

LEXINGTON, Va., Mar. 00--(Special)--Benjamin Haden, who was graduated from the University of Texas last year, will direct the Texas delegation of 33 students in the mock Republican national convention to be held at Washington and Lee University April 20-21, when the students will stage a realistic simulation of the national GOP convention to be held this summer in Philadelphia.

As "state GOP chairman" Haden will be charged with the responsibility of determining as nearly as possible the voting policy to be followed in the national convention by the real-life counter-parts of his "delegation." This will be accomplished both by personal contact and by correspondence. State primaries and other political barometers are also being followed closely by all of the mock convention "state chairmen."

This close investigation by student leaders into actual political developments injects an element of realism and accuracy into the mock convention. Five times since its inception as an all-student event forty years ago, the W. & L. men have tagged a "nominee" and seen the choice later sustained in the genuine national conventions. Only three "bum steers" have been charged against the student politicians in their eight quadrennial attempts since 1908. No conventions were held in 1920 and 1944.

Following a traditional policy of staging a realistic convention preview of the party currently out of power, authentic national Republican convention procedure will be followed almost to the letter.

The mock affair will be directed entirely by university students with counsel furnished by the political science, history, and law faculties. Like the genuine convention, it will bring together 1094 "delegates" representing all the states and territories.

Haden is now a student in the W. & L. school of law. He formerly attended high school in Houston and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Texas.

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