

FH 5501 Folkways Records
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edited and narrated by
MYLES M. PLATT



The Un-Typical Politician

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FOLKWAYS RECORDS

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Introduction

1928, F.D.R., 1933, Huey Long,
Henry Wallace, La Guardia, Al Smith,
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
F.D.R., Robert A. Taft, Frank Knox.

POST WAR II

Thomas E. Dewey, Harry S. Truman, Harold Stassen
THE SOUTHERN FACTION

NOMINATIONS

HUMOR IN POLITICS

ANIMALS IN POLITICS Some bad predictions

MUSIC AND POLITICS

CAMPAIGNS

Wendel Wilkie - F.D.R., Thomas E. Dewey -

Harry S. Truman, General Eisenhower -

Adlai E. Stevenson (1952)

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SIDE I, Band 1

I. INTRODUCTION

Music "The Give-Away Boys".

"Alabama casts 24 votes for Oscar W. Underwood."

A series of nominations

- a) Senator Robert Taft
- b) Harold Stassen
- c) Thomas Dewey
- d) Douglas MacArthur
- e) Vandenburg

"Bob, Bob a president's son. He'll run the country as it should be run."

Adlai Stevenson "The burdens of the Presidency stagger the imagination. Its power for good and evil smotheres exultation and it converts vanity to prayer."

Michigan's vote for Wilkie

Franklin Roosevelt, "I am an old campaigner and I love a good fight."

II. INTRODUCTORY NARRATION:-

In many ways the American is a peculiar example of humanity. Take the way he talks about politicians. How often have you heard the demand 'Take politics out of government' or the plain statement 'You can't beat city hall.' or even the admission 'Well at best politics is a necessary evil.' In spite of the currency of such remarks the amazing thing is that the citizen doesn't really believe them. His behavior disproves this. He knows too well that his government through politics can help him or harm him, and it is his business to see that it does more helping than harming. In times of crisis this American who says 'you can't beat city hall' -- turns to his only friend -- the politician. Farmers want subsidies. Educators want federal aid. Workers want repeal of Taft-Hartley and Detroiters want the St. Lawrence Waterway. And only the politician can help them. Who is this politician? What does he look like? How does he operate? Cartoonists have long depicted the typical politician:- overweight; smokes a cigar; wears a derby hat and talks with both feet on the desk. The fact that no one has ever seen this "typical" politician matters little. That's the stereotype and we're stuck with it.

Political scientists give us a different picture. The politician is a valuable asset to American society. He is a skilled technician of group conflict, who works constantly to bring unity out of the hundreds of diverse interests through compromise. But above all he is a human being with all the pitfalls and mettle of human nature. He knows humor, and defeat. He experiences victory and failure. He promises and he changes his mind. He embodies all the American virtues, idiosyncrasies, and differences--but above

all he is never typical. Let's follow some of these politicians and see how they react under varying conditions and at different times--just to see whether we can find a common pattern of behavior.

Franklin Roosevelt: "We offer one who has the will to win. Who not only deserves success but demands it. Victory is his habit:-the happy warrior, Alfred E. Smith."

In 1928 Franklin Roosevelt nominated his good friend Al Smith, a four term Governor of New York. Smith was a Roman Catholic who opposed prohibition and wanted everyone to take a look at the record.

Now let's look at the record. Prohibition has found a new line of endeavor for the underworld. They brought life to the bootleggers and the bootleggers begot the hijackers and the hijackers begot the racketeers. My friends of the radio audience, the only cure for the ills of democracy is more democracy.

Smith was overwhelmed at the polls when the Republican Hoover broke the Democratic south and even carried New York. Four years later he came back to challenge the party leadership of Franklin Roosevelt, his former friend. Smith laid it on the line.

"Somebody's going to be double-crossed. Whose it going to be."

F.D.R. won the nomination and the election, but lost the support of his 'happy warrior'. In 1936 Al Smith was bitter and vindictive, but he hasn't lost his touch with the people. Listen while he castigates the President and murders the English language in the process.

Eh Order please, order please, remember we're losing time on radio...Listen to me for a minute. Have you followed this campaign? Have you listened on the radio, or have you read the speeches? If you have, tell me when you've heard the candidate on the Democratic ticket speak about the Democratic platform--Never--I'll tell you what it is. It's we and I and the Administration and the New Deal.

Storm clouds gathered in Europe. A German madman devoured the Ruhr Valley, Austria, Sudetenland, and Czechoslovakia. President Roosevelt wanted to arm the merchant ships, and draft men in peacetime. Rumblings of opposition came from the once strongly New Deal mid-west, now returning to its traditional isolationism. And amid all this the chief executive found a new defender:- Alfred E. Smith.

Personally I am not interested in the argument as to whether or not we should return to so called established law. I am not a student of law, but I am ready to defend the propositions that there is no respect for international law at this time.

IV. 1933--Total depression--15 million men unemployed--50 million people without visible means of support. The banker once a symbol of prosperity and success was now a despicable villain. Radical conditions, thought some, called for radical reform. There were the "revolving pensions", "Thirty dollars every Thursday", "Drive the money changers from

the temple" and "Redistribute the wealth."

Huey Long:- "The bank accounts show that one hundred and fifth part of the people own two-thirds of all the money that's in the bank. The only way by which we can ever bring this country out is to redistribute the wealth."

Huey Long, once Governor, now Senator from Louisiana--"The Kingfish" they called him, who wanted to make "Every man a king." Beneath his sharp tongue and political harangues was an organizational ability that built a vote-getting machine which has outlived his assassination by over twenty years. Although a Democrat he found that his party was not quite big enough to contain a Franklin Roosevelt and a Huey Long. He put it this way.

Mr. Roosevelt has had his way. He's one man who can't blame any of his troubles on Huey Long. He has had his way. Back down in my part of the country when a man has the measles he blames that on me. But there's one man who can't blame anything on anybody but himself, and that's Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

V. Henry Agar Wallace had been a Bull-Moose Republican, a Democratic Secretary of Agriculture and Vice-President of the United States. By 1946 he had broken with Truman administration which he contended was warmongering. It did not understand the true historical aspirations of the Soviet Union. Wallace, a millionaire farmer, joined a new political organization:- the Progressive party. Supported by extreme left wingers and the Communists, he ran for the Presidency.

I am committed to stopping the creation of fear. To the using of all my power to prevent the fear makers from clogging the minds of the people with the red issue. Millions know and millions more must see that it is not the Kremlin, not the Communists, who have sent milk to 24 cents a quart and meat to \$1.30 a lb. That it is the red issue and not the Reds who did this to us.

During his campaign Wallace was called a marionette being pulled by Communists strings. He was charged with being a dupe and an innocent.

I have been called a dupe and an innocent being led along on a communist leash. Well I'm not a dupe and I can recognize a leash when I see one.

VI. Where the waters of the Hudson River join the Atlantic Ocean is the little old town of New York -- a Democratic stronghold. During the 1930's while the Democratic party reigned supreme in Washington, the nation's largest city was governed by a Republican. Sure, the Republican party didn't support him, and the Democratic party didn't support him--only the people did. Fiorello H. LaGuardia, the Little Flower, five feet two, overweight, -- loved this unorthodox political situation.

Yes I have the proof, that my kind of city government is the kind of city government the people of our city want. Isn't it grand there isn't a single solitary county chairman of either party who is in favor of my administration. To use the phrase that Al Smith liked to use in his day. 'I could

run on a laundry ticket and beat these political bums anytime.'

LaGuardia loved other things too. He loved a blazing fire--never missed one--even got in the firemen's way. He loved a good political fight--never ducked a blow--even created some just for fun. And once during a newspaper strike he showed his boundless love for children.

Now children I know your all disappointed today that you didn't get the funnies. So gather around. Ah here s Dick Tracy. Let's see what Dick Tracy is doing. Now get this picture. Here is Wetwash. The doors of the laundry wagon are open. He's leaning with his back toward the wagon, and he's counting his money--two, three, four thousand--now he's getting into the hundreds six hundred, seven hundred, eight hundred--and the picture shows a hand of Breathless. She got hold of that iron pot. Remember the iron pot she took from the Van _____, and Crash. She crashes it on his head. Knocked out. The next picture we see Dick Tracy, you know the fine type of Dick Tracy, he's been a detective so long and he still has that slender form. Lou Valentine, why do our detective get fat, I wonder? And say children what does it all mean. It means 'Dirty money never brings any luck.'

And above all he loved his hometown. He didn't like it when people said the big city was cold and unfriendly.

You may have heard that this great metropolis of 7 1/2 million is perhaps too large or too busy to be hospitable. You'll find that that is not true. You'll find that we're just the same kind of folks that you've left back home whether in the west and in the south or in the north or up in New England. You'll find real folks here in New York.

No wonder he was elected four times--this bundle of dynamism--the greatest mayor New York ever had.

SIDE I, Band 2

VII. Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He was born in 1882 and as a child once visited President Grover Cleveland, who expressed hope that the little boy would never become President. Most of his family were Republicans and all of his neighbors were. He would come to be called the greatest politician of them all, yet he never carried his home precinct. He had a passion for the sea and the ships that sailed on it. Once served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy under Woodrow Wilson. Ran for Vice-Presidency, and lost. Ran for the Governorship of New York and won. In 1932 when the economy of the nation lay dying the people called for a new doctor.

But first of all let me state my firm belief, the only thing we have to fear is fear itself: nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed effort to convert retreat into advance.

Franklin Roosevelt called his shot in the arm--the New Deal. His opponents called it many other things. The bureaucracy grew phenomenally as new agencies were added to undertake new ventures: the CCC, PWA, WPA, NLRB, TVA, FTC, FDIC and the NRA--alphabet soup, they called it. Epitaphs like 'spend-

thrift', 'would-be-dictator' and 'demagogue' were hurled at him. But the President had his own view.

To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.

1936 was his year. He carried every state except Maine and Vermont. He led his opponent Governor Alf. Landon of Kansas by over ten million votes. This was his mandate. The New Deal had carried the first round, but there were still problems and Roosevelt pointed this out.

"One third of the nation ill nourished, ill clad and ill housed"

As the legislation which had passed in the first hundred days started to reach the Supreme Court, the New Deal received a stunning rebuke. The Agricultural Adjustment Act--unconstitutional. The National Industrial Recovery Act--unconstitutional. The Farm Moratorium Act--unconstitutional. To the man in the White House the answer was simple and direct.

We have therefore reached the point as a nation where we must take action to save the constitution from the court and the court from itself.

He wanted the justices to retire at the age of 70 and he wanted expansion of the Court from 9 to 15 members. "Packing the Court", "Dictatorship", Even his floor leader in the Senate could not go along and the Roosevelt proposal died in committee.

He spoke often to the people. His delivery was not the rhetoric of a William Jennings Bryan, but it seemed to many more persuasive. He called them 'fireside chats'.

My Friends: Let us sit down together again you and I to consider our own pressing problems that confront us. There are many among us who in the past closed their eyes to the events abroad because they believed in utter good faith what some of their fellow Americans told them, that what was taking place in Europe was none of their business. To those who would not admit the possibility of the approaching storm. To all of them the past two weeks have meant the shattering of many illusions. In some quarters with this rude awakening has come fear, fear, boarding on panic. I do not share these fears. Let us have done with both fears and illusions. On this Sabbath evening in our home in the midst of our American families, let us calmly consider what we have done and what we must do.

On September 3, 1939 England and France went to war with Germany. Churchill said, "We must arm, England must arm, America must arm." Roosevelt gave him our answer.

We must be the great arsenal of Democracy. For us, this is an emergency as serious as war itself.

The phony war in Europe lasted till the Spring of 1940 when Hitler drove his panzers into Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium and France. By mid-June the war on the continent was all but through so Mussolini, dictator of Italy, decided to get some French territory before the show was over. From the Italian Riviera, Il Duce's troops slashed into an already prostrate France.

On this tenth day of June 1940 the hand that held the dagger has struck it into the back of its neighbor.

America mobilized and it was almost too late.

Yesterday December 7, 1941 a date which will live in infamy the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage, to American naval and military forces. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost. With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people we will gain the inevitable triumph so help us God.

SIDE I, Band 3

He never lived to see the final victory in either Europe or Asia, but he did live long enough to see the end in sight. Franklin Roosevelt was elected four times and served 12 years 1 month and 8 days. He guided the nation through its worst depression and its worst war--and this from a man who could hardly stand by himself and had to be helped when he walked. Everyone in the country knew he was a cripple--a severe case of Polio, contracted in 1921--but the people overlooked this and he only mentioned it once--a month before he died.

I hope that you will pardon me for an unusual posture of sitting down during the presentation of what I want to say but I know that you will realize it makes it lot easier for me in not having to carry about ten pounds of steel around on the bottom of my legs--and also because I have just completed a 14,000 mile trip.

If all the electoral votes cast against Roosevelt in four campaigns were added together and given to one candidate--that candidate still would not have a majority. As popular as he was his administration was still called the most controversial since Lincoln. His opponents were influential, powerful and articulate.

The American people want recovery not rhetoric. They want work not relief.

Frank Knox, successful newspaperman and Republican Vice Presidential candidate in 1936. Roosevelt liked him, admired his courage and later made him his Secretary of the Navy.

Senator Robert Alphonso Taft from Ohio, the hardest working member of his political party. So dedicated himself to the cause of American conservatism that they dubbed him "Mr. Republican". The C.I.O. once tried to make political hay out of his initials R.A.T.

I should say that 4/5th of the businessmen large and small are against the present Administration. It is hard to work together with someone who is unfriendly to you and the truth is that the present Administration however it may talk of 'breathing spells' and business Appeasement is not in the final analysis friendly to the growth and development of private enterprise. There are a great many individuals in the government in Washington who are entirely opposed to the profit system.

Government is certainly not friendly to business when it goes into business itself as in the TVA and many other enterprises in competition with existing businesses. For it is absolutely impossible for any individual business to compete successfully with the government. I would say that if business and government are to work together: The government must change the basic principles of its present policy or the people must change the government.

SIDE II, Band 1.

The United States has only had two wartime presidential elections. Abraham Lincoln in 1864 said, "Don't change horses in the middle of the stream," and although the horse had given way to the automobile, the streamlined train and the airplane, the slogan was still good enough to beat Thomas E. Dewey in 1944.

This is a campaign against an Administration which was conceived in defeatism, which failed for eight straight years to restore our domestic economy, which has been the most wasteful, extravagant and incompetent administration in the history of our nation and worst of all one that has lost faith in itself and in the American people.

Franklin Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945 of a cerebral hemorrhage. His successor was a former Senator from Missouri who had voted a straight New Deal line. He had once been a haberdasher, but the business went bankrupt. He still wore ill-fitting suits. When he first spoke to the Congress he seemed bewildered, and confused -- and didn't even want to wait to be introduced.

Mr. Speaker

Just a moment let me present you . . . will you Harry. Members of the Congress, I have the great pleasure and the high privilege of presenting to you the President of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Members of the Congress: It is with a heavy heart that I stand before you my friends and colleagues in the Congress of the United States. Within an hour after I took the oath of office I announced that the San Francisco Conference would proceed. In the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice -- in the memory of our fallen President -- We shall not fail.

But the confused man soon learned to stand on his own feet and make his own decisions. One decision sent us to war in Korea, another one put the United States government in the steel business, and another opened up a new age in the history of mankind.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the President of the United States: -

The world will note that the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, a military base. We won the race of discovery against the Germans. We have used it in order to shorten the agony of war, in order to save the lives of thousands and thousands of young Americans. We shall continue to use it until we have completely destroyed Japan's power to make war.

In the beginning Harry Truman's prepared speeches were read in a monotone and you had to listen closely to what he said since his rhetoric did not command attention. But once he threw away the script and when he was mad; they called him, "Give 'em Hell, Harry," and he usually did.

Senator Barkley and I are going to win this election and make these Republicans like it. Don't you forget that.

Most Americans admired the Truman type of campaigning, but no one really thought he had a chance of re-election -- no one that is except the President -- and his daughter Margaret. The bookmakers were giving 15-to-1 against him and it was too bad that Harry didn't have a bet down because come the 2nd day of November 1948, he won re-election to what he said was "the best job I ever had."

Harold Stassen -- once called the boy governor of Minnesota -- even had presidential aspirations himself, was forced to admit that Truman was a good vote getter, but that was as far as he would go.

President Truman is the cleverest politician ever to occupy the White House and he is also the worst president ever to occupy the White House.

In 1952 after almost 8 years in office Harry S. Truman decided not to seek another term. He was willing to let history render the final verdict on his accomplishments -- but he insisted on an A for effort.

I have tried my best to give the nation everything I had in me. And I always quote one epitaph which is on a tombstone in a cemetery at Tombston, Arizona. It says: "Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damnest."

SIDE II, Band 2

IX: The Southern Faction Opposes the Democratic Party:

The Democratic party governed for 20 years, through depression, global and cold war. When a party survives in office that long even its own members criticize it. Most of the Democratic internal complaint came from the delegates of the solid south. They bitterly opposed Henry Wallace for the Vice-Presidential nomination in 1940.

Henry A. Wallace for the nomination of the Vice President. This is no rabid convention as thinking men and women we want a Democrat to run with a Democrat in November.

His name was Edward Smith of South Carolina-- Cotton Ed they called him. He had a tough time living with himself and the New Deal.

I wish that everyone of you could realize what it means today to be a real American Democrat under present conditions.

Control of the government of the United States has been called the highest form of temporal power. When men compete for it they do so with their minds, their backs and their hearts. It is no wonder they get excited when they win, and desperate when they lose.

The South is no longer going to be the whipping boy of the Democratic party--And you know that without the votes of the South you cannot elect a President of the United States.

In 1948, for some, reconciliation was impossible. They walked out of the Democratic convention in Philadelphia; convened in Montgomery, Alabama, and formed the States Rights Ticket. Loyal Democrats had another name for them.

We have been referred to as "Dixiecrats" by the hatchet men and character assassins of the motley crew who have temporarily captured our party.

SIDE II, Band 3

X: Nominations:

The Constitution of the United States says not a word about political parties, and it is indeed regrettable that giants like Washington and Jefferson never had the experience of attending a national convention. No matter how full their lives were, how could they really be complete without ever having heard a nomination speech in a political party conclave.

It is with pride that I place before this convention for President of the United States the name of Dwight David Eisenhower.

I present to you tonight for your prayerful and earnest consideration Mr. Integrity, Mr. Republican, Mr. American. I present my friend, Bob Taft.

Once nominated most of the candidates since Roosevelt's first term have appeared before the convention to accept their party's leadership.

Truman begged for help.

I must have your help. You must get in and push and win this election. The country can't afford another Republican Congress.

Alf Landen simply accepted.

Ladies and Gentlemen I accept the nomination of the Republican party for the presidency of the United States.

Wilkie and Dewey wanted to make sure that everyone understood they were independent candidates.

Wilkie:-

I stand before you without a single pledge or promise or understanding of any kind except for the advancement of your cause and the preservation of American democracy.

Thomas Dewey:-

I am happy to be able to say to you that I come to you unfettered by a single obligation or promise to any living person.

In all political contests there are those who win and those who lose. Alf Landon carrying only 8 electoral votes against 523 -- and with 46 states voting overwhelmingly against him could still laugh.

You've all heard the story about the Kansas tornado leaving nothing behind. The wife came to,

to find her husband laughing. And asked him what are you laughing at you old fool. He replied, "the completeness of it."

Still vibrant even in defeat, Wendell L. Wilkie 1940.

I have been deeply moved by the loyalty of my fellow crusaders. This is not the end of our crusade it is but the beginning.

XI: Robert A. Taft received 500 votes on the first ballot, but General Eisenhower received 614 and the nomination.

I want to congratulate General Eisenhower on his nomination and say that I will do everything possible to assist him in his campaign to assure him his election and in his administration when he is elected president.

XII: If presidential preference primaries are the measuring stick the people wanted Kefauver, but the Democratic convention gave it to the man who said he didn't want it, Governor Adlai E. Stevenson. It took three ballots.

I first want to express my very deep appreciation to the many delegates who have voted for me--but Mr. Chairman it became quite apparent....

Adlai Stevenson received more votes than any other candidate in the history of our country except one--the man who beat him.

Someone asked me as I came in down on the street how I felt and I was reminded of a story ^{that} a fellow townsman of ours used to tell--Abraham Lincoln--when they asked him how he felt after an unsuccessful election. He said he felt like a little boy who had stubbed his toe in the dark. That it--that he was too old to cry but it hurt too much to laugh.

SIDE II, Band 4

XIII: Humor in Politics

A European visitor once observed that the unique characteristic of the American is his ability to laugh at himself. But we all have to admit it's much more fun to laugh at the other fellow.

Herbert Hoover didn't like the New Deal at all...

For planned industry, planned farming and planned credit and planned currency and planned attack upon the Constitution and I might suggest two more--their planned deficits and planned politics.

A woman always has the last word and when her mind is as keen and her wit as sharp as Congresswoman Claire Booth Luce the fur is sure to fly.

And then there is the center or the Pendergast wing of the Democratic party. That's run by the wampum and the boodle boys--the same big city bosses who gave us Mr. Truman in one of their more piculated moments.

Most successful politicians are excellent in the delivery of the innuendo and the caustic comment. Once

in a generation however a genius of invective comes along. Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes--they called him the 'old curmudgeon' has a few things to say about General Hugh S. Johnson, a critic of the New Deal.

General Johnson thinks that I am eccentric in my political and social theories and I am positive that he is. Thus far we are in agreement. I am fond of old iron pants and I fancy the vigor of his expression and relish the sabre of his phrases. I like him particularly because, although he's a hard fight--always charging bravely--although sometimes simultaneously in all directions--he is a fair one. He does not hit below the belt. He can be, I am bound to say, generous in his attitude even if he is cockeyed in many of his ideas.

Candidate Eisenhower took a grim view on laughter.

It would be very very fine if one could command new and amusing language, witticism, to bring you a chuckle. Frankly, I have no intention of trying to do so.

And who will ever forget Franklin Roosevelt's answer to the Republicans who charged that he had detached an American destroyer to bring his dog from Alaska to the United States--or was it an American bomber.

These Republican leaders have not been content with attacks on me, or on my wife, or on my sons. No, not content with that--they now include my little dog Fala (laughter). Well, of course, I don't resent attacks, and my family don't resent attacks, but Fala does resent them.

SIDE II, Band 5

XIV: Animals in Politics

Yes, even animals have had a place in American campaigning. Like Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Vice-Presidential candidate liked dogs too.

A man down in Texas heard Pat on the radio mention the fact that our two youngsters would like to have a dog. And believe it or not, the day before we left on this campaign trip we got a message from the Union Station in Baltimore, saying they had a package for us. Do you know what it was? It was a little cocker spaniel dog in a crate that he had sent all the way from Texas--black and white-spotted. And I just want to say this right now that regardless of what they say about it, we're going to keep him.

As you would expect if Nixon liked dogs then Adlai Stevenson just had to prefer cats.

A letter from a California lady who knew my parents when they lived here fifty years ago. She writes that after Grover Cleveland was nominated for the Presidency in 1892 and my own grandfather was nominated for Vice-President she named her two kittens Grover Cleveland and Adlai Stevenson. Grover--Grover she writes me, couldn't stand the excitement of the campaign and died before the election. But Adlai lived to be a very old cat.

XV: Some bad predictions

Politicians are experts in the governmental process, and like all experts they too, on occasion, can be wrong. President Herbert Hoover speaks on the future of America. The time: the summer of 1928.

Given a chance to go forward with the policies of the last eight years we shall soon with the help of God be in sight of the day when poverty will be banished from this nation.

Senator Taft of Ohio comments on whether Eisenhower had a chance at the nomination--let alone the election.

There is not the slightest evidence that General Eisenhower could possibly be a strong candidate or could conduct the kind of campaign that ought to be conducted if we are going to win this election.

XVI: Music and Politics

It has been said that music is the universal language. If this is true then naturally we will find it in politics. Walt Whitman wrote that he heard America singing. We might wonder what his reaction would be if he could have heard Tom Heflin sing what Roosevelt would do to the Republicans.

Lord. Give us Mr. Roosevelt again. We know that where the coyotes howl and the wind blows free--We'll bury them there on the lone prairie.

Henry Wallace's Progressives had a catchy tune that they hoped would help their candidate.

Everyone wants Wallace, friendly Henry Wallace. Friendly Henry Wallace in the White House.

President Truman even played the piano.

(President Truman plays)

Glenn Taylor made no acceptance speech as the Vice-Presidential candidate of the Progressive party. He sang it--and his family helped him out.

I loved you as I never loved before
When first I met you on the village green
Come to me and my dream of love is o'er.

SIDE II, Band 6

XVII: Campaigns

Finally comes the campaign itself. Radio-television-handshaking and those train trips across the country.

1940 Wendell Wilkie opposes Franklin Roosevelt's third term.

FDR: I am an old campaigner and I love a good fight.

Wilkie: At this particular crisis in their history the New Deal party captured the Democratic convention at Chicago. It went through a transparent rigamaroll about drafting a candidate for President.

FDR: The overwhelming majority Americans will not be scared by this blitzkrieg of verbal incendiary bombs We Want Wilkie-We Want Wilkie-We Want Wilkie.

Wilkie: This is scourge of government above the people, without the people and in spite of the people.

FDR: What kind..What kind of political she-nanigans are those...

I am fighting for a free America. For a country in which all men and women have equal right to liberty and justice.

Wilkie: People of Elwood. It looks to me like it's going to be a hot time in the old town tonight.

Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York, a sure thing, challenges Harry S. Truman in the most fantastic campaign of them all.

Dewey: We agreed that this was too grave a time for politics as usual.

Truman: He opened his mouth and he closed his eyes, and he swallowed that terrible record of that good-for-nothin 80th Congress.

Dewey: These members of Congress are described as predatory animals. Each has a moss back.

Truman: Sounds to me like the same old phonograph record--but this year the record has a crack.

Dewey: Now why do you suppose grown up men ~~who~~ would ever have used such desperate tactics in a free election anyway.

Truman: I don't care about that. I don't care what they say. There's nothing new they can say about me. It's all been said.

952. The Campaign was vigorous and strong, but he results showed that General Eisenhower didn't have too much to worry about as he deluged Adlai Stevenson in a landslide of votes.

Stevenson: I have tried to talk about public questions. This road has led me through some twenty states. But strangely enough, my friends, this road has been a lonely road, because I never meet anybody coming the other way.

Eisenhower: An American doesn't twiddle his thumbs while his garden is ~~being~~ wrecked by a crowd of vandal and his house invaded by a gang of robbers. He goes into action. When the same sort of thing happens to his country an American goes into action by getting into politics-fast and hard. I'm in politics just that way.

Stevenson: I hear it said now and then that I am talking over the heads of the people. Well if it's a mistake to appeal to intelligence and reason instead of emotion and prejudice then I plead guilty to the charge.

Eisenhower: I have said and will say again and again that there is only one issue in this campaign. That issue is the mess in Washington.

Stevenson: Neither political party has a monopoly of virtue or of rascality.

Eisenhower: They want this nation its politics and its secrets safeguarded against traitors and spies. They don't want to be told any longer that red agents are red herrings. That is what the American people want now.

Stevenson: Now, about your question regarding communism, especially communists in government. These mortal enemies cannot be permitted to get close to the blood streams of America particularly its government.

Eisenhower: Why, my distinguished opponent is using every trick in the book to get himself off the hook of the present Administration record.

Stevenson: Senator Taft says he prepared his statement before he saw the General. This must be the first time that the vanquished dictated the peace terms to the victor.

Eisenhower: Poor old Ike. He has been taken into camp. He is changed. They say they were mistaken about me. They sure were.

Personalities, conventions and campaigns---Music, humor and defeat---La Guardia, Wallace and Ickes.

This has been an attempt to show you real live politicians in action--and to point out some of the situations in which they find themselves. It is hoped that their individual reactions, manners and approaches in the light of changing and conflicting times will drive home the fact. The stereotype politicians with the derby hat and the cigar doesn't exist. There is no typical politician in America.