

Former Street Sweeper Now Congressman, Othman Finds

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—(U.P.)—

The door was open to suite 110 of the house office building, but the lights were out. Sitting in the gloom in an old gray hat and a heavy overcoat was a small, white-haired man.

He was hunched at a big mahogany table, squinting through his horn-rimmed glasses at a pile of mail. William J. Gallagher, the one-time street-sweeper and new congressman from Minnesota. The lights were dark because he could not find the switch. He'd looked all over and he couldn't find it.

We finally located the button and flooded his sanctum with light. He turned out to be a gnarled-looking citizen, with a fringe of white hair, numerous missing teeth, work-marled hands and gleaming blue eyes. His voice was deep.

Just Laboring Man

"I am just a common laboring man who has been a student of politics," he said. "I have been making speeches for the democratic party every year since 1894 and if I do say so myself, I am a pretty good talker, with a loud strong voice and I don't talk too much."

Back in '97, Rep. Gallagher got himself a job on a labor weekly

in Seattle as a proofreader, but he soon discovered that was not for him. As he put it:

"I found out I could make more money working. I mean I got paid better for working with my hands, than for what I had in my head."

He rustled freight. He did some janitorial jobs. For seven years he worked for the county and for 15 years more he was a city laborer in Minneapolis.

Swept Streets

"City laborer" is Rep. Gallagher's phrase. Not once did he mention street sweeping. He seemed sensitive about it. Every time I brought up the subject, he talked about something else.

He said he was 69 years old. He said he'd never finished high school and added that reports of his having gone hungry in his younger days were canards.

"It may have been," he continued, "that I didn't have the money in my pocket to go into a restaurant and eat, but I always could go home and get a meal. That's not going hungry."

Retires On Pension

The city retired him on a \$25.48 pension in 1942. When he decided to run for congress, he got a job as janitor at the Shedd-Brown Manufacturing company to raise a campaign fund of \$200.

"But I didn't need it," he said. "Everybody in my district was for me. It was no surprise to me when I was elected."

His wife resigned her job as a chocolate dipper in a candy factory and came to Washington with him. They located a one-room and kitchenette apartment at the end of a car line. This is a tight fit, he said, and their daughter, Mrs. Mary Jane Thomson, will have to live somewhere else. He added that it was too bad his office suite didn't have a kitchen; it's bigger than his living quarters.

Rep. Gallagher said he would campaign for single taxes, patent law reform, development of international trade, and the foreign policies of Woodrow Wilson. Reporters were gathering in the ante-room. Photographers were lining up their machinery. Rep. Gallagher and I shook hands and the last I saw, a pretty camera girl was trying to wheedle him into removing his hat.

1945 Victory Garden Program Is Sought

A program for the production of victory gardens and family food supply in Lane county for 1945 will be developed at a meeting of the Lane county victory garden and family food supply council on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a. m. in the courtroom of the county courthouse in Eugene. Mrs. Genevieve P. Nettleton, FSA supervisor and secretary, announced Wednesday.

Under present war conditions it is apparent that the raising of gardens and production of a family food supply is more important than ever, Mrs. Nettleton said.

Professor Writes Book

Dr. Francis P. Robinson, a 1929 graduate of the University of Oregon and now on the psychology staff at Ohio State university, is the co-author of a revision of "Education of Psychology," standard psychology book, with Sidney J. Pressey, also of Ohio State university. After graduation, Robinson taught psychology at Oregon during one summer session.

Schools Given Credit For Radar Enlistments

Much of the credit for the increased enlistments in the navy's radar training program during the past month goes to school officials in this district, Chief W. E. Bell declared Wednesday.

Superintendents, principals and instructors, according to Bell, have counseled students with an aptitude for mathematics and technical subjects and then assisted them in obtaining this training preparation.

atory to taking the qualifying test for the radar training program.

Records reveal that a person with a solid foundation of mathematics and general science has an excellent chance of passing the Eddy test and being accepted as a candidate for the 10-month course of advanced radio and electronics.

The need for radar technicians is so vital that the plan of voluntary induction into the navy has been reopened to men between 18 and 37, inclusive, who meet all requirements and who have had

their pre-induction physical examination.

Seventeen-year-olds and men from 38 to 50, inclusive, may enlist directly if they can qualify.

Large Percentage Holds On To Bonds

A total of 87.06 per cent of the funds invested in Series E, F, and G bonds since they were first offered for sale is still invested in these bonds, according to a summary of saving bond redemp-

tions compiled by the promotional research section of the war finance division and issued to banks throughout the country and to other agencies selling war bonds.

As of Dec. 31 last, 84.71 per cent of the \$30,120 million bonds in series E issued remain outstanding in the hands of the public, the summary points out.

The summary was compiled in the light of the redemption plan set up in the fall.

Retail Merchants Designate Holidays

The retail merchants division of the Eugene chamber of commerce met Wednesday morning for the purpose of setting holidays for retail stores during 1945. Only regular holidays will be observed, V. Edwin Johnson, president, announced.

The merchants appointed a committee to make a survey at the request of Mayor Earl McNutt, regarding parking condi-

tions and possible from the standpoint of the committee. The committee members are: Mayor McNutt, chairman; A. J. Bush, Harry Larson, and V. Edwin Johnson.

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