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'For America' Sparked — McCormick Takes Lead

By Max K. Gilstrap

Chicago

Formation of "For America" -- a self-style nonpartisan political organization to combat "superinternationalism and interventionism" in both major parties and work for a new political alignment, has put more heat under the already simmering political pot as congressional campaigns get under way.

After announcement of the new group at a luncheon given by Col. Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune at the Chicago Club, J. Hamilton Fish, former Republican representative from New York, set its goals: 5,000,000 members to be drawn principally from the "grass roots" and \$5,000,000 to be raised largely from small donations. The movement is supposed to have \$500,000 already pledged.

New York Offices

The organization, its founders emphasize, is not a third party but a national organizing group. It will have headquarters in Chicago and offices in New York. It expects to be operating here within 48 hours and to be organized on a national basis within 30 days.

An executive committee composed of 12 of the 14 men at the McCormick luncheon was formed and will be extended.

An organizing committee was appointed which included:

Burton K. Wheeler, former Democratic senator from Montana; Howard Buffett, former Republican representative from Nebraska; John T. Flynn, New York author; Clarence E. Manion, former dean of law at Notre Dame University, and Mr. Fish. Appointed as cochairmen of the group were Gen. Robert E. Wood, former chairman of Sears, Roebuck & Co., and Mr. Manion. Daniel F. Rice, Chicago broker, was appointed treasurer.

Mr. Fish, in an interview with this correspondent, said that meetings discussing the general idea of some kind of political action group had been held last November and a month ago in Washington. He said: "Our objective is to rally those in every part who share our views that America must come first in our considerations. We will be organized in all of the states on the basis of states rights, regardless of political affiliation, race, color and creed."

The new group differs from the America First Organization, Mr. Fish said, in going beyond that organization's chief objective of keeping out of war, to taking stands on every important issue such as the Bricker amendment and Communists in government. It differs from the Americans for Democratic Action, is being nonpartisan and rallying millions rather than thousands under its banner, he said.

"For America" is considering several candidates for its acting national chairman, one of them a prominent American Legionaire who may be chosen at a May 11 meeting in New York. He will, in Mr. Fish's words, be given a "handsome salary" and a large entertainment budget. It will be the national chairman's job to organize state groups under state chairmen probably along the lines of the American Legion.