

Hosting Those

By Dorothy McCordle
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Miami Beach

W. CLEMENT Stone, the Chicago multi-millionaire who has contributed more to the campaigns of President Richard Nixon than any other one man, is ready now to switch from the insurance business to diplomacy.

It's been rumored he's being considered as the next U.S. ambassador to Great Britain, and he did not deny it during a party he gave this week in connection with the Republican National Convention here.

His party was for 90 diplomats from 55 countries who have been here to see democracy in action. The setting was the Blackhawk, a 123-foot yacht he had borrowed from a millionaire friend. Stone observed, first-hand, how diplomats are in action and got the low-down on a business career, such as his own, versus a diplomatic career, for which he says he now yearns.

He said that the post, now held by publisher Walter Annenberg, has not been offered to him by President Nixon.

"I have great admiration for Ambassador Annenberg," he said. "And I am certainly not asking the President for the job. We have never discussed it."

Stone contributed more than \$500,000 to the Nixon 1968 campaign and admits

that he has already given that much to the 1972 campaign.

He is reputed in business circles to be worth between \$350 and \$400 million. When someone asked him recently how it felt to give away a million dollars, he countered blithely, "If a family has wealth of \$400 million, what's a gift of \$1 million?"

Before his guests arrived, he ticked off his ties with Great Britain. He has given heavily to the Boys' Clubs of Great Britain and to the work for children done by Anna Freud, daughter of the late Sigmund Freud. He has also financed much of the work at the Burden Neurological Institute in Bristol. His son, W. Clement Stone Jr., lived in England for some time and married an English girl.

Stone sat in the pastel-hued lounge of the yacht, wearing the brilliant orange jacket of the Illinois delegation — pink shirt, pink and white bow tie and tan slacks.

He glanced at his watch as he talked. His guests were late. They had been delayed in the heavy traffic caused by a demonstration before the Fontainebleau Hotel.

When the diplomats arrived they were overwhelmed by the magnificent setting of the party.

"I have observed a dozen national political conventions of both parties and attended many parties at all of them," said the dean of the diplomatic corps, Guil-

He Would Join



W. CLEMENT STONE
An ambassador?

Iermo Sevilla-Sacasa, ambassador of Nicaragua. "This is by far the most glamorous. I have never seen anything like this one."

Mrs. Marcel Cadieux, wife of the ambassador of Canada, took a double quantity of seasickness pills before she and her husband went below to explore.

"All I have to do is look at a boat and I get seasick," she said. "I know the boat is stationary, but it makes me sick just to look at the water."

The pills worked, and she enjoyed looking at the four double-bedded staterooms, each with private bath. She and other diplomatic wives admired the gold dolphin-shaped faucets in basins and tubs and concealed portholes

in the staterooms, as comfortable and spacious as hotel accommodations.

Thick rugs, pastel curtains and bedspreads and pastel flower studies on the walls of upper lounges and lower sleeping quarters looked like something out of a home furnishings magazine.

After the tour, diplomats discussed how much they are learning about the American political system at this year's presidential conventions. And then, just like anybody else, they aired a few gripes.

"We hate diplomatic bus-ing," said one ambassador, who like all ambassadors has his own limousine and chauffeur in Washington.

But for this trip, all the diplomats—except two—are being bused around Miami Beach in vehicles provided by the State Department, which arranged the diplomats' visit here for both the Democratic and Republican conventions.

"Some diplomats hold up the bus, and there we sit for a half-hour to three-quarters waiting for just one person sometimes," said South African ambassador Johna S. F. Botha.

Dr. Hector Luisi, ambassador of Uruguay, has settled the problem neatly for himself and Ambassador Sevilla-Sacasa. Dr. Luisi, who used to be a teacher and demanded promptness in his students, has hired a car here. A member of his embassy staff drives the two all over Miami Beach.