

Democratic Big-Wigs Slate Honoring Bill Boyle

Howard McGrath last month as national chairman when the latter left the Senate to become attorney general. Boyle is counted among the most practical politicians in the United States.

He entered politics in the organization of the late boss Thomas J. Pendergast of Kansas City who went to prison about 10 years ago and died in shame and disgrace. Pendergast was convicted on charges of cheating the government of \$285,465.15 in income taxes. No more than that ever was proved in court.

Rose from Clerk

Boyle rose from police clerk to police lieutenant in the organization created by Old Tom. Mayor Bryce B. Smith then named Boyle commissioner of street cleaning. He became an assistant Jackson County prosecutor in 1941. His luck continued to improve when he was recommended to Sen. Harry S. Truman of Missouri as

an investigator for the wartime Truman Committee. Boyle got the job.

At that time, Mr. Truman's secretary was Harry H. Vaughan, a years-long crony and World War I comrade in arms. When Vaughan gave up the secretaryship for a spectacular new military career, Boyle became secretary to the senator from Missouri.

In 1944, when Mr. Truman was a candidate for vice-president, Boyle was named executive assistant to Chairman Robert E. Hannegan of the Democratic National Committee. Boyle was closely associated with Mr. Truman in that campaign. Upon Mr. Truman's election, Boyle opened a law office here.

Four years later, Boyle again was advising Mr. Truman. He is credited with some of the strategy which paid off in the President's triumph last November. That led Boyle finally to the national committee chairmanship and a position of great power in this country.

It is not likely that there will be any reference to old Tom at the homecoming party in the city where he used to be the boss.

New Home Cost Change Doubted

By United Press

Prices for new homes in small cities will show little change in the foreseeable future, contractors said Tuesday.

This was the consensus in a survey of building costs in 21 towns within the 10,000 to 25,000 population bracket.

The spot check, indicated that prices vary largely because of local conditions, but that in general they follow the trend of building costs in bigger cities.

For the 21 towns, the average price of a five-room frame house, without a lot, was \$8957. A previous survey of larger cities put the average price at \$9080.

The highest average price reported in the small city survey was \$12,900, by contractors at Waukesha, Wis., and Annapolis, Md. The lowest was \$7000, at Belleville, Ill., and in Southern California towns.

At the two extremes, both Belleville and Waukesha are Midwestern industrial towns, near the larger centers of St. Louis and Milwaukee with populations exceeding 20,000.

Some contractors believed prices might go still higher, while others said there might be slight reductions. None foresaw any appreciable change, believing that costs have stabilized at their present peaks.

At Belleville, contractors said the principal saving in small city construction is in lower labor costs. But in Nebraska, small city home-builders said these savings often are balanced by higher material costs, due to less competition among suppliers.

Southern California contractors said they anticipate a slight increase due to greater building activity.

In Aberdeen, Wash., contractors said only a two per cent drop is in prospect at best. Prices there already are down slightly from a few months ago.

News Article Saves Lives

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — (UP) — Two small girls owe their lives to Mrs. Richard Mason's careful reading of the newspaper.

Tucked away on an inside page of the Washington Times-Herald, the Alexandria housewife noticed a wire dispatch describing how a three-year-old Fresno, Cal., boy was found in a compartment of an old icebox behind his home.

When Margaret Gordon, 5, and Cheryl Sumption, 4, were reported missing from her neighborhood a few minutes later, the newspaper story immediately flashed into Mrs. Mason's mind.

Acting on what she said was a "pure hunch," she decided to check two abandoned iceboxes behind a nearby veterans' housing project. Inside one of the boxes, unconscious and near death, were the two little girls.

Mrs. Mason immediately summoned two firemen who lived in the neighborhood and they administered artificial respiration until an ambulance could take the children to a hospital.

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Peppermint Harvest To Reach New Peak

CORVALLIS — (AP) — Oregon's peppermint oil harvest will top 800,000 pounds for the first time in its history, the Extension Service of Oregon State College reports.

The state will produce about 40 per cent of the national total. Producing states which trail Oregon are, in order, Indiana, Washington and Michigan.

In 1933 Oregon planted 900 acres to peppermint. This year's acreage is 14,500.

Fire Losses Rise in U.S.

The estimated fire loss in the United States during August was \$50,150,000, representing a 1.1 per cent increase over the July total and a 1.2 per cent increase over the total for August, 1948, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

August was the first month of the year during which the fire loss was greater than the loss for the same month of 1948.

Total losses for the first eight months of 1949 are estimated at \$448,549,000. This is 7.9 per cent less than losses for the same period last year.

For the 12 month period ending August 31, 1949, losses amounted to an estimated \$672,685,000. This is a decline of 5.2 per cent from losses of \$709,621,000 for the 12 months ending August 31, 1948.

These reported losses under fire insurance policies include an allowance for uninsured and unreported losses.

Wheel Chair Traveler Rolls in New York

NEW YORK — (UP) — William C. Lebow, 43-year-old polio victim of Clovis, N. M., rolled into New York this week on a wheel chair in which he crossed the country in six months and 16 days.

Lebow, a hotel clerk, said he "just took off down the highway" from his home Mar. 4 and pushed himself along the entire distance of about 2450 miles with arm power, except for a five-mile hitchhike in a car during a driving rainstorm.

City Students Win Honors

Fourteen students from Eugene placed high on honor rolls at Oregon State College of Education during summer term. Named to the first honor list were Genevieve Barham, Ruby Dunn and Louise Ogden.

Named on the second honors list were June Amundson, Ione Farmer, Bernice Gance, Marcu Gothe, Kathleen Long, Isabelle Lowry, John Miller, Violet Mortensen, Jack Morton, Jackie Newburn, Kirkman Robinson.

First list students must have a grade point average of 3.5 with a study load of at least ten term hours. Second list students must have a grade point average of at least 3.0.

ELECTRIC DEFENSE

SEATTLE — (UP) — Park department engineers are considering electrifying statues of civic leaders to discourage pigeons from roosting there.

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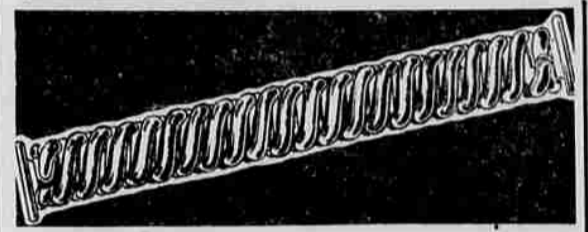


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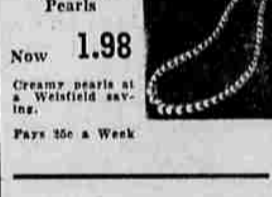
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