

County Attorney Chooses Blast At Dog-Racing Plan

By JAMES G. WELCH

Eugene C. Venn, Lane County's district attorney, Friday made a lengthy statement against gambling in general and dog racing specifically.

Venn, who defeated his Republican opponent in the May primary, so far is unopposed for general election. (It is likely possible for a Democratic opponent to file by petition Aug. 23.)

Venn, in attacking dog racing, said that the findings of the Estes Kefauver crime investigating committee, supporting his contention that organized, legalized gambling does harm to a community.

Venn cited Kefauver findings to point out that one type of gambling opens the field to other types. With dog racing, he said, "comes the minor touts, hoodlums, cheats and the whole tribe of habitual race followers, many of whom are undesirable characters with criminal records and convictions."

Then Venn made this point: "Whenever these elements appear, it is always to the detriment of the community, for they invariably seek to operate crap games and other forms of all-night gambling to take care of the race patrons who are not satisfied with the betting opportunities offered at the track itself."

Racing Commission first must act, however.

Venn also explained that prostitution compounds an effect of dog racing by attracting another "anti-social element."

Morally, dog racing, with legal sanction, is wrong, he said.

"The legal sanction of this principle in our own back yard makes it more difficult for parents and officials to teach and admonish the children that gambling is morally wrong," Venn explained.

The district attorney said that it is "indisputable" that gambling leads to more gambling, and inevitably to broken homes, "an increased number of criminal non-support cases, embezzlement matters" and a general increase in crime.

A good example, he said, is the clerk who loses his weekly earnings and pilfers the cash register to provide for his family.

BETTERS LOSE

He explained that race proponents plan to have pari-mutuel betting and that this means a set percentage of the total track income from each race must go to taxes, management, and better.

The result is, he said, that a better cannot possibly get back more than "85 to 90 per cent" of the amount he bets, per race on the average. It usually means, Venn said, that the track management, at the end of an evening of racing, has gotten half the total amount wagered.

"So impoverishing is the accumulative drain of the pari-mutuel 'take' that in states where this form of gambling has been legalized there is a decided tendency to limit the number of races each day and also to limit the total number of days in racing," he explained. This is being

BLASTS RACES

(Continued on Page 3-A)

French army spokesman said today 70 Communist-led Vietnams raiders turned back after battle. Both sides suffered substantial losses and several Vietnams militiamen were captured.

In another part of the delta, French pilots flying American bombers hit a Vietnams guerrilla base 10 or 15 miles east of Hanoi. French planes roamed the area between Son Tay, 25 miles to the northwest, but met no Vietnams units.

With monsoon rains likely to swell the delta by the end of the month, French military sources predict that Red forces will push their expected big thrust into the delta within the next few days.

The French are pouring reinforcements into vital delta defense posts. Gen. Paul Ely, the French commander in Indochina, toured three strategic defense zones Friday.

208 TO RECEIVE DEGREES

University of Oregon President Meredith Wilson will address the 1954 graduating class this Sunday at the 77th annual commencement services.

Dr. Wilson, president of the university since last March, will receive degrees on a class of 208, the major portion of them, 185, will receive baccalaureate degrees, the balance masters and doctoral degrees.

At 2:30 p.m., the black robes and colorful hoods of the academic ranks will march in procession across the University campus, followed by the members of the graduating class. The procession will have as its goal, Hayward Field, where the services will be held. Background music from the chimes, newly installed in the Erb Memorial Union.

DAUGHTERS GRADUATING

As the procession enters the field, the University Band, under the direction of Robert Wagner of the music school, will play a Handel overture.

The Rev. Henry W. Anderson, chaplain of the Veterans Administration Domiciliary of Camp White, Ore., will give the invocation.

Greetings from the State Board of Higher Education will be given by Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge of Silverton, president of the board.

Benediction, following the conferring of degrees, will be given by the Rev. Albert C. Hartley, pastor of Findlay Christian Church of Seattle, Wash.

Both Rev. Hartley and Rev. Anderson have daughters in the graduating class. Patricia Hartley and Dorothy Anderson will both receive baccalaureate degrees from the school of music.

Preceding the commencement services, the ceremony of the flower and fern procession will be held at the site of the Pioneer Mother on the south campus.

ALUMNI DAY

Activities of the Commencement weekend opened Friday. Saturday was Alumni Day with the annual University luncheon held to honor reunion classes.

Feature of the luncheon was the regraduation of the 50-year class of 1904 into the Half-Century Club. The members of the class also received their Golden O certificates indicating fifty years of service to the University. Those who received the awards were Leslie E. Crouch, Lulu Holmes Plummer, Herbert M. Green, Louise Jones and Dr. Ellis O. Willson, all of Portland; James O. Russell, of Turner; Ralph S. Shelley, Springfield; Pauline Walton, of Eugene. Rasmus P. Mortensen of Medford, who was unable to be present, was also given the Golden O.

Members of the 25-year class of 1929 received Silver O certificates.

Spokesmen for the four reunion classes and the Half-Century Club were Arthur J. Anderson of Eugene.

(Continued on Page 3-A)

GRADUATION

Inside Today

Lane County participates in stock atom attack. Page 6A.

Widescale movement to increase church's influence in Christian Schools. Page 9A.

Editorials 8A

News Briefs 1B

Radio and TV 7B

Weather 5B

Home and Garden 8-9B

Sports 1-3C

Classified 4-9C

Women's News Sec. D



BOY QUESTIONED—Marion Gregory, 11, of Chicago, is questioned by fire department attorney Earl Downs regarding a tenement building fire late Friday night. Chief of Detectives John T. O'Malley said that the boy told him he started the fire which killed seven persons and injured eight others.

Hospital on Ballot In Western Lane

(Picture, Page 10A)

FLORENCE—Voters of Western Lane Hospital District will cast ballots June 16 to determine whether a new 20-bed general hospital will be constructed to alleviate the complete lack of such facilities in Western Lane County.

The Western Lane Hospital District was organized to include Florence, Mapleton, Ada, and Western Siuslaw school districts at an election held last June. Since that date, a five member board of directors has been studying the needs of the community, as well as other factors pertinent to constructing, equipping, and operating a hospital of this size. Voters will be asked to authorize the sale of \$200,000 in bonds.

The proposed 20-bed institution would be located on a secluded 5-acre tract south of the airport road. This area is readily accessible to both Highways 36 and 101. The property was deeded to the district by Lane County through the cooperation of Martin Peterson and the city of Florence. Peterson formerly held a 99-year lease on the site.

The five-acre tract was acquired upon recommendation of the Oregon State Board of Health so that adequate parking, buffer zone, and room for expansion would be available. The hospital plans call for additional central facilities that will allow additional rooms to be added.

Western Lane Hospital District has an assessed evaluation of more than 6 1/2 million dollars. It is believed that this bond issue would cost the average taxpayer approximately \$2.50 per year. Statistics quoted at a recent public meeting on the issue indicated there is little reason to believe that the hospital would ever need additional money to cover operating deficits. All but one hospital in the state of Oregon was self-supporting in 1953.

Polling places for the coming election have been announced as follows:

Florence City Hall—for all registered voters in Florence School District.

Mapleton Grange Hall—for voters of Mapleton School District.

Swiss Home Old Church Building—for Swiss Home and Siuslaw voters.

Ada Grange Hall—Voters in Ada School District.

Voting will be between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 16.

11-Year-Old Admits Setting Fatal Blaze

(Picture, Page 10A)

CHICAGO (AP)—An 11-year-old boy admitted Saturday he started an apartment house fire in which seven persons died, police said. The boy said he threw a lighted match down the stairwell to set the blaze after reading a comic book episode of a character who worked with fire.

The fire Friday night trapped many of the 50 tenants. Eight persons were injured. Two men, two women and three children died.

Investigators were convinced that the blaze was arson. The boy changed his story after his father, Lewis Gregory, 45, was brought to the police station for questioning.

The father shouted to his son, "Don't tell them nothing," before police began questioning them in separate rooms.

Gregory admitted to police he furnished his son with "at least a package of cigarettes and a lot of 100 proof whiskey every day."

Gregory said, according to police, "He was drinking whiskey and smokin' before I found out about it so I figured if he was gonna drink and there was nothing I could do about it, it might as well be good whiskey."

"So I got him 100 proof. That's the best there is," he said.

According to the boy's original version, he claimed the fire in the four story, eight-flat building was started by two men.

He said they threw a knife at him when they caught him peeking from a crack in the door.

When the fire broke out, tenants shoved their children through windows to the waiting hands of rescuers. One woman leaped from the third floor.

ORDERED OUT

LONDON (AP)—A young American scientist, Dr. J. H. Cort, Boston, who was a Communist party member while an undergraduate at Yale University, said Saturday that the British government had ordered him to leave the country by June 30.

The record crowd turned out despite cloudy skies which constantly threatened rain.

The appearance of Roy Rogers, cowboy singing star, as grand marshal riding his famous horse Trigger attracted thousands of delighted youngsters.

The Pasadena, Calif., Tournament of Roses float won the sweepstakes for out-of-state entries. The Beaverton float was adjudged the best for Oregon cities outside of Portland. Newberg was second and Tigard third.

For the third successive year Mrs. Nat Schoen of Vancouver, Wash., took the grand sweepstakes award. Her entry was an Eden Rose, a new variety.

Safe Traffic Record

ASHLAND (AP)—Ashland observed Saturday the completion of five years without a non-pedestrian traffic death. The last such fatality was on June 12, 1949, when John J. Lehmanowski of Medford, died of chest injuries suffered in a one-car accident.

NO AGREEMENT

GENEVA (AP)—Anthony Eden and Vyacheslav M. Molotov talked over proposed kill-or-cure remedies for the Geneva conference deadlock Saturday, but failed to reach agreement.

Rumors Say Guatemalans Near Revolt

Arbenz Government Reported in Panic

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP)—The Communist-backed government of neighboring Guatemala is in "near panic" over a growing threat of revolution and may declare martial law at any time, reports reaching here said Saturday.

Jittery Guatemalans arrived in a general exodus of wives and children of foreigners, wealthy Guatemalans and even some Guatemalan officials. They reported that rumors of revolt fill the air there. To the man in the street, they declared, the big question is not if but when the revolution will start.

SECRET RADIO

The clandestine radio operated in Guatemala by political opponents of President Jacobo Arbenz was joined openly Saturday by another station in a nearby country and one in the Dominican Republic in predicting that the uprising might begin next week.

President Arbenz' regime repeatedly "announces" the discovery and destruction of the clandestine radio inside Guatemala which nags the government day and night. But the broadcasts continue. Officials retailed this week by ordering "ham" or amateur radio operators off the air.

POLITICIANS ARRESTED

Arbenz cracked down hard on all elements suspected of opposition ties, even arresting some members of his own governing party. He claims there is an organized, foreign-inspired plot aimed to overthrow his government.

For the first time since a 2,000-ton arms shipment from Red Poland brought angry U. S. objections on May 17, setting off Guatemala's political crisis, significant military leaders were breaking away from the Arbenz camp this week.

Five army and air force officers and six senior cadets of the Guatemalan Military Academy fled the country in a stolen air force plane in one incident so widely discussed, despite censorship, that the government had to issue a denial.

ARMY DEFECTION

Now, there are widespread reports that the army chief of staff himself, Gen. Carlos H. Sarti, has also disappeared. Whether he is out of the country or behind prison bars remains unknown.

Faced with a possible army switch to the opposite side, the Arbenz regime was reportedly preparing to arm the powerful, Red-ringed Landless Farmers Union to build guerrilla forces. The question of arming the laborers was first raised at a union meeting last Sunday.

Huge Crowd Sees Portland Rose Parade

(Picture on Page 4-A)

PORTLAND (AP)—The largest crowd in the history of the event watched the annual Rose Festival Parade Saturday.

An estimated 300,000 persons jammed sidewalks or watched from other vantage points as the long procession of colorful floats wound through the downtown district.

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'Long Enough' End Talks, Knowland Declares

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Knowland (R-Calif.) called Saturday for an end to the Geneva conference and invited the Associated States of Indochina to declare their independence if France sets up a "peace at any price" government. Knowland, the Senate Republican leader and a member of its foreign relations committee, declared in an interview that Geneva negotiations "have gone on long enough to demonstrate clearly that neither the Soviet Union nor Communist China is prepared to negotiate anything but the abject surrender of the French in Indochina."

With Premier Joseph Laniel having offered his resignation after losing a vote of confidence in the French Assembly, Knowland said he fears a "surrender" government may be formed.

"It is my very strong belief," he said, "that Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos are not going to sit complacently by and exchange a position of not being completely independent in the French Union for one of complete domination by the Communists."

"The Associated States may issue a declaration of independence, just as we did in 1776, and appeal to the United States and the free nations of the world for help if the French are prepared to agree to a settlement which would destroy Indochina's hope of independence and sovereignty."

ROK MAY HELP

"I don't believe they are going to sit back and have their freedom bartered away by a French government that may be established on a 'peace at any price' basis."

Knowland said he thinks the three states might be willing to accept help from the Republic of Korea, aid that the French previously had turned down.

He said he is convinced that the anti-Communists in Indochina are willing to fight "if they can get the arms and equipment to do it."

ROAD FUND

The general road fund totals \$2,132,900 as against \$2,619,700 for 1953-54. There won't be too much difference in the amount of actual working capital, however, because nearly \$500,000 of the current budget was "carry over" revenue from unexpended balances in the 1952-53 budget. None of the road budget is financed with tax money. Receipts come from timber money, gas tax apportionment, court fines, and fees and miscellaneous sources.

Lane's 1954-55 budget, as every previous county budget has been, will be within the six per cent tax limitation.

The amount of tax money that can be raised next fiscal year within this limitation is \$965,013. Some \$910,000 was raised within the limitation during 1953-54.

APPORTIONMENT

The amount within the limitation is apportioned this way: \$290,212 for the general fund, \$220,280 for the county public assistance fund, \$450,633 for the county school fund, and \$3,888 for the district fair fund.

An additional \$110,000—\$75,000 for garbage disposal and \$35,000 for the Skipworth Juvenile Home—will be collected as tax money, but this sum is outside the limitation.

Departments that sustained reductions included the fair board, reduced from \$92,500 to \$73,083; bridge department, reduced from \$320,000 to \$280,000; engineering department, reduced from \$74,820 to \$60,870; road maintenance and construction, reduced from \$1,362,000 to \$1,059,300; road department capital outlay, reduced from \$200,000 to \$80,470; assessor's department, reduced from \$139,950 to \$122,710; mosquito control program, reduced from \$30,000 to \$26,500.

MONEY NOT NEEDED

The reasons for some of these reductions, however, weren't all

BUDGET

(Continued on Page 3-A)

MONEY'S ALL HE NEEDS

Yoncalla Man Wants To Sail Sea in Canoe

YONCALLA—Robert Baughman is looking for a sponsor to back him in an ambitious canoe trip. All he needs is the money. Baughman says he wants to take a 16-foot folding canvas canoe across the 2,300-mile stretch of Pacific Ocean from Honolulu to the West Coast.

The millworker says he will live the estimated two months on the trip on rations and water distilled from a hollow plastic ball, the kind used by downed airmen or shipwrecked sailors.

"I want to make the voyage in the summer season, but there's only one drawback," he says, "I don't have the money. If someone as crazy as I am will contribute the necessary money, I'd like to show the world that the spirit which founded this nation still exists."

Baughman is not going into the adventure blind—he says he has been a commercial fisherman and merchant seaman and he knows that stretch of water.

He needs the money to sponsor the trip and care for his wife and three children when he's away.



2,100 MILES FROM GOAL—Kathryn Elliot, 32-year-old former WAC corporal, is shown resting at Cuckoo, Va., after finishing the first 100 miles of her 2,200-mile horseback trip to Malta, Mont. She holds "Pipeline," a mongrel dog that is making the trip, too, and stands beside "Brenda," the 10-year-old mare, blind in one eye, which Miss Elliott bought from a riding academy.