

## ROOSEVELT 2-1 WISCONSIN WIN ELATES FRIENDS

Many Leaders See Result  
Sure Index to Action  
of Convention.

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER  
Washington, April 7.—The 2-1 victory which Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt gained in the Wisconsin primary over forces friendly to his New York rival, former Governor Alfred E. Smith, points a prophetic finger still more emphatically toward the Chicago Democratic national convention.

The clean sweep of Roosevelt's slate of twenty-six delegates in Wisconsin continues the pace which he has set in nailing down Georgia, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Washington, South Dakota and Alaska for a total of 165 assured delegates.

Again this, the keystone of his opposition, Smith, has not yet a single delegate.

Politicians are somewhat at a loss to figure why the happy warrior of 1928, who polled the largest vote any Democrat had ever received, is unable to get a running start this year.

The successive string of Roosevelt victories has demoralized his opponents. They are now staking everything on a rally for Smith in the Massachusetts primary April 26.

### Barkley Choice Defeat

Meantime, Roosevelt almost is certain to clinch Nebraska, Kentucky and Michigan for a total of eighty more delegates, plus a liberal portion of the Illinois delegation of fifty-eight.

The anti-Roosevelt group dominated by John J. Raskob and Jouett Shouse of the Democratic national committee suffered a defeat at the hands of the Roosevelt group in the decision to name Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky as keynote and temporary chairman of the convention.

He is a Roosevelt partisan. Shouse had expected to be named. A serious party split was averted only by the exceptional procedure of proposing Shouse for the permanent chairmanship.

The striking thing about the Roosevelt candidacy is its strength in the west.

For all of his barnstorming over the farm belt, Governor William H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray of Oklahoma has obtained only one delegate outside of his own state—and that was his own brother who was elected to the North Dakota delegation.

### Directed at West

Roosevelt's appeal is for the moment at least being directed toward the west. It is an appeal that thus far has been made by his friends rather than by himself.

Senator Burton K. Wheeler (Dem., Mont.), who ran on the La Follette presidential ticket in 1924; Senator Clarence Dill (Dem., Wash.), and others of progressive and liberal views, are the Roosevelt evangelists for the time being.

Major Curley of Boston is representing Roosevelt as the target of the big bankers and the "power Trust."

The Roosevelt movement is regarded in the west as the left wing. In North Dakota and Wisconsin thousands of Republicans are believed to have jumped over to the Democratic primary to vote for Roosevelt.

They probably will do the same thing in Nebraska, where Senator George W. Norris, independent Republican, has smiled favorably upon Roosevelt, and has all but said he would vote for him.

### Cites Own Record

How far Roosevelt goes along this will become clear in his speech at St. Paul, April 18.

To some of his more conservative friends, Roosevelt has written disowning some of the views that his over-zealous workers have attributed to him.

He told this writer last fall that legitimate business had nothing to fear from a Democratic administration.

He cited the record of his own and previous Democratic administrations in New York state, as well as those of many Democratic Governors in other states, as warranting the confidence of business in a national Democratic regime.

The big question which Roosevelt will have to decide—if he has already decided it, the public has not been advised—is whether he will make his major appeal to the haves or to the have nots.

**Banquet, Dance on Program**  
Father and son banquet will be held Friday night and a spring festival dance Saturday night at the Indianapolis Athletic Club. A mother and daughter banquet will be held April 15.

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## HANGING CRIMINALS HIS HOBBY

*Illinois Banker Has Fitted Noose on 62 Doomed Men*

By N.E.A. Service  
EPWORTH, Ill., April 7.—George Phillip Hanna, banker, farmer and volunteer hangman, expects to assist in the execution of Winnie Ruth Judd, the Phoenix (Ariz.) trunk murderer.

Hanging is Hanna's hobby. "I'm a humane man," he says. "When I witnessed by first execution many years ago, at McLeansboro, Ill., the prison crew bungled the job."

"It was brutal, horrifying."

So Hanna got his own rope, studied hanging, and since then has set the fatal noose about the necks of sixty-two condemned men.

The last man he executed was Charlie Birger of Cairo, Ill., "Little Egypt's" notorious gang leader and terrorist, who was hanged at Benton, Ill.

Hanna, 58, and a bachelor until four years ago, lives in a snug little cottage, "Shady Rest," with antiques of his grim avocation lining the walls of the living room.

Heavy set, almost ponderous in manner and appearance, he is of delicate sympathy and perception.

"I haven't much nerve," Hanna said. "I dread hangings. I'm upset for days before and afterward. When I hanged Birger, a bad man, I had the noose behind my back until the cap was adjusted."

RECENTLY sparrows were driving the wrens away from around his cottage. Hanna borrowed an air gun to rout the invaders.

But he couldn't shoot. Instead he built more birdhouses to care for the aliens.

He has followed the Judd case closely. His fame as an executioner has spread through the middle west. Arizona authorities are considering inviting him to come to Phoenix for her execution, next set for May 11.

"I may go," Hanna says. "I've never seen a woman executed and I'd want to be doubly sure that it is carried out with a minimum of pain."

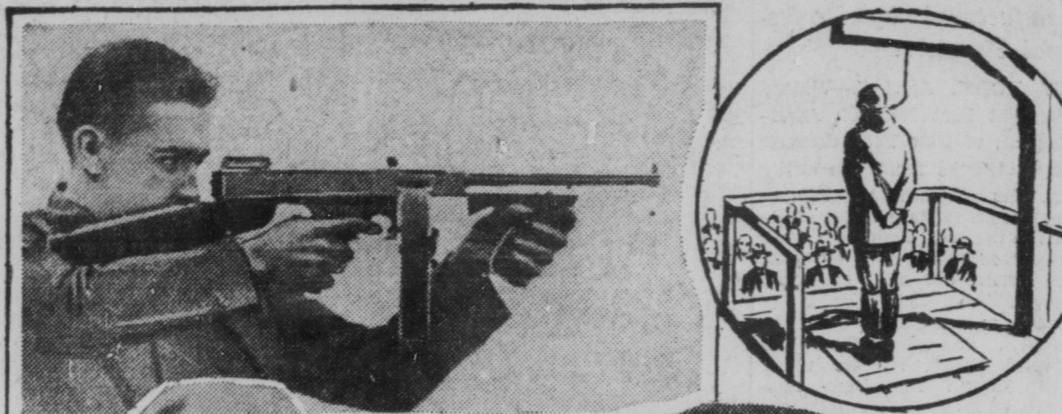
If he does go, he will carry with him the rope with which he hanged his last fifteen condemned men. It is handmade of four-ply long fiber hemp and costs \$65 at St. Louis." He tests it with sand bags to make sure it will stand the strain.

Mrs. Hanna, plump and smiling, was at ease in the curiously furnished living room. Birger's machine gun, a weapon with a record of scores of murderous executions during the Birger-Shelton gang feud, rests in a corner.

An ax, a rag-wrapped brick, a shotgun, all weapons once used by men he has executed, adorn the walls.

Intermingled are antiques of the Hanna family, Civil war relics, and Colonial pieces.

HANNA is Irish. His ancestors settled years ago in White county, Illinois, and for genera-



tions have developed the 2,200-acre farm now tilled by a brother, H. S. Hanna, and jointly owned by them.

But he couldn't shoot. Instead he built more birdhouses to care for the aliens.

He is a radio fan, an astute and wealthy bank director.

"I get queer letters from all over the country," he said, displaying a cigar box full. "Farmers in southern Illinois swear Birger never was hanged. They hear the roaring autos and machine gun fire of his gang at night, they write me. Like a ghost story."

Hanna always spends the last hours with a condemned man, frequently staying all night in the death cell. They always are friendly to him, he says.

He tells of one man who asked to have the trap sprung at the third stanza of "The Old Rugged Cross."

"It was sung by women stationed behind the gallows," Hanna said. "But the officials weren't familiar with the hymn and the trap was sprung on the first chorus."

Relatives of Hanna's friends in White county are pressing Arizona authorities to have him present for the execution. He has received one letter, but it was not very definite, he says.

Mrs. Hanna comfortably nodded as an aside when Hanna was asked if he would go.

"I'd just like to know it was done right," Hanna said.

### BUTLER ORATORS HOST

Interstate Contest to Be Held at Church Friday.

Candidate to Be Speaker

William Henry Harrison, Republican candidate for congressman Twelfth district, will address the Wayne Township Lincoln Club, 523 North Belle Vieu place, Thursday night.

Paul Duncan Butler student, will

represent Indiana. He is the first Butler student to be the Indiana orator in the competition.

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