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# Wilson in Iowa

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## Wilson in Iowa

President Woodrow Wilson made two trips to Iowa, both at rather crucial points in his career. The first was in 1916 when the country was turning its attention from domestic issues to the question of preparedness, and the second was in 1919 during the bitter Senate fight over the League of Nations. This was his last speaking tour which began September 4 in Ohio, and continued day and night all the way to the west coast and back to Pueblo, Colorado, where his health collapsed and he was forced to return to Washington. On both these visits the President spoke at the Coliseum in Des Moines and received a more than moderately warm welcome from a normally Republican state.

In 1916 Wilson's visit was part of a tour begun in January largely to call the attention of the Nation to the need for a greater army. That the issue of preparedness was to dominate the nation's interest through the approaching presidential election in the fall of the same year, is reflected in a cartoon by J. N. Darling appearing in the *Des Moines Register and Leader* just before Wilson's visit. The cartoon shows "Tariff" as a young lady who is the deserted wallflower at the dance while

an attractive young "Preparedness" has grouped around her caricatures of such prominent figures as William Jennings Bryan, Theodore Roosevelt, and the President himself. The war in Europe had clearly caused the popularity of the new issue, yet Wilson had managed not to commit himself to the likelihood of American participation. In fact, two days before his Des Moines appearance, he had solemnly promised in a speech at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, "I pledge you that, God helping, I will keep it [the nation] out of war."

The day before Wilson appeared (February 2), the Des Moines papers were full of descriptions of the preparations for his visit. "It will not be the mere recognition of the office," one paper declared, "it will be in large measure the welcome of the man." Iowa had voted for Wilson in 1912, in the electoral college, the first Democrat to receive such favor since Franklin Pierce. Now Iowans were turning out to welcome him.

All along his route into the State, crowds gathered at the station in below-zero weather. At Davenport, Iowa City, Grinnell, and Newton, Wilson spoke briefly from the rear platform of his train. Iowa City alone mustered 5,000 people, including many students from the University who left their classes to greet him. At Grinnell, tragedy was narrowly avoided when the train began backing into the crowd as a mother was holding up her small child to shake hands with the Presi-

dent. Everywhere the crowd was not a little curious to see the President's bride, the much-talked-of former Mrs. Edith Galt, whom he had married less than three months before. People crowded around for a close look at the new Mrs. Wilson, and as the couple stepped off the train in Des Moines, a girl near the rope was heard to exclaim, "She looks just like her best pictures."

At the state capital, Governor George W. Clarke and Mayor James R. Hanna were on hand to welcome the President. There were other welcoming delegates, a motor procession, dinners for officials of the arrangements committee, and a parade, but the President and Mrs. Wilson dined alone at the Chamberlain Hotel on a menu specially prepared by the head chef, Frank Tyck. (The menu of the President's dinner appeared in the paper on the following day.) Crowds began collecting at the Coliseum by 4:30 and the roped-off block in front was completely filled by 6:00 P.M., a half-hour before the doors were open.

That evening nearly 8,500 heard President Wilson declare, "There is danger to our national life." This he gave as the reason "why greater preparedness is necessary in the United States." The speech was received with enthusiasm and cheers, yet the conclusion the next day after the President's train had moved on to Kansas City was that Iowans were still not won over. "There seemed to be an impression on the train that Iowa's

response to the president's appeal was less pronounced than that of states farther east. The message was heard with earnest interest, but there was that about the crowds that led one to feel that they were disposed to go home and think it over soberly rather than be convinced offhand of grave perils threatening the country from without." This seems to have been the President's impression, too. At any rate, the result of the journey was a conviction that it was best not to hasten the larger preparations which Secretary of War Garrison demanded.

When Wilson came to Iowa on September 6, 1919, preparedness and the war, too, were past events. The post-war period had brought the usual reaction to national solidarity which found one of its outlets in resentment against and delay in ratifying the Versailles Treaty. Wilson's impatience with the delay made "Save the Peace" his first purpose and the reason behind his tour of the country in the fall of 1919. It was a tour of desperation taxing all of his physical reserves and made out of his deep conviction that a failure to support Article X and the League of Nations was a betrayal by Americans of the men who had fought the war.

Again Des Moines hung out the bunting and made elaborate preparations to welcome the President. This time he arrived with an airplane escort which met his train twenty miles out and hovered



## ULYSSES S. GRANT

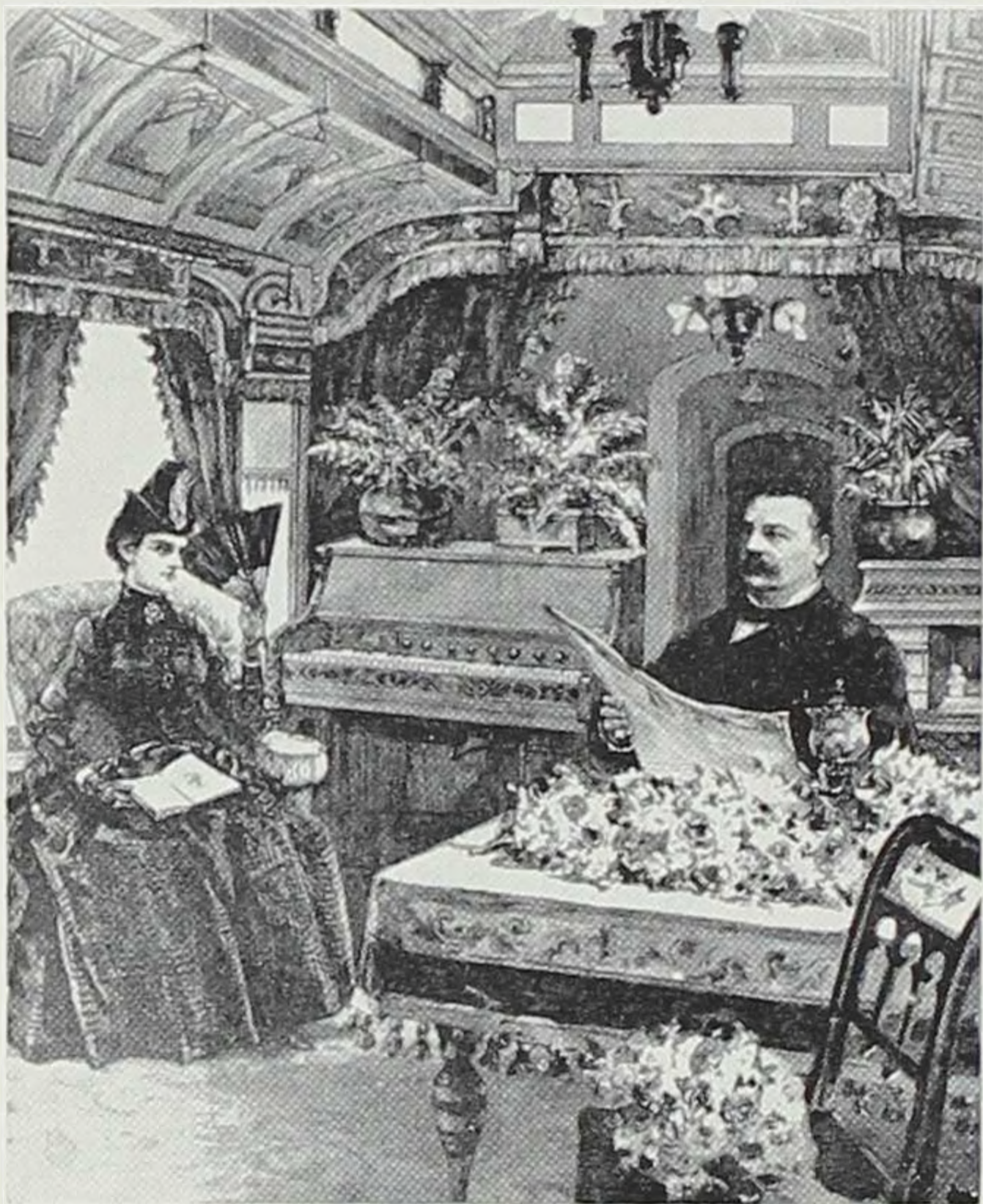
Des Moines, 1875

Grant came to Des Moines to address the Army of the Tennessee at their annual meeting.

### OUR GUESTS.

We have with us to-day, in our young prairie city, distinguished guests. The Society of one of the grandest armies of the Republic comes here to hold its Annual Reunion, and with its members comes more than one man of world-wide reputation and renown. The patriot President, the most illustrious soldier of the century, and whose name and fame as military leader and civil ruler will in a day not distant be loved and cherished

with equal warmth and tenderness with those of Washington and Lincoln by all Americans, honors the occasion with his quiet and unostentatious presence, — his first visit to the Capital of Iowa. He will meet from our people a Des Moines welcome — sincere, hearty, and Western. In the grateful hearts of Iowa men and Iowa women he is first after Abraham Lincoln. Among the rest is Gen. Sherman, known and loved by every boy in blue, and admired the world over for his military genius and prowess. Secretary Belknap, than whom no man could be more welcome in Iowa, and of whom all Iowa is very proud, comes with the others. There are more men of like great record and name. They and all with them, the humblest and the greatest, and the humblest equally with the greatest, are all very welcome to our city and our homes. Our State furnished a noble number of the immortal men who made up the Army of the Tennessee; our city was represented in nearly every one of the battles, and their names are mingled with it in all of its proud history and precious memories. The hearts of our people warm to it as to their own kindred, and all who were of it and with it will be welcome here as the elder children to reunion at the homestead. *Iowa State Weekly Register* (Des Moines), October 1, 1875.



## GROVER CLEVELAND

Grover Cleveland and wife in George Pullman's special presidential car. Cleveland visited the Sioux City Corn Palace in 1887 and declared it was the first "new thing" he had seen in his long "swing around the circle" that year.

## WILLIAM MCKINLEY



William McKinley at Independence — October 16, 1899. The special train of seven Pullmans drawn by two engines carried President and Mrs. McKinley, his cabinet, and other distinguished guests. They were met by an immense throng that included over a thousand public school children carrying American flags.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN IOWA



President Roosevelt at Carroll in 1903.



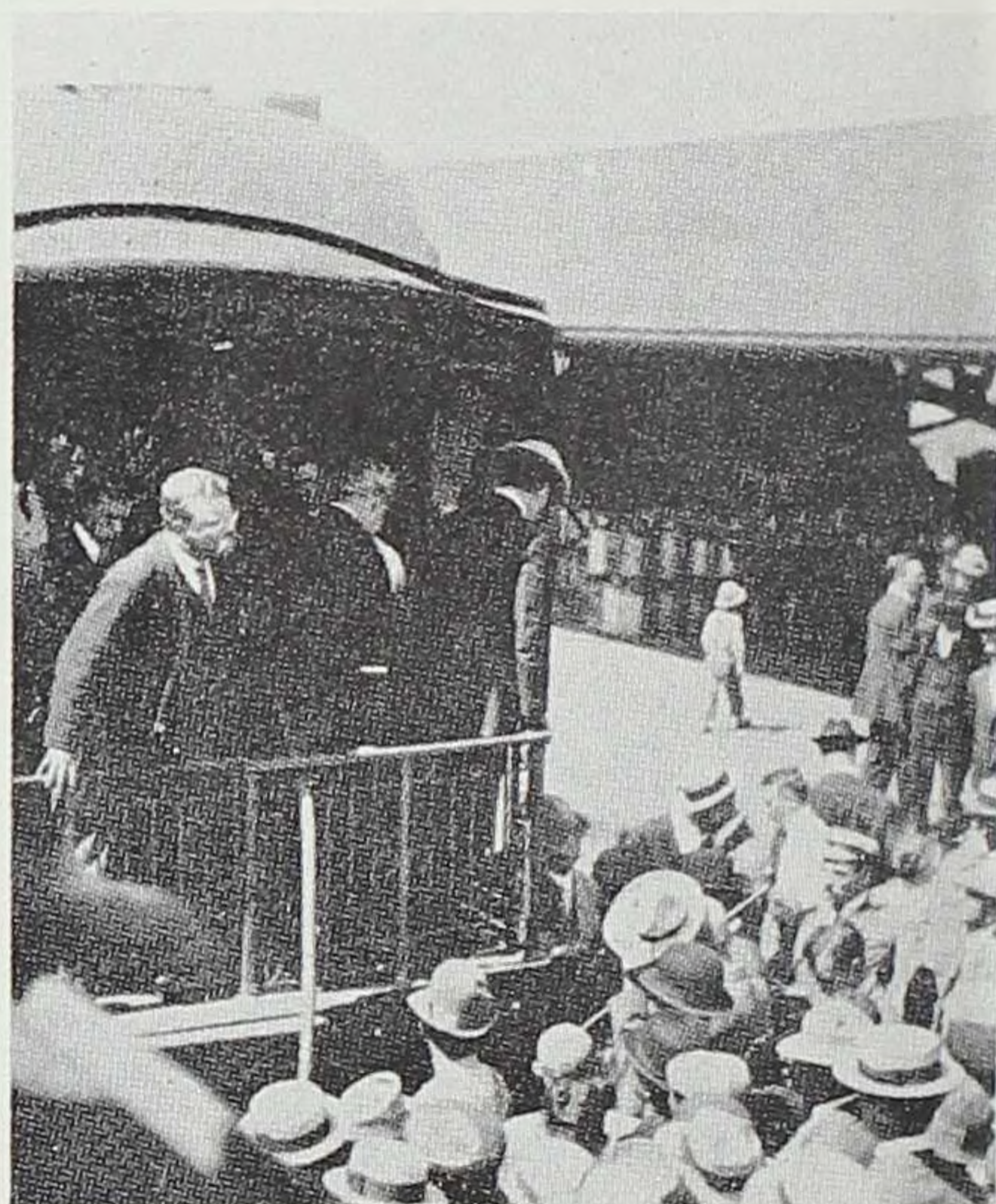
President Roosevelt with Des Moines Boy Scouts.



## THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN IOWA



President Roosevelt at Osceola in 1903.



President Roosevelt at Denison in 1903.



President Roosevelt addressing throng at unidentified whistle stop; postcard from Tipton-Cedar Rapids area.

LANDSLIDE FOR HOOVER

TIDAL WAVE OF G. O. P. VOTES ENGULFS SMITH TICKET IN SCOTT CO.

Supposedly Wet Territory Proves Parade Ground for Herbert Hoover and All His Aides, Not a Single Democrat Surviving the Stampede.

ALL REPUBLICAN COUNTY OFFICERS VICTORIOUS

New York Governor, Champion of Lost Cause, Leads His Ticket and Carries 16 of 43 Precincts—Bond Issue Wins—Constitutional Amendment Defeated.

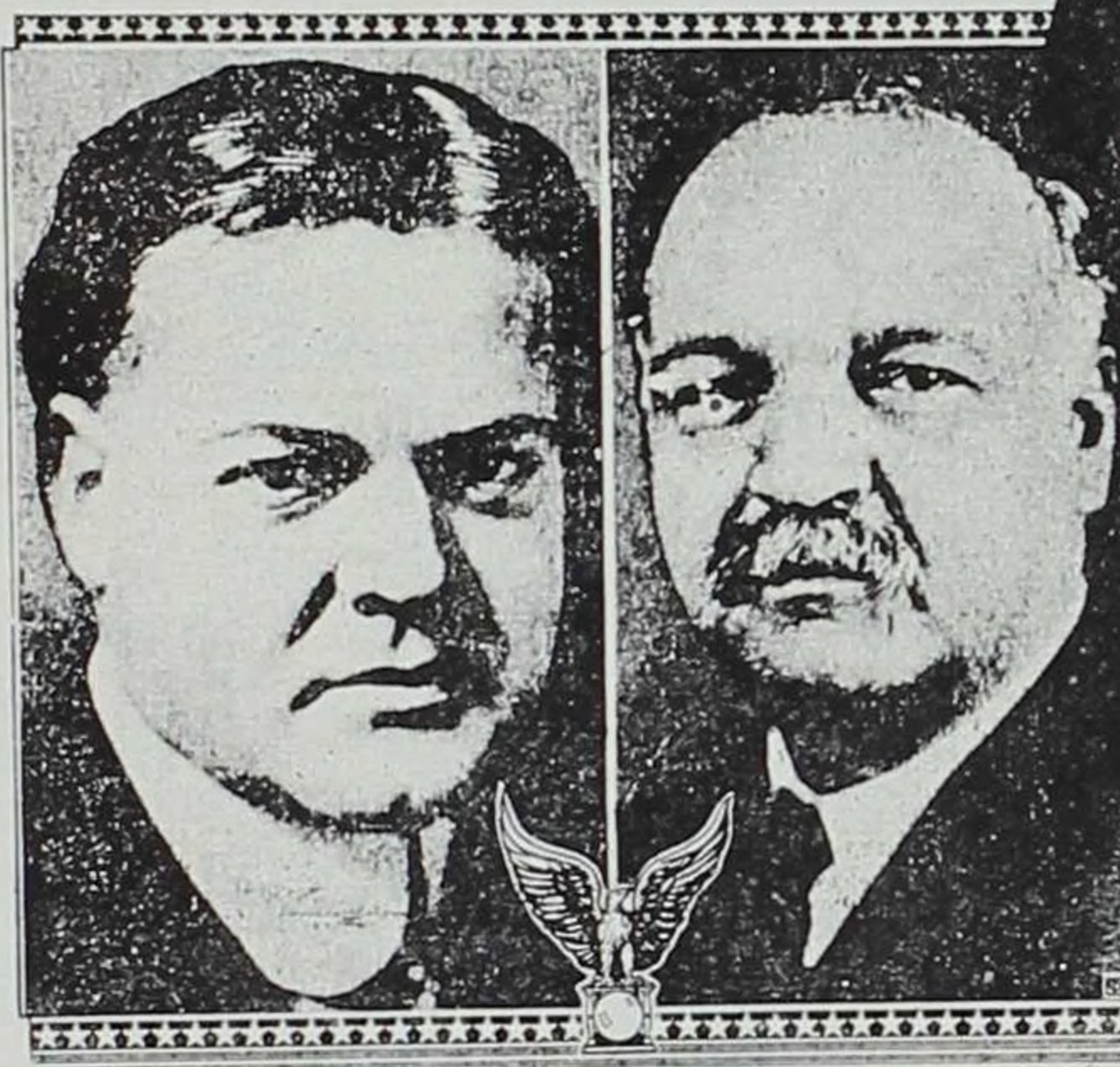
Herbert Hoover, son of the little Quaker village of West Branch, Iowa, swept thru Davenport and Scott county yesterday on the crest of the great tidal wave of national popularity which passed over the major portion of the United States and polled 16,936 votes in the county, giving him a plurality of 2,395 ballots in his race for the presidency.

It was a day of heavy but not of such unprecedented voting as had been expected and there was no doubt of the final outcome once the returns had begun to come in. Local weather favored a big vote and well oiled election machinery aided in the poll. The vote was cast early in the day, both in the county and city and returns came in soon after the polls had been closed.

Champion of Lost Cause. Al Smith, champion of a lost cause, went down in defeat in the supposedly wet territory of Scott county. He carried 11 precincts and lost 32.

In the city of Davenport Smith carried the third of the first, all four precincts of the second ward, the first and second precincts of the third ward, the first of the fourth ward and the first precinct of the fifth ward. In the county he carried Allen's Grove, Clappa-

HERBERT HOOVER | CHARLES CURTIS



Re-elected to Congress in Second District Hoover Sweeps State;

AL SMITH, LOSING HOME STATE, IS CRUSHED BY REPUBLICAN AVALANCHE

Democratic Candidate Maintains Feeble Hold of Mere Handful of States as Hoover Plurality Masses.

G. O. P. BREAKS BACKBONE OF SOLID SOUTH Revolt, Branded a False Alarm Early in Campaign Becomes Reality; Farm Protest Proves a Myth.

By F. FIELD BRITTE (Associated Press Staff Writer.) The roaring Republican tide which already had piled up majorities for Herbert Hoover in all but a handful of states rolled on triumphantly early today as the Far West added its support to the fortunes of the favorite son of California.

In the early morning hours the Republican presidential nominee gained such an advantage that Governor Smith and Chairman Rankob of the Democratic national committee acknowledged defeat and sent their congratulations.

Smith was leading only in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Mississippi, Arkansas, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. His margin in the southern states remaining in his column appeared fairly substantial, but in Massachusetts and Rhode Island the vote was so close that the final disposition of their electoral vote remained in doubt.

Early today Gov. Alfred E. Smith made public a congratulatory message to his Republican opponent. "I congratulate you heartily on your victory," Governor Smith said, "and extend to you my sincere good wishes for your health and happiness and for the success of your administration."

The Democratic concession of victory was announced shortly before midnight. At that hour the returns showed Hoover leading in every eastern, western and border state, except Massachusetts, and in Virginia, Florida and Texas. Should these majorities be sus-

border group after giving endorsement to the Smith forces and last night turned to Hoover and Curtis. Others of the border, West Virginia, Kentucky and Oklahoma rolled up substantial Republican majorities. Missouri alone showed signs of a close race. Hoover's lead being subject to a great vote of St. Louis.

A similar situation developed in Massachusetts where Smith lagged to get into his opponent's advance as the election vote was tallied. Rhode Island, where Democrats were optimistic, likewise gave Smith but a slight margin elsewhere in New England the Republican majorities held.

The farmer middle west and northwest and the Rocky Mountain country returned early Hoover leads as the late-closing DC there turned in their ballots.

Hoover Gains Entire Midwest A Republican victory was lost in the forms as the midwest w

Election of first Iowa-born President widely acclaimed.



Herbert Hoover with Robert D. Blue and William J. Petersen at West Branch (1948).

Fair and warmer.  
The day's record, including weather reports and other statistics, on page 18.

# The Des Moines Register

The Newspaper Iowa Depends Upon

PRICE IN DES 3 CENTS—VOL. 47

DES MOINES, IOWA, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1936.—EIGHTEEN PAGES

The Des Moines Register and Tribune Has More Than a Quarter Million Circulation

# ROOSEVELT, LANDON HERE TODAY

## Brunet, 16, Wins Health Title

### D. M. COUNTY FARM GIRL IS 4-H CHAMPION

Edith Belknap Scores 99.4 Pct.; 97 in Contest.

#### Attendance

Wednesday	1355	1828
Thursday	8,689	8,805
Friday	11,484	10,608
Saturday	26,591	40,132
Sunday	37,781	50,322
Monday	35,852	31,728
Tuesday	45,482	34,791
Wednesday	50,482	35,900*
Thursday	37,718	

*(List of Fair Awards on Page 18; Pictures on page 4 and 16.)*  
Edith Belknap, 16, blue-eyed brunet from Des Moines county, was named Iowa 4-H club girl health champion Wednesday at the Iowa state fair.

The product of four generations of Iowa farm folk, Edith lives on 150 acres of land seven miles northeast of Mediapolis, Ia.—the same land her great-grandfather homesteaded in pioneer days. She is the oldest of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Belknap.  
"Never Expected" It.

THE CANDIDATES WILL NOW PRESCRIBE FOR THE DROUGHT.



## KANSAN ALERT TO SITUATION HE NOW FACES

Crams Like Student on Eve of Big Conference.

By C. C. Clifton. (Grant Woods)

TOPEKA, KAN. — Gov. Alf M. Landon Wednesday "cramped" on Kansas drought experience like a student before semester examinations, to meet President Roosevelt and governors of five other states at the drought conference in Des Moines today.

His preparations have been made ostensibly for an ordinary conference with the president by himself in a group of governors, with "no politics involved." The care with which he has assembled data indicates that while he believes it good politics not to seek any political advantage from the spectacular meeting, he is alert against causing any unfavorable reaction.

First Since 1908. After all, today's meeting brings together, for the first time since Taft and Bryan met in 1908, the opposing presidential candidates—just two months to a day before election.

Governor Landon announced he will be accompanied to Des Moines

TOPEKA, KAN. (AP) — Gov. Alf M. Landon had a new campaign hat Wednesday—a lightweight gray felt—presented by Mayor Ralph Mitchell of Independence, Kan.

## Roosevelt-Landon Day

The program for Roosevelt and Landon day, as definitely as it could be mapped out Wednesday night, follows:

12 noon—President Roosevelt's special train arrives at Rock Island station from Salt Lake City, Utah.

The train will be met by Governor Herring and Mayor Joseph H. Allen, who will escort President Roosevelt to statehouse.

The route to the capitol:

North on Fifth ave. to Walnut st.; west to Twelfth st.; north to Locust st.; east to E. Ninth st.; north to E. Grand ave.; east to E. Twelfth st.; south to E. Walnut st.; west to E. Ninth st.; north to statehouse private drive.

12:30 p. m.—Gov. Alf M. Landon and other governors and United States senators leave Hotel Fort Des Moines by same route for statehouse.

1:15 p. m.—Visiting notables guests of Governor Herring at luncheon in his office. Mrs. James Roosevelt, daughter-in-law of president, and Miss Margaret Lehand, president's personal secretary, guests of Mrs. Herring at lunch at Herring home, 180 Thirty-seventh st.

2:30 p. m.—Governor Herring calls drought conference to order.

4:30 p. m.—Drought conference adjourns. President and governors retrace route to Rock Island station, where governors will be dinner guests of President Roosevelt aboard train.

7:30 p. m.—President's dinner for governors aboard train. Mrs. James Roosevelt and Miss Margaret Lehand guests of Mrs. Herring for dinner.

## Notables Arriving, Crowds Jam City

(Picture of Page 11.) Hotels and streets in Des Moines were crowded Wednesday night as notables began arriving for one of the nation's big news events of 1936—the meeting of President Roosevelt and Governor Landon at a drought conference today.  
Among early arrivals were Gov. Guy B. Park of Missouri, Gov. Kjalmar Peterson of Minnesota.

## PRESIDENT ON WAY, FEAR OF POLITICS GOV

Puts Kansans Second or Third on His Calling List.

By Richard Wilson.

(The Register's Washington Correspondent.) ABOARD PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S TRAIN CROSSING NEBRASKA, President Roosevelt is on way to Des Moines to today with Gov. Alf M. Landon on the common ground of the drought emergency.

The Republican president nominee and his advisers, federal officials of Kansas, scheduled to be second or third in the procession of governors officials who will discuss with president the immediate drought situation and its long-time effects this afternoon in Iowa's capitol.

Four Dismissed. Early fears of Roosevelt voters of political demonstrations in Des Moines have been dispelled and they now anticipate a scene which will follow the turn of all those held with state and federal officials in 1,000 miles of drought traversed.

The president's advisers note that in common with Gov. Landon they have had ample opportunity in a common effort deal with a drought calamity graphically impressed upon president by personal interviews with victims of the water and conferences with those who know its meaning and

Drought Conference in Des Moines made headlines in 1936.



Des Moines Register Photo

Senator L. J. Dickinson, Alf Landon, F. D. Roosevelt, Governor Clyde Herring. Man on far-right was unidentified in 1936 but became President of the United States in 1945.

## THE WEATHER

Fair and slightly warmer tonight and Saturday. (Complete weather data on page 2).

# The Telegraph-Herald

EVENING EDITION

PRICE, 5 CENTS; VOLUME 106

DUBUQUE, IOWA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1940

NUMBER 89—16 PAGES

# WILLKIE GIVEN HUGE OVATION HERE

## ASSAILS FDR AS DICTATOR IN ADDRESS

### Arrives Here Late, But Talks 20 Minutes To Big Crowd

Dubuque gave Wendell Willkie, Republican candidate for president, a tremendous welcome Friday afternoon, and heard him scathingly denounced centralization of powers in "a self-styled indispensable man," who, he charged "is leading us on the road to dictatorship and the destruction of democracy."

In a 20-minute address from the rear platform of his campaign special train, the tanned haired GOP standard bearer made an eloquent plea for the support of Dubuque's voters who, he said, he understood normally vote 2 to 1 Democratic.

The estimated crowd of 7,000 persons at the Illinois Central Depot, swelled by hundreds of school children who were given a half-day holiday for the occasion, accorded Willkie a big ovation as the special pulled to a stop at the station at 3:10 p. m.

The Willkie special arrived in Dubuque 30 minutes late, but he spoke 10 minutes more than his scheduled 10-minute address. The train pulled out at 3:31 p. m.

Harvey Lange, chairman of the Dubuque County Republican Central Committee, introduced Judge W. A. McCallough of Clinton, Republican candidate for Congress, as man from the Second Congressional District, who in turn introduced Gov. George A. Wilson.

The governor presented Willkie, appearing on the platform quickly, extended his arms in greeting and was loudly cheered. He immediately swung into a conversation.

## Keep Close Watch For 2 Pickpockets

Joe Burke, Illinois Central Railroad detective, and local police were on the lookout at the Willkie gathering here Friday afternoon for two pickpockets.

The pickpockets had operated at other points where the Willkie special made stop, robbing seven persons at Waterloo.

Described as grey-haired men of about 200 pounds each, the pickpockets were racing the special from point to point by automobile.

Their method is to jostle those in the crowd near the speaker's platform.

dangerous to the liberties of the American people for any man to serve more than eight years in the Presidency.

"If any of the Democrats are disciples of Andrew Jackson, they must remember that Jackson balanced the budget. Therefore any Democrat in this crowd who believes in Jacksonian Democracy should vote for me.

"Leaders of the Democratic party before the Civil War were so opposed to the centralization of power that they fought a war for it, so if any Democrats in Dubuque accept them as their leaders they should vote for me.

"Then there was another Democrat in more modern times, Grover Cleveland. Cleveland was so strongly opposed to centralization of government that he even vetoed a relief bill. I would not do that."

Against Third Term Willkie said that Cleveland's son said that his father had declined a third term. He then said that W. J. Bryan, even a more modern leader, had spoken time and again against centralization and a third term. He pointed out Woodrow Wilson also in support of the same contention.

He said he had believed, worked with and worked for the 1932 Democratic program, but that the program had failed completely to bring about an end to the depression.

The candidate said he was asking to be elected because he wished to end the depression.

## Axis-Japs Sign Alliance Aimed at U. S.

### As Willkie Special Arrived in Dubuque Friday



A portion of the crowd that welcomed Wendell Willkie, Republican presidential candidate, to Dubuque Friday afternoon is pictured above. Mr. Willkie is shown with outstretched arms as he came out on the platform of his special train to speak to the Dubuque crowd.

## Nazis Lose 122 Planes Over England

Willkie won Iowa in 1940 but lost National election by almost 5,000,000 votes.

## Powers Unite To Create New Order In Europe, Asia

### U. S. IS SILENT U. S. IS WARNED

### U. S. Reply May Take Mutual Aid Pledged Against New Foes To Britain Entering War

Washington—U.P.—Indications developed Friday that the United States' answer to the new Berlin-Rome-Tokyo military alliance may take the form of increased aid to Britain.

There were no official announcements, but signs of such a course multiplied as an important series of White House conferences took place.

President Roosevelt received urgent appeals for additional U. S. aid from British diplomats. A "flying squadron" of American advocates of immediate further help for Britain also visited him and reported it was encouraged.

At the same time, Secretary of State Cordell Hull conveyed the nation's official views of the Axis alliance—that it "makes clear to all a relationship which has long existed in effect" and which has been taken into account in the formulation of American policy.

"The reported agreement of alliance does not, in the view of the government of the United States, substantially alter a situation which has existed for several years," he said.

On the question of U. S. aid to the three powers formally divided spheres of world influence, Japan being recognized as the leader in founding a "new order in greater East Asia" and Germany and Italy for "establishment of a new order in Europe."

## BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER

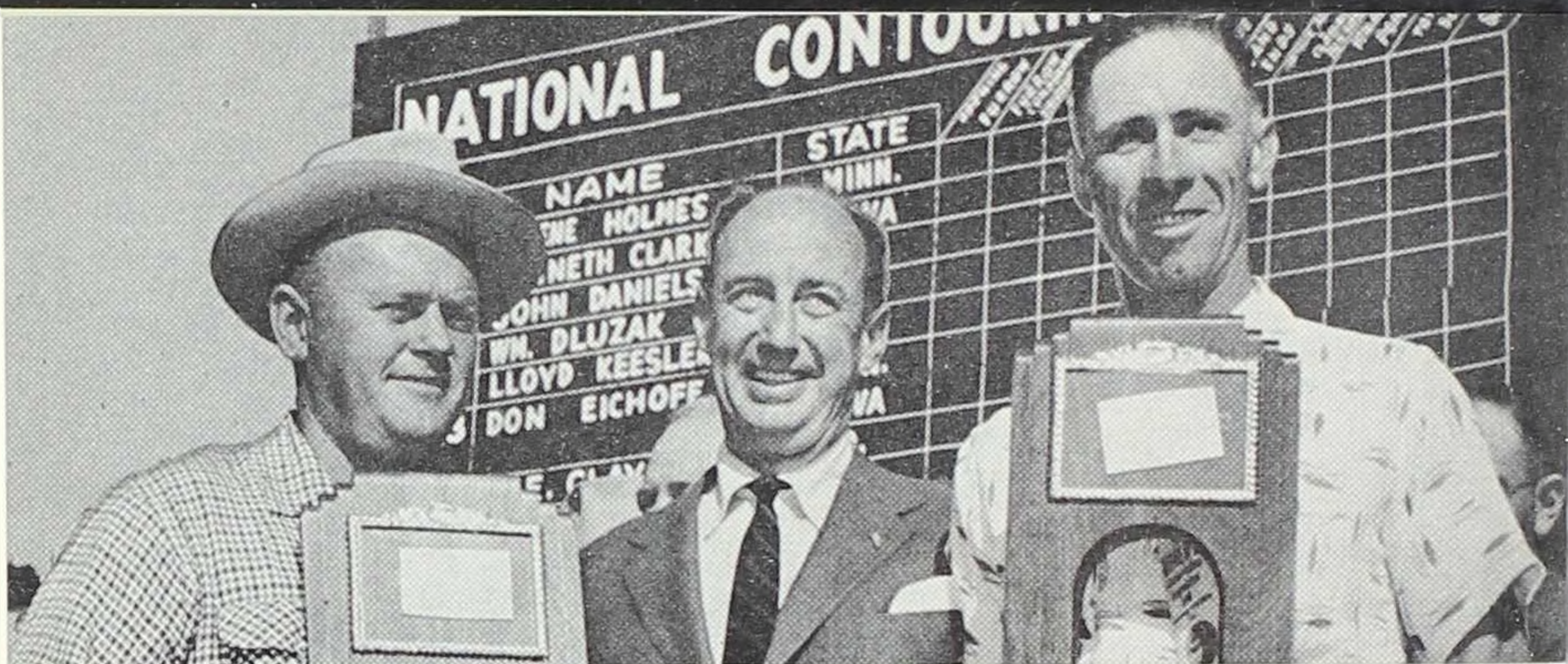
Berlin—Germany, Italy and Japan welded a new totalitarian bloc Friday with a one-for-all and all-for-one pledge of aid against any new enemy entering either the European or China war—an implicit warning to the United States.

With Adolf Hitler as an onlooker, the Rome-Berlin foreign ministers and the Japanese ambassador to Berlin signed a solemn 10-year military and economic treaty declaring the readiness of the three governments to join their 250,000,000 people as world-scale battle comrades.

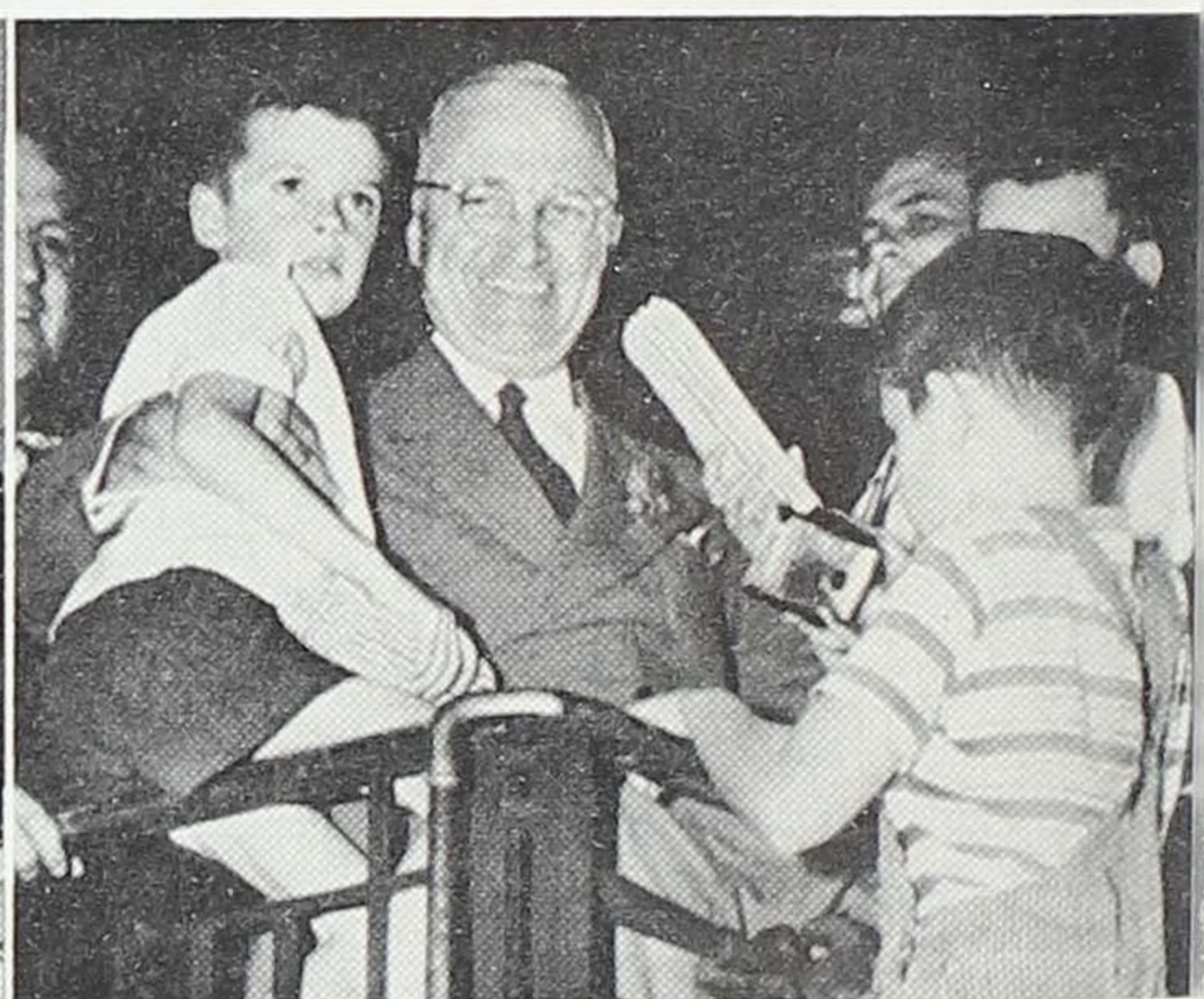
Advance preparations for such an eventuality were written into the treaty by an immediate undertaking for joint technical consultations by representatives of the three powers.

The three powers formally divided spheres of world influence, Japan being recognized as the leader in founding a "new order in greater East Asia" and Germany and Italy for "establishment of a new order in Europe."

The three powers affirmed that the terms in no way affect the



Adlai Stevenson with champions at National Field Days Program in Jasper County (1956).



Hickenlooper and Dewey (Des Moines, 1944).

Harry S. Truman at Chariton (1948).



Harry S. Truman with wife and daughter campaigning in Iowa. Governor Blue in foreground (1948)



Lyndon B. Johnson, Herschel C. Loveless, John F. Kennedy in Iowa (1960).



Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower at Boone (1952).



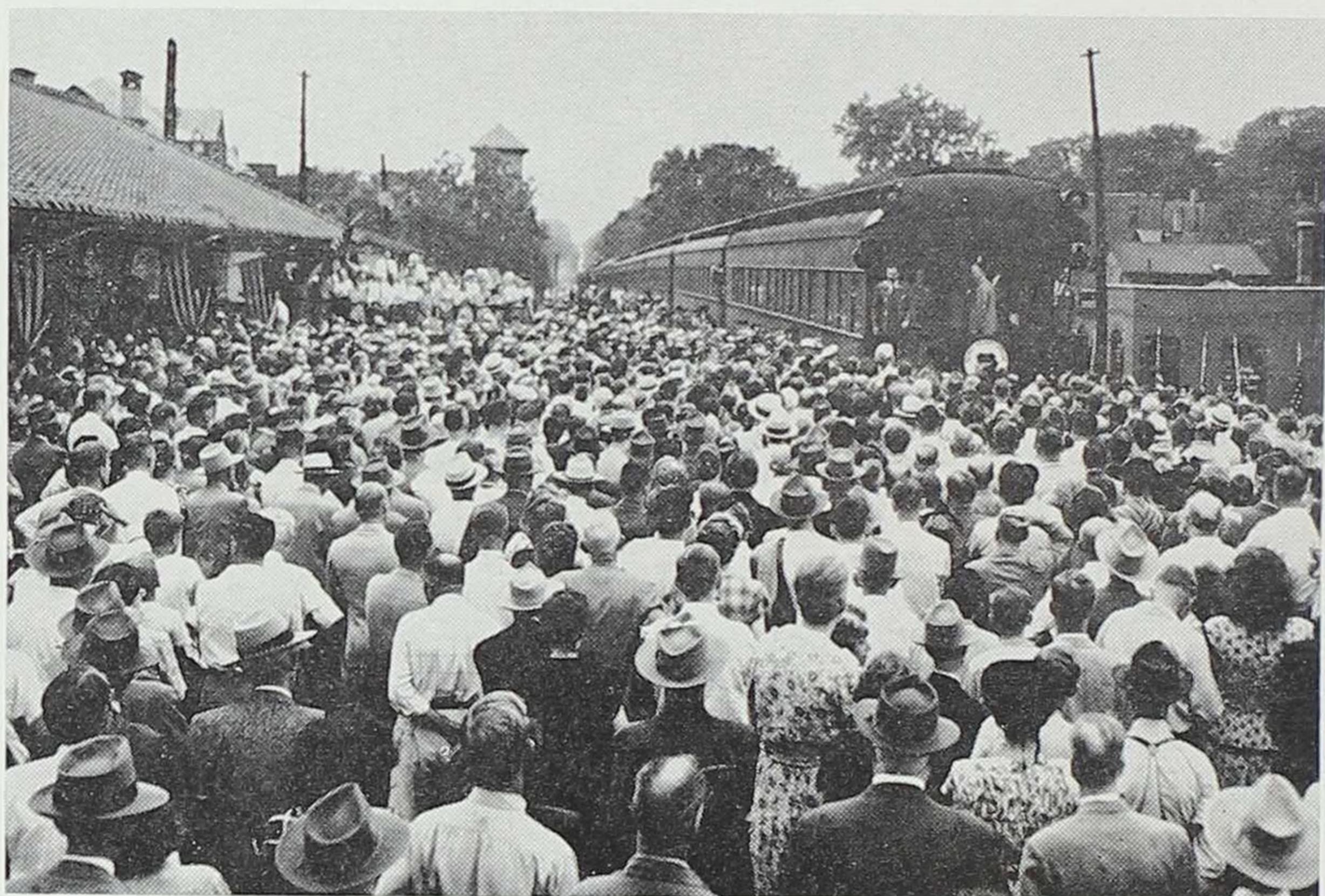
Adlai Stevenson in Des Moines (1956).



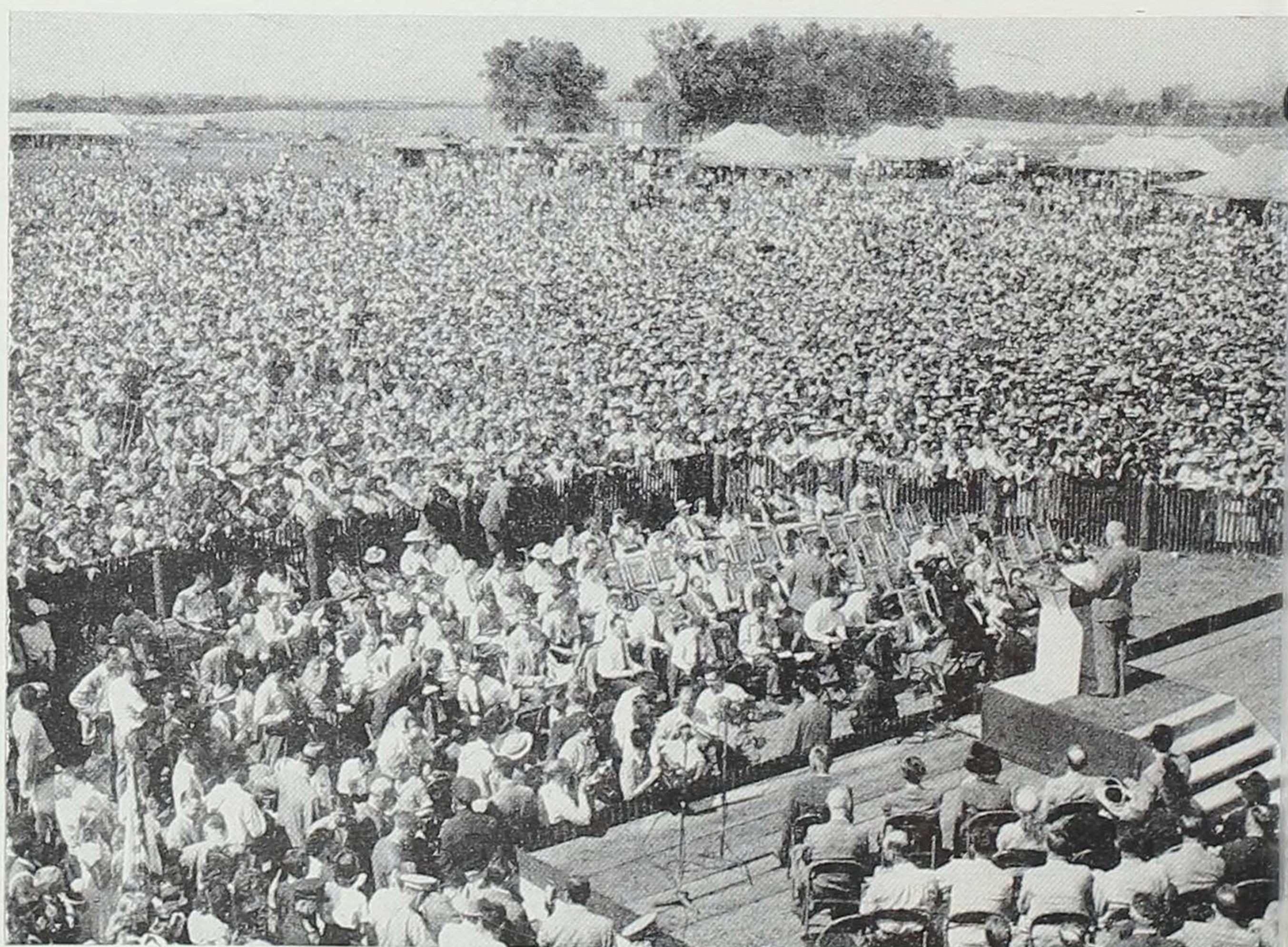
Vice Pres. Richard M. Nixon, Robert E. Waggoner, and Wm. Murray in Fort Dodge (1958).

All pictures in centerspread courtesy *Des Moines Register*.

CAMPAIGN OF 1948



Thomas E. Dewey greets Davenporters at railroad station.



Harry S. Truman addresses giant throng at Dexter.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES IN 1952



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



ADLAI STEVENSON

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGNERS



RICHARD NIXON



ROBERT TAFT



EARL WARREN

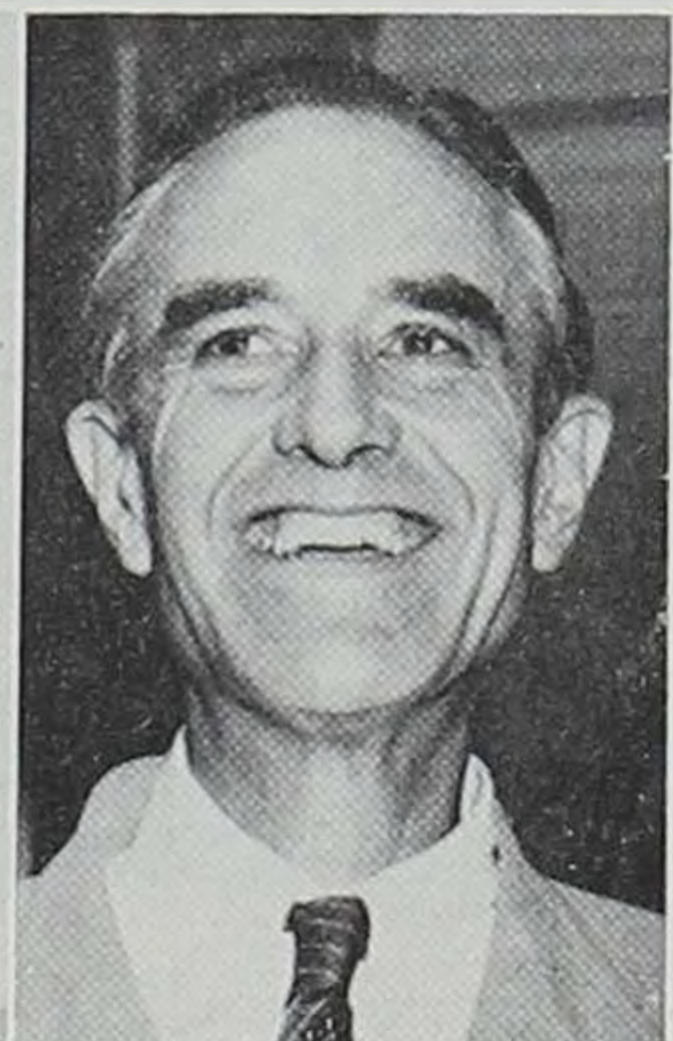
DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGNERS



HARRY TRUMAN



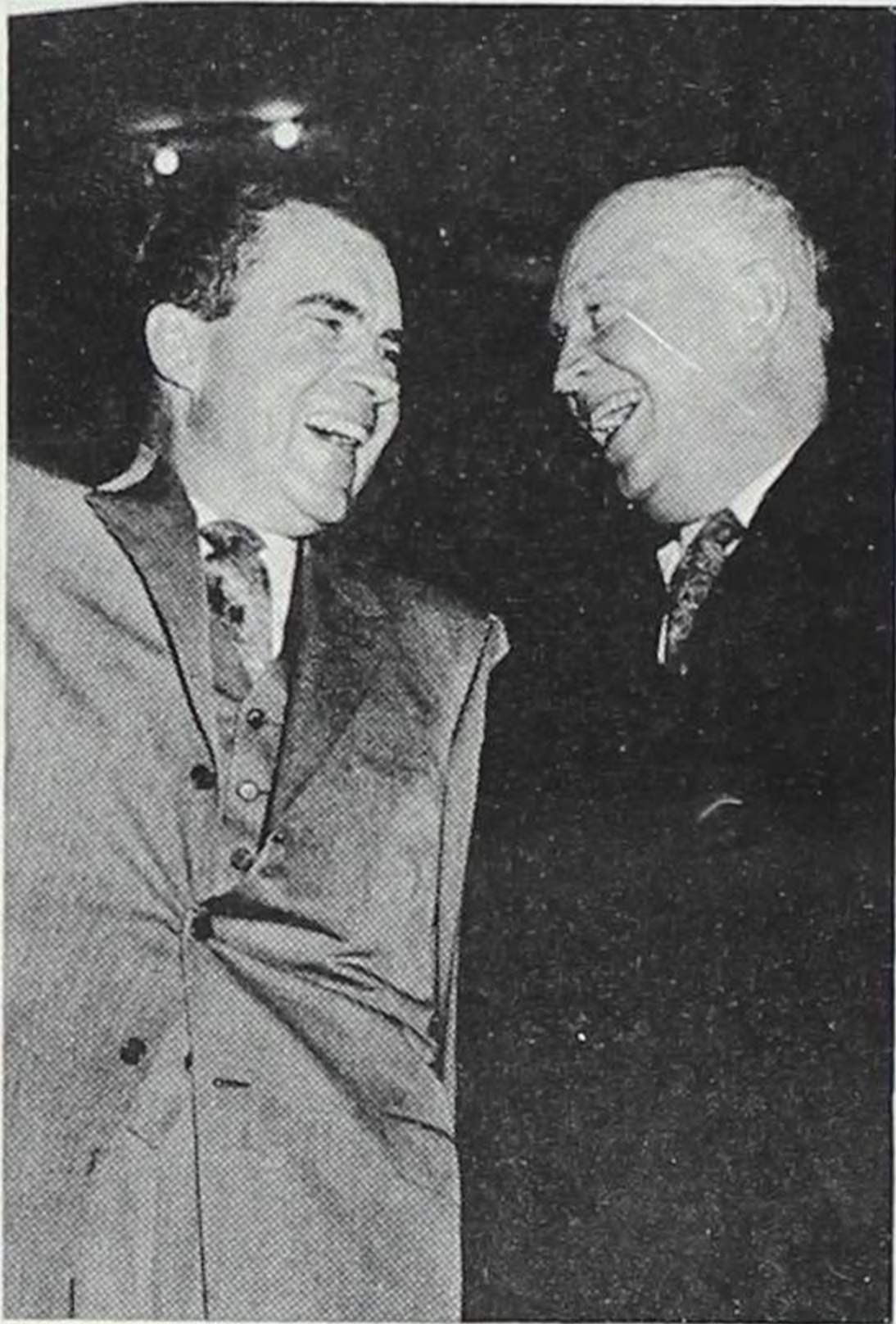
ESTES KEFAUVER



AVERILL HARRIMAN



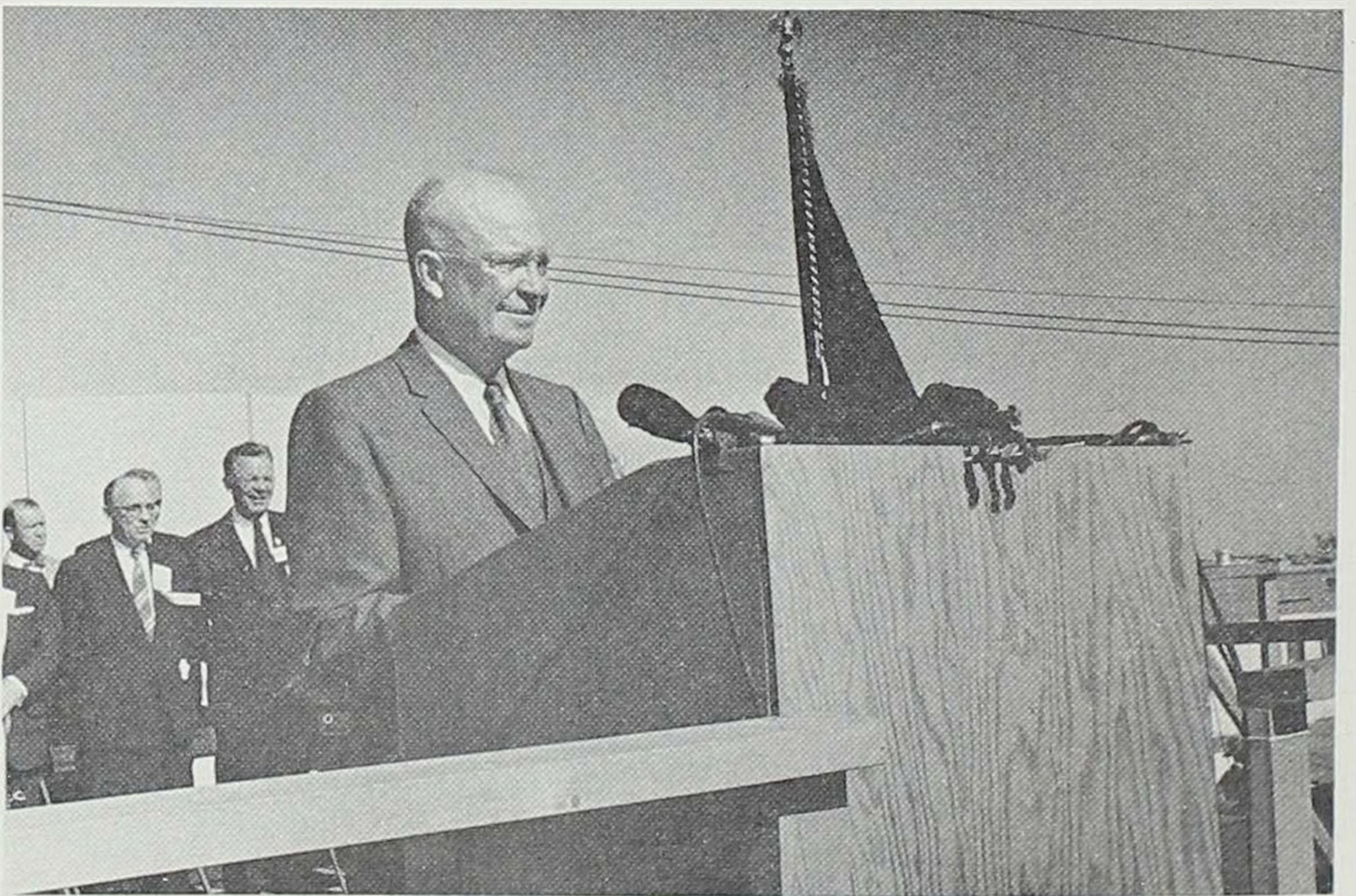
## THE EISENHOWER ERA



Nixon and Eisenhower visited Iowa many times between 1952 and 1960.



Guy Gillette greets Adlai Stevenson as George Mills "Listens in."



*Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.*

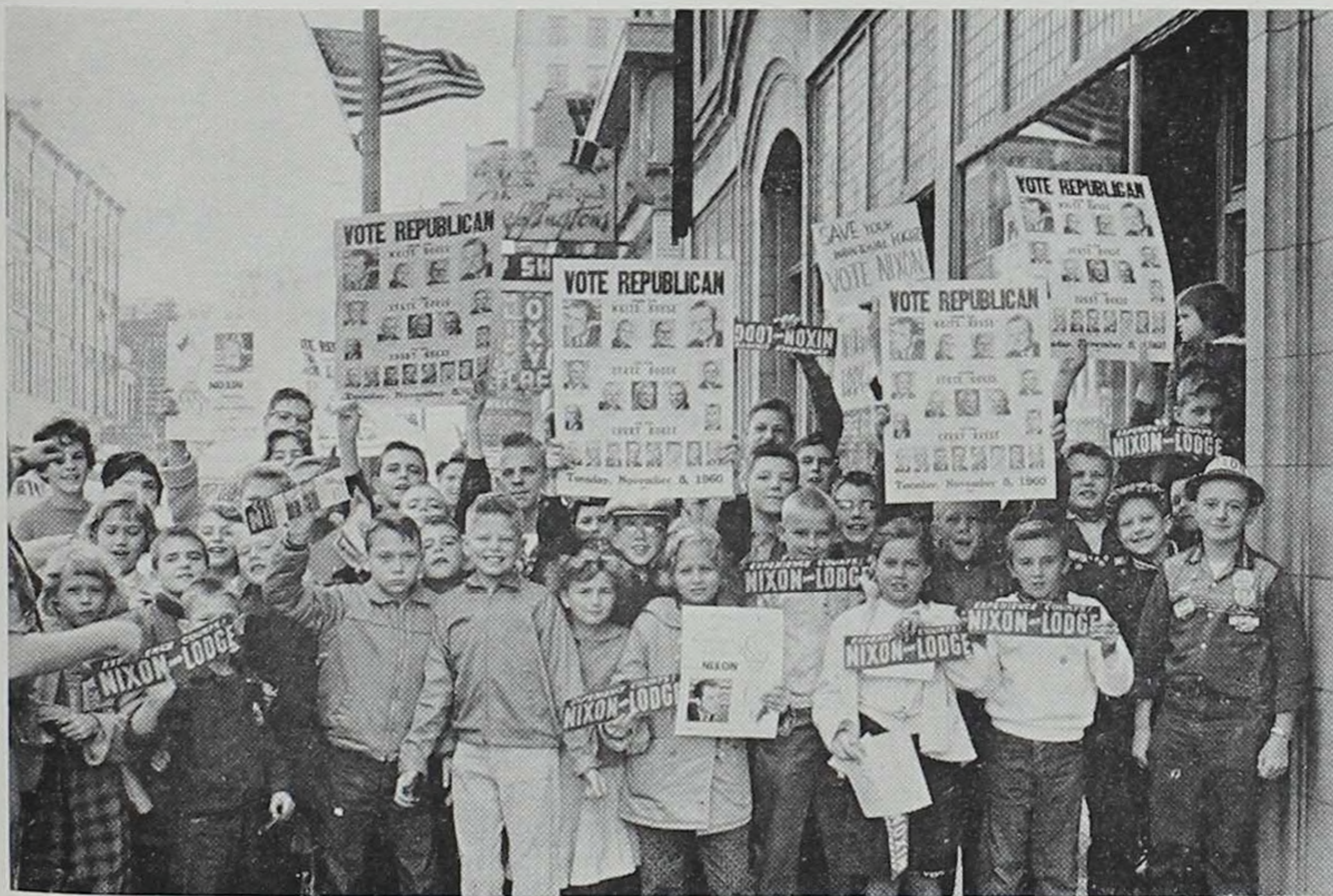
President Eisenhower addresses Iowa audiences in 1958. Senator Hickenlooper and Gubernatorial aspirant William G. Murray stand in rear of platform.

KENNEDY-NIXON IN IOWA — 1960



*Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.*

Kennedy and Nixon meet just before their first Nation-wide Television debate.



*Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.*

Davenport youngsters boost Nixon-Lodge ticket.

KENNEDY-JOHNSON IN IOWA IN 1960



*Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.*

Davenporters greet Candidate Kennedy in 1960.



*Monticello Express Photo.*

VP Candidate Lyndon B. Johnson addresses Monticello gathering in 1960.



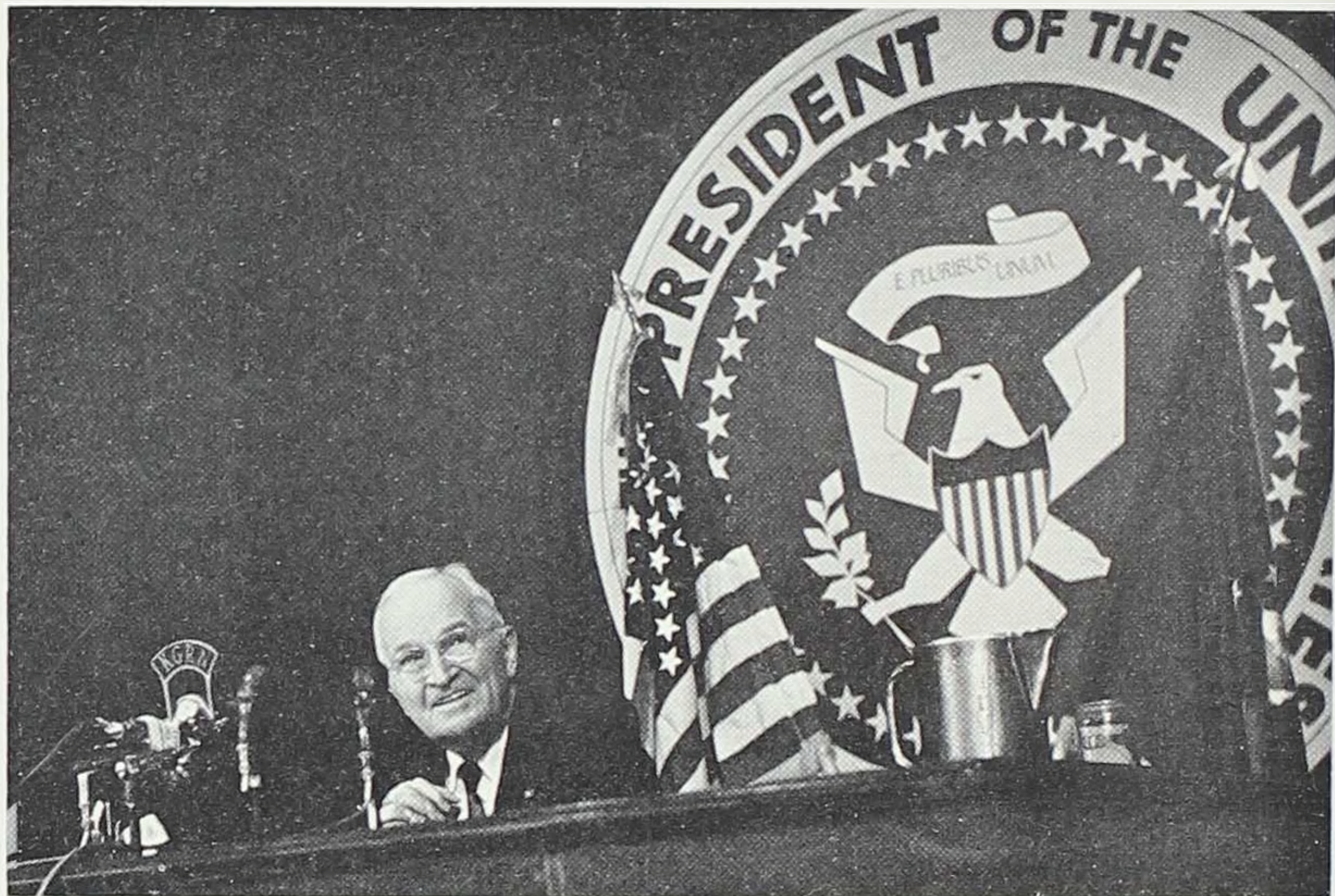
*Cedar Rapids Gazette Photo.*

Reporter Frank Nye interviews Barry Goldwater on arrival at Cedar Rapids on business of a military and non-political nature.



*Cedar Rapids Gazette Photo.*

Barry Goldwater and Eisenhower confer at Hershey, Pennsylvania, on strategy of the 1964 political campaign.



*Cedar Rapids Gazette Photo.*

Ex-President Truman visits Grinnell College campus and tells student he owes some respect for the office of President of the United States.



*Cedar Rapids Gazette Photo.*

Hoover and Truman become fast friends after World War II. Both were principal speakers at the dedication of each other's Presidential Libraries. They met informally before the dedication of the Hoover Presidential Library on August 10, 1962.

overhead as it pulled into the station. Governor William L. Harding and Mayor Thomas Fairweather were on hand to welcome him officially. Again there were parades and processions and huge crowds which gathered at the Coliseum and waited more than two hours to hear the President speak. People began to arrive before 6 o'clock and by 6:30, when the doors were opened, the crowd was immense. Nine thousand persons listened to him declare, "America is the makeweight in the fortunes of mankind. How long shall we be kept waiting for the answer whether the world shall trust or despise us?" The following day part of his speech was reprinted in a front-page box by the *Des Moines Register*. This excerpt, besides presenting one angle of the significance of the Senate delay over ratification, is a good example of Wilson's eloquence:

"There was another thing we wanted to do, that is done in this document (the peace of Versailles). We wanted to see that helpless people were nowhere in the world put at the mercy of unscrupulous enemies and masters. There is one pitiful example which is in the hearts of all of us. I mean the example of Armenia. There was a Christian people, helpless, at the mercy of a Turkish government which thought it the service of God to destroy them. And at this moment it is an open question whether the Armenian people will not, while we sit here and debate, be absolutely destroyed.

When I think of words piled on words, of debate following debate, when these unspeakable things that cannot be handled until the debate is over are happening in these pitiful parts of the world, I wonder that men do not wake up to the moral responsibility of what they are doing.

“Great peoples are driven out upon a desert where there is no food and can be none, and they are compelled to die and then men, women and children are thrown into a common grave, so imperfectly covered up that here and there is a pitiful arm stretched out to heaven and there is no pity in the world. When shall we wake to the moral responsibility of this great occasion?”

“One of the glories of the great document which I brought back with me is this: That everywhere within the area of settlement covered by the political questions involved in that treaty, peoples of that sort have been given their freedom and guaranteed their freedom.

“To reject that treaty, to alter that treaty, is to impair one of the first characters of mankind. And yet there are men who approach the question with passions, with private passion and party passion, who think only of some immediate advantage to themselves or to a group of their fellow countrymen, and who look at the thing with the jaundiced eyes of those who have some private purpose of their own.

“When at last, in the annals of mankind they

are gibbeted, they will regret that the gibbet is so high."

The emotion behind this plea was so evidently sincere that most Iowa editors, regardless of the political affiliations of their papers, were inclined to agree with the *Des Moines Register* that, "There is this to be said for President Wilson, he has always been on the large side." Today as the peace following World War II likewise totters precariously, Wilson's crusade which took him to Des Moines and caused his collapse twenty days later seems even more significant. As one editor said of him then, "It is the measure of big men that they are on the big side of big events."

JEAN B. KERN