

BOTH PARTIES ARE ALIVE TO POSSIBILITIES

Internal Strife and Wet Issue Pains Keener as Caucus Time Nears

ROOSEVELT AND HOOVER IN LEAD

Third Party Talk is Heard—Prohibition Organizations Take Definite Stand.

By Byron Price
WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—The pains of internal strife are growing appreciably keener for both of the parties as presidential politics crosses the threshold of April.

In three important respects, the past week has contributed significantly to these troubles:—
Abandoning the conciliatory demeanor of earlier weeks, the supporters of Franklin D. Roosevelt have begun to press mercilessly toward consummation of his campaign for the Democratic nomination.

Hoover Almost Unopposed
The Republican opponents of President Hoover have laid down a policy of standing aside for the present, giving him a renomination without substantial opposition, and then if an opportunity presents itself, leading a bolt from the ticket.

In both parties there has developed a growing realization of the deadly earnestness of the prohibition organizations in their threats to withdraw support from any candidate who accepts a moist plank.

All of these developments further confirm forecasts of a campaign of great bitterness, in which party lines may come to mean very little. Talk of a third party and even a fourth party has been revived, and although such talk usually comes to nothing in the end, the politicians are listening and watching.

The Roosevelt drive captured two more states during the week, Iowa and Maine. A last-minute decision to press for instructions in the closely-divided Maine convention caused much surprise. Evidently the Roosevelt leaders, encouraged by a succession of victories and aware of the driving determination of the stop-Roosevelt movement, now are prepared to force ahead even at the expense of making some enemies.

The New York governor now has a definite pledge of 123 delegates. He needs 770 for the nomination. He has a fair assurance of about 500 for the first ballot, and a chance for many more, but there are some 330 out of the total of 1154 which are sure to go elsewhere. Missouri's 35 were instructed during the week for James A. Reed. New York's 94, which Tammany Leader John P. Curry expects to control, under the unit rule, are to remain unpledged for the present.

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EXCESS RAIN IN MARCH AT 4.15 INCHES

During the month of March, just closed, rainfall in La Grande assumed record-breaking proportions, with more than six inches of precipitation registered at the municipal building. The total, as a matter of fact, was 6.07 inches, compared with the average March rainfall of 1.92, making this month's excess moisture 4.15 inches.

Rain fell during more than half of the days in March, and there were only two or three days that could be classed as clear, although there were a few partly clear days.

Yesterday's maximum of 65 degrees above was the warmest day of the month. The minimum this morning was 41 above.

Infant Son Dies Thursday Evening

Bennie Dean Hicks, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Hicks, of Island City, died at the Grande Ronde hospital Thursday evening.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the Summerville cemetery. The body is at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary in La Grande.

WEATHER FORECAST
Oregon: Cloudy tonight and Saturday, but rain late tonight or Saturday in the west; moderate temperature; moderate changeable winds, becoming fresh southerly offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7 a. m.—44 above.
Minimum: 41 above.
Condition: Cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 65, minimum 37 above.

WEATHER APR. 1, 1931
Maximum 46, minimum 37 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain 1.8 of inch. Range—9 degrees.

Aged Salem Man Is Drowned In Roadside Water

Car Overturns Near Hot Lake, Pinning Driver Underneath—Body Taken to Union.

R. T. Derringer, of Salem, Ore., was found drowned beneath his car in two feet of water beside the Old Oregon Trail highway near Hot Lake yesterday afternoon.

The car, overturned in the water, apparently remained there more than two hours before it was investigated shortly after noon. Then, when crews started dragging the machine back onto the highway, Mr. Derringer's body was discovered underneath pinned in the water. He had been submerged too long to allow resuscitation attempts.

No Eye-Witnesses
There were no eye-witnesses to the wreck but County Coroner F. L. Ralston, after an investigation, led to the belief that either Mr. Derringer's car became unmanageable or else he attempted to swing past some other car and went too near the edge of the roadway. The brakes of the machine had been applied about 20 feet from the point the car went off the grade. There were no marks on the automobile to indicate that there had been a collision with another car. No inquest will be held.

The body was taken to the Cook Brothers' funeral parlors at Union and arrived at Union today to take charge. Mr. Derringer apparently was en route home from Nampa, Ida., at the time of the accident, as he was going west.

Mr. Derringer, who was 74 years of age, is survived by his widow, two daughters and a son, all of Salem. The automobile was not damaged to any great extent.

Interest Grows In East Oregon Music Tourney

Keen competition between the 14 high schools of Eastern Oregon which will participate in the second annual Eastern Oregon High School Music tournament is growing and President H. E. Inlow, president of the Eastern Oregon Normal school which is sponsoring the tournament, predicts an unusually successful event on April 16 at the Normal school in La Grande.

The schools are divided into three classes, A, B, and C, according to size, and the competition in group events will be within each class, although a sweepstakes cup is offered for the school in any class making the highest total number of points in both group and solo events.

The La Grande band presented the cup which is given in Class A, the schools with attendance over 300 students, and it was won last year by the La Grande High school. Union won the first place in Class B, schools with enrollment between 100 and 299, and received the cup which was represented by the Normal school.

For schools with an enrollment less than 100, Lostine received the cup which was presented by the Neighborhood club of La Grande. The sweepstakes award, which is every year awarded to the school with the highest number of points in any of the three classes, was presented by Miss Jennie Peterson, director of music at the Eastern Oregon Normal.

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Gertrude Astor Has Nervous Breakdown

LOS ANGELES, Apr. 1 (AP)—Gertrude Astor, screen actress, was under the care of physicians today following a complete nervous breakdown. The actress collapsed in the county clerk's office yesterday while she and her attorney were looking over the records in her suit against Vivian Duncan, actress, for damages alleged to have resulted from Miss Duncan's occupancy of Miss Astor's Hollywood home, which she had leased.

Miss Astor was appearing in an important role at the Tec-Art studios. Her illness will necessitate a complete rest at her home for several weeks, her physicians stated.

Urges Abolishment Of Shipping Board

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—Calling for reorganization of the government's merchant marine activities, President Hoover today urged abolishment of the shipping board.

He said the place left vacant by the board by the death of E. C. Plummer would not be filled immediately.

The president said he would postpone filling the vacancy in the hope congress would pass necessary legislation for reorganization of the merchant marine. He recommended a recent message to congress.

BICYCLE RIDER KILLED
ROSEBURG, Ore., Apr. 1 (AP)—Russell Osmundson, 15, was killed here last night when his bicycle was struck by an automobile driven by Lawrence Delaney, 22, of Roseburg. The boy's brother, Howard, 13, riding on the handlebars of the bicycle, escaped with minor injuries.

Delaney was held in jail on an open charge pending a coroner's inquest tonight.

COURT HEARS NEW EVIDENCE IN BANK CASE

Judge Allows Introduction of Notes and Records From Joseph Bank

STATE SCORES IN THURSDAY SESSION

Childers, Former Employee of Bank, Tells of \$1697.70 Marvin Note Found in Institution.

ENTERPRISE, Ore., Apr. 1 (Special)—The prosecution's web of evidence drew tighter around Edgar Marvin, Wallowa county judge and former president of the Joseph State bank, as the case entered its fifth day.

Following spirited arguments, the court allowed the introduction of notes and records from the files of the bank, tracing the disposition of the \$10,000 which the defense claims was the property of the directors, and part of which the state accused Marvin of misapplying.

The state scored in being permitted to produce as evidence the notes and records from the files, as in the first trial this evidence was not admitted. Witnesses for the state were J. L. Servey, Margery Bleth, former bookkeeper in the Joseph State bank.

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LA GRANDE BOYS ADMIT BURGLARY

Worden, Lovan and Thompson Plead Guilty in Enterprise Court.

Three La Grande youths, Ector Worden, 19; Gilbert Lovan, 18, and Edward Thompson, 17, pleaded guilty before Circuit Judge C. H. McCulloch, of Baker, in Enterprise last Wednesday to a charge of larceny in a store.

Judge McCulloch withheld sentence pending further investigation of the events leading up to the three burglaries to which the trio confessed, according to state police.

Worden and Lovan were arrested by a posse of officers near Summerville last Saturday and Thompson was arrested here early this week.

After considerable questioning, the boys not only confessed to robbing the Enterprise pool hall last Friday of a quantity of cigars, tobacco and cigarettes, but also admitted the recent robberies of the Wallowa Sweeney store and a store at Imbler.

They confessed to state police officers, it is reported, that they disposed of the stolen goods to a "fence" in La Grande, receiving less than half price for the loot. They said they received \$77 for the Wallowa store merchandise.

Their arrest resulted after they abandoned a stolen car from La Grande at Elgin and deserted the machine, hiking over the hills toward Summerville.

Sergeant J. A. Robertson, who had an active part in the case, was in Baker today. Captain H. Lee Noe, of the Eastern Oregon division of state police, went to Enterprise last Sunday to question Worden and Lovan, but was unable to shake their story.

Later in the week, after Thompson was arrested, the boys told of the three robberies, authorities report.

SPORTSMEN TO MEET MONDAY AT SACAJAWEA

Plans are going forward for a big meeting of sportsmen of this and nearby counties at the Sacajawea Inn Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, when members of the state game commission will be in attendance.

The public is invited to attend the session, which is sponsored by the La Grande Gun club, and anyone with any reference to game or fish laws, is urged to be prepared to present the matter to the officials. Delegations from several Union and Wallowa county towns expect to attend.

World's Largest Wheat Grower Sees Russia As Great Market Possibility
LOS ANGELES, Apr. 1 (AP)—A definite effort by American business to develop Russia as a market for United States made merchandise, Thomas D. Campbell, world's largest wheat grower, believes would be the greatest solitary factor toward stabilization of the country's disjointed economic structure.

Campbell owner of 95,000 acres of Montana wheat lands, returned from Russia after three years in which he gave to the soviet government his agricultural knowledge learned by scientifically farming his vast acreage.

BABY SEARCH TURNING TO NEW ANGLES

Major of New Jersey State Police on Way to England Today.

BURRAGE HINTS AT NEW DEVELOPMENT

Admiral Refuses to Indicate Nature of Latest Development in Talk With Reporters.

HOPEWELL, N. J., Apr. 1 (AP)—Major Charles H. Schoefel, deputy superintendent of state police, sailed Monday for England on a special mission, "of the nature of which we cannot say at this time," Colonel H. Norman Schwarzkopf, state police head, said in his afternoon bulletin from the home of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh today.

"He sailed on the Mauretania last Monday on specific instructions from Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf," the bulletin said, "and will return when his business is completed."

After Major Schoefel's return, further information will be given out if it does not interfere with the progress of the case.

The bulletin gave no further information regarding the secret mission of the New Jersey police official. Inquiry at the New York offices of the Cunard line, operators of the Mauretania, were met with the reply that they could not verify the sailing of Schoefel on that ship. However, it was said there that a man named Carl Scheffer aboard the ship was said to be going to Scotland yard, in London, but the nature of his mission was unknown at the shipping offices.

NEW DEVELOPMENT REPORTED
NORFOLK, Va., Apr. 1 (AP)—Rear-Admiral Guy H. Burrage, retired, said today there has been a new development since yesterday the negotiations for the return of the kidnapped Lindbergh baby.

The admiral, spokesman for three Norfolk men acting as intermediaries for the child's return, declined to indicate the nature of the development, saying its publication "would hinder negotiations."

His statement was made at the morning press conference in reply to a question by one of the reporters.

Mrs. Curtis Away
Mrs. John Hughes Curtis was away from the city today but Admiral Burrage quoted Mrs. Curtis, one of the three intermediaries, as saying his wife's absence was in connection with "her personal affairs." Mrs. Curtis left Tuesday evening, he said.

Mr. Curtis, when interviewed prior to his departure, said:

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30 L. H. S. BAND MEMBERS WILL GO TO TOURNEY

Thirty members of the La Grande High school band, and their director, W. W. Nusbaum, plan to participate in the band division of the state high school music tournament which will be held in Corvallis, Apr. 16. Officers of the band have spent the past two days selecting the personnel.

Those chosen were Everett Reynolds, piccolo; Robert Eakin, Grace Scully, Robert Long, Wilford Zaugg, William Cooper, Robert weif and Roswell Weeks, clarinets; Bernard Powell, Robert McMillan, George Denny, Milton Smith, Ralph Floberg, George Wilcox, cornets; Alvin Bork, Maelizabeth Cooper, Norma Hanks, Delores Powell, alto; Ned Jones, James Bruce, Dale Standley, Jack McClay, Fred Hertzog, trombones; Roscoe Hurley and Lenn Pierson, baritone; Paul Finlay, saxophone; Nick Higgins and Ralph Geibel, bass; Cecil Black and Lawrence Fillmore, drums.

The numbers which have been chosen by the tournament committee and by the band are: "Caravan Club" march, chosen by the committee; overture, "Raymond," by Thomas, selected number by the committee; "Andante Movement," from the "Surprise Symphony" by Haydn, selected by the band. They expect to leave La Grande on April 15.

Woman Falls Over Cliff; Hurt Badly
MEDFORD, Ore., Apr. 1 (AP)—Mrs. Carl J. Rasmussen, 40, was recovering in a hospital here today from injuries suffered in a 200-foot fall over a cliff at Red Bluff falls. The accident occurred late Wednesday. She suffered a fractured spine, a broken left shoulder and other injuries. She and a friend were viewing the falls when she slipped over the precipice.

Her husband, who suffered a broken back in an accident at Prospect five weeks ago, is in the same hospital.

Still Explodes And Fire Destroys Home
EUGENE, Ore., Apr. 1 (AP)—Fire destroyed a small frame house here last night when a 15-gallon liquor still exploded.

The occupants of the place fled before firemen arrived. The plant was in the bathroom. Neighbors said the house was rented to strangers two weeks ago. There was no furniture in the house except a bed.

ECONOMY DARKENS SMYRNA
SMYRNA, Turkey (AP)—Because of a city deficit, all electric lights here are extinguished at midnight and late revelers who are afraid to go home in the dark, have to stay out until dawn.

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REAL PIONEERS FOR FETE



Pioneers and descendants of pioneers will participate in the Utah Pioneer Festival in Salt Lake City this summer. Mrs. E. M. Felt, a pioneer, is shown beside one of the "covered wagons." Seated are Mrs. O. W. Adams, Mrs. Frank Pingree and Mrs. Albert Toronto.

Church, Barber Shop, Pool Hall Burn at Lostine

By Mrs. William Wiggins (Observer Correspondent)
LOSTINE, Ore., Apr. 1 (Special)—The Christian church, the pool hall and a barber shop were destroyed by fire here about 3 o'clock this morning. None of the contents of the three buildings was saved with the sole exception of a piano taken from the burning church.

During the fire a hot water tank in the barber shop exploded, the blast throwing part of the tank into the street.

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Bennie Hicks Is Candidate For School Office

Another candidate for office appeared in the county lists late Thursday when Bennie Hicks, principal of the Island City school, filed his declaration of candidacy for the Republican nomination for county school superintendent.

Mr. Hicks is the only Republican to file for the office so far, although J. H. Blunt, La Grande High school teacher, has been urged to make the race. E. A. Sayre, Democratic incumbent, has completed his filing and is unopposed in his party.

There were reports in La Grande today that Mrs. Henry McGoldrick, Democrat, would enter the race for the county treasurer position, but she has not filed any declaration as yet.

Mr. Hicks, in his statement, says: "I nominated and elected, I will, during my term of office, attempt a solution of the unequalized and unjust school tax now existing. By equalizing taxes there will be no excessive burden on any one district which means that with the proper distribution of funds, there will be a county unit system that will insure every child a more equal opportunity for education."

"Lane county and other counties have adopted this better system. Why not Union?"
"Mr. Hicks' slogan is: 'Every school a better school means every child a better citizen.'"

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Brave Baby Boy Is Rescued From Deep Mine Drill

Crews of Men Work Feverishly to Release Infant; Doctors Today Fear Pneumonia.

MIAMI, Okla., Apr. 1 (AP)—After toasting triumphantly and telling his nurse frequently "I feel bad," three-year-old Gerald Collins, who was rescued last night from a drill hole at a mine near Picher, Okla., was carefully examined at a hospital today.

Physicians found his head swollen apparently from bruises, and he had a bad cold.

Whether this would develop into pneumonia, the doctors could not say. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Collins, the youthful parents, spent the night in the hospital with the boy.

RESCUED LAST NIGHT
MIAMI, Okla., Apr. 1 (AP)—Brave baby Gerald Collins lived today, saved from a terrifying prison deep in a mine drill hole by strong arms and warm hearts.

When and bruised, but with a courageous "I'm all right," the three-year-old, doubled up for eleven hours twenty feet below the surface of the earth at the Mary Ann lead and zinc mine near Picher, was rescued through a parallel shaft last night.

"He's alive," cried a husky miner. Out from beyond the lights of the little rescue area a roar of thanks echoed through the shafts from the throats of thousands of watchers.

Whirled in an ambulance eleven miles to the Baptist hospital here cuddling in the mother's embrace Mrs. Paul Collins, little Gerald "faded a blue streak" and didn't appear badly hurt.

But X-ray pictures were scanned today for possible fractures by three physicians who waited at the rescue shafts until the boy was taken carefully from the drill-hole.

There was danger, too, said Dr. General Pimell, of pneumonia, as a

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Republican Whip, Rep. A. H. Vestal, Dies In Capital

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—Representative Albert H. Vestal of Indiana, the Republican whip of the house, died today at the naval hospital.

Two days ago Vestal collapsed and was sent to the hospital. His condition had been reported as improving.

Vestal, who was 57 years old, was elected to the 68th congress from the 8th Indiana district and had served continuously since. He was born on Jan. 18, 1875 on a farm in Madison county, Indiana. He was a graduate of Valparaiso university and was admitted to the bar when only 21 years old. He was prosecuting attorney of the 50th judicial circuit in Indiana from 1900 to 1904. He is survived by a widow and two children.

When the house convened Representative Hawley of Oregon, ranking Republican on the ways and means committee, told the members because of the importance of the pending tax bill, an adjournment out of respect to Vestal would not be asked.

"We believe that if Mr. Vestal could be communicated with he would say the welfare of the country should come first," Hawley said. "We will ask an adjournment out of respect later."

Artillery Men Are Robbed of \$300.00

TACOMA, Wash., Apr. 1 (AP)—Taking advantage of the fact that today was payday for men stationed at Fort Lewis, three armed bandits entered the barracks of headquarters company, 10th field artillery, at 8:00 last night, lined 16 soldiers along the walls and robbed them of \$300. They escaped in a car.

Youth Is Killed By Falling Tree
ROSEBURG, Ore., Apr. 1 (AP)—James Huntley, 16, was instantly killed near Canyonville Thursday when he was crushed under a large tree.

He and Reuben Dubell, employed as woodcutters, had cut the tree, the butt of which had remained resting on the stump. Huntley was caught under the tree when it rolled from the stump.

HOUSE AGAIN GIVES SALES TAX 'THE AIR'

Congressmen Are Near End of Their Tax Writing Job Today.

SWING AMENDMENT STRUCK FROM BILL

Speaker Garner Calls Treasury Estimate "Unfair"—Charges Lack of Co-operation.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—The house late today passed the tax bill.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—The house today rescinded its previous action and struck from the revenue bill the swing amendment imposing the wartime surtaxes on incomes.

Previously the house had rejected a sales tax which once before it had stricken from the new revenue bill. The vote was 285 to 160.

REACHES END OF JOB
WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—The house reached the end of its tax writing job today when it incorporated in the new revenue bill an amendment to subject dividends paid on stocks to the normal income tax rates.

At present the dividends of stocks are taxable under the surtax. The minimum normal income tax is 7 per cent. The new levy would expire July 1, 1934.

On the basis of revised ways and means committee estimates, the \$88,000,000 item brought the total thus far placed in the revenue bill to \$1,049,000,000. Under the revision, the committee reduced its estimates \$87,600,000 from the \$995,000,000 total announced last night.

The amendment was adopted by a standing vote of 133 to 90 but a teller vote was demanded upon which the count was 180 to 105.

An amendment to exempt \$10,000 of income from dividends was rejected.

Few Points Left Undone
Only a few more points remain to be straightened out before the house begins consideration of whether it will pass the bill it has written, or will change some vital phases of it.

At about the same time that Speaker Garner was calling treasury estimates "unfair," the committee was approving an amendment to subject dividends from stocks to the normal income tax rate.

Secretary Mills estimated that the bill as it stands now would lack \$165,000,000 of balancing the budget.

TWO MUST DIE FOR SLAYING INFANT CHILD

CORTLAND, N. Y., Apr. 1 (AP)—R. J. Simpson, 29, and his wife, Mary Field Simpson, 22, are under sentence to die in the electric chair the week of May 16. They were convicted yesterday of the slaying of Mrs. Simpson's 14-month old boy.

The child was killed on the night of September 21, last, mutilated and its body thrown into a swamp where it was found on October 10.

The Simpsons arrested three days later, confessed the crime, the district attorney said.

Famous Surgeon Dead at Kane, Pa.

KANE, Pa., Apr. 1 (AP)—Dr. ERVIN O'NEILL Kane, who attained national wide note in 1919 by removing his own appendix and who recently performed a second operation upon himself, died today.

He was 72 years old. The surgeon, long prominent for his work in treatment of cancer, died at 4 a. m., after a siege of pneumonia. He has been in ill health for several weeks.

A few months ago Dr. Kane performed the second operation on himself to relieve hernia. As was the case in his first case, he used a local anesthetic and mirrors. He said the operation was successful.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Apr. 1 (AP)—Selling set-back largely to houses with eastern connections carried all grains downward late today, with corn reaching a new low price record for the season.

Declines of cereals came about in the face of relative steadiness of the stock market. Word that North American wheat export business had been of substantial volume was also ignored.

Wheat closed unsettled 3/8 @ 3/4 under yesterday's finish, corn 3/4 @ 1 1/2 down, oats 1/2 @ 3/4 off, and provisions unchanged to 10 cents lower.

PORTLAND, Apr. 1 (AP)—Despite the bullishness created by crop reports, the price of wheat closed lower today. On the Portland futures market May closed with a loss of 3/4. July unchanged and September 7/8 off. Sales were 1000 bu. each May and September.

On the merchants exchange cash wheat lost 1/2 bushel.