

# Bolt to Willkie Is Noisy, But...

PM 7/20/40  
By NATHAN ROBERTSON

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Democratic conservatives are making a lot of noise jumping into the Willkie pool. Even those who have been Republican before splash and shout as if it were their first dip. Every splash echoes on the front pages of the friendly Willkie newspapers.

Actually there haven't been many surprises yet among Democrats announcing for the Republican nominee. Most of them bolted Roosevelt in 1936, or have broken with him since and were not expected to support him.

The current bolting is all part of the realignment of liberals and conservatives that started in 1932 when Roosevelt first was nominated. That year he drew support from many prominent liberals in the Republican party, including Senators Norris, Johnson, LaFollette and Cutting. In 1936 the prominent bolters were chiefly Democrats leaving Roosevelt. They included such figures as Al Smith and former Senator Reed of Missouri.

## Reed in News Again

Now Senator Reed is in the news again, rallying anti-third-term Democrats for Wendell Willkie. Former Representative Pettingill of Indiana, another 1936 bolter, is leading a similar movement through the National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government. Still other Democratic bolters are Senator Burke of Nebraska, a lame duck, who has been leading anti-Roosevelt forces in the Senate for several years, and Lewis Douglas, former Roosevelt budget director, who broke with the New Deal almost before it got going.

Most noteworthy of the bolters, so far, is John W. Hanes, Under-Secretary of the Treasury during the second Roosevelt administration, because he was in the New Deal until comparatively recently. But Mr. Hanes is a New York broker who carries little po-

litical weight. The New Deal isn't campaigning this year for the broker vote.

The Republicans have many more bolters to announce for future editions. They hope to make it seem like a stampede. Not many of them, however, will be the kind that carry big blocks of votes with them. The boys with the votes are sitting tight.

There are a lot of disgruntled conservatives among Democratic senators. They didn't want Roosevelt. And Mr. Roosevelt combined with Secretary Wallace and an undiluted New Deal platform made a pretty big dose for them to swallow. They would like to jump, but they don't dare. Some of them will stay on the sidelines during the campaign, as some of this same group did in 1936, but before the campaign is over most of them probably will be out waving the flag for Roosevelt and Wallace.

Anyone making bets on the election based on recent bolts, or the silence of prominent Democrats, would do well to remember 1936 when Al Smith was going to carry Massachusetts and maybe other Eastern states for Landon.