

Presidential Candidate Big Factor in Election

By CLYDE BLACKBURN
Canadian Press Staff Writer

A contest of personalities faces the voters of the United States next Nov. 4 when they will elect a new President. The two candidates are strong personalities—probably the most appealing to enter a presidential campaign since the 1944 election.

It will be a difficult decision for those masses of voters outside the loyal party groups who will cast the straight ticket regard- ing personalities.

That huge, fairly independent bloc of the electorate will swing the balance. Governor Adlai Ewing Stevenson, 52, staidous and quietly able son of a great family, is the task of perpetuating the 40-year-old hold of the liberal government by the liberal government since Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated Herbert Hoover in 1932.

Stevenson's chief claim to political leadership is his record-breaking victory over Republicans in 1948 when he became the fourth Democratic governor of Illinois in 1949.

Stevenson is popular at home and abroad for his victorious leadership of Allied forces and for his sparkling personality.

Stevenson was not a presidential aspirant. He was sincere and humbly reluctant in the nomination of the most fair-minded of men. He remained that way to the last and probably is one of the few instances of complete unquestionable drafting of a man for the highest office in the country; also one of the most important responsibilities of the world.

Stevenson was a reluctant candidate for months. He resisted even the suggestion in 1952 when the real drive for him for 1952 began last year it took him months to get up his mind.

Stevenson is in the five weeks or so before the convention he threw himself with typical vigor into the campaign for the nomination.

Stevenson has the idea of the office of the man—which many should be the proper subject of political affairs—do not apply in the same degree to Stevenson as to the Democratic choice.

Stevenson is unlikely that either candidate if faced with the responsibility of office, would greatly alter the basic policies on foreign affairs which have guided the administration in recent years.

Stevenson's ideas on domestic problems in the major class are largely on the question of social appeal as to fitness and ability as national leaders in time of great stress and strain.

Stevenson's candidates have indicated they believe the past is something to learn from and not to be repeated without regard for the future.

Stevenson has claimed he or his opponent holds the key to the country's problems or has a monopoly on decency and honor in public affairs.

Stevenson has stressed the necessity of unity within party ranks, the desirability of retaining the party system and their be-

lief in the equal rights of all citizens regardless of color. Along about Sept. 1 these two leaders and their team of campaigners will begin their assault upon the voters. They plan to follow the course by which Harry Truman won his amazing victory in 1948—a direct personal appeal to as many voters as it is humanly possible to meet in the flesh.

It remains to be seen which will be most successful in that field. Eisenhower is more accustomed to meeting people of all types face to face and winning them but that experience was gained while he was in the glamorous role of a winning commander of the fighting forces. Stevenson is a shy and retiring man, not so stalwart or commanding a figure, bald like Ike and slightly shorter, but with a certain nobility and obvious sincerity which has brought many comparisons between him and Abe Lincoln.

Eisenhower has a happy family life. He is still married to his childhood sweetheart, the highly photogenic and pleasant-visaged "Mamie."

Stevenson lives alone with two of his teen-age sons in the governor's mansion in Springfield. His wife, beautiful and wealthy Ellen Borden, daughter of a wealthy Chicago family, divorced him in 1949 on grounds of incompatibility, complaining that his political life had come between them. Their oldest son is in the Marines.

Eisenhower has never had to give thought to the domestic issues of government at either the state or national level, apart from those which influenced the country's ability or willingness to provide a strong armed force. Stevenson is a grandson of a vice-president under Grover Cleveland, member of a long line of lawyers, a key man in the formation and development of the United Nations and a state governor since 1948.

He has long had to give deep thought to most of the problems which beset a president of the United States and he has that advantage over Eisenhower.

Both are believers in the comfort and guidance that comes from trust in the Divinity, if not dogmatic religionists. Neither can be expected to get down into the gutter of politics, engage in name-calling or carping criticism. Neither will claim all the virtues; excuse or at-



EDWARD T. HURLEY

E. T. Hurley To Direct CNR Tests

MONTREAL—Edward T. Hurley, prominent in the field of chemical research in Canada and who has been with the Canadian National Railways since the opening of its research laboratory at Montreal in 1945, has been appointed controller of tests and materials research for the company.

In his new post, Mr. Hurley assumes direction of the thousands of tests conducted annually at Canada's only railway laboratory.

These include the quality evaluation of the \$165 million worth of materials and supplies purchased annually by the railway; research into the development of new and better products; checking and revision of specifications for the diversity of requirements of the CN system, and scientific investigation for the claims department.

Mr. Hurley will attempt to justify errors or wrongdoing in their party ranks.

That part of the campaign will be left to party aides and it is doubtful if any sort of bitterness and acrimony will be approved by either.

Both can enter the fight of long-established party strings or obligations.

In the campaign for nomination Eisenhower made some whistle-stop speeches and reporters with him said he was a bit of a disappointment. He did not seem able to get into the hearts of his listeners. That may come with experience.

Each candidate has a characteristic that should be popular. They believe in short speeches with every word meaning something and in this Stevenson probably has the edge on the General.

DERBY, England (CP)—Most Rev. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, told a congregation here: "Because at the present time man can do almost everything but pray and calls his failings by almost every other name but sin, the Church of England is faced with a super-human task."

Pressure Started by Government To Push Defence Production Plans

By DOUG HOW
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP)—The men directing Canada's defence program are putting on a blitz in an effort to make up lost ground on a production schedule which they now concede was over-optimistic.

The American steel strike hasn't helped things.

At this stage, with the half-way mark coming nearer, there is a marked probability that the scheduled three-year, \$5,000,000,000 program to prepare the country for any eventuality will extend into a fourth year and cost closer to \$6,000,000,000.

The program was first announced in February 1951. Its highlights were plans to build the RCAF 3000 new planes and 41 squadrons, to have a 100-ship navy and 115,000 men in uniform. The 115,000 has since been raised to 120,000.

With 98,000 or 81 per cent of that total in uniform, manpower is so far not a big problem. But production is.

The latest implication of the current situation came in Finance Minister Abbott's recent statement on the government's financial position after the first three months—April, May, June—of the current fiscal year.

In a nutshell, Mr. Abbott said that in the first quarter of the year only 14 per cent of the defence budget was used. To live up to the \$2,125,000,000 appropriation, the two departments most concerned—Defence and Defence Production—will have to spend money twice as fast in the next nine months as they have in the first three when the monthly average was \$102,000,000.

Mr. Abbott's conclusion was that the expenditures "do not yet reflect the full magnitude of the defence program."

Officials confirm this. With the exception of the F-86 Sabre jet fighter, production of most of the major items of production—aircraft, electronics, warships, guns—is not up to the schedules originally conceived. The reason is said frankly to be over-optimism when the program was drafted. They underrated the tremendously complex job of producing modern arms.

Last fiscal year the defence program planners budgeted for \$200,000,000 more than they actually spent. The difference would have been even greater but for mobilization and despatch of the 27th Brigade to Germany.

Officials say they won't be able to tell until early fall whether they'll "underspend"—the official term—again this year. The U.S. steel strike is one drawback. It has had some effect but officials say the blow has not been a major one.

But there are several major factors pushing in the direction of spending the whole defence budget. One is that traditionally a large percentage of defence spending is concentrated in the last three months of the fiscal year. Another is that production should begin to hit its stride late this calendar year.

A third is the drive, the blitz which officials report is being waged to get production programs back nearer the original schedules. A substantial number of new faces are making their appearance in key jobs in Ottawa. Whether they can get the program finished in the scheduled three years is a big question impossible to answer at this time.

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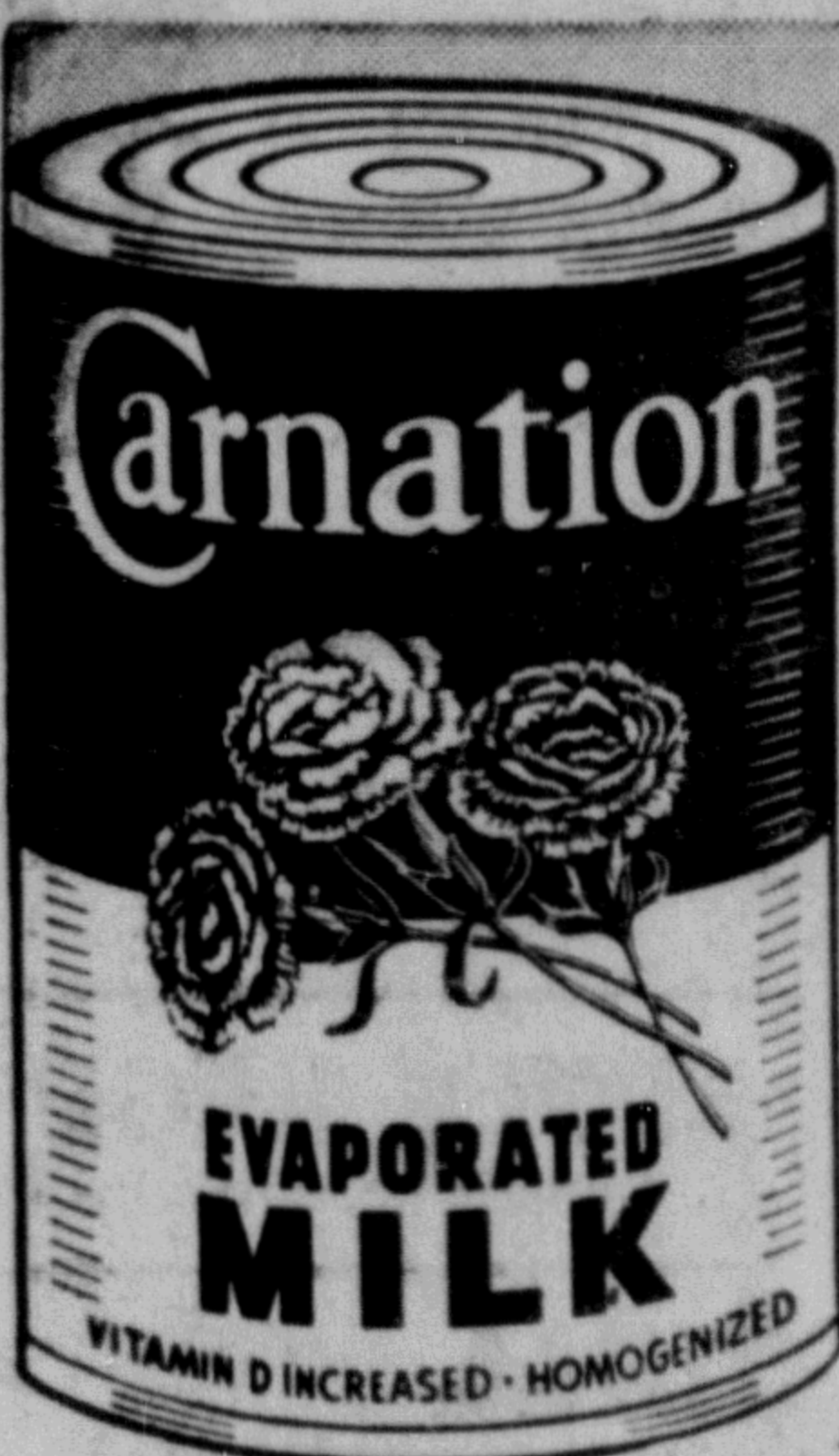


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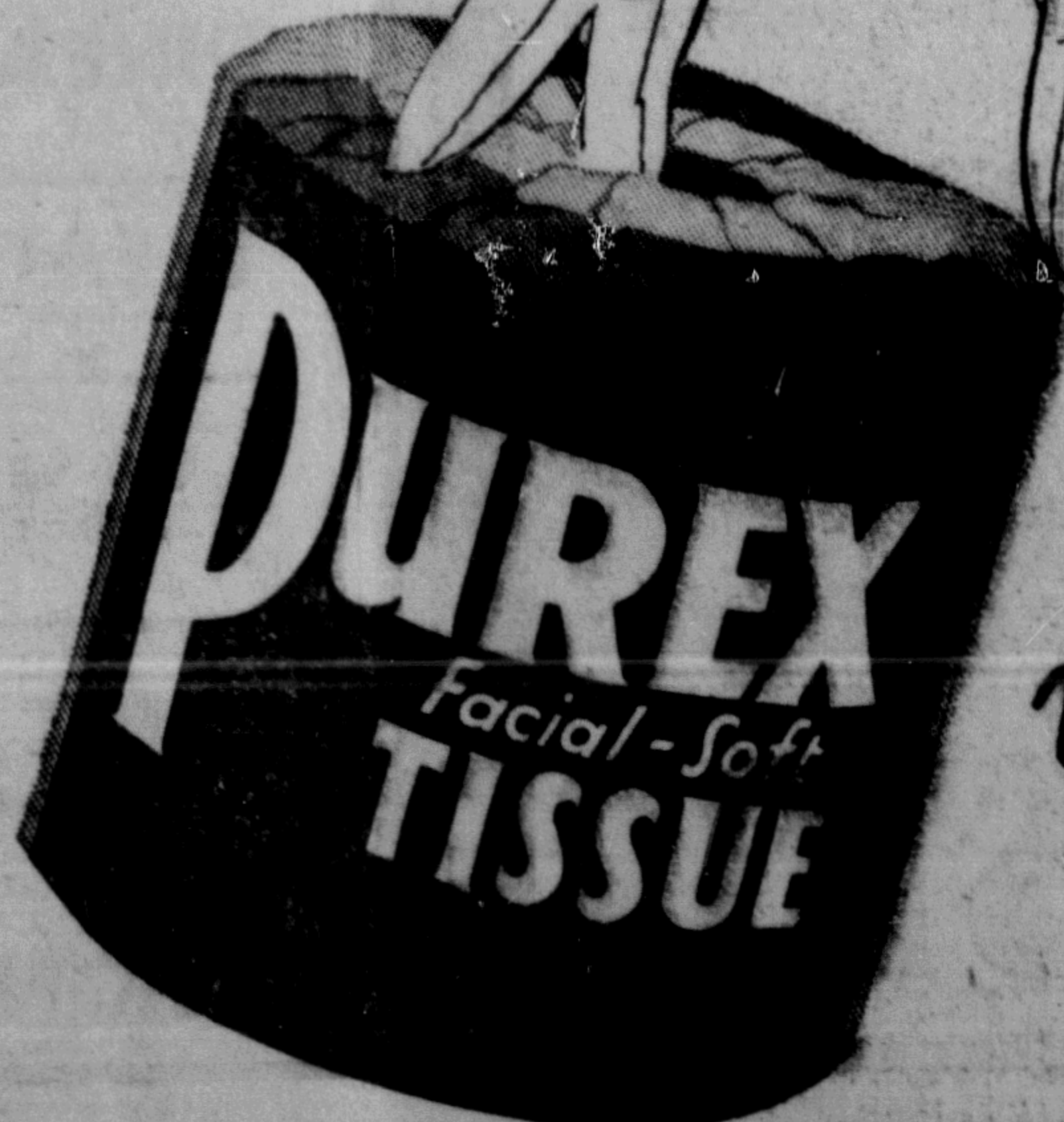
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