



WASHINGTON AND LEE
UNIVERSITY'S

1964

REPUBLICAN

MOCK

CONVENTION

A Republican Challenge for 1964



FOR the first time since 1952, Washington and Lee's famous student mock convention will attempt early next May to pick a presidential candidate for the Republican Grand Old Party. Since 1908—more than half a century—Washington and Lee students have undertaken to predict the national standard-bearer for the party out of power, and they have done so with amazing success. In the twelve mock conventions conducted on the Washington and Lee campus in presidential election years, eight have resulted in correct nominations that were to be later "confirmed" by the appropriate party at its national convention months later. (See back cover.)

After correctly nominating Dwight D. Eisenhower as the Republican candidate in 1952, Washington and Lee men staged Democratic mock conventions in 1956 and 1960, and in both years they were right on target, first with Adlai Stevenson and then with John F. Kennedy. In 1964, they will turn their research methods and prognostication techniques toward forecasting President Kennedy's opponent—probably concentrating on front-runners like Senator Goldwater and Governors Rockefeller, Romney, and Scranton. But there have been dark horses nominated at W & L, too.



Washington and Lee's greatest mock convention triumph came in 1924, when students solved an apparent stalemate in the Democratic Party by nominating the University's alumnus, John W. Davis. That summer in New York, the historic Smith-McAdoo deadlock became a reality, and after 104 ballots, the real convention nominated Davis as a compromise candidate.

Both parties are known to keep watchful eyes on the proceedings in Lexington. The Mock Convention's devotion to authenticity in convention procedure and balloting has made it a reliable political barometer. The respect in which the convention is held is reflected in the high quality and prominent position of the national party leaders—both Republican and Democrat—who take an active part in its planning and operation.

Support and encouragement for the Mock Convention comes in many forms from party national headquarters, from the various state organizations, from office-holders and officials at many levels, and from interested individuals. Whether this backing takes the form of advice and counsel, campaign materials, or funds, those who give it are enthusiastic about the important educational aspects of the Mock Convention. Student participants share an experience that introduces them to national politics at a significant level. For most students, a Mock Convention falls only once during a college career, but for all it is an event that makes for better informed future citizens.

The exact date of the 1964 Republican Mock Convention awaits confirmation of one of the nation's top Republicans as the convention keynoter. It will probably be the first or second Monday and Tuesday in May. When it does come, the political eyes of the nation will focus on Washington and Lee and its students' choice for the 1964 Republican candidate.



The 1952 Mock Convention was an "explosive" event, with oratory and special effects enlivening the proceedings.

The Elephant Returns to W & L's Mock Convention



Taft supporters were many in 1952.



SINCE its beginning in 1908, Washington and Lee's Mock Convention has been an all-student affair. The University gives its official blessing by canceling a day and a half of classes and offering assistance in many other ways, but it is up to the students to plan, organize, provide financing, and conduct the convention.

Washington and Lee's Mock Convention can claim to be neither the oldest nor the largest staged on an American campus, but it does boast that none other goes to greater lengths to adhere to complete authenticity.



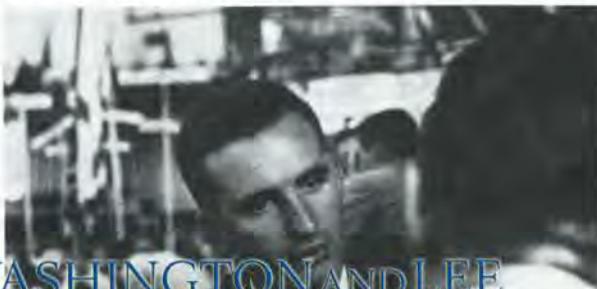
The student chairman for 1964 is Philip D. Sharp, Jr., a senior law student from Richmond, Va., and a "veteran" of the 1960 convention. He was chosen for the post by the Student Body Executive Committee. He in turn appointed a steering committee who must establish various other subcommittees to deal with all phases of organization and planning.

Each of Washington and Lee's 1,200 students has a convention job to do, either as a convention official or as a member of a state or territorial delegation.

Chairman Sharp already has appointed his State Chairmen and they will devote the next ten months to planning and preparing their convention roles. Beginning in the summer of 1963, they have the responsibility for contacting the party organization within their respective states for advice, guidance, campaign materials, and financial support. They must explore every possible avenue for information or clues as to how their bona fide counterparts are likely to vote at the national convention.

Washington and Lee's Mock Convention is not a popularity poll of student delegates' personal choices for candidates. The convention seeks to reflect, so far as humanly possible, how the various real state delegations will vote on the first ballot at the national event, and then on subsequent ballots to anticipate possible shifts of delegation commitments as the give and take of national politics influence the final outcome.

The Mock Convention's 1960 chairman, Charles McCormick, III, listens intently to Senator Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson, who visited the convention.



The energy and diligence of Washington and Lee students in collecting the best guidance possible on balloting prospects has been largely responsible for the splendid record of successful nominations—eight out of twelve. The students count heavily on cooperation from party officials and office-holders, and Chairman Sharp has expressed his confidence that the GOP will support the 1964 Republican Mock Convention as enthusiastically as the Democratic Party did in 1956 and 1960.

At the convention itself, the exact procedures of the national convention are followed to the letter, including the appointment of credentials, organization, and platform committees, the election of temporary and permanent chairmen, keynote and special addresses, nominating and seconding speeches, and the official balloting.

There are the Washington and Lee equivalents of smoke-filled rooms, the floor conferences between campaign leaders and state delegations, and the general excitement and tension of a real national convention. State chairmen of key, pivotal states often keep "hot lines" open to the party organizations, keeping them abreast of developments and getting important advice on what to do next.

The convention draws widespread attention from the nation's press and radio and television. Keynote speeches and addresses by other visiting political figures have made nationwide news, and in 1956, when Senator Alben W. Barkley died while delivering the keynote address, the Convention became the scene of national tragedy.

The 1964 Convention Steering Committee

Philip D. Sharp, Jr.	Chairman
Charles B. Rowe	Asst. Chairman
Edward M. Norton	Secretary
Wyatt B. Durette, Jr.	Republican Party Chairman
Donald H. Partington	State Delegation Chairman
Peter T. Straub	Pre-Convention Director
John M. Madison, Jr.	Parade Chairman
Stephen P. Smith, III	Publicity Chairman

Persons desiring additional information concerning the Mock Convention can address inquiries to the appropriate committee member, BOX 617, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA.

Mock Convention research takes Washington and Lee students to Washington where they seek advice of Senators and Congressmen.



A Tradition of Outstanding Keynote Speakers

WASHINGTON and Lee's Mock Conventions traditionally have attracted outstanding representatives from both parties to deliver the keynote address before the opening session. Senator Frank Carlson was on hand in 1952 to help set the tone for the spirited convention floor contest among Taft and Eisenhower supporters. In 1956, Senator Alben W. Barkley, the popular "Veep," was holding an audience of 1,700 spellbound when he collapsed and died before their unbelieving eyes. And in 1960, former President Harry S. Truman delivered an inspiring keynote address to the convention that went on to nominate once more, as it had done in 1952, "the next President of the United States. . . ."



Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas.



Senator Barkley was nearing the end of his 1956 keynote address when he spoke his famous last words: "I would rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than sit in the seats of the mighty."



The presence of former President Truman added fire and spirit to the 1960 convention, and from these photographs, it's obvious he enjoyed himself thoroughly.





LONG hours of hard work are spent on Mock Convention preparation by every Washington and Lee student. Each state has its headquarters, as do all of the campaign managers for the various candidates. Students prepare their nominating and seconding speeches, and then deliver them with an enthusiasm and forcefulness that their national counterparts are hard-pressed to match. A measure of reward comes frequently when their efforts bring mention in a national publication, like that on the facing page.



Newsweek

Do the Pros Believe the Polls?

—NEWSWEEK LISTENING POST—

MAY 16, 1960 25c
[COVER PAGE 12]

EDUCATION

Kennedy on the Sixth

Almost everywhere Democratic leaders congregated last week—in such strategic points as Tammany Hall in New York, the Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.—telephones jangled with long-distance calls from college students at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. For such Democrats as Carmine DeSapio of New York and Senate Majority Whip Mike Mansfield, came the same urgent question: "How shall we vote next?"

The occasion was W&L's twelfth quadrennial mock political convention, the most realistic of the dozens of similar affairs held on U.S. college campuses each election year. Unlike the other gatherings, which mainly gauge a candidate's popularity among the students, the Washington and Lee convention is a serious attempt to predict how the professionals will line up when the real thing comes along. On the first ballot, the student-delegates voted on the basis of informal guidance from state party leaders or on the basis of educated guesses. On subsequent ballots, the students telephoned the pros for guidance as the situation changed. After conferring with DeSapio, for instance, the New York delegation gave half its 114 first-ballot votes to Sen. John Kennedy, split the rest between Sen. Stuart Symington and Adlai Stevenson. On the final ballot, they were unanimous for Kennedy.

The convention this year was off to a raucous start with a twelve-band parade to convention headquarters in Doremus Gymnasium. Keynote Harry Truman rode in an open black Duesenberg and Lynda Lee Mead, Miss America of 1960, perched atop one of the 75 floats. When the whoopla and speechmaking were over, the 1,100 delegates nominated Jack Kennedy on the sixth ballot, after almost naming Stevenson on the fourth.

For Jack Kennedy, it was a good omen. The W&L mock conventions have been "right" seven times out of eleven.

Fifteen Years Out

It was a long and often bumpy road for the men of Harvard's class of 1945 from the time they entered college as freshmen in 1941 until the president of the college offered those traditional, inspiring words at commencement: "Gentlemen, I advise you to vote for Kennedy on the sixth ballot of this year's favor his



of \$14,651 (national average: \$ and there were two classmates banker and the other a broker individual annual incomes \$100,000. The survey, conducted by class secretary Robert T.P. Stor Boston insurance executive, sun the happy state of affairs for of '45 with remarkable underst "For most, the days since colle been a booming prosperity."

No Gropping: This enviable power spreads through a score of Securities and investments (meanings: \$30,500) are the most p occupation, followed by (\$18,000), banking (\$17,000), a iog, editing, and printing (\$8 Teaching holds the bottom rung. Among the most successful clbebers, the only common hallmark be a record of three jobs or few graduation. The survey theorize individual in this group knows wh going and doesn't grope arou one thing after another."

Politically, the class as a wh to know where it's going. After election, in which a plurality Roosevelt (Harvard '04), the has regularly supported the R. At the same time, Democrat alumni have steadily stuck

this year's favor his

WASHINGTON AND LEE
UNIVERSITY

W & L's Record Since 1908

- 1908—**Right** with William Jennings Bryan.
- 1912—**Wrong** with Judson Harman. Wilson got nomination.
- 1916—**Right** with Charles Evans Hughes.
- 1920—No convention.
- 1924—**Right** with John W. Davis.
- 1928—**Right** with Al Smith.
- 1932—**Right** with Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- 1936—**Wrong** with Arthur Vandenburg. Landon was nominated.
- 1940—**Wrong** with Charles L. McNary. Wilkie was the nominee.
- 1944—No convention.
- 1948—**Wrong** with Vandenburg again. Dewey won the nomination.
- 1952—**Right** with Dwight D. Eisenhower.
- 1956—**Right** with Adlai Stevenson.



1960—**Right** with John F. Kennedy, nominated on the sixth ballot after a bold challenge from Stevenson on the fourth ballot.

1964

