

Taft Withdraws From New Jersey Presidential Primary Race

Eisenhower Free To Return at Any Time, Truman Says

Korea Won't Affect Reelection Plans

Key West, Fla. —(U.P.)— President Truman said Thursday that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is at liberty to return from Europe at any time he deems it safe and proper.

Thus the President left squarely up to the General when he leaves his post as European defense commander to enter Republican politics actively.

Corrects Impression

Mr. Truman at his first meeting with reporters in three weeks bluntly corrected the impression left by Democratic Chairman Frank E. McKinney that the President would not seek reelection if there is peace in Korea.

Korea enters not into the politics of this country at all, the President said when asked about McKinney's statement of Wednesday.

Mr. Truman also said Korea has no bearing whatever on what he, himself, may decide to do.

Mr. Truman said he had told Eisenhower personally that he could use his own judgment about returning to this country; that the general could come back whenever it was proper and safe in his own judgment.

Praises Eisenhower's Job

Mr. Truman praised the job Eisenhower is doing in Europe, but said he was not interested in political fortunes of Eisenhower, who showed imposing strength in New Hampshire and Minnesota Republican presidential preference primaries.

The president's apparent complete rejection of McKinney's thesis that peace in Korea and Mr. Truman's plans for reelection are hooked together came as a surprise to newsmen.

Korea Not in Politics

Wednesday as he wound up three days of talks with the President, the chairman told how he got the impression from the President that the chief executive would not run again if a peace settlement is achieved fairly soon.

Asked whether McKinney accurately reflected his views, the President without mentioning the chairman's name said twice that Korea did not enter into the politics of the nation and was without any bearing on his own plans.

Burns Cause Death Of Ashland Girl

Ashland—Loretta Mitchell, 8, died Wednesday afternoon at the Ashland General hospital from first degree burns suffered Tuesday evening. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mitchell, 332 Patterson street, Ashland.

Reports of the accident said the child's skirt caught fire when she leaned over a wood stove while heating water to wash her play dishes. Her mother was sitting in the same room and attempted to beat out the blaze, but the child ran from the house, causing the flames to envelop her entire body. Ray Mitchell, her uncle, arrived while the mother was attempting to roll the child in a pool of water. He wrapped her in a blanket and took her to the hospital.

Radio Highlights

Radio station KYJC (1230 kc.) will broadcast the Academy Award dinner from Hollywood between 9:30 and 10:30 p. m. today.

State Crops Suffer Little Damage During Mild Winter

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Oregon farmers welcomed the first day of spring Thursday on a decidedly optimistic note.

A survey of county extension agents by Oregon State college showed that a mild, open winter—coupled with good to excellent irrigation prospects, particularly in Western Oregon—resulted in bright crop prospects.

Little Crop Damage
"So far there has been little winter injury to field crops, tree fruits, nuts and berries," said O. E. Mitchell, Linn county extension agent. "This is far different from a year ago when several thousand acres of field crops on hill soils were frozen out."

Willamette valley pastures were reported "far ahead" of a year ago.

Agents reported a different story near the Idaho line and in some livestock sections of Eastern Oregon.

"Hay supplies are the lowest in recent history," said William Farrell, Grant county.

Farrell said grass was just

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Eisenhower Forced to 'Reexamine Position'

Minnesota Vote Will Bring Study Of Past Decisions

Statement Follows President's Remarks

Paris—(U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower said Thursday that his showing in the Minnesota primary forces him "to re-examine my personal position and past decisions" on his candidacy for the Republican nomination for president.

He issued a statement on the situation shortly after President Truman said at Key West that Ike is free to go home to campaign at any time he deems it safe and proper.

Minnesota Amazes

Pressed by correspondents for a statement after his supporters in the Minnesota primary election gave him more than 107,000 write-in votes Eisenhower said:

"I did not imagine that so many voters in Minnesota would make me a write-in candidate and, according to newspaper accounts, some of them had trouble with my name."

"I count it an additional compliment that some refused to be dismayed by the long Eisenhower name and simply wrote in 'Ike.'"

General Astonished

Eisenhower said he was "astonished by the showing his supporters gained him in their write-in ballot campaign, organized almost on the eve of the election."

"You gentlemen probably realize how astonished I was by the result of the Minnesota primary," Eisenhower said.

"The mounting numbers of my fellow citizens who are voting to make me the Republican nominee are forcing me to re-examine my personal position and past decisions."

Gen. Eisenhower said on Jan. 7 that he would not take part in politics before the Republican convention July 7.

Greeters Will Accept Bids for McKay Dinner

The greeters committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce this morning received the names of 500 members of the chamber who will be contacted regarding reservations for a dinner meeting Monday at the Rogue Valley Country club. Featured speaker at the meeting will be Gov. Douglas McKay.

Chamber representatives said today that some requests from members for reservations have already been received.

Governor McKay will speak on "Oregon, Today and Tomorrow." Also on the program will be Chamber President Jorgen Jorgensen, who will give a brief report on chamber activities.



CAUGHT CARRYING LOOT—Jail matron Mrs. G. F. Newman attempts to comfort hysterical Mrs. Marie Jeanne d'Arc Machaud (right), reputed "mastermind" of a \$1,350,000 burglary at Reno, Nev. Mrs. Machaud was carrying \$500,000 worth of the loot when arrested in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Spring Makes Debut; Winter Grips Nation

By UNITED PRESS

It's spring again.

The new season officially arrived at 8:15 a. m. PST when the sun crossed the equator into the northern hemisphere.

But 71-foot snows, threats of flood, a state of emergency in the snowbound Far West remained to show that winter was nowhere near ready to let go its hold on some parts of the nation.

Fishermen on Ice Floe

Three Labrador seal fishermen rode a runaway ice floe into the Atlantic ocean and authorities.

Record snow depth at headquarters of Crater Lake National park reached 221 inches with the additional fall yesterday. It was reported this morning. The former record was 208 inches set in March, 1938.

Snowfall since the first snow last autumn has totaled 772 inches. Average snowfall is 622½ inches.

ties held little hope for their early rescue. The men were without food when their floe broke away.

The Far West caught the worst of winter's stubborn refusal to give way to the infant spring.

Gov. John W. Bonner, of Montana, said President Truman has declared an 8,000,000-acre area in eastern Montana a "disaster area" eligible for \$25,000 in federal funds. The money would be used to clear snowbound roads.

Nevada in Winter's Grip

A state of emergency was proclaimed in Nevada by Gov. Charles Russell as paralyzing blizzards pounded the state with what was called "the worst winter in 60 years."

So far, the accumulation of snow reached a record-breaking 71-feet at the Sierra snow laboratory at Soda Springs, Calif., in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

Russell said the snows threatened 200,000 cattle and 400,000 sheep with starvation.

The Southern Pacific Railroad, however, expected to send four westbound and two eastbound passenger trains across blizzard-swept Donner Summit Thursday while highway crews still struggled to open the drifted roads.

North Dakota Snowbound
Southwestern North Dakota was still snowbound and a federal engineer recommended an allotment of \$100,000 to clear several hundred miles of roads to stricken families.

A new threat was posed in North Dakota when moderately

heavy wet snow began falling late Wednesday.

New Mexico authorities were alerted to prepare for possible emergency flood work.

Authorities warned that snows in the northern New Mexico and southern Colorado mountains stood at record depths and the danger of thawing and possible rain made for a potentially severe flood threat.

Elsewhere across the nation, more seasonable weather greeted the new season.

Fair at San Francisco
The vernal equinox brought with it the first of fair weather forecast in two weeks at San Francisco, Calif.

Winter paid its official farewell with snow, slush and rain in New York Wednesday and was to be followed Thursday by fair skies and mild temperatures.

Wednesday's storm unloaded an inch of slushy snow in the city's suburbs and forced cancellation of 35 flights out of LaGuardia airport.

From Boston to Atlanta, Ga., the forecast was for clear weather and at Washington eager gardeners were reported already spading the damp earth for the early plantings.

Deliberate Wrecker Of G. P. Cars Sought

Grants Pass — (U.P.) — Police Thursday were looking for a motorist who apparently deliberately rammed 24 parked automobiles.

Reward totaling \$90 has been posted for information leading to arrest of the person who drove down Grants Pass streets Monday night crashing into cars parked in front of their owners' homes.

Police said appearance of the damaged cars indicated the driver had deliberately turned his vehicle into them.

Chief of Police Carl M. Dallas posted a \$25 reward for apprehension of the culprit and angry victims added \$65 to the amount.

Weather

FORECAST: Clearing tonight, becoming foggy with low overcast early Friday. Fair Friday afternoon. Low tonight 25-28. High Friday 50. Highest Yesterday 42. Lowest this Morning 23. Prec. to 4:30 a. m. Today .44

Board Chairman Collapses During Steel Negotiations

Temporary Delay In Strike Foreseen

Washington — (U.P.) — President Truman Thursday called Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson to an emergency conference at Key West as union leaders deferred decision on whether to call a national steel strike after midnight Sunday.

There was a chance that the Wage Stabilization Board might issue recommendations for settling the critical steel dispute before Wilson takes off tomorrow for his meeting with Mr. Truman in Florida.

Washington — (U.P.) — The Wage Stabilization Board recessed its marathon discussion of the steel dispute early Thursday when Chairman Nathan P. Feinsinger collapsed from fatigue.

Feinsinger, who had been working day and night in an effort to settle the bitter controversy, collapsed while conferring with labor members of the board.

Condition Not Serious

A physician said his condition was not serious.

A member of the board said he was sure the 49-year-old chairman would be able to attend the next meeting of the panel scheduled for late Thursday afternoon.

Feinsinger had planned to continue the all-night session until the board reached a decision on the recommendation of its public members for a package increase of about 20 cents an hour, including wage boosts and fringe benefits.

May Bring Postponement
Observers said the delay caused by Feinsinger's collapse may result in at least a temporary postponement of the CIO United Steelworkers strike, scheduled to begin at midnight Sunday.

The union's executive board was scheduled to meet Thursday morning and its 170-man wage policy committee in the afternoon to consider the public members' recommendations and Feinsinger's earlier plea for a new strike postponement.

Board Vice Chairman Frederick H. Bullen told newsmen the public members had "some hope of getting together" with labor and industry, but that "no conclusions" were ready to be made.

Astoria, The Dalles Tournament Winners
Eugene — (U.P.) — Salem knocked Klamath Falls out of the Oregon state high school class "A" basketball tournament Thursday with a 45-33 victory over the Pelicans.

Eugene — (U.P.) — Center Ron Smart's short shot from the side 28 seconds into the second overtime period gave Astoria a sudden-death 48-46 victory over McMinnville Thursday in the first consolation game of the 1952 Oregon state high school class "A" basketball tournament.

The Dalles surged from behind in the second half Thursday to eliminate Scappoose with a 66-52 victory in a consolation round game.

Light Plane Pilot Missing on Flight
McChord Air Force Base, Wash. — (U.P.) — Search started Thursday for a light plane which at least one man aboard missing on a flight from Seattle to Walla Walla, Wash., in "ceiling zero" weather.

Pilot Stanley Page left Seattle's Boeing field Wednesday after filing a flight plan which would get him into Walla Walla at 5:30 p. m. He had enough fuel to stay aloft until about 9 p. m.

Two planes from the Fourth Rescue squadron here left to search for the maroon and yellow Bellanca.

FLYING PRINCIPAL MAY BE OUSTED

Merlin, Ore. — (U.P.) — Eighth grade students from Merlin school were home again Thursday after an air trip to San Francisco which may cost their principal his job.

Principal Royal A. Ivory, with some 16 pupils and two mothers, left Sunday for San Francisco in what Ivory regards as a visual education program.

The trip was made during spring vacation because the Merlin school board warned the principal that it would not be responsible for any more air flights on school time. Last year Ivory took his class to Salem for the state legislature. The San Francisco trip was financed by the parents of the children.

Will Not Be Rehired Next Year

Shortly after the trip was announced, the Josephine county school board directed the superintendent to notify Ivory he would not be rehired next year. Citizens immediately protested the move and petitions bearing 140 names asking that Ivory be rehired were presented. The school board planned to consider the petitions in April, or possibly sooner if a special meeting is called.

Mrs. C. A. Astell, chairman of the board, said that the trip had nothing to do with Ivory's present status as far as the board was concerned. But she added that possibly the trip was the straw that broke the camel's back.

"The board came to the time of the year when we consider rehiring," she said. "We decided there had not been enough cooperation on the part of Mr. Ivory to justify rehiring."

Has No Comment Here Last Night

Ivory had no comment to make last night concerning the decision of the Josephine county school unit board not to rehire him for next year.

Queried by a reporter when he and the students deplaned from the United Air lines mainliner at the Medford airport, ending the trip, he pointed out that the board announced the decision while he was on the trip. He said that he had been too busy to consider the matter and to determine whether he would fight the dismissal action.

But, judging by the attitude of parents waiting at the airport for their youngsters, Ivory will have plenty of support from the patrons of the district if he decides to fight.

They were upset and irritated by the action and by other dealings with the board and suggested there may be an investigation by the state board. They were strong for their principal. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Anderson remarked that Ivory is very good with the children and that children at the school are well taken care of.

San Transferred to Ivory's School

Mrs. M. H. Halstead said that she was "grieved" and would like to have Ivory back. She transferred her son this year from Hugo to Merlin because of Ivory's reputation as a teacher and said she had not regretted the move. Ivory has brought the school from "bedrock to a very superior school in every detail," Mrs. Halstead declared.

Mrs. Ivory, who was at the airport, said her husband had a letter from the board permitting him to make the San Francisco trip.

Truce News Blackout On Prisoner Issues Would Be Welcomed

Panmunjon, Korea — (U.P.) —

The United Nations welcomed Thursday a possible Communist hint to impose a new blackout on at least one phase of the Korean truce talks in the hope of breaking a deadlock and reaching an armistice.

Big Butte Springs Pipeline No. 1 Now All Paid For

Medford's Big Butte springs pipeline No. 1 was all paid for today, five years ahead of schedule.

A water commission check for \$33,000 completed payment on the \$970,000 bond issue, which was approved by local voters in 1926. Payments were originally scheduled for completion in 1957.

The city was able to complete payments five years early because of two factors, according to Robert L. Lee, assistant water superintendent. These were a large increase in water users here, and a recall of the bonds early in the 1940s, when they were reassured at a lower rate of interest, Lee said.

The final payment on pipeline No. 1 cleared the decks for the city's first payment on pipeline No. 2, which was completed just last year. The first payment on the new line is scheduled to be made in July of this year. The final payment under the present schedule will be made in 1981.

The new pipeline is included in a \$2,800,000 bond issue approved by Medford voters in 1950.

Baize Still in Jail Pending Sentencing

A date still has not been set for sentencing Richard Baize, former Medford policeman who admitted embezzling some \$1,600 in pennies and nickels from city parking meter funds recently, the district attorney's office said today.

Baize is still confined to the county jail.

Ashland — The Ashland city council Tuesday voted a \$750-a-year city tax to be levied on operators of all juke boxes within the city limits.

Road Conditions

State police said today that motorists are advised to use chains in driving over the Greensprings and Siskiyou mountain passes, and over Oregon mountains on the Redwood highway, Benton mountain, to the north of Grants Pass, is clear, they reported.

Brig. Gen. William P. Nuckols, official spokesman for the UN, said such a blackout might have the effect of speeding up the stalemate prisoner of war discussions.

"I don't think any possibility should be overlooked," he said.

Nuckols commented on a news blackout in response to questions from Allied newsmen. Their questions followed persistent hinting by Communist correspondents at Panmunjon that such a course might speed the talks.

The Communists have used their correspondents previously to put out "feelers" to the Allied negotiators.

No Doubt Left
Nuckols did not say whether the Allies would suggest a news blackout themselves at their next meeting. But the tenor of his remarks left no doubt but that such a blackout, if proposed by the Communists, would be looked on favorably.

The three outstanding issues on which both sides are deadlocked are forcible versus voluntary repatriation of prisoners, naming Russia as a "neutral" truce inspector and a ban on construction of airfields during an armistice.

Taft said these statements could mean only that New Jersey GOP workers would feel "the pressure and power" of both the governor and the state organization.

"It is an atmosphere in which there cannot be a fair contest in the New Jersey preference primary," he said.

BULLETIN

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Owen Brewster, R-Me., testified Thursday he originally met "mystery man" Henry W. Grunwald through Vice President Alben W. Barkley.

Brewster appeared before the House Ways and Means subcommittee investigating tax scandals after Grunwald's accountant, Joseph Stearns, testified there was an "exchange of funds" totaling \$12,500 between Grunwald and Brewster in 1950.

2,000,000 Poles Said Ready for Soviet Army
Paris — (U.P.) — Gen. Wladyslaw Anders, World War II commander of Free Polish forces, said Wednesday night that the Soviets could mobilize 2,000,000 Poles in case of war.

Anders said Soviet Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky was reorganizing the Polish army on the Red army model.

American Saberjets Down Five Enemy MIG-15 Planes

Seoul, Korea — (U.P.) — American F-86 Sabrejets shot down five Communist MIG-15 jets and damaged five others Thursday in two fierce air battles over northwest Korea.

None of the pilots made any mention of seeing a new type of enemy jet fighter in action Thursday. One of them was hit by an American pilot Wednesday for the first time.

Three Planes Destroyed
Twenty-eight Sabres of the Fourth Fighter-Interceptor Wing destroyed three enemy jets and damaged two in a half-hour fight against 40 "very aggressive" MIGs east of the Yalu river near Sinuiju.

Two other MIGs were destroyed and three damaged in a fight between 26 Sabres of the 51st wing and 65 MIGs in a 20-minute battle north of Sinuiju.

First Lt. James D. Carey of Las Vegas, Nev., said he engaged what he thought was a conventional MIG-15 jet in a dogfight over "Mig Alley" in northwest Korea Wednesday. He noticed, however, that the plane had wings sweeping back from high on the fuselage, while the conventional MIG-15 has a relatively low wing mounting.

Carey gave the new plane a few bursts, then had to flee when a group of enemy jets came for him.

The new enemy plane has been called "type 15" by the Allied air force. It has been seen before, but this is the first time an allied airman has hit one.

On the ground, there were only two light enemy probes and scattered minor patrol clashes Thursday. The probes were both south of Koxong and east of the Nam river near the east coast. Both were repulsed.

Governor Driscoll 'Broke His Word' Aspirant Charges

Executive Pledges Eisenhower Support

Trenton, N. J. — (U.P.) — Gov. Robert A. Taft Thursday pulled out of the New Jersey presidential primary because his campaign has collapsed "as a result of setbacks in New Hampshire and Minnesota."

Accused by Taft of having "broken his word" by endorsing Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Driscoll fired back, charging Taft with being a "poor loser."

"The unmistakable fact is that the Taft drive has collapsed as a result of successive setbacks in New Hampshire and Minnesota and because of the tremendous groundswell of Eisenhower support among the independent thinking people of New Jersey," he said.

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Robert A. Taft Thursday pulled out of the New Jersey presidential primary contest because, he said, Gov. Alfred Driscoll "has broken his word" and endorsed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The New Jersey contest on April 15 offered the only remaining primary contest between two of the chief rivals for the GOP presidential nomination after last week's New Hampshire vote in which Eisenhower defeated Taft.

To Seek Name Removal
The Ohio Republican announced his decision to pull out of New Jersey just two days after Eisenhower's astonishing write-in vote in the Minnesota primary, where Taft was not entered.

Although Taft said he would close his state organization in New Jersey, it was uncertain whether Taft's name could be removed from the ballot. The Taft organization planned to try.

The office of the New Jersey secretary of state promptly announced at Trenton that Taft cannot withdraw his name. It said that, under state law, the deadline for withdrawal was March 12 and that only court action can remove Taft's name.

Position Said Reversed
"Because Gov. Driscoll has broken his word and has obviously taken steps to corrupt the intent of the present primary of New Jersey, I have decided not to contend for the preference vote in the New Jersey primary on April 15," Taft said in a statement issued through his headquarters here.

"Reversing his previous position, Gov. Driscoll announced his open support of Gen. Eisenhower on March 17 and one of his leading political associates, Lloyd B. Marsh, secretary of state, said at the same time that the state Republican organization will actively campaign for Gen. Eisenhower."

Taft said these statements could mean only that New Jersey GOP workers would feel "the pressure and power" of both the governor and the state organization.

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