

McClure Tops Grange Ballot, to Vie with Tompkins in Run-off

EUGENE, Jan. 7.—(P)—State Grange Overseer Elmer McClure of Milwaukie carried off a majority of the ballots counted today in an Oregon Grange primary election in which he and veteran Master Morton Tompkins eliminated Victor Boehl of Grants Pass.

McClure and Tompkins, who is seeking reelection for a fifth two-year term, will contend for the state grange leadership in an April election.

McClure had entered the campaign belatedly, in November, after Boehl declared his candidacy was opposed to the policies of the Tompkins administration, particularly on the Columbia valley administration proposals. McClure and Tompkins were generally in accord on all major issues.

McClure polled 3,083 votes in the balloting today to hold a 399 lead over Tompkins, 2,684 total. Boehl drew 1,809.

Tompkins has favored the principles of the CVA and last summer was critical of the 1949 legislative votes of a list of state legislators he claimed should be purged if they sought reelection. Opposition to the Tompkins policies had cropped out at Pomona granges in Klamath, Hood River and scattered southwest Oregon granges.

Tompkins operates orchards near Dayton.

In the primary balloting for state overseer, William G. Gowes of Gold Hill, now state grange deputy, drew 3,879. He will be opposed by Clarence Carter, Union county, who had 1,957 in the primary. Walter Ebb, Wasco Pomona master, was eliminated. He drew 1,571 votes.

Candidates Unopposed
Unopposed in the primary were Miss Berth Beck, Portland, for secretary, and Mrs. Benah Moore, Abernathy, grange of Oregon City, for lecturer.

Eliminated from the race for the three executive committee posts was Frank H. Wooten, a seventh candidate.

Ballots were counted here today by Miss Beck and Grange Masters Ralph Rogers of Lane county; Claude Sprague of Benton county and Robert W. Schmidt of Linn county.

Death Claims Portland Jail's Prize Prisoner

PORTLAND, Jan. 7.—(P)—There was sorrow in the city jail today—the jail's prize prisoner was dead.

Old Gustav Erickson—at the jail they just called him "Old Gus"—died at Christmas time, but they didn't hear about it down at the barred window country until today.

Old Gus, who'd been in the city jail so much he gave it as his home address, had served 319 different sentences since 1932. Except once, all were for drunkenness.

The exception was when he drank a bit too much and accidentally carried off a small item from a downtown store. The judge gave him a double sentence.

That delighted Gus; he got an extra 30 days of free food and bedding.

Made Him a Trusty
After the first few years of continual arrests, police made Old Gus a trusty and let him polish cars outside. He was a good trusty, too; he never drank while his sentence was underway.

But just as soon as the current sentence ran out, off went Gus for wine or beer, and gulped down enough of it so that officers had to haul him right back to jail again.

As a trusty, he made a few cents polishing cars. He didn't need much, of course, living in that nice warm jail; and some days he'd spend a whole day polishing just one car.

Hunt Parking Spots
Other days he'd polish a private car if the owner would give him a small tip. Only once did he really haul in the money: during a Navy day, when all the prowling cars left the police parking lot, and tourists were hunting parking spots.

Gus quietly began renting space to the tourists in the police lot, at 25 cents a car. When police learned of his enterprise, Gus had pocketed in \$3.

But the old man's beer and wine finally caught up with him. Last spring, a liquor-caused infection set in; he was taken to a hospital. He died at Christmas at the Multnomah county poor farm.

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Jr. First Citizen Nationalists Increase Air Raid Tactics



Coburn L. Grabenhorst, Jr., real estate man, was named Salem Junior First Citizen for 1949 Saturday by a committee of local judges. He is shown in his uniform as commanding officer of the local navy reserve unit. The contest is sponsored by the Salem Junior Chamber of Commerce (Story on page 1).

By Seymour Topping
HONG KONG, Jan. 7.—(P)—The Chinese Nationalists reported increasing air raids and guerrilla operations today against the communists on the mainland.

The Nationalist defense ministry on Formosa announced its guerrillas had captured four county seat towns in the provinces Fukien, Kwangtung and Hunan, all in south and southeast China, recently overrun by the Reds.

It also said Gen. Hu Tsung-Nan's remaining Nationalists were fighting the Reds southeast and southwest of Chengtu, southwest China city which was the last Nationalist capital on the mainland.

Earlier the Nationalists claimed they had used air power to smash a second Red attempt to invade Hainan Island, just off the south coast. Their account said they sank about 500 of a fleet of junks that was moving slowly down the Luchow peninsula and that the remainder fled. There was no way of determining the

Acheson Given Dollar Crisis 'Hot Potato'

By John M. Hightower
WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—(P)—Secretary of State Acheson has given an urgent, top priority in the state department to development of a new line of attack on the world dollar shortage, it was learned today.

The conviction is spreading among some of his top advisers that more billions for European and other foreign assistance will be required after the end of the Marshall plan in 1952.

Some officials now say privately that the United States probably will have to consider continuing foreign assistance for an indefinite number of years. Eventually this idea may take the form of an administration proposal to congress.

Emphasize Tariff Cuts
Acheson's personal preference reportedly would be to assure other nations of the dollars they need to buy American goods by further opening up American markets for their products. It is likely that he will throw his main emphasis on a tariff cutting, import expanding policy.

But his associates, and presumably Acheson himself, regard that as a slow process, beset by political controversy in this country and unlikely to reach full development before the Marshall plan ends.

What the state department experts are reported to be convinced of is this: Unless the United States and allied nations begin preparing shortly for the end of the Marshall plan, the cold war gains of the past two years may easily be lost.

Anti-Red Line May Sag
Europe's newly won economic stability, they argue, may give way if its American dollar props are withdrawn completely; the line against communism may sag, and the American economy itself wobble badly under the impact of falling exports.

State department studies of the problem are well advanced. In Acheson's office it is now ranked second only to the China-Far East situation in urgency. It is a principal task of the policy planning chief, Paul Nitze; of the staff of Economic Assistant Secretary Willard Thorp, and of other departmental officers and divisions.

Whether the problem will be at issue in this congress is uncertain, though it may figure in administration testimony on Marshall plan third year funds.

However, Acheson feels that official estimates of the post-Marshall plan outlook must be completed and presented to the American people as soon as possible, because within a year the questions involved will raise major congressional issues.

Steps to widen the present attack on the problem are being considered. These may include a broad administration study, and creation of an advisory committee on business, labor and other leaders to make suggestions.

Los Angeles has been getting water from the High Sierra Mountains since 1907.

Oregon Demo Board Adopts Pro-CVA Stand

PORTLAND, Jan. 7.—(P)—The democratic state central committee today adopted a pro-CVA platform modeled after President Truman's fair-deal program.

The platform calls for repeal of the Taft-Hartley act and of "republican-sponsored anti-labor laws of 1947 in Oregon." It favors aid to small business, urges expansion of the social security program and extension of unemployment insurance to all industrial and mercantile workers.

It also asks equal educational opportunities for Oregon children with the state government providing 50 per cent of the total cost of elementary and secondary education. A four-year training program for grade school teachers was asked with junior colleges established wherever needed.

Reapportionment of the state legislature on the basis of population was advocated. Revision of the registration and voting procedure also was urged. It was charged that the procedure has been made difficult by republicans.

Hollywood Avenue Residents Face Flood Conditions

Residents in the area near Hollywood avenue and Silverton road, north of Salem, came into Marion county court Saturday with a complaint about flood conditions.

They said one of their neighbors had dammed a drainage ditch leading from Hollywood avenue causing backwaters to gather. The court said a county crew would investigate the matter.

Men Sighted by Search Plane

EDMONTON, Alta., Jan. 7.—(P)—An RCAF plane seeking seven men missing in the bleak and cold northwest territories reported tonight it had sighted a party of men.

The group spotted have not been identified but are believed to be those missing. The number sighted was not disclosed.

The seven have been overdue several weeks in reporting to their base. They are members of a salvage crew along the abandoned Canol pipe line.

The RCAF plane reported it was returning to Teslin, Yukon, from where it was dispatched to make the search.

Much of the coal found in the Durango, Colo., area is of coking quality.

\$2 Million Back Federal Taxes Piled Up by County Businesses

A total of more than a half million dollars in delinquent federal income taxes, owed to Uncle Sam by Marion county business establishments, has piled up since 1925.

The delinquencies amount to \$511,057 and have been incurred mostly in the past several years. Not many stretch back 25 years—and they are small. Interest and penalties on the unpaid taxes amount to \$17,563.

These figures are found in the record of federal tax liens compiled in the office of Marion County Recorder Herman Lanke.

Some of the companies have folded and it is anyone's guess whether the government will collect the back taxes. The list of nearly 300 firms which have failed to make their tax payments include logging, lumbering, manufacturing, cafes, oil companies, service stations, canneries, construction enterprises and others.

The largest delinquency, amounting to about \$104,000, is credited to a logging outfit. A great many on the list are in the logging and lumbering business. One electrical company is on the books for about \$35,000 and so is a cannery for about \$3,000.

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