

America First' Group Drops Gov. Bricker After His Protest

By the Associated Press.

DETROIT, Aug. 2.—The renomination of Representative Hamilton Fish of New York was termed today by Gerald L. K. Smith, organizer and national director of the America First Party, as "proof that you can't keep a good man down, no matter how many people jump on him."

Mr. Smith made his comment as he called the Associated Press to get latest election returns from New York's Republican primary and was informed that Mr. Fish held a decisive margin. He apparently was referring to the veteran Representative's victory over the opposition of Wendell Willkie and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey.

From Mr. Smith's office here it was announced later that the Executive Committee of the America First Party at a caucus last night had chosen Harry A. Romer of St. Henry, Ohio, as the party's vice presidential candidate to replace Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio. Mr. Romer for years was active in the National Union for Social Justice, founded by the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin.

The meeting was held after Gov. Bricker, Republican vice presidential nominee, denounced Mr. Smith and his party for placing the Ohio Governor's name on the America First ticket. Mr. Smith was picked by the Michigan convention as nominee for President.

"The act of Smith, in associating my name with his on a spurious ticket without any notice of any kind whatsoever, is the cheapest of demagoguery," Gov. Bricker said at St. Louis. "I denounce it and shall not have my name used in any such connection."

At Springfield, Ill., where Gov. Dewey stopped over en route to St. Louis for a two-day conference with 25 other Republican Governors, the Republican presidential nominee said Mr. Smith's "contemptible attempt to associate himself with Gov. Bricker is a sinister effort to smear

the Republican candidate for Vice President."

Commenting on Gov. Dewey's attack on him, Mr. Smith said he was "happy and proud" to share a place with Mr. Fish on Gov. Dewey's "purge list."