



of the people on this campus. This is more important than the candidates we choose.

Most deliberation was devoted to the planks on agriculture, civil rights, crime and law enforcement and Vietnam. Six amendments were brought up countering a plank that many thought was too 'dovish.' "The verbal feeling was for continued bombing and a stepped-up military commitment," one student said, "But there was never that two-thirds vote to pass it." Only one Vietnam amendment passed, calling for bombing pauses to be used only at the discretion of the President and his military advisors. Several amendments adopted on crime and law enforcement suggested research grants to speed development of humane, non-injurious weapons for riot control and legislation to provide moral and legal support of law enforcement officers.

University of Missouri students apathetic? The 2000 who took part in the mock convention certainly weren't. But neither did they at all times show maturity. The parades and demonstrations seemed the sole convention purpose to some. And the southern coalition stormed out when Massachusetts Sen. Edward Brooke was nominated for President. One nominating speech urged: "We are here to show the kind of seriousness we want the country to display." Yet amidst several booing sessions and boisterous demonstrations, the pleas were not always remembered.

But always dominating the convention was the educational experience for those involved. "The purpose was to help students become aware of their political responsibilities and to express their views through the function of a political party," Robert C. Dickeson, director of student activities and advisor to the group, said.

Work began early last October when the chairman and his steering committee were chosen. Because at that time the Republican party appeared to have more Presidential possibilities, the student activities committee voted that this year's convention be Republican. Campus groups began petitioning for the states they wished to represent. "We were concerned with two things in allocating the states to groups,"

Convention delegates "get the word" from the keynoter, House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan.



Counseling with students after his banquet address is the governor of Oregon, Tom McCall.

general chairman, Don Heck, a second-year law student, said. One was the makeup of the group — their previous activities and grade points — and the other their understanding of the state's political history and present political views. Their actual political affiliation was not a determining factor. (As one Young Republican criticized: "How can you say this was a Republican convention when the Young Democrats represented the large state of Illinois, and the presiding chairman was a former president of the Young Democrats?")

When the 78 groups — including living groups, religious organizations and University-approved clubs — were assigned to the 50 states and three territories, the 1019 delegates began their real work. Each delegation wrote their state for

background information and prepared themselves on Republican positions. Some states were able to get large posters, buttons and other campaign material from candidates they supported.

Individuals not associated with a group, petitioned for any state they desired. Convention cost was financed from two sources — a budget of \$1500 made up from a \$1.50 delegate fee and a student activities budget of \$2500 to finance the speakers. The kickoff banquet was self-sustaining. In addition, delegations could spend their own money. For example the states in the southern coalition donated \$5 per group which went for 17 crates of Kirk monogrammed oranges passed out during his demonstration, as well as for a variety of hats and banners.



The results of the fourth ballot made it all worthwhile for the Rockefeller backers.



One of cleverest demonstrations was for Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon. Below, even the most conscientious delegate gets tired after 18 hours of work.





MISSOURI ALUMNI IN CONGRESS

Congressmen were prominent at the winter meeting of the Greater Washington Chapter of the Alumni Association of the University of Missouri-Columbia. Alumni pictured, left to right, are Representatives Paul Jones and Richard Ichord, of Missouri's 10th and eighth districts respectively; Zeigel Neff, the new president of the Washington, D. C. chapter; Senator Ed Long; his administrative assistant, Dan Miles, the outgoing president; and Representative Neal Smith, of Iowa. Other Columbia campus alumni serving in Congress include, H. R. Gross, of Iowa; Barrett O'Hara, of Illinois; Martha Griffiths, of Michigan; and William Randall and William Hungate, both of Missouri.

In specially set-up convention quarters in Read Hall, appropriately decorated red, white and blue, there was an abundance of government literature on federal fiscal policy, care for older citizens, and fair elections, in addition to ever-present elephant posters, specially printed stationery, name tags, and a box of state flags. Delegate packets numbered 1000, press packets 1300, credentials 1100, and there were more than 1000 copies of the 13-page platform.

With anticipation and excitement running

high a week before the convention, many delegates worked as many as 20 hours. "A lot of it's been just bull sessions. But it's kind of fun to get a call at two in the morning from some girl who wants to talk politics."

Although most of the convention typified a national proceedings with keynote speech (by Michigan's Rep. Gerald Ford, the House's minority leader), first and second nominating speeches and press conferences, comments sometimes intervened to remind the audience they were still on a university campus. In a speech discussing government finance, one student said: "As you all know, who have taken Dr. Kuhlman's course . . ." The audience laughed. Kuhlman is the well-known professor of general economics.

But in the halls during balloting recesses, the students took on political roles. "Congratulations, I hear you're getting all the Stassen votes"; "We're going to pass the first time on the third ballot for vice president. Then we'll see who's ahead, Reagan or Hatfield", or "Now that Nixon's lost, we can't get those people to back Kirk." Among pre-convention dealings had been the hope that if the South supported Nixon, those states in turn would support Kirk for the vice presidential ticket.

Two of the more exciting moments occurred when telegrams arrived from former Vice President Richard Nixon and Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield. Both vied strongly and lost only on the last ballots. Nixon, in fact, was only 13 votes away from the Presidential nomination on the third ballot. But when Brooke and Stassen were dropped, the tide turned making "Rocky" winner by 719 to Nixon's 603. During that period you couldn't convince those delegates that they were just students in a mock convention. For them it was real.

The students defined their own purposes for the convention. Student activities president Brooks Wood said it was to develop and encourage political discussion by students, to indicate Midwest students' political attitudes, and to provide widespread student participation "important, particularly, on a large campus."

And among the shouting, confetti and enthusiastic band that accompanied each demonstration, it was clear that besides being a learning opportunity, it also had been fun. □