

ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY NOVEMBER 4



West Virginia State Archives

Jennings Randolph campaigning in Welch, 25 July 1958

Jennings Randolph was elected to his first term in the United States Senate on November 4, 1958.

CSO: SS.8.2, SS.8.4, ELA.8.1

Investigate the Document: (Letter, Sam Mallison to Jennings Randolph, Regarding Senate Campaign of 1958; Jennings Randolph 1958 Campaign Brochure Jennings Randolph Collection)

1. Sam T. Mallison wrote to Jennings Randolph, informing him that he had the support of Governor _____.
2. The total votes casted in the previous election in Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Pendleton counties, totaled _____ votes; well short of the _____ votes casted in _____ County alone.
3. The letter states that Senator Robert C. Byrd was particularly strong in *this* region of the state.
4. What congressional committees did Jennings Randolph serve as a ranking member?
5. What years did Randolph serve in the House of Representatives? How many terms did Jennings Randolph serve?

Think Critically: Compare and contrast the differences between state Senators and U.S. Senators. How many seats are in the West Virginia State Senate? How many U.S. Senators does each state send to Congress? The Lower House of Congress, which Randolph served in from 1933-1947, has representation based on _____, according to the Constitution. Did Jennings Randolph champion any significant legislation that still impacts us today? If so, what?

SAM T. MALLISON
BENEDUM-TREES BUILDING
PITTSBURGH 22, PA.

*ans.
1-3-'58*

December 13, 1957

Hon. Jennings Randolph
Capital Airlines
National Airport
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jennings:

In conformity with the understanding we had at luncheon in Washington on yesterday, I called Governor Patteson this morning and had a lengthy conversation with him. I attempted to reach you by telephone immediately thereafter, but learned that you are in New York today and will not be back in your office until Monday. Consequently I am making a written report of my conversation with Governor Patteson.

I brought Okey up-to-date on the situation, told him that you were giving some consideration to getting into the contest in which event you would be in need of the advice and counsel of men of stature and experience in the Party like himself. The Governor began by expressing his great admiration for you saying that you possessed all of the qualifications for Senator. He then went on to express the opinion that neither you nor any other person in the state could defeat Byrd for the Democratic nomination. He said he had learned from an unimpeachable authority that Marland will definitely be a candidate ~~at~~ the election, but then went on to say that in his opinion that even with the support of the United Mine Workers Marland would not get even a respectable vote in any of the large coal mining counties of Southern West Virginia. He said he was quite certain that his county of Fayette would go overwhelmingly for Byrd. I may say that he prefaced all this with the statement that he was not committed to anything except that he would vigorously oppose Marland if he thought the latter had any chance whatever to be nominated. Since he is convinced that Marland has no chance whatever, he said that he was irrevocably committed to take no active part in the campaign.

Patteson said that he had only recently been thinking of you in connection with another potential vacancy in the Senate. He thought you would be a natural for that place both geographically and in all other ways.

In discussing your potential strength with Patteson, I started with the Eastern Panhandle, and he said that one county in the southern coal mining area would cast more votes than all of the counties in the Panhandle. Following our conversation, I took the trouble to check the figures on the vote cast for Senator in the Democratic primary of 1954, which was the last off-year election and found that his statement was literally correct. The eight counties of Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and

Hon. Jennings Randolph

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Pendleton cast a total of 11,445 votes for Senator in the Democratic primary. In the same election, McDowell County cast 13,378 votes in the Democratic primary, while Fayette, Raleigh and Logan were not far behind the combined totals of the eight Eastern Panhandle Counties. Fayette cast 10,277 votes, Raleigh 9,882 and Logan 9,570. I might add that Kanawha County, although not exclusively coal mining we must not forget is in Byrd's district, cast 26,777 votes or almost two and one-half times the total vote of the total Eastern Panhandle.

To get back to Governor Patteson, he said that he had never been particularly close to Byrd, was certainly not now an advocate of his candidacy, except that he would support him against Marland, but that he could not close his eyes to the fact that Byrd is not only very strong throughout the coal mining regions, but that he has skillfully built up very substantial support from the conservative wing of the Party. He said that while he was no longer taking any active interest in politics, many Democratic leaders from all over the state who frequently come to Charleston naturally talked to him about the situation in their respective areas. He said he had been much impressed that their reports of the support which Byrd has from considerable groups, particularly in the Northern Panhandle. He was most surprised of all, he said, by the strength which Byrd has among Catholic, Jewish and Negro voters, despite his past connection with the Klu Klux Klan. He pointed out that Joe Condry who is a very active Catholic layman and, as you know, a very fine young man, is managing Byrd's campaign in Northern West Virginia and that he knew of many Catholic leaders, including some members of the priesthood, who were actively supporting Byrd. He said that his own partner in the real estate business, Maurice Angel, who is a Jew, had told him that the Jewish people in Charleston were pretty generally for Byrd and that he had heard similar reports about the Negro vote. He said that Byrd had very well sold the idea to these groups that his connection with the Klan came about when he was barely out of his teens and did not realize exactly what he was doing and that he was now ashamed of that connection.

I asked Okey if I might quote him to you and he gave me complete liberty to do so, saying that what he had told me was exactly what he would tell you if he talked to you. He summed it all up by saying that he hoped you would not be a candidate for this particular seat in the Senate, but hoped with even more fervor that you would be a candidate for the other seat, should it be vacated.

I do not relish making this kind of a report to you, but I know that you meant what you said when you told me that you wanted it straight from the shoulder as I got it. I do not think I have to tell you that there is nothing that would make me happier than to see you in the Senate or to see you realize any other ambitions which you might have. By the same token, I should be just as unhappy to see you fail in an effort to realize any of those ambitions. I do not think I would be a real friend if I did not let you have this report without any attempt to sugar-coat it, but just as the Governor gave it to me.

Sincerely yours,



Sam T. Mallison

Why You Should Support JENNINGS RANDOLPH For U. S. Senate

During his 14 years of Congressional experience Jennings Randolph served in the House of Representatives with 27 members who are now in the United States Senate. These include: Lyndon Johnson, Majority Leader; Lister Hill, Chairman of the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare; Allen J. Ellender, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; Dennis Chavez, Chairman of the Committee on Public Works; and William J. Fulbright, Chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency.

There are also 15 present members of the Senate who were in that body when Jennings Randolph was a member of the House. It is important, therefore, to emphasize the fact that there are 42 members now serving in the United States Senate who were friends and co-workers of Mr. Randolph when he was in the Congress.

He held the important post of Assistant Majority Whip. Mr. Randolph served as a ranking member of the following Congressional Committees: Labor, Roads, Mines and Mining (Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Coal) and Expenditures in Executive Departments. He was Chairman of Civil Service and District of Columbia Committees.

Randolph Is The Right Man!

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Clarksburg, West Virginia



WORK TOGETHER! WIN TOGETHER!



Nominate and Elect

JENNINGS RANDOLPH

Democratic Candidate

U. S. SENATE

(Unexpired Term of M. M. Neely)

Mr. Randolph, born at Salem, and now of Elkins, is married to the former Mary Babb of Keyser. He is a member of the Boards of Directors of Salem College and Davis and Elkins College. He was graduated from the former and was a Faculty Member of the latter. His son, Jennings, Jr., 23, has returned from overseas duty as a member of the Airborne Infantry and Frank, 19, is a student at West Virginia University.

14 Years Of Congressional Experience

What Congress Thinks ... of Randolph

Pageant Magazine, a nationally recognized monthly publication, conducted a poll in 1946 in an effort to evaluate the "True Abilities" of the members of our National Legislature. Pageant went "to the body that knows Congress best—Congress itself."

Jennings Randolph Ranked First in Service

One of the questions asked of the 435 members of the House of Representatives was . . .

"Who Does Most For His Constituency?"

Representative Randolph who served from 1933-47, in the opinion of his Congressional Colleagues ranked **first** as doing most for the people he represented.

Congress Asked this Question	Congress Replied
Who does most for his Constituency?	Randolph (D. W. Va.)

(The Quotations and Statements used are reprinted from the August, 1946, issue of Pageant Magazine)

Jennings Randolph Has Statewide Support

In three (3) Primary Elections Jennings Randolph was a candidate for Delegate-at-Large to the Democratic National Conventions. He was not only successful, but West Virginia Democrats enthusiastically demonstrated their confidence in his experience and ability to represent them.

Let's Look At The Record . . .

1956

Senator M. M. Neely - - - 112,832
Jennings Randolph - - - **97,138**
 Gov. William C. Marland - - 80,786

1952

Senator M. M. Neely - - - 191,471
 Gov. Okey L. Patteson - - - 188,328
 Gov. Clarence W. Meadows - 180,886
Jennings Randolph - - - **179,052**

1948

Senator Harley M. Kilgore - - 157,102
 Gov. Clarence W. Meadows - 134,147
Jennings Randolph - - - **119,513**
 Ernest L. Bailey - - - - 117,575

(The above are Official Returns as issued by the Secretary of State)