WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1948

Answer To Eisenhower Riddle

GENERAL EISENHOWER'S latest effort to keep himself outside Presidential politics seems to have left two questions unanswered in the minds of many citizens. One is, does he mean No again and does this finally close the door to a Democratic draft of Eisenhower as the party's Presi-dential nominee?

crait of Eisenhower as the party's Presidential nomine?

The other is, who is Bill Douglas?

The first question may be disposed of quickly. The General means No, posolutely and chaffredly, and the door has been closed to his nomination whether certain hold-cuts like James Roosevelt thinks so or not. Young Mr. Roosevelt, chairman of the California State Democratic Committee and a leader in the New Deal group known as Americans for Democratic Action, anatches at a staw when he declares:

General Eisenhower's statement clearly indicates that he will not serve as a partian Fresident but will grower a call to national duty. I am tonight the service of the control of the committee of the proposed of the proposed of the proposed of the proposed of the literature of the literature of the service and the proposed of the Eisenhover's boson.

moted the Eisenhower boom).
What the General actually said was: "I
will not at this time identify myself with
any political party and could not accept
nomination for any public office or participate in partisan political contests." (Italics

How the Roosevelt caucus will perform the miraculous trick of making the Demo-eratic organization look unlike a political party, and making this race appear to be other than a "partisan political contest," is something we must see. Meanwhile, we re-main convinced that General like is asying that he wants to be left alone because this has been a call to salvage a foundering political party rather than a non-partisan call to national duty.

political party rather than a non-partisan call to national duty. Even if we felt that Eisenhower had not said dosolutely no, we would still be forced to observe that his statement has had the effect of defiating his boom sufficiently to leave the way open for Truman's nomina-tion on the first balloff!!

tion on the first ballot.

That brings us to Bill Douglas (William O. Douglas, associate justice of the United Sistes Supreme Court), whose name has appeared frequently in news stories as the third man in the convention picture. although few party leaders and fewer voters seem to recognize the name.

He is the man who aboud have been

nominated for Vice-President in 1944, in place of Truman, if the Democrate are sincere now in their campaign-time professions of devotino to the ideals and program of Franklin D. Roosevell. Justice Douglas' name was suggested to the 1944 convention by President Roosevelt as one of the two men whom he regarded as an acceptable running mate. Remember? The other one was Truman, who was quickly selected by the 1944 convention chiefly because he looked much less like a New Dealer than either Henry Wallace' or Bill Douglas. That 1944 choice was determined largely by the 56thern conservatives and the city machine bases who now are so active in calling on General Ike to do his duty and dig them out of the hole into which they have worked themselves.

Bill Douglas still is the logical choice of

worked themselves.

Bill Douglas still is the logical choice of
the party over Truman if the Democrata
want to have a clear-cut text between Jeffersonian-Rooseveltian liberalism and Republican conservatism.—He is a genuine
New Dealer who can't be associated with
Truman's compromises and wallace's getruman's compromises and wallace's gelic, he has a brilliant mind, an eloquent
voice and a personality that should make
him an effective campaigner.

Douglas's name has been advanced by

him an effective campaigner.

Douglas' name has been advanced by Jett wing elements which also are booming Eisenhower. There have been suspicious that they have been boosting the General in hopes of creating a convention deadlock, providing an opening for Douglas as a compromise candidate. Jimny Roosevelt's effort to keep the Eisenhower bandwagon going will increase those suspicious.

going will increase those suspicions.

However, we don't look for any further surprises. The vain Democratic stampede for a popular was here, whose political of the party demoralization in the struggle between its right and left factions. Bill Douglas was blocked by that same split in 1944 and it tan't likely that this steadily widening breach will close in tha few days remaining before the convention.

remaining before the convention.

There is, perhaps, one other, question in this strange affair which still lant settled. That is: Does the Democratic Party still have a chance of winning with Truman?

Harry S. Truman thinks it does. Of all the many astonishing performances in the Democratic follies of 1948, we must say that the Missourian's exhibition of capacity to take punishment wins the prize.

Soviet Humbug In Tito's Act

A BRITISH authority on the Balkans A strengthens our impression that Marshal Thos fall from grace as a Soviet puppet is a phony affair, designed to make chumps of Western strategists or to serve as a trick in an important new Russian diplomatic offensive.

diplomatic offensive.

This support for our view comes from Rebecea West, celebrated English novelist, historian and journalist who has specialized on Balkan affairs. In a recent letter to the New York Herald-Tributes, she expressed astonishment and worse over the deductions of American and British observers who have been halling Premier Tito's tiff with the Cominform, Soviet-controlled agency for world revolution, as a sign that Yugoslavia is breaking away from the Soviet camp. We quote, in part;
It is with the greatest starm that I see

remember that he who sups with the devil needs a long apon.

Mrs. West's interpretation stands up in the light of what has happened in the west since the press first carried the news that the Cominform had denounced Tilo for alleged anti-Marxian anti-Sove month of the legislation of the legislatio

Indeed, Tito's "rebellion" is proceeding with so few real or natural repercussions that we wonder if Stalin will even deem it that we wonder if Stalin will even deem it desirable to send in Russian troops to 'pre-serve order'. Four days ago, in these columns, we expressed the thought that Tito's 'break' may have been arranged to provide Stalin with a pretext for repudiating the Cominform, as a move to retire it from the scene in a bid for a compromise settlement with the West. This thought recur as we observe the way the Soviets are triving to with the West. This thought recurs as we observe the way the Soviets are trying to make Berlin so hot for the Allies that we will welcome a deal for a lull in the "cold war". Stalin is now in a position where he can liquidate the Cominform as a concession to the West in return for an agree-

Keeping Our Nerve In Berlin

SEPARATE NOTES of protest to Russia against the Soviet land blockade of Western Berlin were sent by the United States, Britain and France. In thus decid-States, Britain and France. In thus deciding on diplomatic measures short of an ultimatum, the Allies demonstrate that steady nerves, caution and reason still are prevailing in the councils of the Western powers. This is the only hopeful sign at present in the dark Berlin picture.

At the moment there appears to be no sale course out of the difficult Berlin attua-tion for the Western powers and the one chance of avoiding disaster lies in feeling our way and counting on time to improve our position or our opportunities. At least it is certain that a precipitate or "strong," move on our part, meaning a demonstra-tion of military force, would turn what now is a setback into a major calamity.

Our military commanders and State De-partment policymakers are being advised to take bolder measures by influential people both inside and outside the Gov-anment. They advocate strong-arm tactics

on the theory that Russia is not ready for military hostilities and will back down in the face of such a threat from us. The right question to ask is not whether Russia is ready for war but whether lwe are. The answer quite clearly is no, and both the Russians and our own top leaders know it.

Russians and our own top leaders know it.

If the Russians didn't back down, we would auddenly find ourselves at that point accurately descrete that "war is the least failure of a bankrupt foreign policy." This new bi-partisan foreign policy of ours was devised to contain the Soviet and keep the peace, not to hurry us into another global conflict, or so we gave told. A millitary explosion in Berlin would not only end the peace but also would end the Soviet-containment for some time at least, as we are in po position to prevent a rapid Russian in position to prevent a rapid Russian. in no position to prevent a rapid Russia march over Europe by force of arms.

The chance that a military bluff would save Berlin for us is not worth the risk in-volved and the situation is not so desperate that we need take that gamble.

Rising To The Bait



People's Platform

World Federation Or Oligarchy?

long passed away.

Nonetheless, the wheel of time, which dredges up a multitude of marvels, has brought forth new arguments for peace and a thousand panaceas for war, among them the "world government" idea currently advanced by United World Federalists, Inc.

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Violating The Draft Law

Editors. The Naws:

DAVIDSON
VEITY many of us in this fair lead of ours that read the newspapers were greatly surprised not attend to the season of the seas

The People's Platform is austible to any reader who cares to mount its Communications should be set than 300 words, typeortifus it possible, and on only one side of the pd per. Libel and obscentiv will be deleted-otherwise anything goes. Bach letter must be sioned although in exceptional cases and upon receiving with the pd per single will suithhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tan News.

Quote, Unquote

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Truman Revolt Grows

orquate as President.

Among the major Democratic carders, there now remains hardly handful who have not openly ommitted themselves against the resident. Even such powerful figres as Edward Flynn of the Bronx and David Lawrence of Pennsylania, although they have not public of the property of the prope

TRUMAN UNDERESTIMATES

Politicos On Spot

Television Sees All

take them time to learn it.

That's why the Democratic
convention in Philadelphia next
week will be pretty much like
the Republican convention there
two weekl age.

There'll be the game long
specches, the same hoopia demonstrations intended to above
or something of the delegates.

Truman Claims No Fear Of Tom Dewey Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
WHILE every seasoned political leader in the Bromeratic
Party is convinced Harry Truman will suffer one of
the worst election defeats in history here are some sidelighther one of the state of the state of the state of
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section of the country.

Italian Democracy By Radio

DURING the Italian elections, the Communists claimed

DURING the Italian elections, the Communists claimed

to Italy and other U. S. add was just a flash in the pan. After
the elections, they argued. Americans would soon forget

Italian Today, however, a remarkable shortwave radio contest
across the Atlantie ends with the award of 1.750 prizes to
the Italian people for the best letters on "how to win the
The contest has been broadcast for several weeks by
World Wide Broadcasting Foundation, a non-profit organization, and a tobal of 1.600 Italian democracy letters have

der teturn, especially in in view of the fact that trans-Atlantic

postage is expensive for the ordinary Italian, while he
chrough brief mention in Italian newspapers.

General Re's Mail of Castal Resident Section (Castal Resident Resi

in, although se was that necessary to be we we that experience it but necessary to be we we will be a safety our some blunt questions and you cave us frank answers. We believe you will be equally straightforward now.

V" • Ike Thinks

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was quizzed about the credibility of an article by Kanasa

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