

March 12, 1940

2,000 GREET MRS. F. D. R.

A crowd estimated at 2,000 persons swarmed over the Wabash tracks and jammed the station last night to see Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President, as she arrived to deliver the final of the Community Lectures.

She traveled in a private car attached to the Wabash Bluebird, which pulled into the station at 6:38 o'clock. The crowd stampeded to Mrs. Roosevelt's car on the rear, but had to race back the other way when the car was detached from the train and switched by another engine to a position in front of the station.

"Nice of You to Come"

The First Lady made her first appearance shortly after, stepping out on the back platform of the train, which was guarded by both railroad detectives and secret service men.

"It was nice of you to come down to see me and I am so glad to see you," were Mrs. Roosevelt's words as she greeted the crowds on either side of train.

Most of the crowd still waited after Mrs. Roosevelt went back into the car, determined to be there when she left the train for a car to take her to the Masonic temple, where she began her lecture at 8 o'clock.

On Pitcairn's Car

She finally left the car at 7:45 o'clock, accompanied by J. Reaves Helt, chairman of the Community Lectures committee, who introduced her in the Masonic temple.

It was learned that Mrs. Roosevelt had reserved a compartment name of the regular cars of the Bluebird, but the Wabash insisted on furnishing a private car owned by Norman B. Pitcairn, receiver for the trip from St. Louis. She was accompanied by Miss Malvina Thompson, her secretary. Also aboard the train was Tom Hayes, formerly of Decatur, passenger traffic manager of the Wabash railroad.



One of the happiest persons in the audience was Miss Betty Snyder of Moweaqua, Millikin sophomore and member of Pi Beta Phi, with whom the First Lady stopped to chat as she left

the Temple auditorium. Miss Snyder, an infantile paralysis victim, drew a friendly greeting and a word of appreciation for attending the lecture.

Staff photos

Decatur Review
Monday, March 12, 1940
Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt
To Arrive Here at
6:38 p. m. to Speak
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will arrive in Decatur at 6:38 p. m. today on the Wabash Bluebird Limited to give a lecture at 8 o'clock tonight in the Masonic temple.
The President's wife, who is coming to Decatur from St. Louis in the midst of a lecture tour, will get off the train immediately in front of the Wabash depot and proceed to the Bluebird. She will not arrive here until 6:38 p. m.
After her lecture, the final one of the Community Lecture series for the 1939-40 season, Mrs. Roosevelt will hold a press conference at 9:28 p. m. in one of the Masonic temple parlors for Central Illinois newspaper

Mon., March 11, 1940 - Herald All Available Seats Taken For Mrs. Roosevelt Talk

More than 400 requests for tickets have been turned down and practically all the 1,218 season ticket holders are expected to be in their seats tonight to hear the final speaker of the Decatur Community Lectures series—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President.

The First Lady will arrive on the 6:38 p. m. Wabash Bluebird from St. Louis and will go directly to the temple where she will rest before going to the lecture at 8 o'clock.

Press Conference
Accompanying Mrs. Roosevelt will be her secretary, Miss Malvina Thompson. Because of the business of her visit, Mrs. Roosevelt has made but one appointment other than the lecture—a press conference at 9 p. m. in one of the Masonic temple parlors to which Central Illinois editors of daily newspapers and principal weekly papers have been invited. Mrs. Roosevelt will leave on a night train for Chicago.

Mrs. Roosevelt, whose lecture topic will be "The Relationship of the Individual to the Community," has asked that no further greet-

ingly the most active President's wife in history, she is now in the midst of a heavy lecture tour.

Since tonight's lecture is the final one of the 1939-40 series, season tickets will be taken up at the door. Cards will be passed out on applications for next year's tickets, to be sold at the rate of \$2.75 each or \$4.50 a pair. After the advance sale the tickets will sell at \$3 each and \$5 for two.

No Reserved Seats

A new amplifying system—which includes two compensating microphones to provide an even tone of power for a speaker moving about the platform—will be in use for the first time tonight. Members of the Order of DeMolay will serve as ushers. The doors will be open at 7 o'clock. There are no reserved seats.

Following Mrs. Roosevelt's lecture, she will answer questions that have been submitted in advance writing. Paper and pencil for this purpose will be available at the door.

Mrs. Roosevelt will be introduced by J. Reaves Helt, chairman of the Community Lectures committee.

-March 13, 1940

Let's Talk It Over

WELL, SO SHE'S COME and gone, and a very great First Lady indeed is Mrs. Roosevelt. Europe can have none more gracious, more skillful in getting out of a tight place and leaving no hurt feelings behind.

Decatur was perfectly grand, too, incidentally.

Up in Bloomington when we heard her, and over in Delavan, the folks asked some insolent questions. Not good old Decatur. We don't treat our guests that way. She didn't have to say here, "I am sure the writer of this question did not realize he was prying into my private life," but had only to answer intelligent, sincere questions.

The Decatur Housing commission should be exceedingly gratified and encouraged that most of the questions asked of Mrs. Roosevelt had to do with the housing question, it is a question

apparently, of keenest importance to this town. The commission can go right ahead.

We have no such housing conditions anywhere here as they have in cities and in some southern areas, but ours are bad enough in places and need cleaning out.

We giggled at the start of the lecture, when Mrs. Roosevelt came on the platform and the audience rose to its feet in spontaneous tribute, to see some fierce Republicans stick to their chairs with their lips stuck out. Well, it was their privilege, but it made them horribly conspicuous. There weren't many. Dozens of the New Deal's most rabid enemies were there, knowing that Mrs. Roosevelt was not the President nor yet the New Deal, but just a plenty good woman speaker with something to say and the ability to say it.

L. E.



Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as she appeared at a press conference following her lecture last night.

Decatur Review
March 12, 1940

(Herald-Review photos)

Mrs. Roosevelt Exhibits Captivating Personality

By MARTHA MALONEY
Of The Herald Staff

A tall woman with an admirable posture, appealing voice and expressive hands, is Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

As she stood and walked to the center of the stage to begin her talk last night on "The Relationship of the Individual to the Community," her graceful carriage was outstandingly noticeable, and enhanced by the sweep of her long dinner gown.

Fashioned of deep blue crepe, its simple and straight lines were softened with a collar of sheer white material, delicately embroidered along the edges.

A heavy gold chain held a sunburst pendant, set with a few diamonds, and on her left wrist was a gold bracelet twisted in a spiral design.

Wore Large Rings

The massive rings on both hands might be too much for a woman with ordinary hands to wear, but Mrs. Roosevelt's are exceptional.

They are large and smooth, with beautiful cuts that seem to complement her skin with their

deep tan which apparently was acquired on her recent Florida sojourn.

They're capable looking hands that one might expect a woman to have who knits while she dictates her daily column, reads while she flies and keeps her health and good humor in spite of the stress and strain under which she lives.

Completely at Ease

Informality and ease were the keywords of her actions in the press conference which followed her lecture.

Seated on the edge of a davenport, she had difficulty hearing the questions being put to her by a woman with a low voice. Rising quickly to her feet, she was across the room in an instant, announcing in words that she simply couldn't hear, and didn't want to miss anything.

When she returned to the davenport, she has obviously decided it was too low for her and nonchalantly perched on the arm instead.

If there was any ice left to be broken, it disappeared rapidly as she stimulated her conversation with her questions as, and by good

March 12, 1940

Review

THE DECATUR

MRS. ROOSEVELT IN PRESS CONFERENCE HERE

Mrs. Roosevelt Warns of Days After the War

By JAMES BANTON
The Review Staff

It is a warning day for us as we enter the final months of our struggle against the forces of evil. The problems we face are serious and far-reaching. We must be alert to the dangers that lie ahead. We must be united in our purpose and our action. We must be ready to meet the challenges that will be thrown at us. We must be prepared to sacrifice and to die for our country and our principles. We must be brave and bold in our actions. We must be firm and resolute in our convictions. We must be true to our word and to our duty. We must be loyal to our country and to our fellow citizens. We must be honest and upright in our dealings with all men. We must be kind and merciful to the poor and the weak. We must be just and fair to all. We must be brave and bold in our actions. We must be firm and resolute in our convictions. We must be true to our word and to our duty. We must be loyal to our country and to our fellow citizens. We must be honest and upright in our dealings with all men. We must be kind and merciful to the poor and the weak. We must be just and fair to all.



The First Lady displayed a wide range in changes of facial expression during a half-hour press conference held in a



as she greeted with an engaging smile the editors and reporters from Decatur and surrounding towns, and later in

back-stage lounge room last night at the Masonic temple following her Community Service lecture. She is shown here

Decatur Likes First Lady

She Charms All Who Have Chance to Talk to Her

By O. T. BANTON
Of The Review Staff

The amazing industry of America's First Lady deeply impressed itself on more than 1,000 Decatur folks who saw her in action on the rostrum and backstage last night at the Masonic temple.

Those who came to admire the President's wife got more than their money's worth. Any who came to criticize must have come close to being disarmed by her graciousness and charm.

Paying her first visit to Decatur in 20 years, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt spent a full hour in her formal lecture, more than a half hour answering written questions submitted by members of the audience, and more than another half hour in a press conference in a backstage anteroom answering informal questions asked by reporters and others who attended.

There also were two or three spasms of being photographed, including the press conference period during which she bulbs blinked at almost the rate of a flash.

she said, "is that they are not organized as are men workers. By providing minimum pay scales for women and shortening their hours, men workers are protected against unwarranted competition from women."

In response to a question about many rural communities losing their social centers through the closing up of one-room country schools and abandonment of rural churches with the coming of the automobile and good roads, the First Lady said:

"I'm in favor of closing up all one-room rural schools that can be closed. The sadder they are, the sadder of the better. They do not provide adequate educational facilities for the children. In this automobile age I doubt whether these schools serve the function of social centers they used to. It may be difficult, though, with abandonment of the country churches, their loss of social centers may be felt more."

Mrs. Roosevelt is a good writer and psychologist. She broke down the ice in the embarrassing moment

Review - Nov 3, 1952

Dulles Speaks Here Tonight

John Foster Dulles, second from right, closed the 1952 presidential campaign in Macon County last night with a major address on foreign policy. Dulles is mentioned as a possible choice for secretary of state if Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is elected president. With Dulles, from left, are Edward Lindsay, editor of The Herald and Review, who introduced him; Mrs. Dulles and Cong. William L. Springer of Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. Dulles were guests at a reception in the Hotel Orlando after his address at the Masonic Temple.

(Herald and Review photo)

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(Herald and Review photo)

The program will open with the playing of the national anthem by Robert Evers. Paul Swann will play organ accompaniment.

The Rev. Gerald W. Flowering, pastor of Central Christian Church, will give the invocation and Mrs. J. A. St. John of the World War II Gold Star Mothers organization will give the pledge of allegiance.

Nov 4, 1952 DECATUR HERALD

Dulles Speech Is Campaign Finale Here



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(Herald and Review photo)

Mrs. Dulles Optimistic Over Chances of Republican Victory

By Olive Ruth Hewett
Of The Herald Staff

Mrs. John Foster Dulles feels "very optimistic" about the chances for a Republican victory in the presidential election.

Mr. and Mrs. Dules were rushed through a downtown parade last night after a late arrival in Decatur and had no time to rest before the scheduled 8:15 p.m. appearance at Masonic Temple.

"I've had no time yet to form an opinion of this community," she said, just before entering the auditorium to hear her husband speak.

"We have been traveling a lot during the campaign. I was especially interested in the sentiment in Texas and other southern states. It

is very encouraging to see the Republican feeling there."

Mrs. Dulles does not take an active part in the campaigning, according to Mr. Dulles' secretary. She leaves political con men to her husband.

Despite the hurried arrival, Mrs. Dulles appeared calm and cheerful. She was wearing a softly tailored suit and a close fitting hat.

"We didn't even have time to change our gloves," she said with a good humored smile. "Our bags were all in the police car and we didn't see them in our brief stop at the hotel."

Mr. and Mrs. Dulles were scheduled to stay last night at the Hotel Orlando and fly to Syracuse, N.Y. this morning.

Sen. Kennedy Dinner Draws Area Demos

The semi-annual of public instruction and five state representatives will be among the guests at the speaker's table at the Monday 22nd District Democratic fundraising dinner.

U. S. Sen. John F. Kennedy of Mass., a possible candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, will be the principal speaker.

According to Decatur Democrats a limited number of tickets will be available until Friday.

Tickets for the dinner, set for 8:30 p.m. Monday in the Masonic Temple, are \$7.50 each.

William T. Lodge, Platt County Democratic chairman and president of the Illinois County Chairman's Assn., will introduce the speaker at the speaker's table.

Guests will include:

- Gov. William state superintendent of public instruction
- Sen. Rep. John W. Alcorn of Decatur
- Sen. Rep. Robert W. McCarter of Lincoln
- State Rep. Leo Pfeffer, Springfield, 4th district
- State Rep. David Glenn, Lawrence, 5th district
- State Rep. J. W. Scott, Bloomington, 6th district
- Rep. Louis Kende, Mount Pleasant, 7th district
- Rep. Daniel F. Monaghan, St. Francis, 8th district
- Rep. R. Williams, 22nd district

The 22nd congressional district covers several counties. General Assembly passes the Representative from Scott and Glenn, though not residents of the 22nd district, represent counties which

Sen. Kennedy Speaker Tonight

By Tom Mahoney
Of The Review Staff

Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass) flies into Decatur at 3:30 p.m. today for six and a half hours of conferences, receptions and hand-shaking with 22nd district Democrats.

Still an unannounced candidate for the 1960 Democratic presidential nomination, Kennedy today is winding up a three-day, nine-city tour of Illinois.

Kennedy started today off with an 8:45 a.m. televised press conference in Quincy where he stayed overnight after touring Rockford, DeKalb and Rock Island-Moline yesterday.

Saturday the senator talked to crowds in Bloomington, Springfield, and Joliet and stayed Saturday night at Rockford.

Kennedy comes to Decatur from Peoria where he gave a speech at a Democratic luncheon.

At 6:45 p.m. the annual fundraising dinner of the 22nd dis-

trict will start in the Masonic Temple.

The Massachusetts senator's talk to a capacity crowd in the Masonic Temple will be telecast over WTVP and broadcast over WSOJ, AM and FM and WSEI, Effingham, at 8:30 p.m.

At 10 p.m. he is scheduled to fly out of Decatur in his special Convain plane for a 45-minute flight to Chicago.

Newsmen Follow

As a Democratic prospect for the presidential nomination, Kennedy has attracted traveling companions from such organizations as Time Magazine, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Ladies Home Journal, and the Chicago Sun-Times.

The Sun-Times correspondent, John Dreiske, reports that Kennedy is finding enthusiastic audiences on his Illinois tour.

In Springfield, before the Illinois Farmers Union, Kennedy attacked the administration's farm policies. In Joliet the proposed substitutes for what he called the one-sided intervention of the Taft-Hartley law in the 103-day old steel strike.

Kennedy told his Rockford audience that American institutions, including the government and the press, are bogged down in conservatism and are running out of ideas.

"The nation cannot obtain new ideas until we have a government and a nation and a press and a public which respect new ideas and respect the people who have them," Kennedy said.

"Our country has surmounted great crises in the past, not be-

cause of our wealth, not because of our rhetoric, not because we had longer cars and wider air boxes and bigger television screens than anyone else, but because our ideas were more compelling and more penetrating.

U.S. Falls Behind In Space Projects

Quincy, Ill., Oct. 26 (AP)

Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass) said today the United States has fallen into second place in space exploration while concentrating on development of military missiles.

Discussing this country's missile program at a news conference, Kennedy said the United States has concentrated on military missiles at the expense of becoming second to Russia in scientific space projects.

Kennedy came to Quincy to deliver a talk at Quincy College. He is scheduled to fly from Quincy to Peoria for a Democratic luncheon and then to Decatur for a night rally.

Kennedy has declined repeatedly to say if he will be a candidate for the Democratic nomination. At a news conference preceding his Quincy talk, he told newsmen he would not make a decision whether to be a candidate until January.

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, May 15, 1966

Nixon Speaks At Springer Dinner Today

More than 600 Republican party faithful will hear former Vice President Richard Nixon speak at a testimonial dinner tonight for U.S. Rep. William L. Springer, R-Champaign.

The \$50-a-plate dinner will be at 6 p.m. at the Masonic Temple.

Nixon is scheduled to arrive at the Municipal Airport about 1 p.m.

A press conference for the unsuccessful 1960 Presidential candidate will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Hotel Orlando.

Nixon's talk at the dinner is scheduled to begin at 7:45 p.m.

He will leave Decatur at 10 p.m. for a speaking engagement in Cleveland, Ohio, Monday.

Proceeds from the dinner will be divided between Springer's campaign fund and the Macon County Republican Central Committee, which is sponsoring the dinner.

Also scheduled to appear at the dinner are Charles Percy, who is seeking the GOP nomination for U.S. Senator; State School Supt. Ray Page, who is up for re-election; and Harris Rowe who is running for state treasurer.

Springer is seeking re-election to his ninth term in Congress.

Co-chairmen of the dinner are A. G. Webber III and Lyle V. DeWitt.

(Related story on Page 43)



Decatur Review
May 16, 1966

Staff photo by Dick Bergman

GOP Leaders Here

National and state Republicans met here Sunday night in a \$50-a-plate dinner for U.S. Rep. William L. Spring-

er. From left are Springer, Richard M. Nixon and Ray Page, superintendent of public instruction. They stopped

to talk before walking to the speaker's table in the Masonic Temple.

May 16, 1966

Beef on Menu Of Republicans' \$50 Dinner

The Review

What do you eat at a \$50-a-plate political dinner?

This was the menu for the U. S. Rep. William L. Springer testimonial dinner Sunday night:

Roast beef
Tossed green salad
Asparagus spears
Dinner rolls
Coffee, tea or milk
Ice Cream.

Oct. 27, 1959

Kennedy Sees Demos as Party Of Hope Leading Way in 1960s

By Tom Mahoney
Of The Review Staff

A potential presidential nominee last night called on his fellow Democrats of the 22nd congressional district to help light the country's way through the challenging 1960s.

U. S. Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass), one of possibly four top contenders for the 1960 nomination to the White House, told a captive audience of more than 500 in the Masonic Temple that the Republican party is the party of inaction, while the Democratic party is the party of hope.

The issues of the 1960 campaign, Kennedy predicted, will be the six great challenges of the coming decade.

They include the growth in population; the farm problem; challenge of technology; an atomic energy; our standard of living; the underdeveloped nations of the world; and the rise of nationalism.

The Republican administration has been "frozen in the ice of its own indifference," Kennedy said, calling on Democrats to "participate and recognize the somber problems of the United States."

"Things do not happen, they are made to happen," he said in



Potential Candidate — Potential Voters



Sen. John F. Kennedy

the speech which was broadcast and relayed throughout central Illinois.

"The Democratic party has a great responsibility as well as great opportunity to ask what has happened and what can be done during the past years," the senator said.

A mistake of the Eisenhower administration was letting the Democrats get into power in 1952.

A man from Massachusetts continued his education in a rather whirlwind visit to Decatur yesterday.

U. S. Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass) refused to say he would be a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination next summer, but promised to announce his decision in January.

Asked then to explain why he is taking all these trips to non-Massachusetts territory, Kennedy said the trips serve a useful purpose in his education.

As for his vice presidential ambitions, Kennedy said with a laugh that this, too, would be explained in his January announcement.

Later, in his talk to some 700 persons in the Masonic Temple, Kennedy pointed out that when he was a candidate for the vice president nomination in 1956, he needed only a few more votes to defeat the nominee, Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn).

"If I'd had 2046 more votes I'd have beaten Sen. Kefauver—and my political career now would be over."

To California

Kennedy was in Louisiana last week and will go to California this weekend "to accept invitations which have been extended to me and because I am interested in the Democratic party nationally."

Showing no bad effects after a three-day tour of Illinois with at least nine public speeches, Kennedy talked straight and fast at last night's gathering of 22nd district Democrats.

He sprinkled in little bits of humor—such as "The only thing we raise in Massachusetts is our hats"—but for the most part urged hard work by party members to assure the Democratic party—"The party of vitality and new ideas"—victory in 1960.

The senator had been greeted with friendliness throughout Illinois, he said here, his last stop. And no friendlier words could be heard than those of William Lodge, Platt County chairman and president of the Illinois Democratic County Chairman's Assn.

After the introduction by Lodge, Sen. Kennedy noted:

"Having run against one (Henry Cabot Lodge) in 1952, I'm glad to receive those kind words from him."

Kennedy, campaigning or not, didn't lose a vote last night.