

This UP wire story ran in *The Pantagraph* on July 28, 1952, and as a slightly different version as an AP wire story in *The New York Times* the next day.

Headline: Ad-lay or Ad-lie? Stevenson Blames Twain for Confusion

ST. LOUIS - (UP) — Gov. Adlai Stevenson blames Mark Twain for some confusion over the pronunciation of his first name.

Cyril Clemens, head of the International Mark Twain Society here, Monday released the following text of a recent letter from the Democratic presidential nominee:

“Mark Twain has always been one of my favorite persons, although I have always felt he was somewhat responsible for the confusion that exists as to how to pronounce my first name.

While my grandfather, Adlai E. Stevenson, was vice president under Grover Cleveland, Mark Twain was at a luncheon where grandfather was a guest. The newspapers of the time quoted Mark Twain as follows on the pronunciation of my first name:

**Philologists sweat and lexicographers bray,
But the best they can do is to call him Ad-lay.
But at longshoremen’s picnics, where accents are high,
Fair Harvard's not present, so they call him Ad-lie.**

“Anyway, the correct pronunciation is ‘Ad-lay,’ although to put it mildly, I have been called many things.”