

Need for Separate Structure For Criminal Insane Studied

(Story also on page 1.)
A committee to investigate the need of a separate building for insane criminals at Oregon state hospital was appointed by the state board of control Wednesday.

Elimination Of Electoral College Gains

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 -(P)- A new method of electing presidents and vice presidents was approved by the senate today in a proposed constitutional amendment still subject to action by the house and 48 state legislatures.

It would abolish the electoral college as such, and split the electoral vote of each state among the candidates in proportion to their popular vote.

If approved, it would be the first change in the presidential electing machinery in 145 years.

The senate approved the proposed constitutional amendment 64 to 27, more than the required two-thirds majority. A singular majority is required in the house. Then the legislatures of three-fourths of the states would have to ratify it before it became a part of the nation's basic law.

Democrats backed the proposal strongly. A majority of the republican senators opposed it, although its chief sponsor, Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., of Massachusetts, forty-six democrats and 18 republicans lined up for it on the final vote; 23 republicans and four democrats opposed it.

The only change in Lodge's resolution, proposed by Democratic Leader Lucas of Illinois, was approval by a two-thirds majority.

It stipulates that the winning presidential candidate must receive at least 40 per cent of the electoral vote — 212.4 out of the total of 531. If no candidate got that high a percentage, the newly-elected congress would choose the winner from the two highest candidates, with each senator and house member having one vote.

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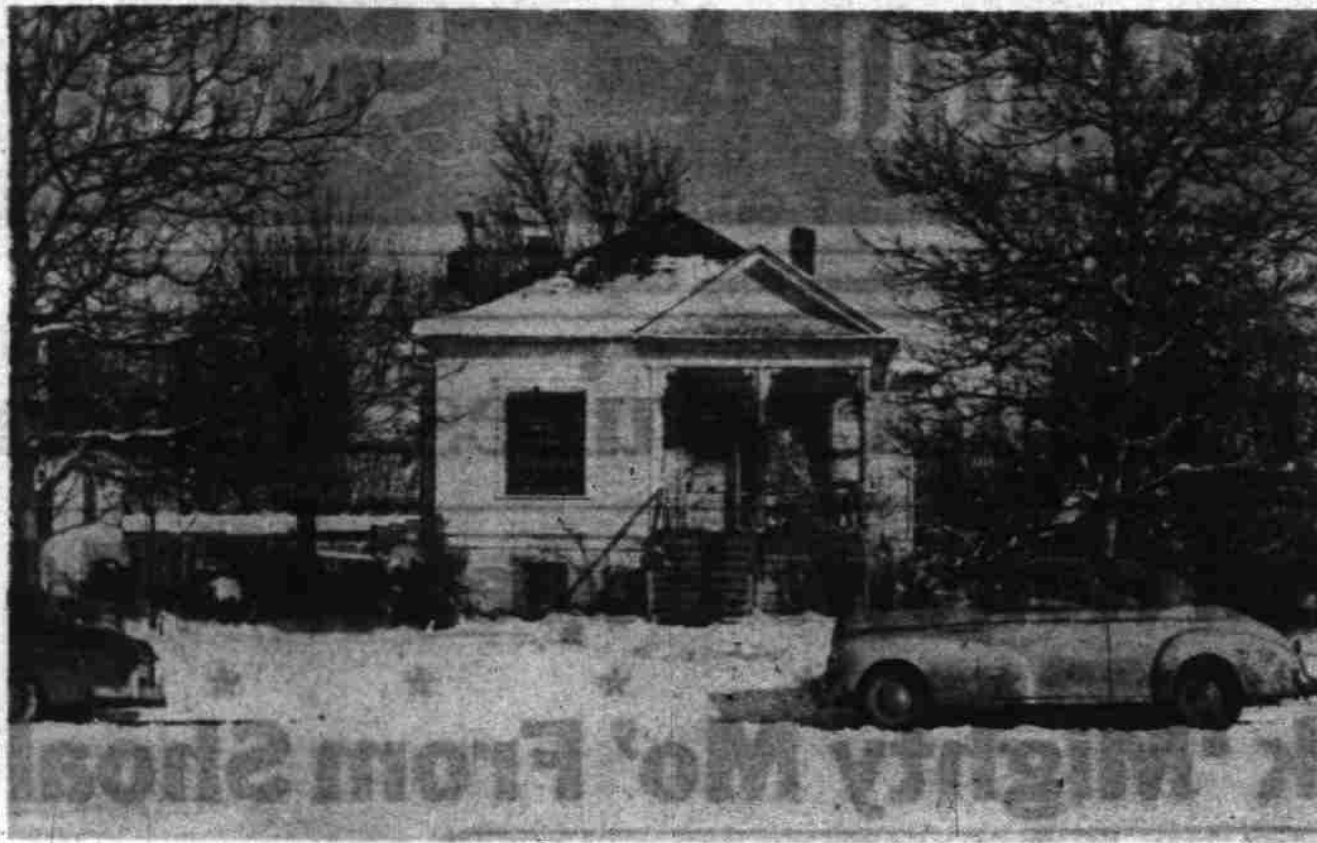
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Possible Apartment House Site



This Chemeketa street property between Capitol and 12th streets has been optioned to Robert T. Coates of Portland as possible site for a seven-story 36-unit apartment house, depending on FHA approval and purchased by the state of Summer street property Coates had bought earlier for his apartment project. (Statesman photo.)

Mrs. Jessie C. Jones, Scion Of Pioneer Family, Dies Here

Mrs. Jessie Creighton Jones, native of Salem and descendant of a well-known pioneer Oregon family, died Wednesday at her home at 369 N. Liberty st. she was 77.

She was born here Oct. 9, 1871, the daughter of John and Mary Jane McCully pioneers in Salem and eastern Oregon.

Her childhood was spent on a cattle ranch near the present site of Joseph. Later she returned to Salem to live with her grandparents, David and Mary McCully and was a member of the first graduating class of the old Salem high school. The class graduated about 1887 from the old Washington school building.

Married Dec. 6, 1905, to W. L. Jones, son of T. B. Jones, also pioneers in Oregon, Mrs. Jones and her husband farmed near Mission Bottom until about 1910 and then moved to Joseph.

They came to Salem about 1918. In 1918 Jones died and Mrs. Jones returned to the farm at Mission Bottom where she lived until 1937 when she moved to her home here.

Mrs. Jones was a member of the Eastern Star.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Rosalie Rhoades; a son, Creighton Jones; and three grandchildren, Lucinda Creighton Jones, Judith Ann Porter and George Alvin Porter. All reside in Salem.

Funeral services will be arranged by the V. T. Golden mortuary.

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McKay Urges Purchase Of Summer Lot

Purchase of the Summer street site for the Robert Coates apartment house which is to be abandoned by Coates, probably in favor of a site on the north side of Chemeketa street between North Capitol and 12th streets, was being promoted by Gov. Douglas McKay here Wednesday.

The governor indicated the lot might be taken over by some state department and be used for state parking purposes. He would not divulge identity of the prospective purchaser.

This action by the governor followed announcement that Coates had obtained an option of the Chemeketa street lot and would abandon his construction plans on the Summer street site which is near the center of the proposed state capital expansion area. Coates is asking that the state reimburse him for the cost of the Summer street lot.

Coates decision to abandon the Summer street site is contingent, officials said, on his ability to receive transfer of a federal housing administration loan to the Chemeketa street property.

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Russia Rejects French Protest On Indochina

PARIS, Feb. 1 -(P)- Russia curtly rejected France's protest over communist-ruled Indochina today, hardly even taking a look at it.

A French diplomatic source said French-Russian "relations" were never worse in recent years.

At the same time, U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson indicated in Washington the United States will match Russian recognition of Moscow-educated Ho Chi-minh's Vietnam republic in Indochina by establishing diplomatic relations with his French-backed rival, the Vietnam state headed by former emperor Bao Dai.

These developments further thrust into the world limelight the far-off land of jungles and rice paddies as a potential ignition point for an east-west battle for southeast Asia.

The French note protesting that Russia's recognition of Ho was encouragement of a rebel and a grave impairment of French-Soviet relations was handed to Soviet Ambassador Alexander Bogomolov only last night.

Hardly 18 hours later, Bogomolov handed the note back, saying "the government of the U.S.S.R. does not consider it possible to receive such a note."

Such speed raised the question whether it had been necessary for him to consult Moscow after he received the note.

The French did not let the matter rest, however. The French foreign office asked Bogomolov to call tomorrow to explain his action.

At the same time the national assembly's overseas territories committee called on the cabinet to "define its attitude" toward Russia. Communist members walked out of the committee meeting.

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Marmota Monax Has His Big Day

AP Newsfeatures
If you see a furry animal pop out of a hole today, glance around and then pop back in his hole, take a good look and see whether he answers this description:

18 to 24 inches long; grizzled above and chestnut red below; feet and tail blackish.

If he does, you have seen the American ground-hog or woodchuck (scientific name Marmota monax). This little beast is reputed to emerge from his hole every Feb. 2 to see whether he makes a shadow. If he does, says the legend, winter will be around for a spell longer, and the groundhog diviner is asked: "Bogomolov, if he doesn't, spring is practically here, and he begins his spring-time activities. Or so the legend says."

Nobody knows the origin of this legend, but it may have sprung from the Scottish proverb "If Candlemas is fair and clear, there'll be two winters in the year."

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Defense Head Orders Closing Of 18 Hospitals

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 -(P)- Secretary of Defense Johnson today ordered 18 military hospitals in the U. S. closed or changed in status. He estimated the move will save \$25,000,000 a year.

His announcement said the order will be carried out over a period of five months so as not to interfere with medical care of patients.

Johnson said some of the hospitals to be closed can be used for veterans administration patients.

Therefore, he said, he has authorized Dr. Richard L. Meiling, director of defense department medical service, "to discuss the entire problem of hospitalization of VA patients in military hospitals with the veterans administration and the bureau of the budget."

Johnson said his move today is the first in a study of the total medical services problem within his department.

A veterans administration spokesman said there has been no discussion whatever with the defense department about the possibility of VA taking over any of the army hospitals or transferring the approximately 2,000 VA patients out of those hospitals.

He said the first word of Johnson's action was received indirectly about the time Johnson made his announcement.

The veterans administration now operates 130 hospitals, including 35 transferred to it from military and six hospital additions under construction and 18 hospitals and planning stage.

The hospitals affected by Johnson's order include: Madigan General hospital, Fort Lewis, Wash., to be reduced initially to an operating allocation of three hospital additions in the

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Growing Farm Revolt Seen Against GOP

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Feb. 1 -(P)- The political league of the American Federation of Labor said today a growing farm revolt against republican policies will help labor elect a congress next fall to insure Taft-Hartley law repeal.

Joseph D. Keenan, the league's director, said midwest farmers have grown increasingly fearful of GOP price support policy in view of falling farm prices and prospects for more farm surpluses.

"The same group that is responsible for the Taft-Hartley labor law," Keenan told reporters, "is trying to remove farm price supports, or undermine them, by putting over a 'farm Taft-Hartley act'."

"The farmers know this. They are drifting back to the democratic party where they know they have obtained assistance in the past for adequate price supports. We are finding more and more support at local farm levels for defeat of reactionary members of congress."

Keenan predicted flatly the defeat of Sen. Taft (R-Ohio) in the fall elections. He said the probable democratic foe of Taft will be Joseph Ferguson, Ohio's state auditor.

AFL President William Green, whose home is in Ohio, told reporters that Ferguson is a "great vote getter" and said labor's primary aim in 1950 is to defeat Taft.

Keenan said the AFL goal next fall is to elect 15 to 20 new congress members who are "friendly to labor," to make sure the Taft-Hartley law is repealed in 1951.

The AFL is planning to make 1950 its biggest political year—as a centennial memorial for the late Samuel Gompers, the AFL's founder. The labor organization also is seeking to sign up a million new union members in the process.

REALTORS START LEAGUE
NEWPORT, Feb. 1 -(P)- The Lincoln County Realty Board today announced plans to start a home owners league, to give residents a stronger voice in tax questions and similar matters.

Bound for Oregon? Hurry up there, if you expect to "escape" the region of cyclones and blizzards and live where the "climate is unsurpassed."

This is the gist of an old poster which was sent out by an Aumsville real estate pioneer in the 1880's and distributed in the east.

The mellowed dodger was located recently by another (and less enthusiastic) Aumsville resident.

The come-on lists Oregon, as the land of the "big red apples," where "the crops never fail." It was printed for H. C. Porter, Aumsville old-timer who died recently, by "E. M. Waite, Steam Printer, Salem."

It was found by a young transient-hunter named Alfred T. Stuckart, Aumsville route 1, box 28. Stuckart, who is an "electronic prospector," makes his living by

Priest Witness For Bridges Erupts Trial

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1 -(P)- The explosive Harry Bridges perjury trial erupted today with these rapid fire developments:

1. A Catholic priest testified that Bridges—president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union—"is no communist. He's not a radical. In all my association with him as a priest," added the Rev. Paul W. Meinecke of Eureka, Nev., he was not only truthful, honest and upright, but more—

Two defense attorneys, aroused by a question Federal Judge George B. Harris put to the priest, shouted demands for a mistrial, and that he disqualify himself. Judge Harris rejected both.

Then the prosecution charged that shipping executives who appeared as character-witnesses for Bridges did so under heavy economic pressure.

Prosecutor Joseph F. Donohue produced a letter which he said was written by Howard J. Bodine, union member of a labor relations committee, to Oscar Pearson, president of the Pacific Maritime association. The letter was dated Jan. 26, 1950, the day the shipping executives testified.

The letter, Donohue said, referred to a highly-publicized labor agreement under which Bridges' longshoremen have been working the past year. The pact never has been formally ratified.

The prosecutor indicated he would recall Pearson tomorrow and, through his testimony, introduce the letter as evidence.

The brawling had come just before Donohue's charge.

Big blowup came while the Rev. Meinecke was on the stand.

He had known Bridges for years, he said, having been pastor for 10 years of St. Boniface Catholic church in San Francisco. It was then, the priest said, that he helped organize the association of Catholic Trade unionists, as proposed by Pope Pius XI.

In organizing the trade unionists, Father Meinecke said, it was his business to become acquainted with all labor leaders, and he met many times with Bridges.

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Super-Bomb In 1951 Seen By A-Leaders

By Roger D. Greene
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 -(P)- Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.) said tonight the United States should announce to the world it stands ready to abandon the hydrogen super-bomb as soon as such weapons can be "dependably outwitted."

Vandenberg called on President Truman to so notify the United Nations. His statement came amid a freshet of other H-bomb developments:

1. American atomic leaders were reported hopeful of exploding the world's first hydrogen bomb in 1951—or even earlier.

2. Senator Tydings (D-Md.) urged stepped-up research to make sure this country will have planes big enough to carry the H-bomb when it is invented.

3. Some congress members advocated a new attempt to bring about rigid international control of atomic energy before the United States goes to work on the H-bomb.

4. Senator Bricker (R-Ohio) said he doubts that the White House decision to develop the H-bomb would cause any change in Russia's actions—"they go ahead and do anything they want," he said.

Senator Vandenberg, republican foreign policy leader, made the following comment on President Truman's latest order for speedy development of the new-type bomb: