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Ministers Assemble For Talks

Summit Regarded As Sure Thing

GENEVA (UPI)—The Big Four foreign ministers began assembling in Geneva today for Monday's Berlin crisis talks and Russia's Andrei Gromyko started speeding up pressure for an early summit meeting.

Gromyko was the first to arrive. The Soviet Foreign Minister expressed hope "that the foreign ministers conference will arrange an early convocation of the heads of government."

The statement supported claims by Communist sources that the Russians will forego wrangling over procedural matters at the beginning of the foreign ministers meeting in order to speed the way to the summit conference that both East and West now regard as inevitable.

Soviet Complaint Rejected
U.S. Secretary of State Christian Herter stopped over in Bonn, West Germany, on his way to Geneva, for talks with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer. He arrives here late this afternoon.

The West German Government disclosed it had replied to Russia's April 24 warning against the arming of West German forces with atomic weapons.

The reply was believed to have rejected the Soviet complaint in much the same forthright terms as the United States' rejection Friday of a similar warning against supplying nuclear weapons to its NATO allies.

Responsible Communist sources predicted today that Gromyko would try to settle outside the conference of ministers such questions as the seating of the East German Communists, Poland and Czechoslovakia so as to avoid days of argument.

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev believes that only a meeting with the other heads of state can reach a cold war settlement and Gromyko has been ordered to speed things up, the sources said. Khrushchev hopes for summit talks during the summer.

Mounts Win First Game

Eastern Oregon College defeated Southern Oregon 5-3 to take the first of three Oregon O-Regiate Conference baseball games being played today on the college diamond.

The game was continued from yesterday when EOC was leading 3-0 in the fourth when the game was called because of rain. Satch Miller allowed only four hits over a nine-inning stint for the Mounts. Frank Chase led EOC batters with three for four, including a triple.

In the second game the score was 0-0 after three innings. Dave D'Olivo had allowed no hits for SOC and John Willmarth but one for EOC in the three innings.

La Grande FFA Places Second

La Grande High School's chapter of the Future Farmers of America placed second in both the varsity and freshmen divisions of livestock judging at the Pea Festival at Milton-Freewater.

However, one member of each of the local teams placed first in high individual judging. Larry Campbell took top ribbon for the varsity squad, and his cousin, Mike Campbell, took the freshman blue ribbon.

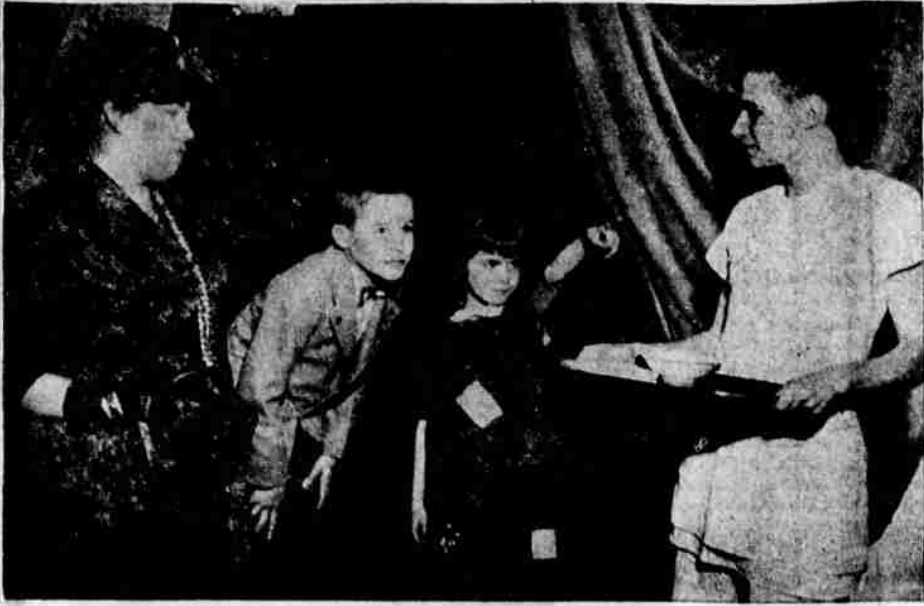
Mac Hi nosed out the varsity by nine points to take first in that division. They were followed by La Grande, Heppner, Pendleton, Imbler, Elgin, and then schools from Umatilla county. Heppner took freshman honors with La Grande second and Imbler third.

Pendleton Firm Submits Low Bid

The Russell Olson Construction Company of Pendleton was apparent low bidder on 4.24 miles of oil surfacing of the Phillips Creek-Dry Creek section of the Sanderson Spring Road.

The Pendleton firm's offer of \$16,724 was low among four bidders. The highway work will begin about 3.3 miles west of Elgin. The bid award will be made by the State Highway Department in Salem on May 28.

Union county road crews are now working on rock crusher material for the road which will be improved later this summer.



"MY MOTHER IS UP THERE"

So says Mimi (center) portrayed by Becky Kimbrell in the Eastern Oregon College production of "Mrs. McThing" which completes a three-night run tonight. From left, Nancy Brooks, Ronny Fuller, Becky, and Larry Nelson, all of La Grande. (EOC Photo)

'I AM A TIMID MAN'

Truman Honored By 50,000 Admirers On 75th Birthday

NEW YORK (UPI)—Harry Truman celebrated his 75th birthday Friday night with 50,000 of his admirers at parties in 17 cities connected by closed circuit television.

It was a sentimental affair at times and the former president was near tears at the end, but he provided his own comic relief with the Truman touch of trying to cut the wooden interior of a huge tiered birthday cake.

It was also a highly partisan affair, with not a Republican in sight, and Truman got his biggest laughs from wisecracks about Clare Boothe Luce and Sen. Wayne Morse. Vice President Richard Nixon and Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Laughs At Digs

There were 1,300 Democrats paying \$100 a plate at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York where Truman and his wife dined. An enthusiastic storm of applause broke when former New York Gov. Averell Harriman said the party wished he would be their candidate next year.

Truman showed embarrassment as Democrats lavished their praise for the historic decisions he made in the presidency—the use of the atom bomb against Japan, the Berlin airlift, the Marshall Plan and intervention in Korea.

"I am a timid man—I am embarrassed at what you said here," he said in emotion-choked tones.

He was far happier at mild digs at himself such as Dean Acheson's comment, "When he made an error he learned from it, although he never admitted it."

Show Home Movies

Adlai Stevenson in Chicago called him the "irrepressible member of the non-beat generation." And his old friend, Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, toasted Mrs. Truman as "the one great restraining influence in our hero's life."

Their daughter, Margaret, who is expecting a second child, was not at the party although her husband, E. C. Daniel Jr., attended.

Some of the most moving moments came in showing of movies taken in Truman's home town of Independence, Mo. In one shot his sister, Mary, said: "Harry was a nice boy. He always took me everywhere. Maybe that's why I'm still an old maid."

Ted Marks the best man at Truman's wedding, recalled visiting Truman while he was president and going out on the yacht, Williamburg. A steward asked the president where should bunk Marks in view of the fact he snored so loudly.

"The president told him, 'Well,

move him in with me,'" Marks recalled. "That's one reason he's always been my best man."

Hand On Heart

Truman was in anything but a "give 'em hell" mood as he finally rose to respond. He put his hand on his heart and said, "If I tried to express what I feel here, I couldn't talk."

"I'll never forget it so long as I live," he said. "When I am 90, I will tell my great grandchildren about it."

"I am going to try to spend the rest of my life getting young people to understand what they have in this great country and what they have to do to keep it." Then he tried to blow out the 75 candles on his cake. He needed help to extinguish them all.

Heroine Says Last Rites Over Dying Shark Victim

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—"Oh my God I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee."

So whispered 18-year-old Albert Kogler during a hurried, beachside baptism, two hours before he died from wounds made by a man-eating shark.

Baptizing young Kogler was the 18-year-old girl who pulled him from the turbulent surf already turned red from his blood.

The girl, Shirley O'Neill, had plunged back into the water Thursday disregarding Kogler's screaming warnings of danger.

Already a heroine for her courage in hauling the fatally mauled Kogler to shore, it was revealed today that Shirley baptized him and, in effect, said the last rites over his body from which life obviously was fast ebbing.

After pulling Kogler to shore, she knelt over him, sprinkled his forehead with sea water and made the sign of the cross.

"I baptize thee in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost."

She said, "I've baptized you, is that all right?" He murmured, "ok."

Then, continuing the religious rite, he repeated after her the act of contrition:

"Oh my God, I am sorry for having offended Thee..."

His last words before becoming unconscious were:

"I love God, and I love my mother, and I love my father. Oh, God, help me, help me."

Kogler died a short time later after emergency surgery failed to stem the damage resulting from shock and loss of flesh and blood.

Meanwhile, Mayor George Christopher disclosed he planned to seek a Carnegie Medal of Heroism for Shirley for her dangerous and heartbreaking attempt to save the life of her friend.

Dulles Contracts Pneumonia

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Ailing former Secretary of State John Foster Dulles contracted a mild case of pneumonia today. His condition was described as "some what weaker."

Dulles is in Walter Reed Army Medical Center for treatment of cancer.

The State Department in disclosing the pneumonia attack, said that Dulles responded satisfactorily to his initial injection of antibiotics.

Constant Pain

Dulles has been receiving analgesics for relief of almost constant pain from the cancer attacks.

It was disclosed earlier this week that Dulles now has to get around in a wheelchair. The State Department said he is able to walk but finds it more convenient to use the wheelchair.

Today's announcement said: "Former Secretary Dulles has contracted a mild case of pneumonia. His initial response to antibiotics has been satisfactory and his temperature is normal. He is, however, somewhat weaker."

The pneumonia attack followed one month after a medical report which said X-rays indicated Dulles had a malignant tumor in the lower part of his neck.

Radiation treatments that were started on April 14 were continued only four days when doctors said they were not helping the former secretary.

Dulles on Feb. 13 underwent a hernia operation which disclosed that he was suffering from a recurrence of abdominal cancer for which he originally underwent surgery in November, 1956.

He received massive radiation treatments and injections of radioactive gold.

Hope For Victory

There was hope he might win his fight when the treatments were ended on March 17 and he was able to spend a weekend at his Washington home.

He flew to Florida on March 30 for a rest cure, but on April 12 was flown back to Walter Reed suffering new pains in his neck.

Two days later, a medical bulletin reported the suspected tumor in the lower part of his neck and Dulles resigned the following day.

Dulles has been seeing visitors only for a few minutes a day. He was visited this week by President Eisenhower and former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Friday he was visited by the President and later by his successor, Christian A. Herter, before Herter flew to Geneva for the Big Four foreign ministers meeting.

He was hospitalized on February 10 and an operation three days later confirmed the doctor's suspicions that he had a malignant tumor in his lower intestinal tract.

Local Riders Will Haul Mail For Pony Express

Pony Express riders from the La Grande Mavericks and Union Range Riders will "haul the mail" from Kamela to North Powder tomorrow as part of the Centennial Pony Express run which started in Portland over a week ago and which will go to Independence, Mo., and back.

Riders from the Mavericks will take the mail from Pendleton Riders at Kamela and will carry it to the state weighing station east of La Grande on Route 30. Twenty-five riders from the club will carry the pouch in relays, starting at 9:30 a.m.

W. M. Curtiss of the Mavericks said that the rider should pass through La Grande between 11 and 12 a.m.

A Union Range Rider horseman will pick up the pouch at the weighing station and will carry it to Union where a special post office has been constructed. Special Centennial Express stamps and envelopes are on sale there as well as at River Products Meats and Coy's Hardware Supply in La Grande. They will be on sale until June when the express will return through this area on its return trip to Portland.

Union riders will carry the mail pouch from Union after ceremonies at the post office in Union to North Powder where Baker riders will pick it up later tomorrow afternoon.

HIGGINS SETS TALK

Harris Higgins will talk on Oregon taxation at the Union county Farm Bureau meeting at Cove, 7 p.m. Tuesday. A pot luck dinner will be included as part of the evening program.

ARMED FORCES UNIFICATION

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Defense planners are toying with a new scheme for unifying the armed forces: standardizing buttonholes.

This move was disclosed today in testimony made public by a House appropriations subcommittee.

The project isn't sewed up yet. But officials of the agency which buys military uniforms told the subcommittee that buttonholes may be one of the next items they will standardize.

Presumably they feel the armed forces have too many shapes and sizes of buttonholes, boosting uniform costs. Not missing any bets, the agency said it also was considering whether to standardize military buttons.

Local Teacher Is Featured In Magazine

Miss Elda Mae Childers, who is completing her 12th year as a Greenwood school teacher, is featured in the current issue of the National Education Association Journal, a national professional publication.

The article, accompanied by several pictures taken in the La Grande elementary school, outlines Miss Childers' career of having spent all of her teaching time, plus teacher-training, at the Greenwood school.

It also delves into her activities on the local, state and national level in professional education organizations. Also mentioned was the fact that Miss Childers plans to marry Victor M. Crow of near Joseph this June. Miss Childers says she still plans to return to teaching in the future.

The magazine is running a feature each month on "American Teacher, 1959," and has selected a few outstanding teachers from over the nation for this particular honor.

The article states that "School administrators and teachers, parents and citizens of La Grande in general are unanimous in their praise of Miss Childers."

"Even more eloquent testimony is to be found in her fifth-grade at the Greenwood grade school: The pupils not only say she is tops but indicate their feelings by their behavior."

The magazine article also tells of her being a native of Cove and her graduation from Eastern Oregon College. She plans to continue her studies for a master's degree in teaching. Miss Childers originally planned to teach music.

Author of the article is H. E. Philby, La Grande Observer managing editor.

Hindman Elected To School Board

ELGIN (Special)—Billy Hindman was elected to the Elgin District No. 23 school board at a school election Monday. Henry Weatherspoon won the Rural School District post.

At the election voters also passed the Elgin district tax levy and the rural school tax levy. Elgin voters favored Carl Webster for the member-at-large berth on the rural school district board.

Ike Faces Rough Task Of Finding Defense Secretary

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Eisenhower faced the rough task today of replacing his two top defense officials in a period of crisis and military danger.

Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, who hopes to leave the Cabinet by the end of this year, began an urgent search for a successor to his deputy, Donald A. Quarles, who died early Friday.

It appeared probable that McElroy would go ahead with plans to retire despite Quarles' death. Quarles was considered McElroy's most likely successor.

Observers forecast a complete reshuffling of the Pentagon's top leadership. Even if McElroy stayed, they saw major changes in the defense hierarchy as a result of the deputy secretary's death.

Eisenhower's search for a new defense secretary and deputy comes less than one month after he had to replace John Foster Dulles as secretary of state.

Had Rare Experience
Speculation centered on several men in and out of government as Quarles' replacement. But McElroy said he had little hope of matching Quarles' qualifications as scientist, mathematician and administrator.

Quarles, 64, a thin, scholarly man with rare experience at the Pentagon, died in his sleep. Associates said he literally had worked himself to death trying to keep this country ahead in the development of modern weapons.

Quarles will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery with simple military honors next Tuesday.

McElroy, who suspended plans to go to the Geneva foreign ministers conference, said Quarles was "irreplaceable" and conceded he might have to reconsider his plans to return to the business world this year. But the odds favored McElroy's retirement.

In The Running
Among the men mentioned for the deputy's post, which uniquely carries the same authority as the secretary's office, are:

—Assistant Defense Secretary W. J. McNeil who has been defense comptroller since the unification of the armed forces in 1947.

—Air Force Secretary James H. Douglas who succeeded Quarles in that post when Quarles became deputy defense secretary.

—William C. Foster, deputy secretary under President Harry S. Truman and chairman of Eisenhower's special committee on foreign military aid.

—Perkins McGuire, assistant defense secretary for supply. Whoever becomes deputy may later advance to the Cabinet post when McElroy retires.

Car Overtakes Several Times

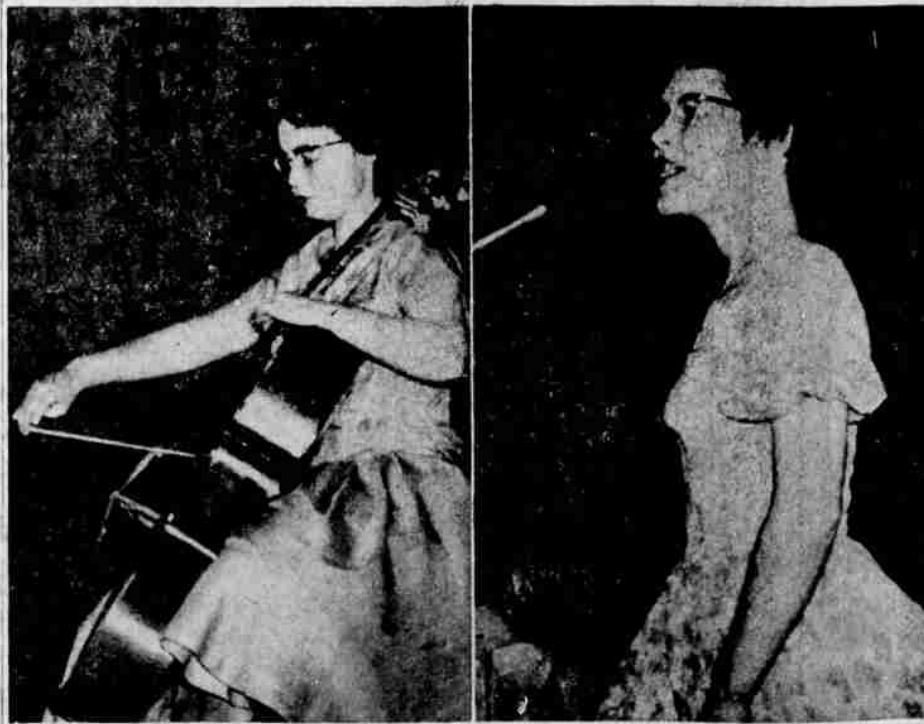
Two occupants of a car that overturned several times were uninjured in a Highway accident west of La Grande near the Glover overhead. State Police reported this morning.

Alfred Modine and his wife Nellie, of Boise, Idaho, were unscathed although the car driven by Modine swerved to the right and "rode the guard rail," careened back onto the highway, went out of control and flipped several times on the highway, police reported. Modine was cited for violation of the basic rule.

The accident occurred about midnight Thursday, police said.

Today the scene of the sinking was a pathetic one. A rag doll floated to the oily surface. Oil-covered bodies were laid on the sawdust, covered deck of a floating crane.

One body was that of a pregnant woman, another that of a 9-year-old boy in his first long pants. He still clutched a slingshot.



LHS FESTIVAL ENTERTAINERS

Pat Myers (left) and Charlene Koczan are shown as they performed in the final show of the 1959 May Music Week Festival at the La Grande High School. School officials termed the show a success. (Joe Diehl Photo)



TEACHER FEATURED IN MAGAZINE

Miss Elda Mae Childers, Greenwood school teacher the past 12 years, shown above with school Principal Loren Blanchard, is featured in the current issue of the National Education Association Journal. The professional teacher's magazine editors have selected a few outstanding teachers for the series on "American Teacher, 1959." (Observer Photo)