

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

Published Every Evening Except Sunday by
THE DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT CO., INC.
Entered at the Decatur, Ind., Post Office as Second Class Matter
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Religious Bigotry

Rural mail boxholders in Adams County were barraged yesterday with a four-page anti-Catholic newspaper called "Church-State News," which is published by a group called "Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State."

We have no argument with the theory and practice of the separation of powers. Neither do 95% of other Americans, regardless of their faith.

The title of the organization seems to be quite misleading, however. It has very little to do with the separation of church and state, with which all of us agree. It, instead, spreads pure, unadulterated religious bigotry and hatred.

The two are not the same, nor even remotely related. Many nations have the Lutheran church as the state church. Great Britain has the Episcopal church. Middle Eastern countries are Mohammedan. Far Eastern are often Buddhist, and Japan has as its unofficial, formerly official, religion Shinto, backed up with Zen Buddhism. Israel has the Jewish religion. Greece is orthodox.

The Presbyterian church is the state church of Scotland. The Reformed church is a state church in parts of Germany and Europe. The Dutch Reformed church is also state, or semi-state, church.

Of course many countries have state religions. But they have them because the overwhelming majority favor them. And for no other reason.

A very large, 2-column picture on the front page of the magazine shows Republican secretary of labor James P. Mitchell kneeling to kiss the ring of Bishop John J. Wright. While this type of greeting seems strange to those who do not practice it, it carries no more mystical significance than the brotherly shaking of hands after church, or the kiss on each cheek by the French military, the bowing of Japanese to each other as a greeting.

Each of us has a right to our own beliefs. We have a right, duty, and privilege of explaining these beliefs to others, if they so desire. But the privilege is grossly abused if we use it to spread misleading half-truths about others.

Members of all religious faiths have every right to be proud of the accomplishments of their own groups. They have no need to disparage or belittle others.

One article points out that all the candidates of both parties for city offices in a large eastern city which is 63% Catholic are of that faith. But how many cities, towns, counties, townships and other political groups could be named in the U.S. which have governing bodies composed completely of members of the leading Protestant faiths? After all, it is only natural that people would nominate and vote for people with whom they have closely worked in school, church, and civic groups.

Let's remember that there are so many good positive things about every religion, and fully as many bad ones in every group, that we can better serve God in our own way by pointing to the positive and good side of our respective churches, and improving our own churches, allowing others to do the same.

TV PROGRAMS

Central Daylight Time

WANE-TV	
Channel 15	TUESDAY
6:00	Democratic Convention
6:30	Peppermint Theatre
7:15	Willy Wonderful
8:00	CBS News
8:15	Captain Kangaroo
9:00	Color Box Theatre
10:15	Passport To Beauty
10:30	On The Go
11:00	Love Lucy
11:30	December Bride
12:00	Love Of Life
12:30	Search For Tomorrow
1:00	Going To Light
1:15	Ann Colone
1:30	News
2:00	World Turns
2:30	Houseparty
2:45	The Millionaire
3:00	Verdict Is Yours
3:15	Secret Storm
4:15	Edge Of Night
4:30	Democratic Convention
4:45	Shotgun Slade
5:00	Phil Wilson News
5:15	The River

WKJG-TV

Channel 33
TUESDAY

6:00 Gateway To Sports
6:15 Jack Gray News
6:30 Yesterday's Newsreels
6:45 Huntley-Brinkley Report
6:55 Democratic Convention

10:00 M-Squad
10:30 Phil Silvers Show
11:00 News and Weather
11:15 Sports Today
11:30 Jack Paar Show

MOVIES

DRIVE-IN
10:00 "Murderers" Tues. Wed. Thurs.
at 8:35 "Our Man in Havana" at
10:00

Hartke Absent
On First Day
Of Convention

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — The absence of Sen. Vance Hartke of Evansville from the early proceedings of the Democratic national convention was discussed freely by Indiana delegates today.

Hartke is an 8th District delegate. His critics maintained that he "went underground" to foretell taking a stand in the presidential contest.

Hartke is deeply obligated to Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, Texas, who gave him choice committee assignments, although the Indiana senator is only a freshman in Congress.

With the bandwagon of Sen. John F. Kennedy rolling toward victory, Hartke would have been embarrassed in any maneuvering in behalf of Johnson.

On the other hand, many of Hartke's supporters are enthusiastic backers of Kennedy and some degree of pulling and hauling might have resulted.

Indiana's 34 votes are committed to Kennedy on the first ballot only by virtue of his triumph in the Hoosier presidential primary.

Now that there are indications of an early sweep by Kennedy, Hartke's dilemma may be solved.

Kennedy Sure Thing

State Sen. Marshall Kizer, Plymouth, Kennedy's Indiana co-manager, said he is sure that his candidate will prevail on the initial ballot.

"The race for president is over," Kizer said. "The big question now is who will win the vice presidential bid."

There are numerous Indiana delegates who are championing Sen. Stuart Symington, Missouri, for that honor because he is a midwesterner and has made many friends in Hoosierdom during oratorical appearances at two of the recent major Democratic events in the state—the meeting of the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association in French Lick and the Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Indianapolis. His news conferences were well handled at these affairs and he mixed well with the Hoosiers.

Two prominent Indiana men have led the presidential bid of Symington, which appears never to have gotten off the ground. They are former national chairman Frank E. McKinney, Indianapolis, and Frank M. McHale, Indianapolis and Logansport, erstwhile national committeeman.

Symington For VP

McKinney and McHale are reluctant to give up the presidential ghost of Symington. But they are practical politicians and today showed some signs of maneuvering to land the post of Kennedy's running mate for the Missouri. They agreed that Kennedy himself will have the ultimate decision.

Some action boosting Symington may be taken at the breakfast of the Indiana delegates at their headquarters hotel Wednesday.

Protests over the distribution of gallery seat tickets stirred the Hoosier delegation. With several thousand unoccupied seats, 33 alternate delegates from Indiana walked out of the convention Monday night in protest against their seating assignments right below the ceiling and next to the big convention clock.

Word of the rebellion was sent to the convention floor to Alex Campbell, Fort Wayne, Indiana national committeeman-elect. His wife, Ruby, who was seated next to the alternates, sent Campbell a note which said "all of the alternates are going back to their hotels. They're up against the clock and everybody is very angry."

The Indiana delegates and representatives of other states were complaining throughout the day over their seating assignments and blaming it on national chairman Paul M. Butler.

Their ire was augmented when they looked around them and saw many much more choice seats unoccupied.

20 Years Ago
Today

11:30—Compass
Afternoon
12:30—Restless Gun
12:45—Love That Bob
1:00—Above All Faces
1:30—I Spy
2:00—Day In Court
2:30—Gale Storm
2:45—The Big Clock
3:30—Who Do You Trust
4:00—American Bandstand
4:30—My Friend Flicks

Evening
6:00—Popeye And Rascals Club
7:15—Tom Atkins Reporting
7:30—Political Convention
10:00—Coverage (continued)
10:30—I Cover the Underworld

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