action will be intensely interesting. It will bear heavily on his chances, as on those of his rivals.

The others are already committing themselves, including the apparent Republican nominee, Vice President Nixon. Nixon kicked off with a spy story and says he stands ready to debate with the critics of President Eisenhower. The latter he could hardly avoid doing, but he must have found encouragement in the great outpouring of warmth and support for the President when the ill-fated Paris travelers returned here.

Boldest among Democrats is Adlai Stevenson. Stevenson thinks the story must be told of what he has capsuled into the charge that "we handed Khrushchev the crowbar and sledgehammer to wreck" the summit meeting. He is already under attack by Republicans and some conservative Democrats.

Senator Symington of Missouri thinks Stevenson is about right. Symington backers are encouraged to believe that their man's long record of demanding better defense will be more helpful than it appeared to be in pre-summit days.

Senator Johnson of Texas predictably is leading the harmony and unity forces. Here, too, he is in character. Indeed, in his role as ma-

jority leader, Johnson will find the congressional home stretch cruelly difficult as the foreign policy debate sharpens. He really cannot afford to sacrifice his leadership reputation to his presidential ambitions—or vice versa—without impairing both. His footwork under the circumstances will be still another fascinating political spectacle.

The story of America's present situation, however, is too big to be contained only by considerations of campaign strategy. People talk of nothing else; they will expect the men aspiring to lead them to talk of it too. Inevitably the would-be leaders will be judged, and probably with some faith, much hope but no charity. Of them all, Stevenson perhaps has the clearest understanding of what it means personally to be tapped for a part in this great morality play currently dominating the political stage. The beating he took in 1956 when he tried to arouse his fellow Americans is probably never too far from his consciousness, but he feels he can no longer hold back.

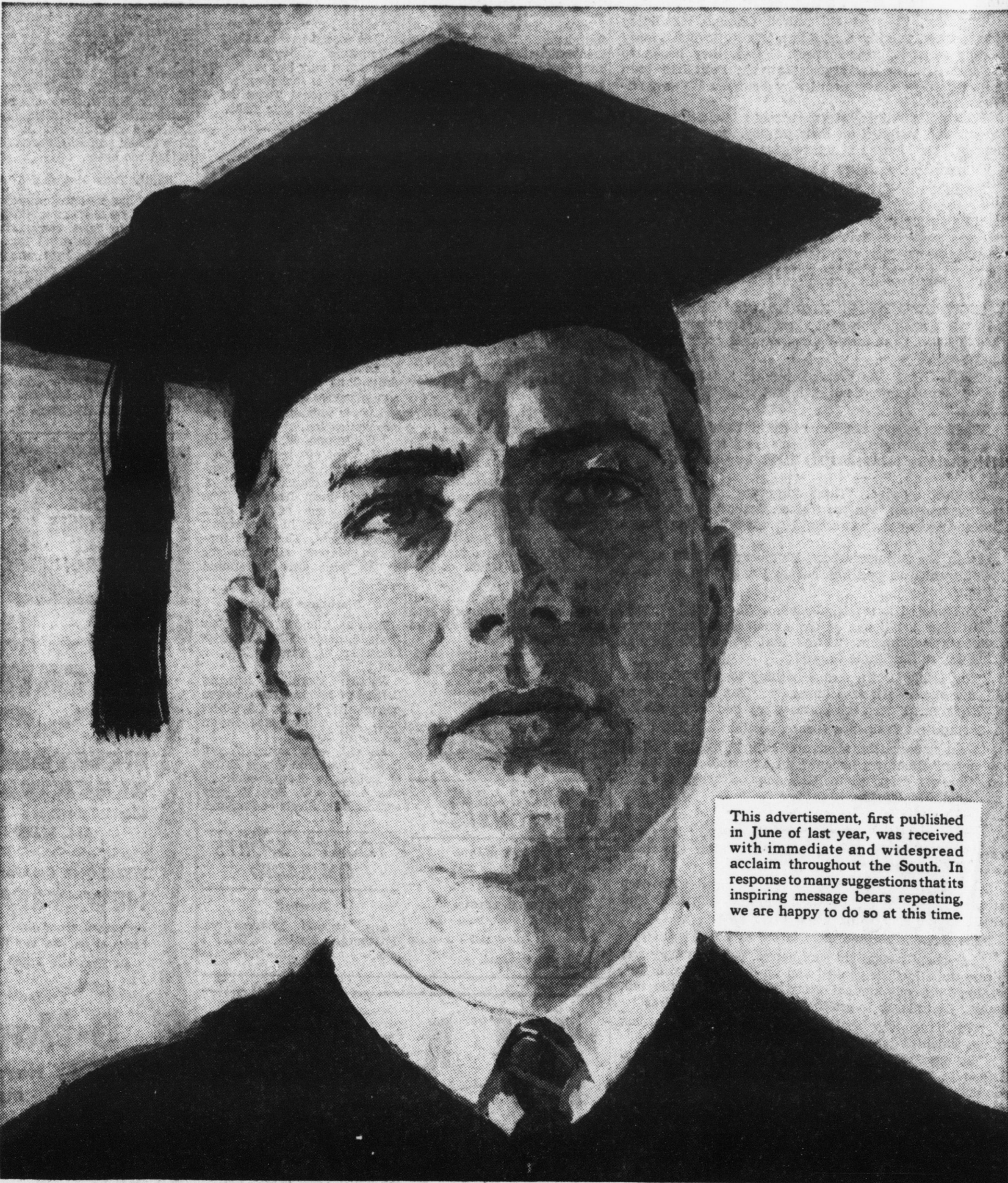
If they follow him this time, it will be well and good. If they do not, then he must accept it. But he is setting the pace, and it will not be possible for other Democrats to avoid making their decisions regarding it.

had been made and an intimation that they would continue.

The Vice President went on the air in support of the President's position. But, almost at the same hour, the President was assuring our allies and Khrushchev that we would not make further fights. On the same Sunday night the Secretary of Defense ordered a national alert, which alarmed the whole nation needlessly and thereby added another chapter to a story of needless folly.

There is no blinking the fact that the administration has shown alarming, incredible incompetence. No one seems to know what is going on. Vice President Nixon is privately embarrassed, but understands that events have made him a greater and more respected national figure.

What we badly need is a national debate on national security and foreign policy. It will be a real disservice to the Nation if the Congress decides not to say anything, but to present merely a solid front of support. We need to have an airing. Why were we so desperately haphazard and so destructive of our national credibility? Why did we play into the hands of Khrushchev at the moment of his crisis?



This advertisement, first published in June of last year, was received with immediate and widespread acclaim throughout the South. In response to many suggestions that its inspiring message bears repeating, we are happy to do so at this time.

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