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TOMORROW

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So It's Dewey

Thomas E. Dewey, who was once printer's devil in his father's country newspaper shop at Owosso, Mich., is to be the Republican candidate for United States president. He was at one time a paid soloist in New York and hesitated between a singing career and law; chose law, and in 1937 made his reputation in a fight against New York's underworld when he was appointed special prosecutor in racketeer cases. He sent a number of the "big shots" to jail. In the following year he was defeated for governor of New York, but late in 1942 he won—became governor at 40 years of age, although a dozen years earlier he had been an obscure young lawyer. Now he seeks the presidency.

Although he carried the Republican convention by 1,056 votes to one, he is not popular with many of his own followers. In fact one writer calls him "the man nobody likes," and says that "an astonishing number of ill-wishers have been riding his bandwagon as to a funeral." He is called "arrogant" and his failure to say yes or no to the suggestion of a Republican candidature over a long series of months has not increased his popularity in his own party. A dispatch says that "the nomination was accompanied by a mild show of enthusiasm." It is a curious beginning for a presidential campaign. But whatever Mr. Dewey may lack in personal popularity, there is no disputing his ability.

His foreign policy has appeared to vary. It is said of him that he has pleased neither the isolationists nor the internationalists. He now says in his speech of acceptance: "When we have won this war, we shall still have to win the peace. We are agreed America will participate in a co-operative effort to prevent future wars. Let us face up boldly to the magnitude of that task. We shall not make secure the peace of the world by mere words. It cannot be the work of one man or of a little group of rulers who meet in private conferences. The structure of peace must be built. It must be the work of many, many men."

Can he defeat Roosevelt—Roosevelt running with a fourth term handicap? It is doubtful. He will no doubt denounce his opponent as a despot who has committed the United States to various important decisions on his own responsibility. He will say that this dictatorship must end. Any wartime president—or premier for that matter—is likely to face such a charge in a democracy. But it is not likely that Mr. Dewey can make the charge stick to a sufficient degree to win the election.

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