

Dewey Like Champion In Defeat

BY HAL ROYLE

Associated Press Staff Writer
New York—Post-election notes: Gov. Thomas E. Dewey probably stirred the emotions of his followers more deeply in defeat than he ever had in victory.

He took one of the most crushing upsets in American political history with real sportsmanship. In his post-election press conference—a 13-minute farewell to his national political aspirations—he gave no excuses for his defeat. And he indulged in no self-pity.

He wore the air of a champion who had given the best of what he had to give—and he didn't blame anybody if that hadn't won him what he wanted.

RED-EYED STAFF

There were a number of red-eyed members of his staff at the conference, and Dewey, a man who rarely demonstrates personal emotion, brought tears to their eyes as he thanked the efforts made in his behalf.

He showed that he does have in some measure a gift of leadership that some observers have doubted—the ability to inspire affection as well as loyalty. Many will long remember what he said of his wife, who remained by his side all night as for a second time in four years his dream of being president ebbed.

"She has been through this before," he said. "We have won and lost at various times—and all in good fun."

COULD RUN AGAIN

Many staunch friends of Dewey find it hard to believe he will carry out the desire he expressed privately on several occasions during the campaign—never to run for public office again if he were defeated.

He is only 46 and few men his age have ever had such meteoric political careers. His present term as governor lasts through 1950.

Although he is the only unsuccessful candidate ever renominated by the Republican Party, there is plenty of precedent if he should change his mind and toss his hat in the ring a third time.

Norman Thomas has tried six times for the Socialists. Henry Clay was a presidential aspirant in almost every campaign between 1824 and 1848 and died unreconciled at failure at 78. William Jennings Bryan was the Democratic standard bearer three times—and was willing to take the draft again any time.

Perhaps it was their example that led Dewey to conclude two strikes were enough.

JUST THE SOUTH

The first member of the Dewey family to express doubt on the election trend was the Governor's younger son, John, 13.

Early Tuesday night the family posed together for newsreels in the Hotel Roosevelt. To make the scene more realistic, a newsreel man turned on the radio and grouped the Deweys around it. "Truman is leading by—" the radio blared unexpectedly.

John whistled in amazement and exclaimed:

"Holy gee, dad!"

Dewey smiled and said:

"That doesn't mean anything. It doesn't count. That's just the South."

He wasn't convinced himself until the next morning when two states of his own Midwest—Illinois and Ohio—went against him.



—Acme TELEPHOTO.

INTERNATIONAL ROMANCE—Sgt. Herschel E. Loy, 33, and his bride, Lucia Ponisch, 26, formerly of Merrane, Germany. Sergeant Loy just finished a tour of duty on the Berlin Airlift, is now stationed at Castle Field, Merced. She served in German army, later worked for U. S. Army, where she met her fiance.

30,000 Prairie Acres Burned

Oklahoma City — (AP) — Prairie fires whipped by high winds burned off almost 30,000 acres of dry grasslands over Oklahoma yesterday. The fires hit near Claremore, Chouteau, Sapulpa and Bowlegs. All were reported extinguished tonight. No injuries were reported.

(ADVERTISEMENT)

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Shoulder Better

Albany—(AP)—The buritis Gov. Thomas E. Dewey developed in his right shoulder during the campaign has improved considerably, X-rays show.

The defeated Republican presidential candidate spent about an hour yesterday at Albany hospital.

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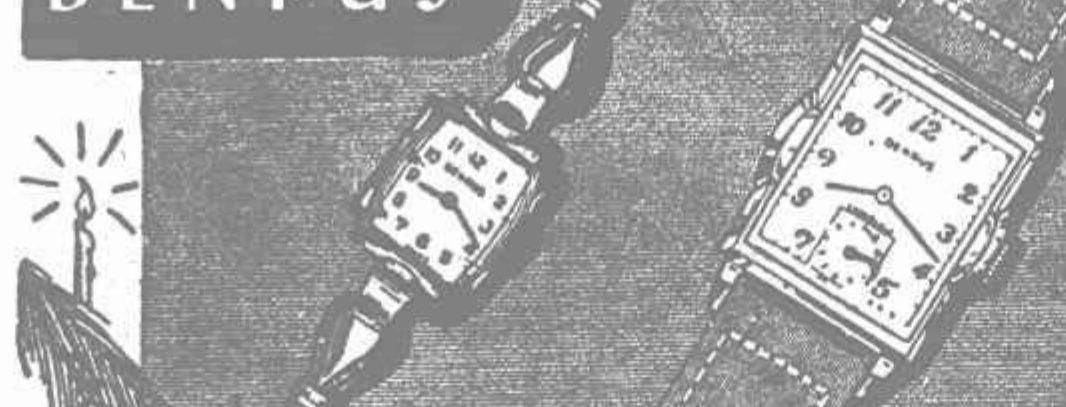
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