## 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

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## THE PALIMPSEST

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-

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## WILSON IN IOWA

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dent. Everywhere the crowd was not a little curious to see the President's bride, the much-talkedof 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 ropedoff 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

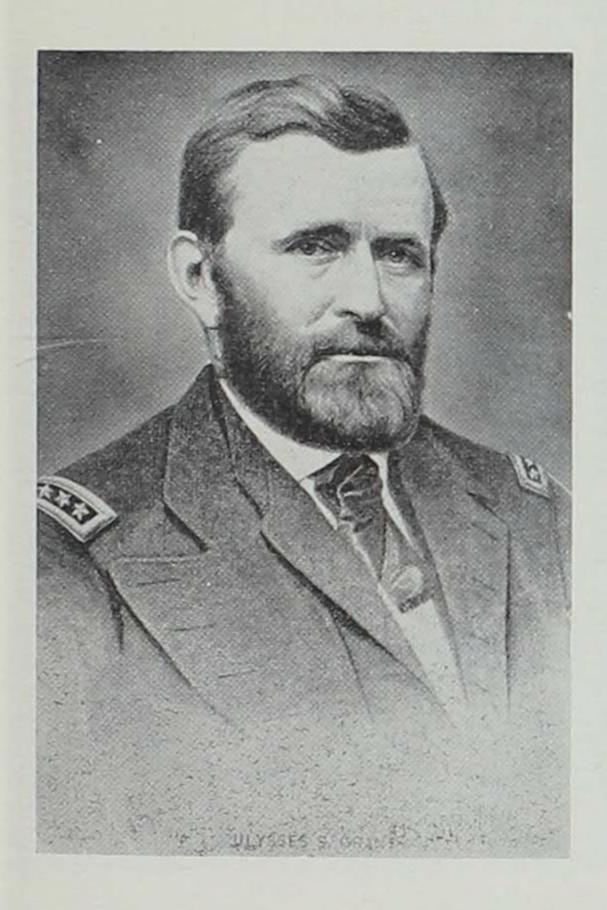
## THE PALIMPSEST

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 come 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.

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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

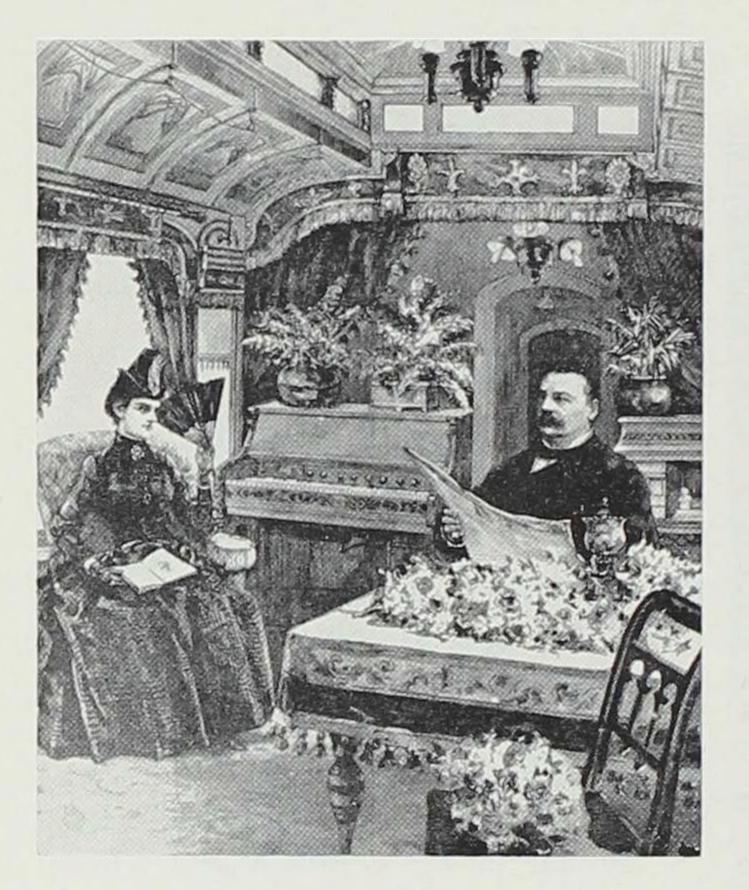
Grant came to Des Moines to address the Army of the Tennessee at their annual meeting.

## 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 un-

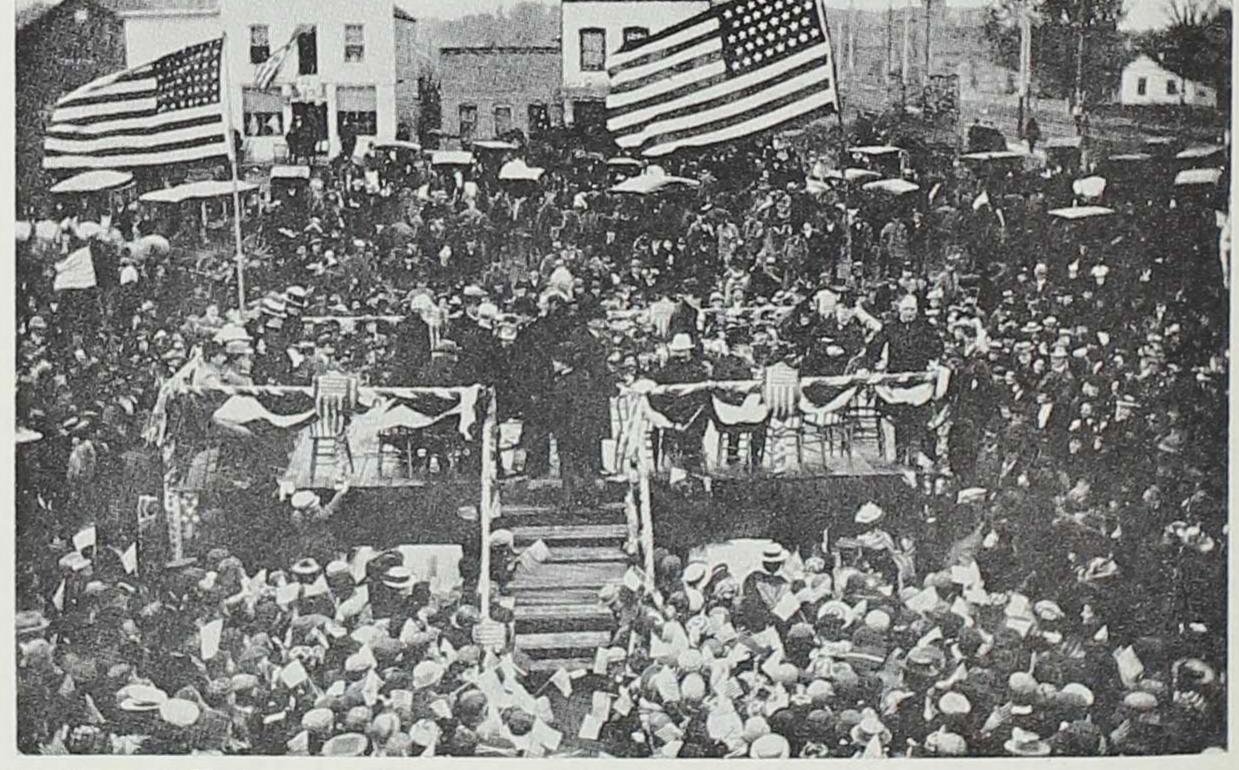
ostentatious presence, - his first visit to the Capital of Iowa. He will meet from our people a Des Moines welcome - sincere, hearty, and Western. In the grateful hearts of Iowa men and Iowa women he is first after Abraham Lincoln. Among the rest is Gen. Sherman, known and loved by every boy in blue, 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

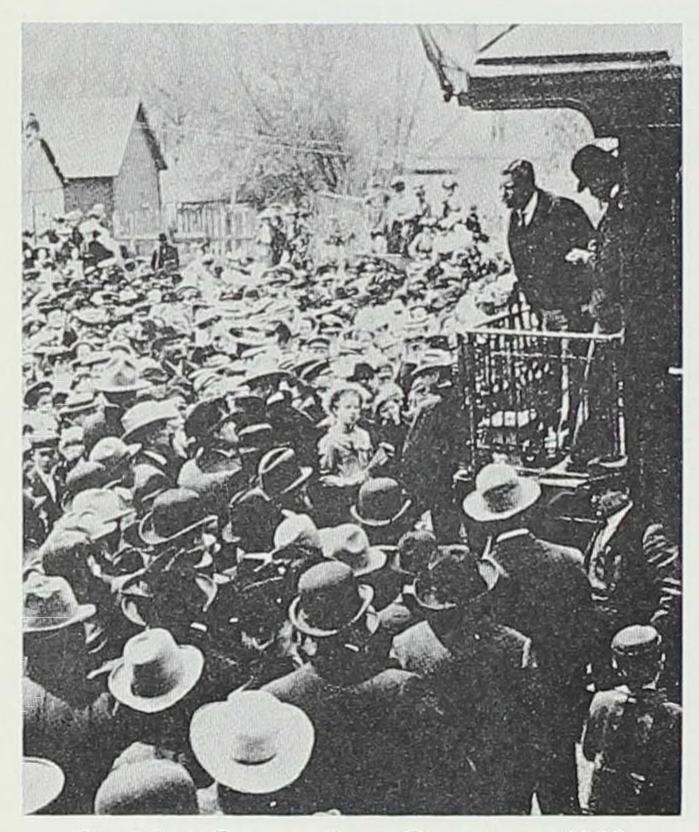


President Roosevelt at Carroll in 1903.

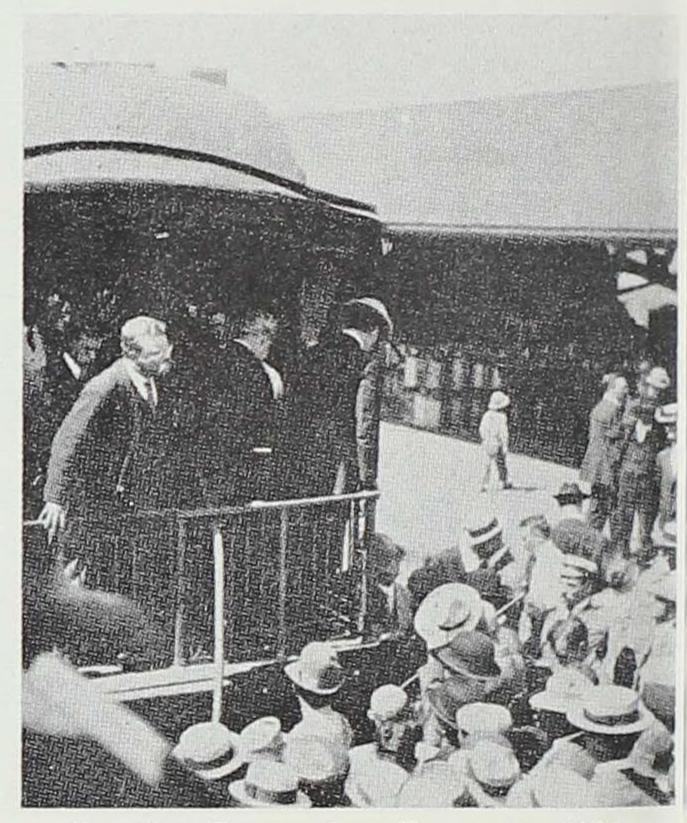


President Roosevelt with Des Moines Boy Scouts.

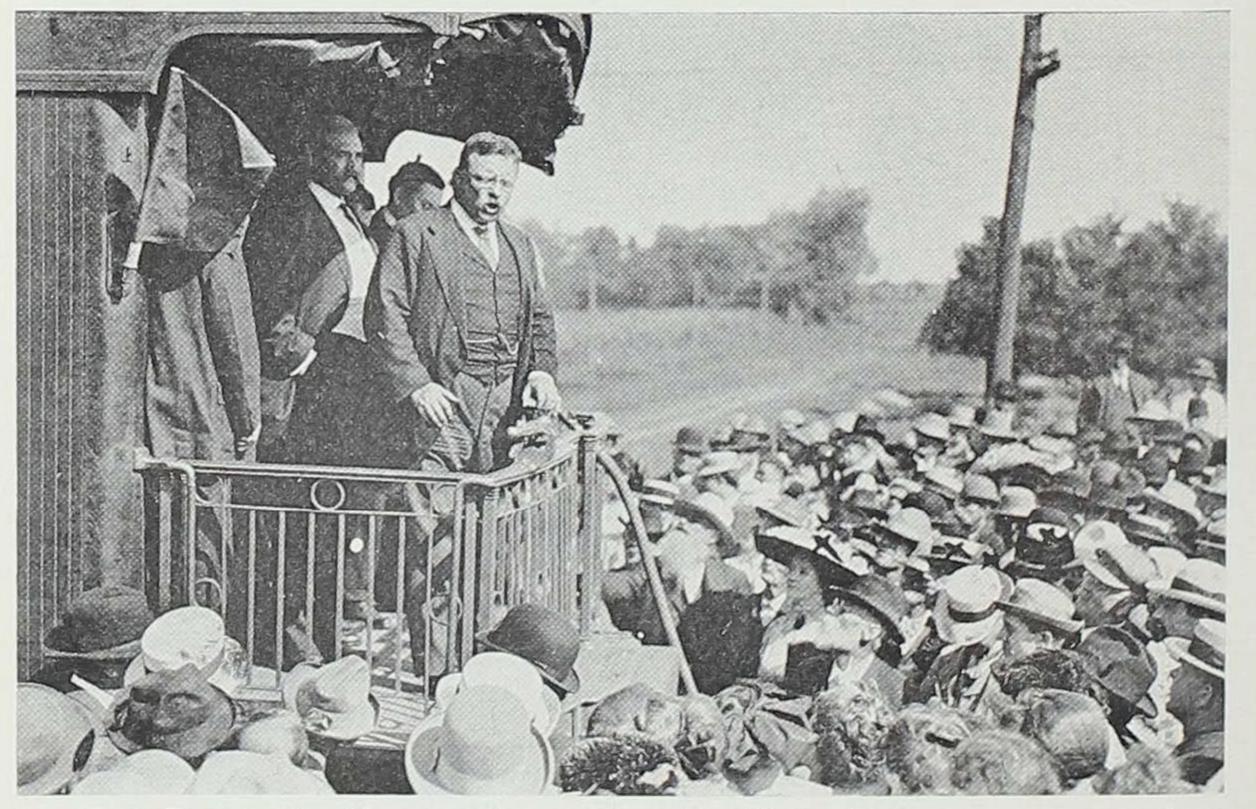
## THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN IOWA



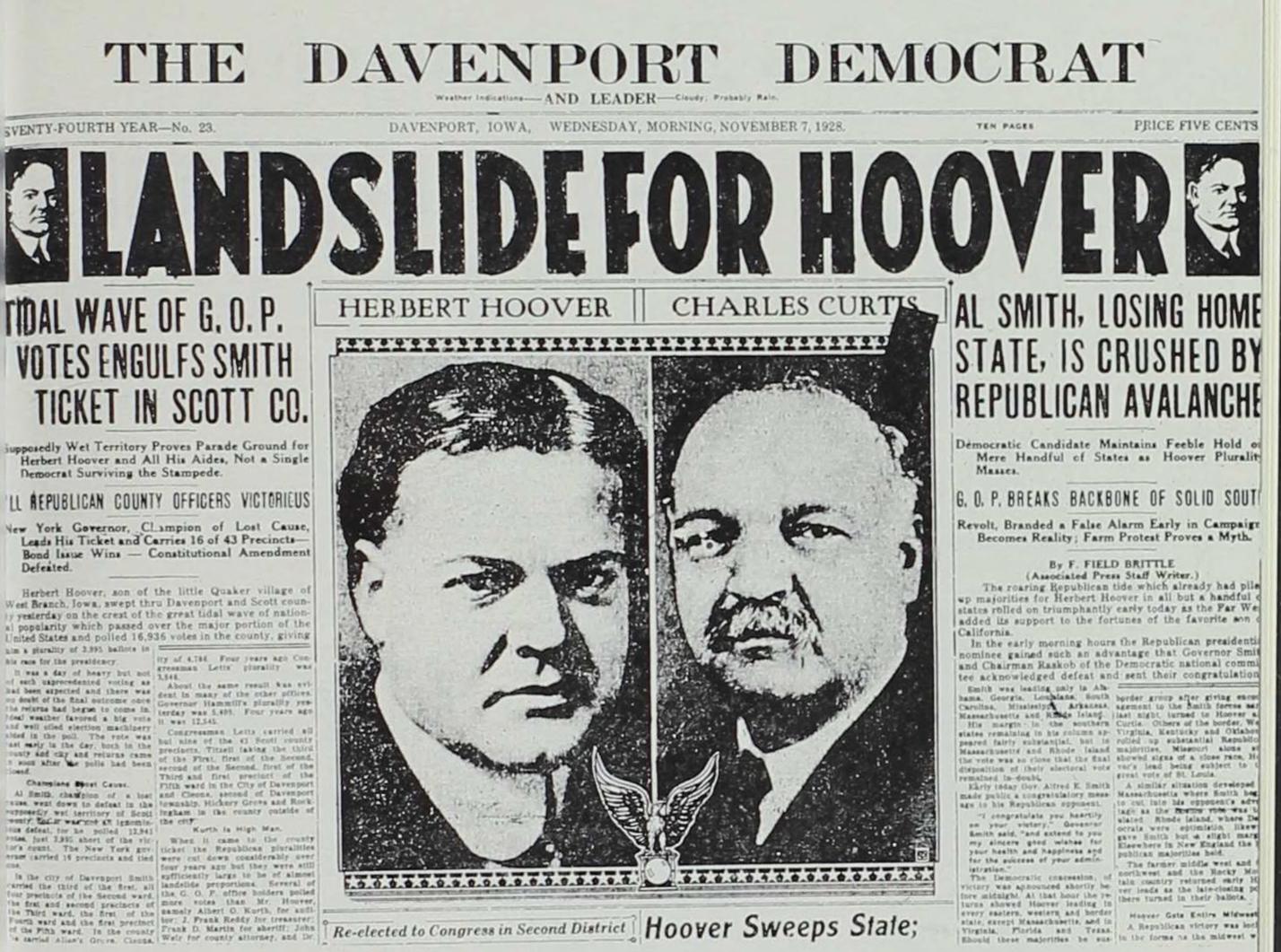
President Roosevelt at Osceola in 1903.



President Roosevelt at Denison in 1903.



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



Election of first Iowa-born President widely acclaimed.



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

THE WEATHER .... Fair and warmer. The slay's record including weather reports and other statistics, on page 18. The Des Moines Register

PRICE MARKS 3 CENTS-NOL #

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

on Eve of Big

Conference.

By C. C. Cliffest.

(Biald Writed )

Rocsevelt and governors of five

other states at the drought con-

His preparations have been made

ostensibly for an ordinary confer-

ence with the president by himself

politics involved." The care with

which he has assembled data in-

dicates that while he believes it

good politics not to seek any po-

litical advantage from the spec-

tacular meeting, he is alert against

causing any unfavorable reaction.

First Blace 1968.

opposing presidential candidates-

election.

pendence, Las.

After all today's meeting brings

in a group of governors, with "no

ference in Des Molnes today.

The Des Maines Register and Tributa Re-More Than a Quarter Million Circulation

PRESIDENT ON

WAY, FEAR O

POLITICS GOM

Puts Kansans Seco

or Third on His

Calling List.

By Richard Wilson.

## ROOSEVELT, LANDON HERE TODAY Brunet, 16, Wins Health Title KANSAN ALERT TO SITUATION

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

Edith Belknap Scores 99.4 Pct.; 97 in Contest.

## Attendance

1934 1935 8,845 Wednesday 8,689 11,484 10.608 Thursday. 56.361 60,132 Friday 47,543 Baturday 35,637 27.781 \$6.322 Nunday Munday 35.052 31.728 45,485 34,701 Tursday 50,488 85,000\* Wednesday \$7,718 Thursday. \*Katimated.

(Lie) of Fair Awards on Page 18, Pic

Edith Belknap, 16, blueeyed brunet from Des Moines county, was named Iowa 4-H club girl health champion Wednesday at the lowa state fair.

The product of four generations of Iows farm folk, Edith lives on 150 acres of land seven miles northeast of Mediapolis, Ia. - the same land her great-grandfather humestaaded in pioneer days. She is the oldest of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Belknap.

"Never Expected" II.



## Roosevelt-Landon Day

The program for Roosevelt and Landon day, as definitely as it could be mapped out Wednesday night, fol-HE NOW FACES

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 Crams' Like Student Joseph H. Allen, who will escort President Roosevelt to statehouse.

The route to the capitol:

North on Fifth aye, to Walnut st., west to Twelfth st.; north to Locust st.; east to E. Ninth st., north to E. Grand TOPEKA, KAN. - Gov. ave., east to E. Tweifth st., south to E. Walnut s., west to Alf M. Landon Wednes-E. Ninth st., north to statehouse private drive. day "crammed" on Kansas

12:30 p. m .--- Gov. Alf M. Landon and other governors drought experience like a and United States senators leave Hotel Fort Des Moines student before semester exby same route for statehouse. aminations, to meet President

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.

12:30 p. m .- Governor Herring calls trought conference scheduled to be second or this 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 Lehand guests of Mrs. Herring for dinner.

together, for the first time since, Notables Arriving, Taft and Bryan met in 1908, the Crowds Jam City 1000 NDM of Brought Law just two months to a day before Governor Landon announced he will be accompanied to Des Moines

(Postared of Page 11.)

TOPEKA, KAN, (P) -Hotels and streets in Des Moines were crowded Wednes- imanship in a sommon Gov. Alf M. Landon had a day night as notables began arriving for one of the nation's deal with a drought calami new campaign hat Wednesbig news events of 1936-the meeting of President Roosevalt graphically impressed upor day - a lightweight gray Among sariy arrivall bere Goy. Ouy B. Fark of Missouri, aster and conferences with felt - presented by Mayor and Governor Landon at a drought conference today. Balph Mitchell of Inde-Gev. Historiar Peterses of Minne-

ABOARD PRESIDE ROOSEVELTS TR CROSSING NEBRASK/ President Roosevelt is on way to Des Moines to today with Gov. Alf M. don on the common gr of the drought emergence The Republican preside

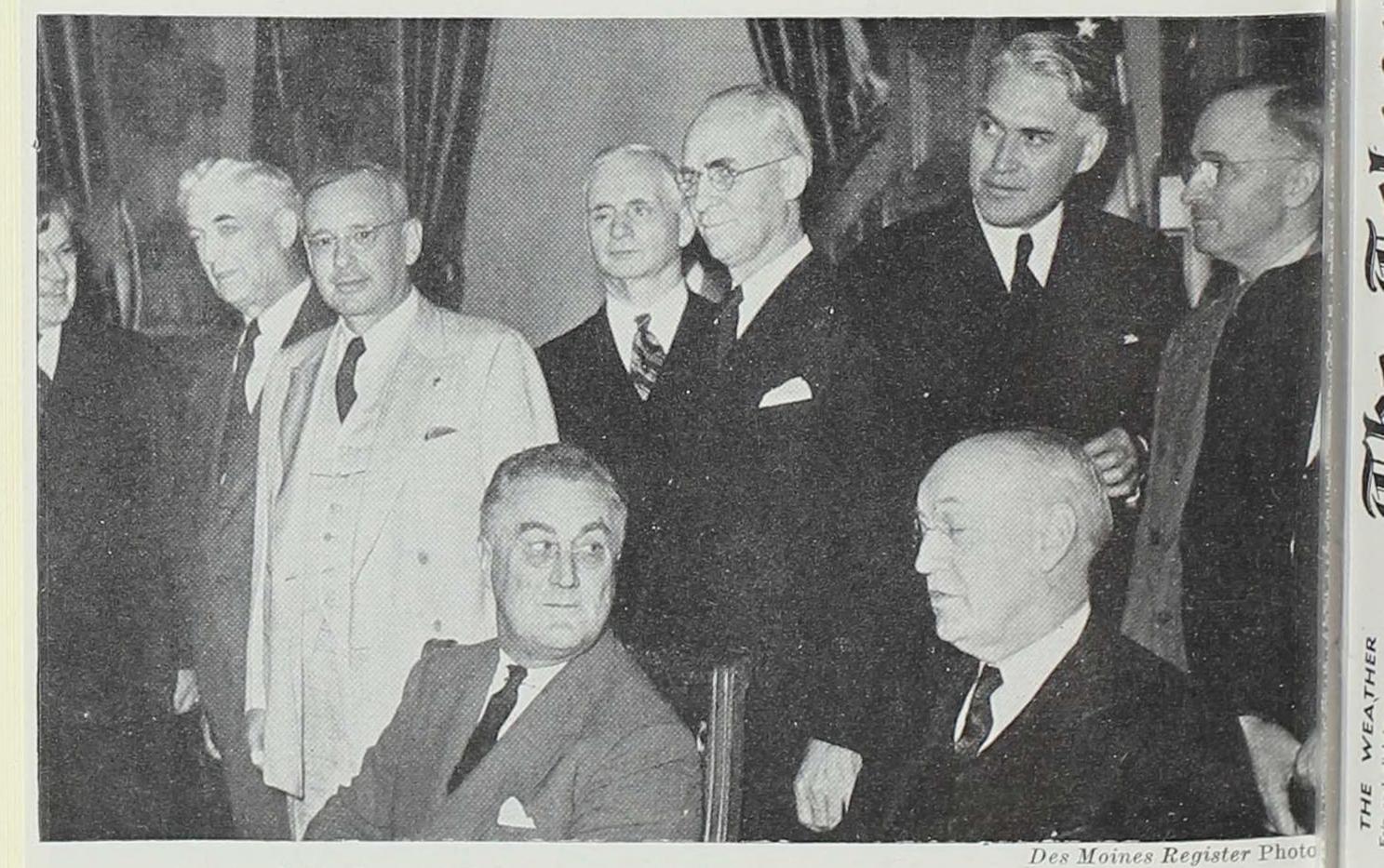
omines and his advisors, federal officials of Mansas. the procession of governors officials who will discuss will president the immediate dri

stiuation and its longtime as this afternoon in lows's capital Fears Dissolved.

Early fears of Roosevall visers of political demonstra in Das Molnes have been das and they now anticipals o enose which will noise the tern of all those hald will

The president's advisors not common with Oor that in Landon they have laid aside

Drought Conference in Des Moines made headlines in 1936.



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.



EVENING EDITION

DUBUQUE, IOWA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1940

NUMBER 89 -16 PAGES

## 

# ign Alliance Aimed at U.S.

As Willkie Special Arrived in Dubuque Friday

Create New Order

In Europe, Asia

Powers Unite To

S. Reply May Take Mutual Aid Pledged

Against New Foes

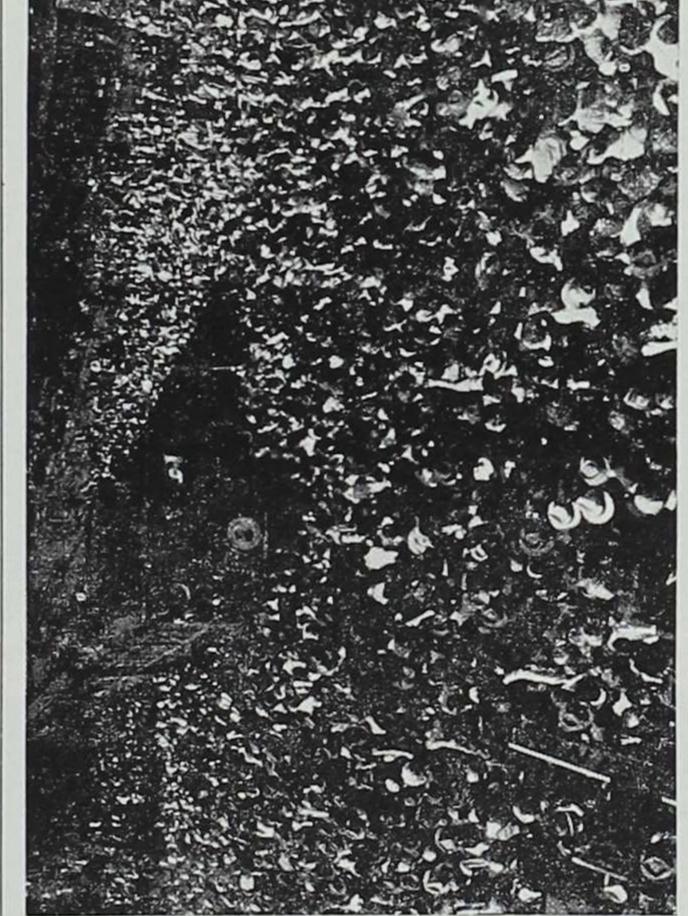
Form of More Aid To Britain

5

Entering War

U. S. IS WARNED

FDR IS SILENT



Planes Over England

entering either the Europea an implicit warnin With Adolf Hitler as an onloo the Rome-Herlin foreign mini rs and the Japanese ambassad Berlin signed a solemn 10-litary and economic treaty de to join their tcan ad to Berl tran ad military ter help ing the 11

one-for-all and all-for

of ald

ided a new totalitarian bloc

o military alilance may welded a 1 zm of increased aid to day with

BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER

Hull come the All even of the

rlcan

## THE WEATHER

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





## CENTS; VOLUME 106 5 PRICE,



## IN ADDRESS **AS DICTATOR ASSAILS FDR**

Burke, Illinois Central ad detective, and local po-ere on the lockout at the ie gathering here Friday noon for two pickpockets.

ere Willkie ockets had operated its where the Will-made stop, robbing

r points

grey-haired men ounds each, the

Described

Waterloo

ockets were racing the spe-om point to point by auto-

ckbockets

Arrives Here Late, But Talks 20 Minutes To Big Crowd

charged 1 to dic-ction of ed innque gave Wendell Willkie, lican candidate for presidestruction ho, he char he road to self-sty g us on the and the de wers in man.

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

to

ples

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

in the platfor

made an elġ normally vote 2 to address from e tousled minute Ξ

undreds of school e given a half-day ccasion, accorded a as the speundreds of 0 flon as

I arrived in late, but he of the The nd Congression-turn introduced more than an a ond Congre oduced Clinto Republic 10

10 his arms in inted Willkie. Into Wilson

f the Democrats are Andrew Jackson, they ber that Jackson bal-udget. Therefore any this crowd who be-acksonian Democracy the budget. ote fo

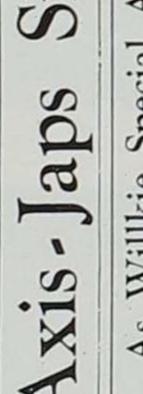
entralization y fought a war emocrats in Du-Democratic lead Civil War wer hem as their d vote for me nother the the pe ccept the ders before th o if any that ade nbnq

d was so centralization do that." times, Grove would not do Third Term ent more relief 10.0

n more modern i time and again tion and a third d out Woodrow 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. d that Cleveland's son father had declined a He then said that W' that his third term. WIIIki

worked hat the failed completely to a end to the depres He said he had belie with and worked for

te suid he was ask- Nazis I ected because the depression. dida

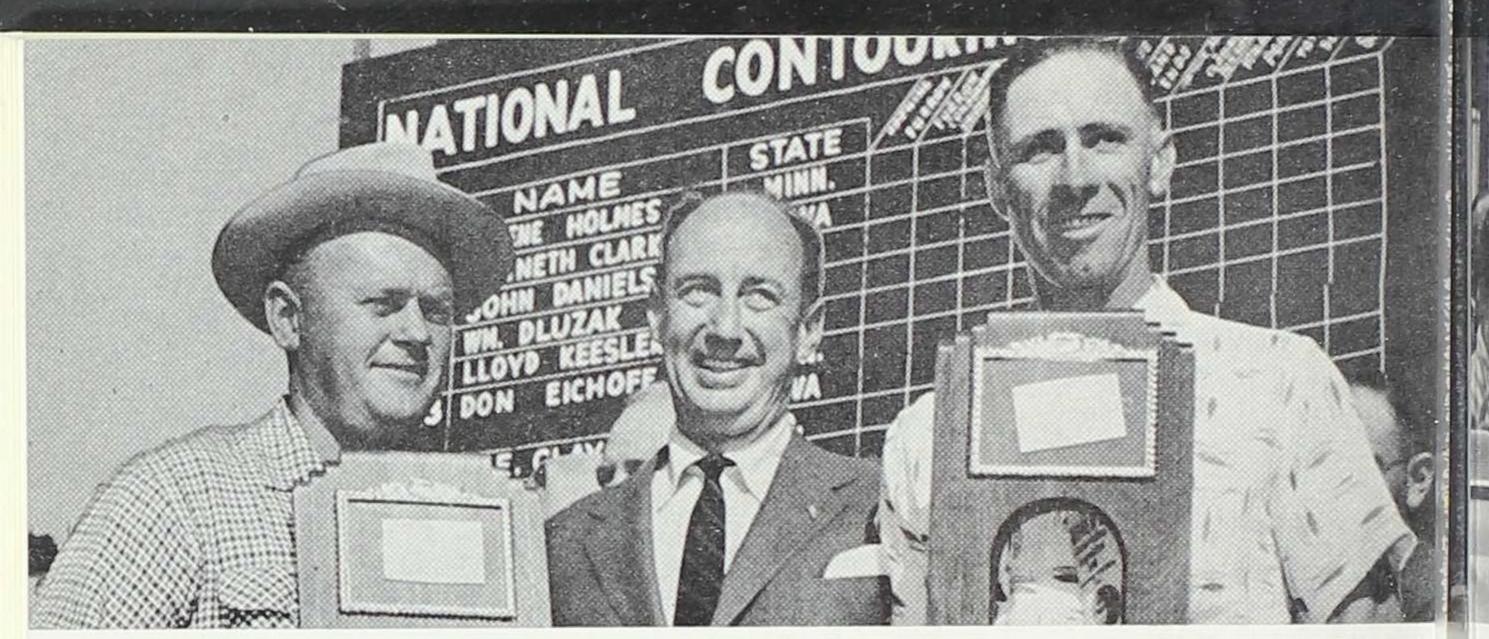


For 2 Pickpockets

Keep Close Watch

National election by almost 5.000.000 votes Willkie won Iowa in 1940 but lost

Lose 122



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



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).



Wight and Mamie Eisenhower at Boone (1952).

948)

Adlai Stevenson in Des Moines (1956).

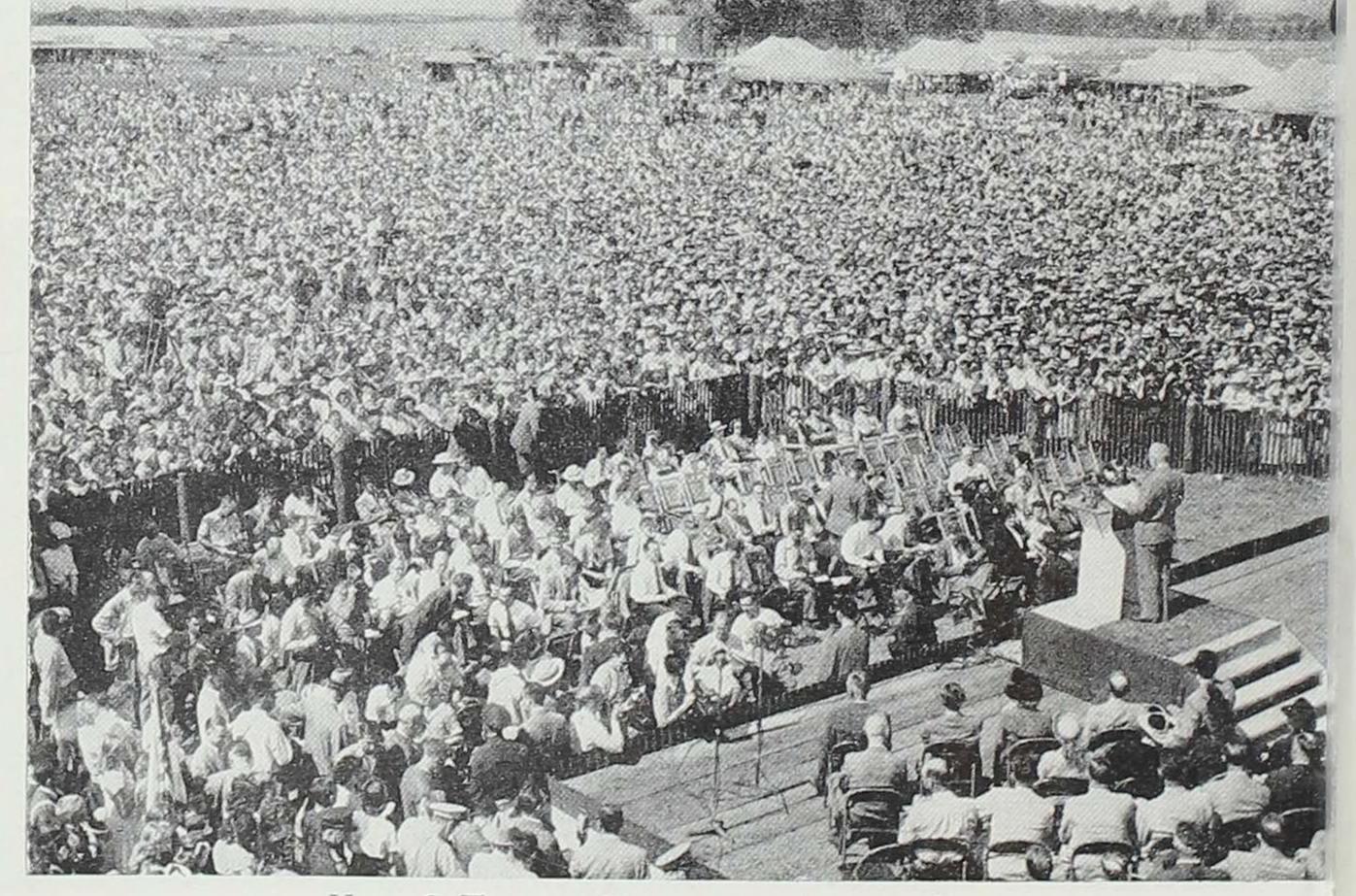


Vice Pres. Richard M. Nixon, Robert E. Waggoner, and Wm. Murray in Fort Dodge (1958). All pictures in centerspread courtesy Des Moines Register.



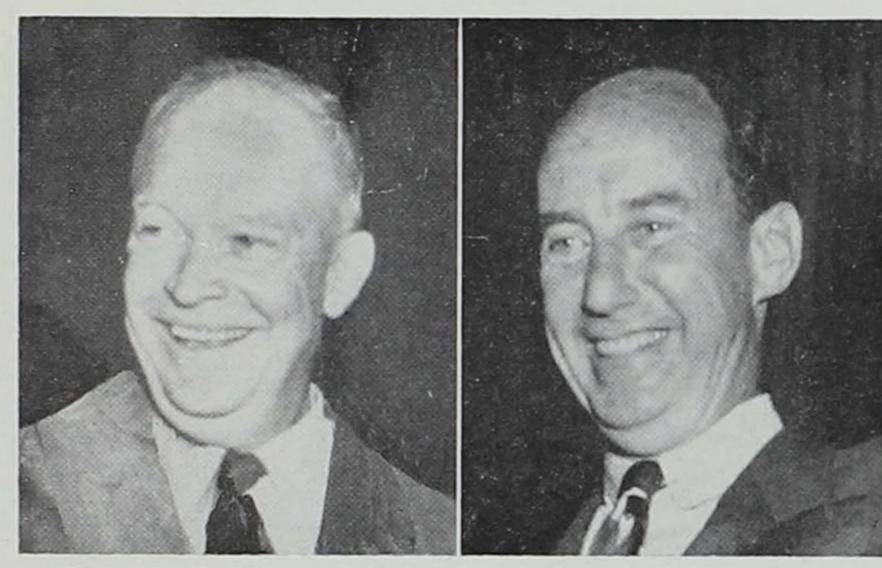


Thomas E. Dewey greets Davenporters at railroad station.



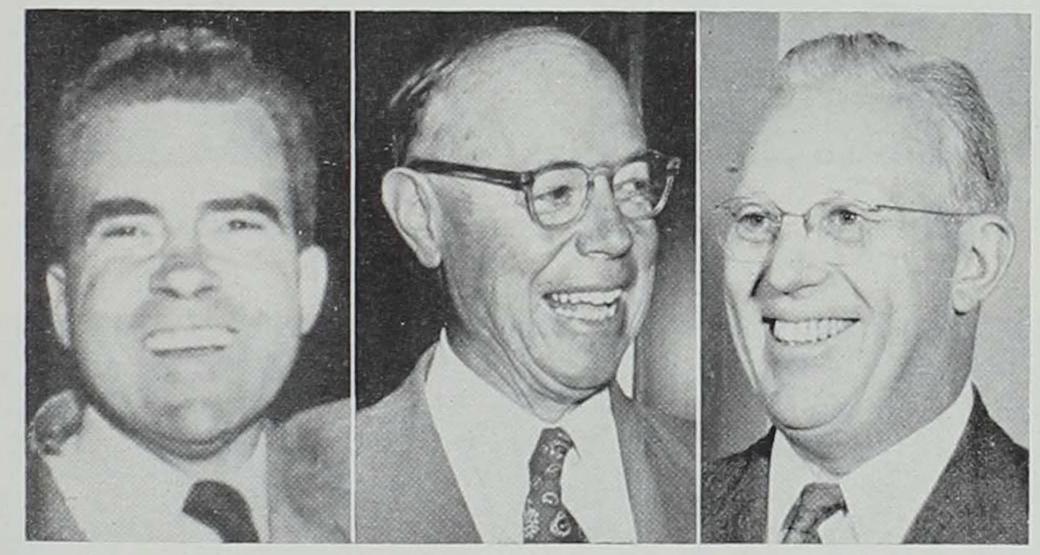
Harry S. Truman addresses giant throng at Dexter.

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES IN 1952



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER ADLAI STEVENSON

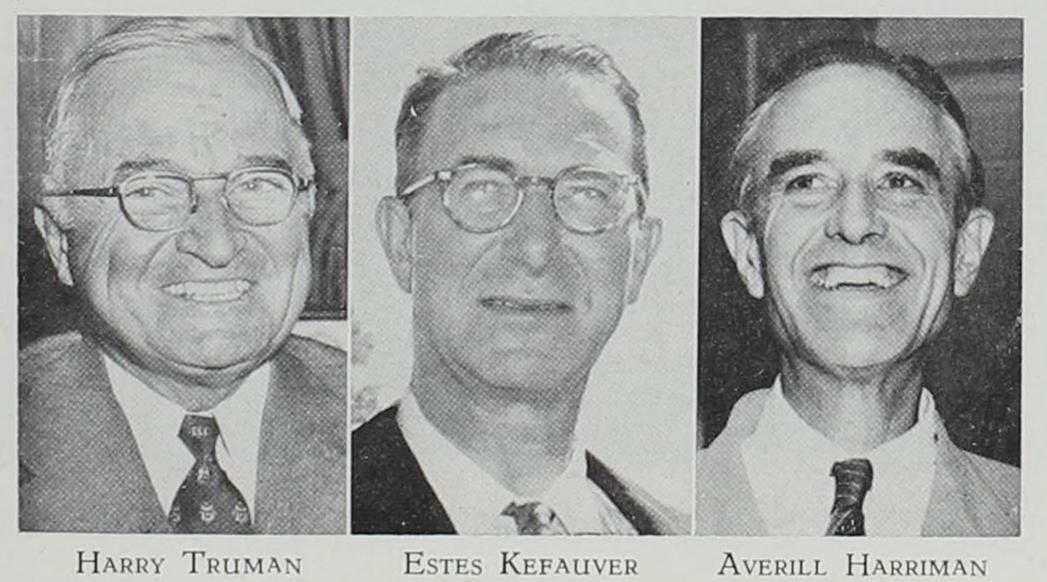
## REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGNERS



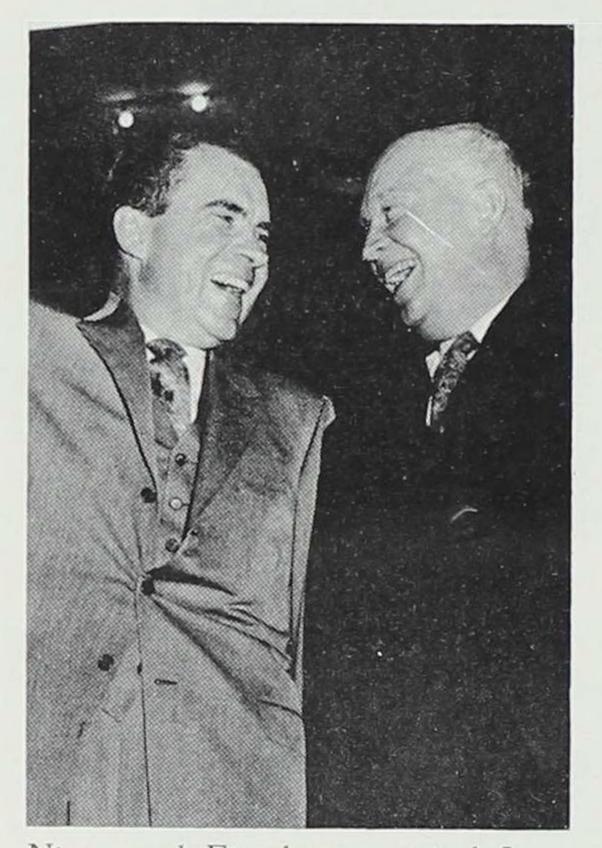
RICHARD NIXON

ROBERT TAFT EARL WARREN

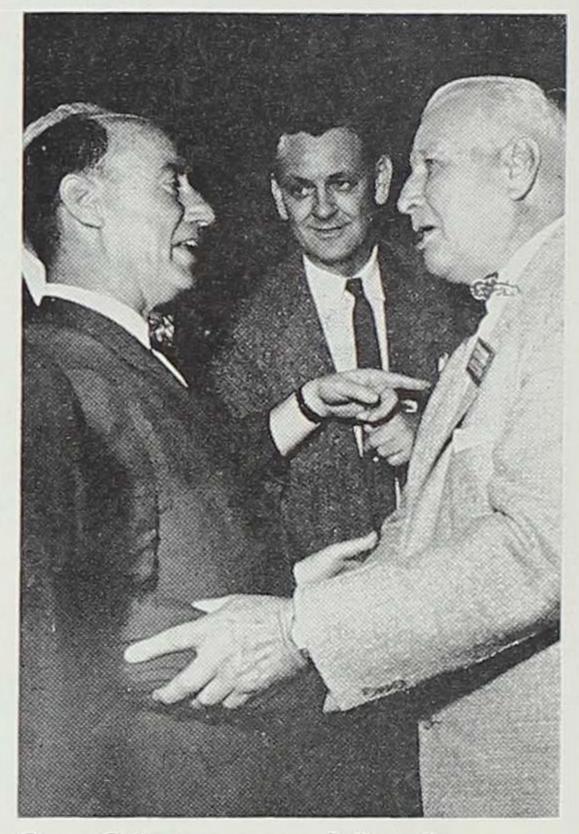
DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGNERS



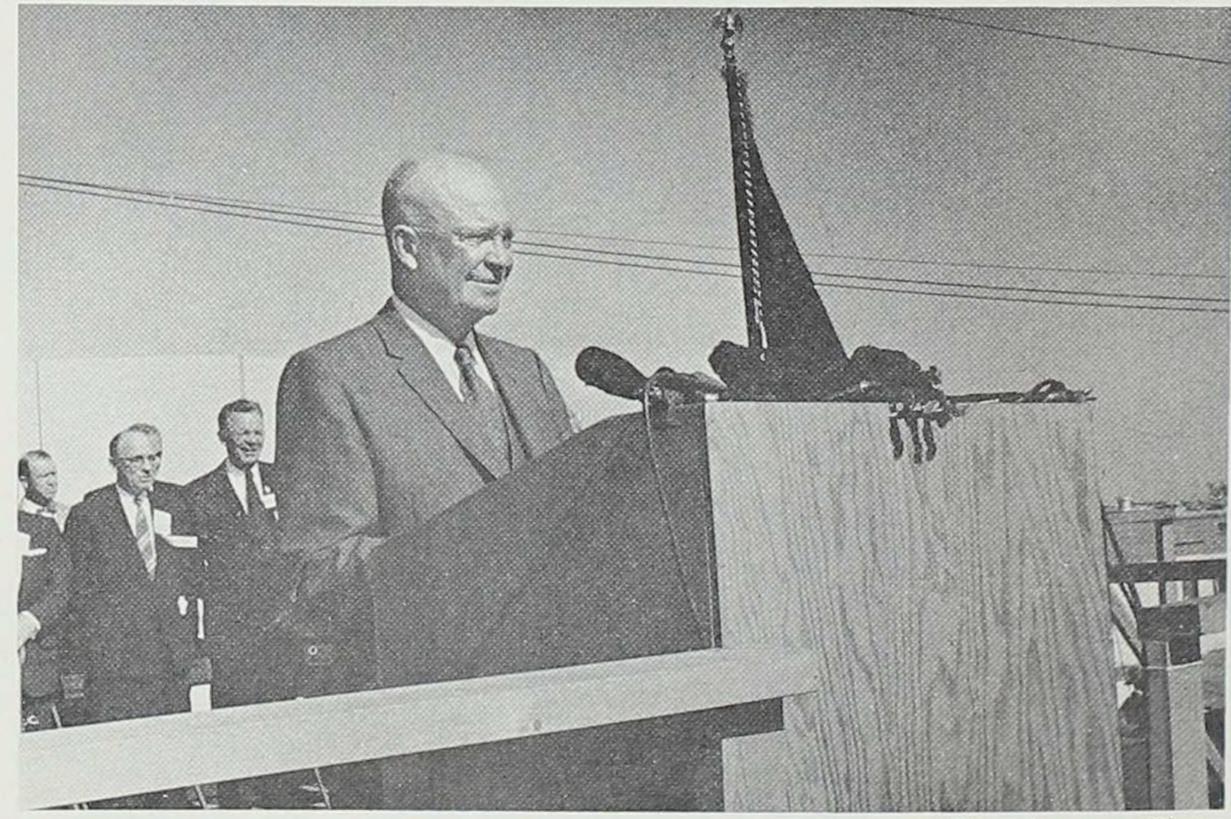
## THE EISENHOWER ERA



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

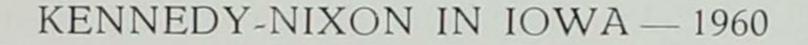


Guy Gillette greets Adlai Stevenson as George Mills "Listens in."



Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.

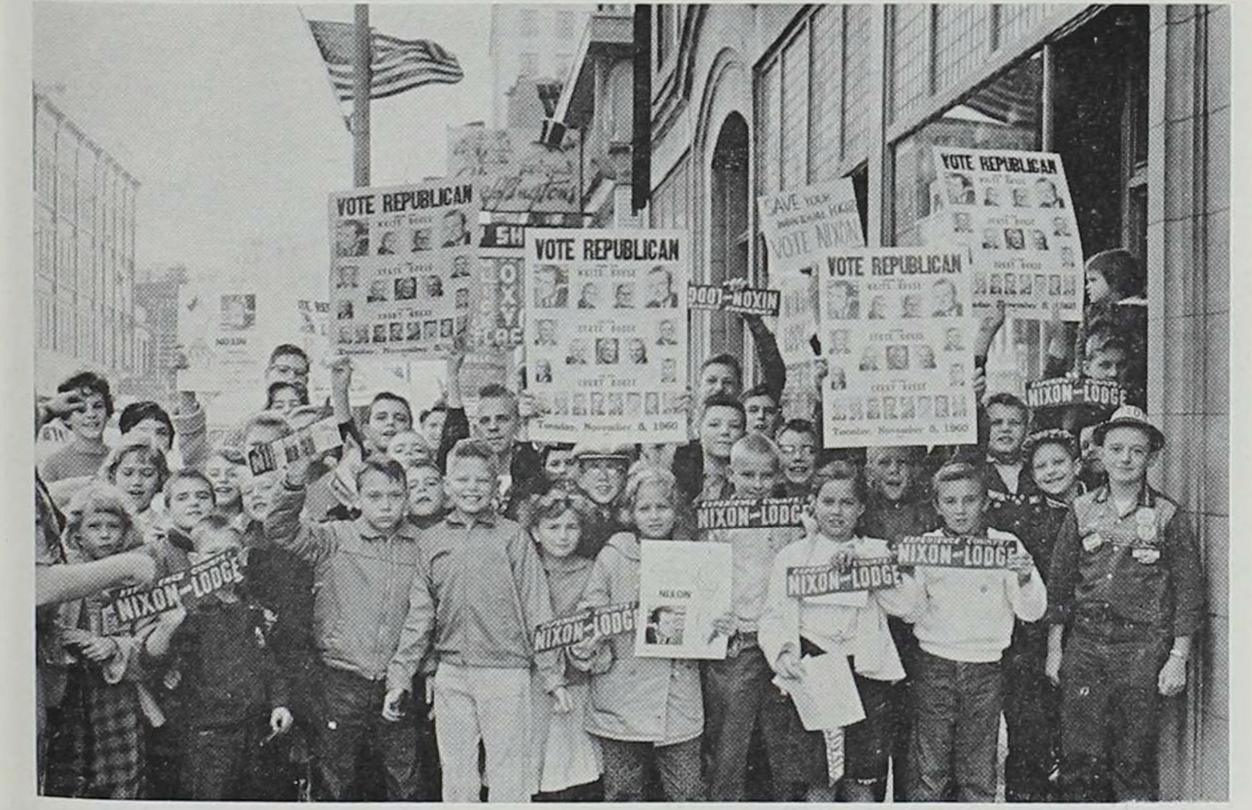
President Eisenhower addresses Iowa audiences in 1958. Senator Hickenlooper and Gubernatorial aspirant William G. Murray stand in rear of platform.





Davenport Times-Democrat Photo. Kennedy and Nixon meet just before their first Nation-wide Television debate.

10



Davenport Times-Democrat Photo.

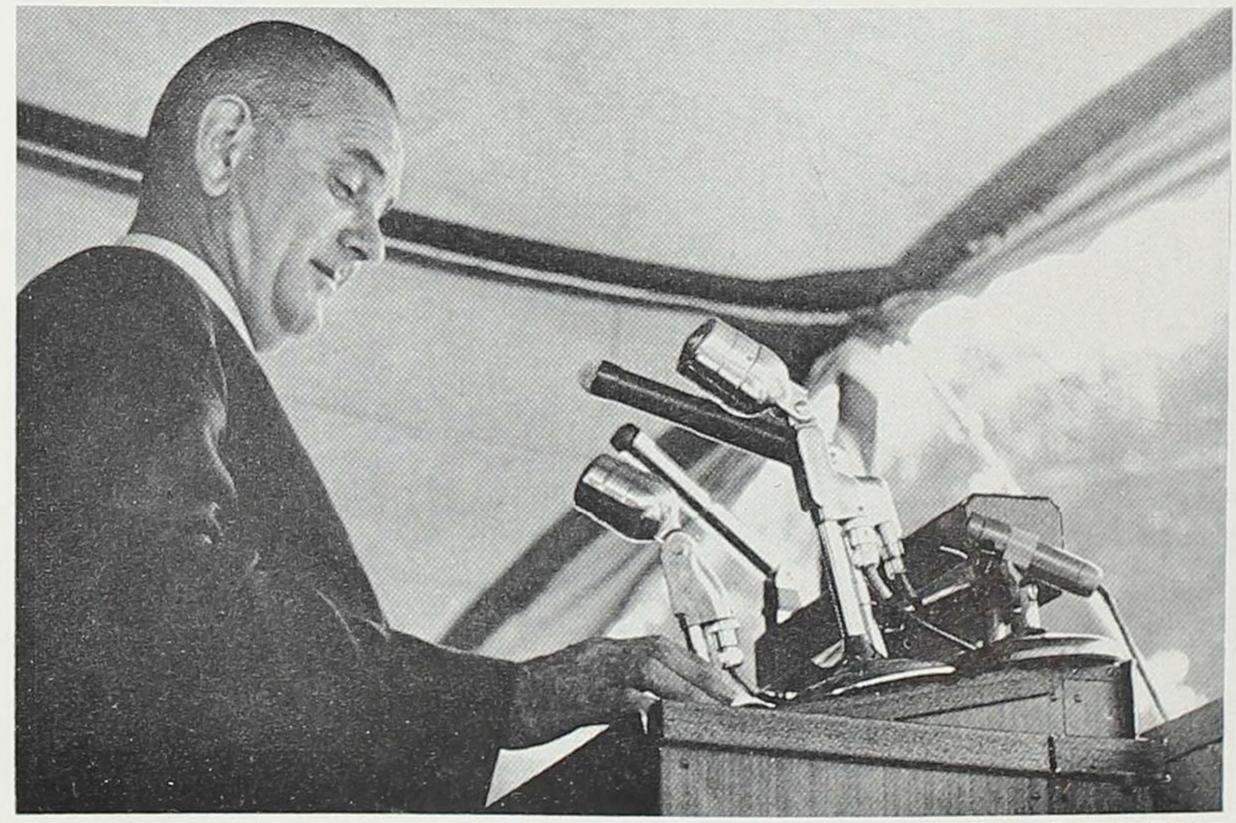
Davenport youngsters boost Nixon-Lodge ticket.

## 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.



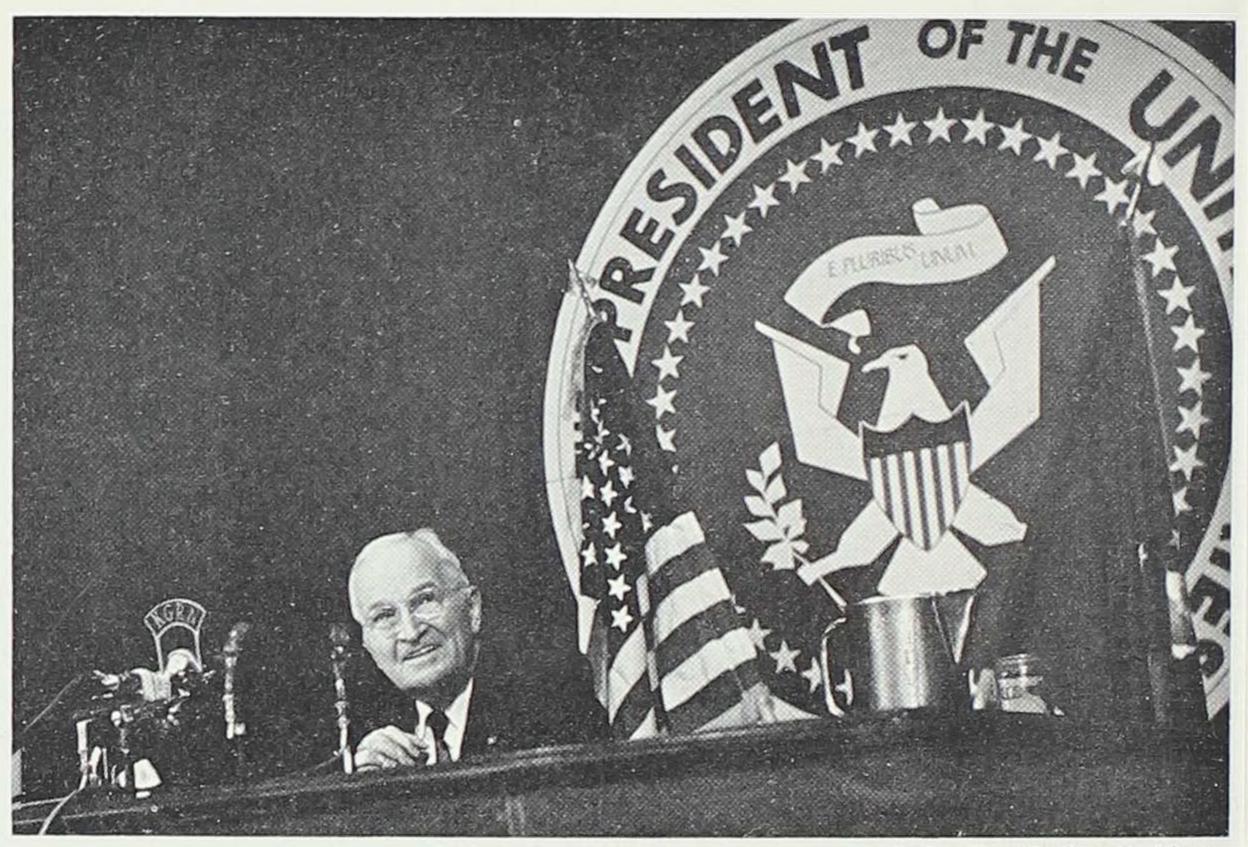
Cedar Rapids Gazette Photo.

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.

## WILSON IN IOWA 297

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.

9mc

-

## THE PALIMPSEST

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

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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

## WILSON IN IOWA 299

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

