LEXINGTON, Va., Mar. 20 -- Francis R. Russell, of Sunderland, Mass., will

direct the Massachusetts delegation of 35 students in the mock Republican con-

vention to be held at Washington and Lee University April 20-21, when the students

will stage a realistic simulation of the national GOP convention to be held this

summer in Philadelphia.

As "state GOP chairman" Russell will be charged with the responsibility of
determining as nearly as possible the voting policy to be followed in the national

convention by the real-life counterparts of his "delegation." This will be ac-

complished both by personal contact and by correspondence. State primaries and

other political barometers are also being followed closely by all of the mock con-

vention "state chairmen."

This close investigation by student leaders into actual political developments
injects an element of realism and accuracy into the mock convention. Five times
since its inception as an all-student event forty years ago, the W. & L. men have
tagged a "nominee" and seen the choice later sustained in the genuine national con-

ventions. Only three "bum steers" have been charged against the student politicians

in their eight quadrennial attempts since 1908. No conventions were held in 1920

and 1944.

Following a traditional policy of staging a realistic convention preview of
the party currently out of power, authentic national Republican convention

procedure will be followed almost to the letter.

The mock affair will be directed entirely by university students with counsel
furnished by the political science, history, and law faculties. Like the genuine

convention, it will bring together 1094 "delegates" representing all the states and
territories.

Russell is the son of Mrs. Mary R. Russell, 46 Russellville Road, Sunderland.