Mrs. Lundeen Gets Ringside Seat on Dais

On Sunday She Shared Flatform Wit Gerald L. K. Smith

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
Staff Correspondent

CHICAGO, June 29.—It wa about one giant step from a plac of honor on the rostrum of rabble rousing Gerald L. K. Smith to : box seat on the GOP dais in the Stadium here.

Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, a tireles: orator for the America First Com mittee and nationalist groups anc wife of the late isolationist Sena tor from Minnesota, made the leap without any difficulty.

On Sunday Mrs. Lundeen graced the platform in the Hotel Stevens grand ballroom when it was invaded on Gerald Smith's D-Day. She chimed in with all the 1500 Smith followers who usurped the ballroom to hear the Detroit "nationalist" stomp for Lindbergh for President.

Sits on Platform

But yesterday was another day and apparently the Grand Old Party felt it could employ Mrs. Lundeen's talents for Gov. Dewey and his running mate, Gov. Bricker. So Mrs. Lundeen occupied a prominent spot on the convention platform with all the Republican big shots.

Before Sen. Lundeen died in a plane crash he was one of the most vigorous isolationist spokesmen in Congress. He founded the Islands for War Debts Committee—an expensive prewar propaganda outfit which promoted anti-British sentiment. Lundeen hired Prescott Dennett, who is now on trial for seditious conspiracy, to do the executive job for the Committee.

Worked With Smith

Mrs. Lundeen was closely associated with her late husband in this project and since his death has carried on where he left off. Before she was accorded a place of honor at the Republican convention, she had been active in Gerald Smith's campaign to build a nationalist party and elect an isolationist, pro-fascist president. Until the Republicans got to work in Chicago Smith's platform was the logical one for Mrs. Lundeen to support. Now she has returned to the party which elected her husband to the Senate.

During Clare Boothe Luce's isolationist recitation to the convention Mrs. Lundeen sat on the platform smiling joyously. She looked as though she had heard many of those thoughts before. She had—at Mr. Smith's rally last Sunday.