

Michigan Mirror

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an outstanding independent-country editor. With new lies and a clever slogan, "Keys to Good Government," he captured the voters' favor and the politicians' respect.

By virtue of his independence, he became one of the most talked about men at Lansing during the 1942 legislative session. Some senators will swear by him; others will swear at him.

Almost single-handed, by firm parliamentary action, he foiled all attempts of Republican legislators to remove the office of highway commissioner from the Agricultural Bureau. (Incidentally, the friends of Charles M. Ziegler, the victorious Republican nominee for highway commissioner, were also opposed to the legislature's moves.)

Governor Kelly favored the bills.)

Keys was denounced by a metropolitan newspaper for perpetrating a "cheap parliamentary trick."

The senate snubbed him when it refused to grant him the right of committee appointments. He continued to smile.

Dr. Keys is ambitious. He hopes to be governor some day.

He is a licensed practicing physician, a licensed dentist and a licensed attorney—a combination that is unorthodox among the professions and certainly the apex of extraordinary abilities.

Here is his own story of why he did as he did—and what he hopes to do in the future.

"For fourteen years I lived at my maternal grandfather's farm in Perth County, Ontario. I came to respect the farmer's individualism and to understand his problems. When the question of war arose, I was asked to speak at the November meeting of the Farm Bureau.

It was the choice of the state superintendent of public instruction, the regents of the University and members of the Michigan State College board that they should be trusted with choice of a state highway commissioner. "Highways are one of our greatest common denominators. Every-

citizen is affected by highways, just as he is by schools.

"A second reason was my conviction that Governor Kelly and the Republican party would be blamed by the public if the state roads were not maintained and developed as adequately as they had been under Democratic administration.

....

"Take a look at these figures. During our 1942 fiscal year, the state collected around \$30,000,000 in gasoline taxes. This was the most fortunate to collect \$18,000,000. However, a legislative act sets aside \$6,000,000 annually for distribution back to the counties. This would leave around \$12,000,000 for our roads, compared with \$27,000,000. (Last week Secretary of State Herman Dignan estimated 1943 gas tax receipts at \$26,200,000.)

"As I see it, Democrats could

point to a decline in highway maintenance and put the blame right on the governor at the 1944 election.

"Another reason: Why did such

Michigan automobile leaders as Ford, Fisher, Kettering, Algers and others take an active part in legislation to have the highway commissioner elected by the people and not appointed by the governor?

"A commission set up would have brought provincial legislating among members of the commission. It would have encouraged provincial highways rather than a state-wide system of good roads.

"Finally, when Governor Grossback created the state administrative board, he contributed the greatest single progressive step in the history of Michigan government. This act vested elected state officials with responsibility and voting authority in matters of

state policy. The state board became, in reality, the governor's cabinet.

"When the lieutenant governor was added later on, he became the agent of legislature, a liaison man between the governor and the legislature.

"The administrative board shared the governor's responsibilities, while the highway bills would have increased them. A road commission would have become another form of bureaucracy, government by delegated authority without an elective process, with provincial or district interests in constant conflict with state interests. Such and complete legislative channels.

"The proponents of the bill sought to circumvent these rules, without a suspension under the constitution. The constitution provides that a bill cannot be passed by its title only, but must proceed through proper channels with state interests. Such and complete legislative channels.

"To suspend the rules for immediate passage of a bill, an motion must be supported by two-thirds of those present and voting, as a protection to minority rights. And so when Senator McCallum arose to move adoption of the conference report, he in effect moved to suspend the rules. I declined to put the motion to a vote.

"When another senator then moved to adjourn, I put the motion promptly to vote. The motion to adjourn takes precedence over all other motions except a point of order. The vote by voices was easily two to one. I did leave immediately."

Dr. Keys conceded that he was obstinate and treated a few of the senators roughly, but insists that his parliamentary decisions were stand up under test. In fact, he said he had convinced other lieutenant governors, including one in another state, to change their rules.

It is easy to predict a fairly tempestuous career at Lansing for the Dearborn doctor-dentist-attorney. At a meeting of the Administrative board following the April election, Keys sided with Lloyd Reed, outgoing highway commissioner.

What is his interest in Michigan politics?

"I believe Governor Kelly is a cinch for re-election," he said. "I hope to be a candidate for governor some day, but never against Harry Kelly. However, if Kelly runs for United States senator in '46, that's something else."

The lieutenant governor, independent in his convictions, is inclined to campaign on the underdog. How far he will go in Michigan politics is a matter of discussion and some controversy.

Victory

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"The house bill, thus changed, was sent back to the house. The house could not agree, and it asked for a conference committee. Senate members were unimined by the senate.

"When the conferees could not agree, a suggestion was made to give the lieutenant governor a committee consisting of the minority and minority floor leaders and another member who was a strong proponent of the bill. The senate, in a rump session, moved to reconsider the bill. This was not the proper method of discharging the committee, and was contrary to parliamentary procedure.

"The substitute or third conference committee then revived the same house bill No. 30, previously defeated by the senate, with the \$25,000 appropriation to forestall a referendum vote. The joint con-

WHAT'S THIS WAR ABOUT, DADDY?

Honey, in a place called China, children can never play as you can . . . because men in airplanes roar overhead and shoot them, and burn their homes.

In other places . . . in Norway and France, in Poland and Greece and Russia . . . children have their mothers and daddies taken away from them . . . led off to a prison called a concentration camp. Their children may never see their parents again.

Many of these children—boys and girls just like you—don't get enough to eat. Many of them have starved to death.

Why is all this happening? Because there are evil people in the world, who call themselves the Axis, who do these things. And it's our job to make them stop—to see that they never trouble the world again. That's what this war is all about.

To do our job we've got to knock out the Axis. And a lot of us Daddies would like to do it with our own fists . . . or our own guns. We can't all do that. There's other work that Uncle Sam wants us to do.

So let's help knock out the Axis with that work. Let's take a dime out of each dollar we earn while working and buy War Bonds and Stamps to turn our dollars into America's tough new tanks and planes.

So . . . tell your employer to set aside 10 percent of what you earn every payday in the War Bond Payroll Savings Plan. Then, each time it adds up to \$18.75, you'll get a bond.

Your Government will use that money to smash the Axis. Every dollar is a nail in Hitler's coffin. Every bond a bomb to blow the Jap off this earth. And your

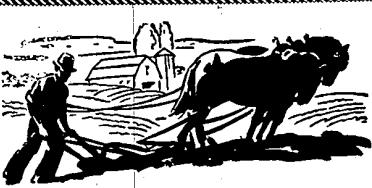
money is an investment against that time when peace returns and you will no longer have to answer that question:

"Daddy, what's this war about?"



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