President Truman set out on a cross-country barnstorming trip Friday with a promise to "give 'em hell" and "have 'em down."

Mr. Truman acted out at all like a man who, according to the poll takers and the analysts, is destined to be an also-ran in an election day.

He looked gay and confident as he was boarding his 21-car campaign special at Union Station this morning.

S. Sen. Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, Democratic vice presidential nominee, saw him off with a cheery "Giddy, good luck and saw 'em down."

"I think I'm going to saw 'em down," said the Chief Executive.

"Are you going to carry the fight to them, Mr. President?" he was asked by a reporter.

"We're going to give 'em hell," said Mr. Truman.

"Yes," Barkley chimed in, "it's going to be a victory trip."

"That's right," Mr. Truman agreed, "a VT trip."

The campaign special made its first stop at Baltimore Friday. A delegation of about 40 Democratic leaders turned up at the station and were greeted by Mr. Truman from the rear platform of his private car.

The delegation included the president's former Senate colleague, Sen. Robert A. Taft, chairman of the Democratic National Committee; and Pres. Harry S. Truman, wife of the president, and Mrs. William J. Patterson, head of the Democratic National Committee.

Gov. William Preston Long was on a speech-making trip in the South with Gov. William T. Williams of Virginia, but was represented by his aide, Louis O'Hare.

The next step was at Harrisburg, Pa., where a crowd of 180 gathered along the railroad tracks. Mr. Truman shook hands with members of the legislative committee of the Brotherhood of Engineers, and waved to the crowd.

"Good luck, Harry," a man yelled out as the train took off as the train was pulling out.

Later Friday evening, during a brief stop in Pittsburgh, Mr. Truman boarded the Red-White-and-Blue Freedom Train.

Speaking from the rear platform, he told a crowd of 500 that the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and other documents ought to continue to stand as the best in the world.

"There are other systems," he said, "that make the individual subject to the wills of the government."
This trip is strictly political, and one sign of it is the absence on the train of Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, the President's Army aide, and the other aides.

Mr. Truman's entourage this time is made up of Miss Margaret Truman (the First Lady will join the party tomorrow in San Francisco), White House Secretaries Matthew J. Connelly and Charles G. Roey; Chief of Staff, the President's counsel; Jonathan Daniels, a former White House secretary and now editor of the Raleigh News and Observer; Brig. Gen. Wallace Graham, and three representatives of the Democratic National Committee, William Shap, William Doyle and Mrs. Edith Edwards, director of the women's division.

Others include Jack Rosenthal, a lighting-fast shorthand expert who takes down the President's speeches; Miss Rosemary, the President's personal secretary, and Dewey S. Long, the White House transportation officer.

Aboard also is in addition to Secret Service men are 56 newspaper and magazine reporters, 3 radio reporters, 2 photographers and C. A. Edkins and other representatives of Eastern Union.

(WASHINGTON POST, SEPTEMBER 25, 1945)
Assembling his political opponents as "plotters of privilege," President Truman hit for the Poor Belt with Saturday's speech as an essential that "We Republicans dare not stray a pistachio in the farmer's field."

He spoke at the National Farming convention in Des Moines, Ia., in the first major speech of his transcontinental tour, denouncing the Republican party and the "Wall Street reactionaries" in snide terms that White House aides succeeded that "From now on, I'll be no holes barred in this campaign."

A brilliant sun beat down on a bright blue sky as the President waved on glasses spoke to the Des Moines audience. Estimated by Iowa State superintendent to number about 50,000 to 75,000, Mr. Truman had joined the President in Des Moines and was on the platform with his daughter, Margaret, who had accompanied the President from Washington and had been introduced at each platform stop.

Thousands lined the streets of Des Moines through which Mr. Truman was driven after he finished his speech.

Mr. Truman is a hard-working, tireless campaigner. For his Friday's work he did not end with the 11:50 A.M. Eastern daylight time, speech at Des Moines, Ia., at 11:50 A.M. Central standard time, Saturday, when the train passed at the Englewood station in Chicago, the state Democratic leaders, headed by Joseph K. Avey, Alderman who and the sleeping President was awakened to speak to them for a moment. In the group were Robert Hill, Chicago city clerk, Jackessus, former Illinois, Illinois Democratic chairman, and Armin Schlueter, Cook county chairman.

And by 10 A.M., Central standard time, the President was talking again with the Illinois politicians, and, at 10:14 A.M., seeming so fresh as a daisy, he was talking from the rear platform to a crowd of 5,000 gathered at the railroad station in Rock Island, Ill.

And so it continued atavenport, Iowa, at 10:15 A.M., Iowa City 7:30 A.M. Omaha 7:30 A.M., Grand Island 6:55 A.M., and on to the big show at Des Moines, including his speech, a luncheon, a press conference with Iowa editors, and the never, journey back to Des Moines, where the train headed out for Clinton and Davenport, Iowa, en route to Kansas City.

President Truman enjoyed a country dinner in his shirt sleeves Saturday. Sitting down to a chicken repeat with a group of farmers and local dignitaries, he reviewed his past and set the example of others at the table.

The table, covered with a red-and-white-checkered cloth, was set up in a large tent. Folding chairs were put around it for thirty-two persons, including Mr. Truman and her daughter, Margaret.

The President shook hands and chatted with those who were seated near by. He was flashed at the table by Edgar Kelby and Otho Burcham, both farmers. Next to Mr. Walker was Mrs. George, on whose face the speech was delivered.

The President fell to heartily on fried chicken, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, baked beans, tomatoes, rolls, cheese and coffee.
After lunch, he drove out to look over some conservation projects in the fields.

Mr. Walker and Mr. Murphier said that he expressed satisfaction at the size of the crowd and commented on the "excellent" dinner, but did not discuss politics.

Miss Juanita Center, 22 years old, of Dallas Center, Iowa, queen of the plowing festival, was photographed with the President.

In Grinnell, Iowa, where the President's special train stopped Saturday en route to Baxter, Green-Agricultural Judge gave Mr. Truman a big ear of corn and was photographed with the Chief Executive.

(NEW YORK TIMES, SEPTEMBER 10, 1948, AND THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH, SEPTEMBER 11, 1948)
Sunday was a quiet day for the President and Mrs. Truman and Miss Margaret Truman. They spent most of it resting in the family home in Independence, Mo.

At ten o'clock Sunday morning Mr. Truman drove a borrowed card (a Dodge convertible) to the home of his sister Miss Mary Jane Truman at Grand View. After that, accompanied only by a Secret Service man he drove to his home of his brother Vivian Truman, walked around the farm a bit, then returned to Independence to rest until time to board his train.

In his first rear-platform appearance after he crossed the Missouri line the President charmed a crowd that gathered along the tracks at Trenton. He told about his ties with Trenton and his experiences as a youngster. He was working at the National Bank of Commerce in Kansas City, he told the crowd, getting $20.00 a month and boarding with an elderly lady who ran a boarding house at 1304 Troost. She let him live there and have two meals a day for 85.00 a week.

"Imagine that!" the President said, and she was a native of Trenton, and because that good old lady was so kind to me, I have always had a warm spot in my heart for this town even though it does go Republican sometimes.

"I don't think you are going to do that next time!" the President added.

"No, no!" came the response from the crowd.

Before going to Independence the President and his family stopped at the Jackson County Courthouse to register. They were registered at Votes Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in the 7th precinct, 1st ward. This was because the registration was held especially for them as they will be traveling in another part of the country on the regular registration days of October 2, 9, and 16. Mrs. Ann Keeler, clerk, registered the Vice President and family.

Saturday's thirteen-meal schedule, beginning at 0148 A.M. (CST) at Rock Island, Illinois and ending at 50, Missouri at 9:00 P.M., left the President's voice showing some signs of cracking under the strain. However a night's rest seemed to renew Mr. Truman and he seemed well at 0130 P.M. (CST) for an all night run across Kansas and into Colorado. The President planned no speeches as he moved across Kansas, but he conferred on the train with Democratic National Committeeman Carl J. Rice and a dozen other party leaders who rode as far as Toppena.

At Kansas City Sunday night Hugh H. Scott, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and his party fidgeted aboard their trains for 22 minutes while another train was processed through the yards. It was President Truman's campaign special.

Then the Presidential special reached Denver at mid-morning.

When the Presidential special reached Denver at mid-morning, more than fifty Denver party leaders met aboard to shake hands with the President before he started a tour through the streets of the city, out to the Army Fitzsimmons General Hospital in the suburbs, then back to the state Capitol.

Thousands cheered Mr. Taft as he rode in an open car through Denver in the bright sunshine.

At the hospital, the President went directly to a ward on the fifth floor where many of the patients were reported. He stopped at each bed, shook hands with the convalescent, and joked and chatted for a moment.

Stopping at the bed of Sgt. J. Dewey of Colorado, R. I., who lost a leg between the lines and the Moose as a member of a tank destroyer regiment of the Fourth Reserve Division, Third Army, the President said:

"How are you getting along?"

"Just fine," Sergeant Dewey replied.

"You'll be able to walk again all right," the President said.

Sergeant Dewey and other patients said they "got a lift" from the Commander in Chief's visit.

In the crowd on the Capitol lawn the President pointed himself as a modern Paul Revere, warning the people across the land that the Republicans were coming "but that they are here" and "and have been in Washington for the last two years in the form of the notorious Republican Eighteenth Congress."

In Colorado Springs, where the President again had perfect weather with a bright sun beating down from a blue sky, 4,000 met the train. He was greeted by Mayor James B. O'Egan.

In Pueblo, Colorado's second city, with a population of 25,000, there was a greeting by several thousand and a band when the train arrived at 5 P.M.

The President, in a brief talk, asked the continued support of labor. He recalled the "tender measure," near here, saying that it was labor strife such as that which brought peace in 1915 of "Labor's Bill of Rights." He denounced the Taft-Hartley Law.

On the way from Colorado Springs to Pueblo there was something of an argument between the President and his physicians, Dr. Dr. William Drenth, who complained that the President was not taking proper care of his voice or carrying out all of the prescribed treatment, including "soaking" and "gargling." General Shain was hurried lest the President lose his speaking voice before the tour was ended.

(NEW YORK TIMES AND NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 21, 1916)
The President spoke to a standing-room-only audience of ten thousand in the Salt Lake City, Utah, tabernacle Tuesday night. Thousands waited outside.

With soaring and shrewd oratory already behind him since he left Washington on Friday, the President was up at 7 A.M. Monday standard time, to talk to a crowd of 1,950 which gathered around the rear platform at Diamond Springs, Calif., which has a population of only 4,300 persons.

Two-year-old James Morris gave the President some competition as the presidential train stopped at Diamond Springs. James is the son of Mrs. Boyd Morris.

At Grand Junction, the President's last stop in Colorado, there was a crowd of more than 7,000 on hand to laugh at the President's jibes at Congress and particularly at the chairman of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for their attitude toward irrigation and hydroelectric power projects in the West.

In Salt Lake City he quoted Representative Taber as saying, "The West is equaling like a stock job," when there was a protest over House cuts in reclamation funds in 1947.

"There," the President said, "you have the Republican's attitude toward the West, summed up in a single phrase. The West is equaling like a stock job. The Republicans are ready to lead you to slaughter and they resent it if you protest."

There were about 2,000 persons, and a band, waiting to meet the President at Price, where Congressman R. and Representative Walter L._dragan, Democrat representing the First Congressional District, headed the group of that party leaders boarding the train to ride to Salt Lake City.

A crowd at Helpernumbering perhaps 2,000 set up a cheer as the President, Governor Mike and Representative Brimmer stepped on the rear platform of the President's car, off wham.

On his way to Salt Lake, rolling across mountains and valleys under a dazzling sky, President Truman was greeted at every stop by large and friendly crowds.

Gifts of peaches, sergery, and other products of the county were brought to his train. In the town of Helper, Utah, he was presented with a black miner's helmet.

The donor was Frank Ryan, one of John L. Lewis's lieutenants, who is now president of the United Mine Workers of America. Ryan said he was not for Mr. Truman for all four-year term, and promised that the helmet would protect him from hard rocks.

The President's ringing voice which had worried his doctor and his aids was notably better Thursday night even after speeches in Colorado and Utah. After speaking, he finally took his medicine, and the results justified Job. Sen. Wallace Heumen in overruling the Governor in Clark's objections to an endgame.
President Truman appealed to the voters of the West Wednesday to join him in a "frenzied drive to keep the country from going to the dogs."

In a day of campaigning through Nevada and California he started away at the record of the Republican-controlled Eightieth Congress and, without mentioning names, challenged the Republican candidates to tell the nation where they stand on vital issues.

In a speech from the rear platform of his train in Truckee, Calif., at noon, Mr. Truman told his audience that they were looking to the next President of the United States. The President arrived late Wednesday afternoon for speeches in Oakland and San Francisco.

In San Francisco Mr. Truman told a crowd of more than 10,000 persons outside City Hall not to lose faith in the power of the United Nations to achieve peace.

The President began the sixth day of his 9,000-mile, sixteen-day cross-country trip with a speech Wednesday evening in a park at Sparks, Nev. "Everybody knows where I stand," he said. "You don't get any double talk from me. It's either for something or against it, and you know it. I hope you can find out what the other people stand for when the time comes. I very much fear that it will be a long time before you know exactly what they believe."

It was in his speech on the steps of the old State Building in Reno that the President accused the Republican committee chairmen in Congress.

Mr. Truman motored across the bay from Oakland to San Francisco, and made a noontime speech in front of the City Hall. He then returned to Oakland to address a Democratic rally and denounce the "power trust."

He was given an enthusiastic greeting by the crowd in San Francisco, which assembled between City Hall and the Veterans Memorial Opera House, where the United Nations was launched in June 1945.

Police Chief C. W. Mitchell estimated the crowd at 50,000.

When his train reached Oakland, Calif., Wednesday evening, a handful of Wallace placards were at the station, carrying placards which read, "End Jim Crow in the Army" and "America Wants No Quarrel with Russia - end the Cold War."

As he traveled aboard his special train through the States from Nevada into California to continue his "Battle for the West," the Chief Executive held a series of informal conferences Wednesday with a succession of California Democratic big-wigs in his private car.

(NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE AND WASHINGTON POST, SEPTEMBER 25, 1948)
President Truman charged in a major campaign speech in Los Angeles Thursday night that Democrats "are guiding and ruling" Henry A. Wallace's Progressive party. He appealed to American liberals not to commit the "folly" of voting for it.

"A vote for the third party" the President warned, "plays into the hands of the Republican forces of reaction, whose aims are directly opposed to the aims of American liberals."

Sternly, he assailed the Republican record in Congress on housing and anti-inflation legislation, social security, the health bill and Federal aid to education.

At Riverside, Calif., President Truman pressed upon the recent statement in Albany, by former Governor Harold E. Stassen, of Minnesota, who said that the Truman administration was deliberately trying to keep prices high until after the election.

In his speech Mr. Truman assailed the "economic royalists" of the Republican party. Without mentioning his by name, the President also denounced Representative Arthur W. Diamond, Republican, of California, as one of the "most obstructionists" in Congress.

President Truman made a point of the fact that he had served in the Army in the first World War, and had not sought exemption from the draft because he ran a farm in Missouri or because he was, at the time, thirty-three years old.

In the way the point was raised, it was open to the interpretation that Mr. Truman possibly sought to call attention to the fact that he was a veteran of the armed forces while his Republican opponent, Governor Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, was not.

The President, addressing a crowd of 3,500 persons from the rear platform of his seventeen-car special train, got into the subject through a discussion of the farmer's need for sympathy and support from the government.

A large afternoon rush-hour crowd lined the sidewalks of Los Angeles as Mr. Truman rode through, although the number did not compare with the more than 750,000 persons who turned out to see Mr. Truman when he was here last June. At that time, however, his program covered many more miles than it did today.

President Truman and Jimmy Roosevelt buried their political feud, Thursday. At the last stop before the Presidential special pulled into Los Angeles, Mr. Roosevelt climbed aboard the rear platform and grasped the President's hand. Flash bulbs popped while the two men exchanged grins over the handshake.

(WASHINGTON POST AND NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 27, 1948)