

NO LOOPHOLES IN ACT, HATCH WARNS

He's Awaiting Final Campaign Spending Reports. Then If It Was Violated He'll Take Action; Aware Now There Was Heavy Expense.

By BRUCE CATTON
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Any campaign managers who thought they had found a set of loopholes in the Hatch Clean-Politics Act during the last few months, and acted accordingly, are going to have some soft words with Senator Hatch before they get through.

Senator Hatch, to be blunt, doesn't think there are any real loopholes in the act that bears his name, and he proposes to make a fuss about it if he finds that the law's spirit was violated.

Right now he's sitting tight. He



Mr. Hatch

wants to see the final reports of the House and Senate campaign investigating committees headed by Representative Whittington and Senator Gillette. Then he wants to study the full financial reports of the Democratic and Republican national committees.

He doesn't of his own knowledge know whether his last campaign was, as Senator Gillette has remarked, the most expensive one ever held, but he is convinced there was some pretty heavy spending. "All those billboards I saw weren't put up free," he says. "Neither were those newspapers and magazine ads given away. And all that radio time wasn't donated."

The Hatch Act limits one party's campaign expenditures to \$3,000,000. The supposed loophole opened up when somebody decided that limit applied to each individual political organization, so that if you could put half a dozen different outfits to work each one could spend up to \$3,000,000.

Senator Hatch says that simply isn't so.

Individual's Help

"The act provides, in substance, that all money expended by anyone with the knowledge of the national committee must be charged up as expenditures of the national committee itself," he says.

"I wouldn't go to the extent of saying that if some ordinary mortal went out of his own hook and spent a little money to boost his candidate, his spending ought to be charged up to the committee. But where you have huge national organizations set up to do the same job as the national committee—and, in some cases, obviously split up just in order to avoid this limitation—I should say that the money they spend is clearly part of the national committee's expenditure."

"It's too thin for any national committee to say, 'Yes, here's a nation-wide organization spending money for our candidate—in every state and precinct—but we don't know a thing about it!'"

Didn't Get The Money

All of this, of course, is chiefly a matter for the Republicans to worry about. Senator Gillette has remarked that officials of several of the assorted Willie Clubs told his committee frankly that their lawyers

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TOWN LACKS JAIL

BADEN, Pa., Nov. 29 (U. P.)—The town of Baden—whose main claim to fame for the past 15 years has been that it has no jail—has dedicated a new \$45,000 municipal building without a jail cell.

His estimate of the army's expense amounted to \$3,000,000, with \$2,76,000 for salaries and maintenance of men and officers and the remainder for war supplies.

The Read plan was adopted by the Continental Congress in November, 1775.

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