

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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NEWS RELEASE

Ralph E. Becker, Chairman
THE YOUNG REPUBLICAN NATIONAL FEDERATION

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Mock Republican National Conventions in colleges and high schools are sweeping the country, judging by the requests for Convention material pouring into the Republican National Committee headquarters here.

Mock Conventions are almost as old as the Republican Party itself. Although many colleges claim the credit for holding the original one, Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, is usually acknowledged as the founder of this growing tradition. In 1860 Oberlin students held their first Mock Convention and nominated Abraham Lincoln. Since that time Oberlin has held twenty-two such Conventions, nineteen of which were Republican.

Oberlin Students have voted to hold a Republican Mock Convention in May, a few months before the official Republican National Convention convenes in Philadelphia. Northern Michigan College of Education and several high schools have announced plans for similar Mock Conventions this year. Temple University

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UNIVERSITY will be host to more than one hundred schools from five states when its Model National Republican Convention assembles February twenty-sixth. The Convention

bug is sweeping the country, which is a healthy sign as it is an excellent example of popular government in action.

The directors of Mock Conventions exercise particular care to make the Conventions as realistic as possible. Authentic material is furnished by the Republican National Committee through the Young Republican National Federation. 

Delegates are chosen in realistic fashion, political rallies are held complete with the traditional Republican elephant, posters are plastered all over the campus and favorite son campaign buttons blossom on the lapels of collegians. 

On the serious side, the leading issues of the day are discussed intelligently, keynoters are selected and a permanent chairman elected. Public officials are brought in to express their views on current subjects.

Party platforms are formulated with the utmost care and regard for the viewpoints of the delegates. A special area is set aside for the press at the Mock Conventions, and in recent years proceedings have been broadcast.

Educators feel the device of holding Mock Conventions is one of the best methods discovered to date to acquaint students with the process of choosing a Presidential candidate.

Politics and conventions in particular are truly American, and Mock Con-

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Write: Frank Teller
re changing lead.