

# Alben Barkley Makes His Last Speech Today



## Description

Former Vice President Alben W. Barkley at the Washington and Lee Mock Democratic Convention on April 30, 1956. This is the last picture taken of Vice President Barkley. Avery Johning, a student at the school, took the photo. Former Vice President Barkley had just employed his razor-sharp wit to quiet a heckler in the audience off to his left. Student leaders behind him were applauding and laughing at the mention of the squelched heckler. Two minutes later the senator was dead, collapsing after uttering his now famous last words: "I would rather be a servant in the House of the Lord than sit in the seat of the mighty."

## Date(s)

April 30, 1956

**Accession Number** 94-309

8x10 inches (21x26 cm)      Black & White

**Related Collection** [Harry S. Truman Papers Post-Presidential Papers](#)

**Keywords** Speeches, addresses, etc.      Students      Universities and colleges      Vice-Presidents

**People Pictured** Barkley, Alben William, 1877-1956

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**Credit:** Avery Johning      Harry S. Truman Library & Museum.

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