

MEMO FOR: Frank Fuller

RE: Mock Republican National Convention at Washington and Lee.

One of the nation's outstanding political forecasting records will be at stake.....etc.

The W&L mock convention is being recognized as a sound political barometer as evidenced by the elaborate, all-out cooperation being accorded it by leading G.O.P. interests all over the country.

Students who are serving as chairmen of the various state and territorial delegations have been collecting data for weeks in an effort to follow the proper voting line in choosing a G.O.P. presidential nominee.

FRANK: See attached clipping headed "Mock Chairman Meet Opposites." Photos of these students meeting their real life counterparts have already been taken by LIFE for use in their story.)

FRANK: See also paragraph marked with red pencil on the enclosed copy of our memo to managing editors).

Campaigns for the various leading G.O.P. "potentials" have been vigorously waged on the W&L campus as a convention prelude. Campaign headquarters for Taft, Dewey, Stassen, Vandenburg, Governor Dwight Green of Illinois, one of the leading "favorite son" candidates, and others have been established on the campus or in town. Several campaign headquarters have been set up in local hotels, with the usual provisions for caucus room and behind-the-scenes activity. Realism is the convention's keynote.

These various campaign headquarters are in frequent communication with the real headquarters of GOP candidates.

FRANK: I don't know how you would use this in a story without mentioning names, but the liaison between the college kids and the real candidates' campaign headquarters is amazing. The Vandenburg national hqtrs. and the collegians are in telephone contact for about half an hour every day, the former instructing the latter on the technique of how to get Mister Vandenburg nominated. It's really slick if it works. Last night they instructed the college Vandenburgers in the art of holding back at first and then trying to stampede the convention when it deadlocks on Taft,

Dewey and Stassen. They even suggested that they would not place Vandenburg's name in nomination at Philadelphia but would try it on a belated stampede basis.

The convention parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday and the whole town is expected to turn out for it, to see half a dozen bands, floats, animals and elements that will be "secret" until parade time.

L.B.