

GOP Group Seeking Open Contest Pending Ike's Decision

Rickreall Holdup Suspect Denies Guilt

Dallas, Ore. — (U.P.) — Robert Scott Kennan, Salem, today denied his guilt in connection with the holdup of a Rickreall, Ore., tavern Sunday when a bandit was fatally wounded and a state police officer shot in the arm.

The slain holdup man was Wallace Cunningham, 35-year-old Portland artist. Kennan was with Cunningham when the holdup was staged but he said he thought he had talked his companion out of the scheme.

Kennan has waived preliminary hearing and grand jury indictment on two charges — assault with intent to kill. He is being held under \$10,000 bond.

State Policeman John Mekker was shot twice trying to arrest Cunningham and deputized Service Station Operator Herschel Greenwald shot and killed Cunningham.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.

Myrtle Creek Man Dies In Tractor Accident

Roseburg — (U.P.) — A caterpillar tractor accident yesterday killed William Sidney Goff, 35, of Myrtle Creek. It was the 14th woods fatality of the year in Douglas county.

The coroner's office here said Goff was struck on the back by a metal shield on the tractor as the vehicle overturned. He died almost instantly.

Delay May Leave Little Choice at August Conclave

Washington — (U.P.) — Republican conservatives are discussing ways to keep the 1956 GOP presidential contest wide open until President Eisenhower announces his political plans.

They fear that if Mr. Eisenhower decides not to run again and then delays his announcement the GOP convention next August might be left with little choice but to nominate whoever is favored by the President or his principal party supporters.

A highly-placed Republican told the United Press Monday that he knows the subject is being discussed. But he added that he is unaware that any organized plan is being developed.

He said sponsors of any such plan are extremely wary of launching it as long as they think Mr. Eisenhower possibly might seek a second term.

Want Early Announcement
If Mr. Eisenhower should withdraw because of his heart attack two months ago, some Republicans, such as Senate GOP Leader William F. Knowland, want the announcement early enough to give other potential candidates time for a pre-convention campaign.

On the other hand, the all-out Eisenhower partisans have protested against putting pressure on the President for an early decision. There has been a recent upsurge of hope among these Republicans that he will run again.

Discussions of ways to keep the contest open, pending an announcement by the President has centered on the proposed entry of "favorite son" candidates from a number of states. However, the prospective favorite sons are reluctant to step out as long as Mr. Eisenhower's plans are unknown.

First AFL-CIO Convention
Meanwhile, the newly-merged AFL-CIO said in a special announcement that it has invited both Mr. Eisenhower and Democratic presidential aspirant Adlai E. Stevenson to address its first convention in New York next month.

In 1952, both the AFL and CIO endorsed Stevenson, who campaigned on a pledge to repeal the Taft-Hartley law in favor of new labor legislation. Mr. Eisenhower campaigned for Taft-Hartley modification rather than repeal.

The AFL-CIO, whose convention opens Dec. 5, said Stevenson agreed to speak on Thursday, Dec. 8. The White House, it said, has indicated that because of his illness the President "will send a special message... instead of appearing personally."

Passengers Ride Higher Than Luggage

Chicago — (U.P.) — Passengers on "Hi-Level" railroad cars presently in service on at least one line operating out of Chicago ride higher than does their luggage.

The Santa Fe railroad has announced it will equip an entire train between Chicago and Los Angeles with the cars by mid-1956. The road has been testing the equipment for some time.

Passengers ride in seats on the upper decks of the cars, eight feet above track level, with the spacious windows.

Luggage is placed on shelves on the lower levels and unloaded at stations through a separate opening in the side of each car, leaving upper level exists clear for passengers.

The cars are two feet higher than conventional equipment. Vestibules are eliminated and passengers are able to step directly into the cars—through doors in the sides of the coaches—from platform level, mounting to the upper level by stairways inside the coaches.

In dining cars, passengers will eat on upper decks and kitchen work will be confined to lower levels.

Sisal is not as tough as manila (abaca) but is used to make millions of pounds of binder and baler twines.

Scotland's Gretna Green Serves As English Reno

Washington — The smithy at Gretna Green, Scotland, famed not for its iron but for the 5,000 marriages it has forged, is up for sale.

Although it did not figure in the 18th and 19th century heyday of Gretna Green's hasty marriage market, the smithy nevertheless serves to perpetuate a myth that thousands of couples who eloped to this border village were wed by a blacksmith.

The smithy actually did become a marriage house about the start of the 20th century. The owner decided there was more profit in matrimony than in blacksmithing. Eventually he hired a licensed clergyman to perform the rites. The clergyman, faithful to tradition, masqueraded as a blacksmith.

In earlier days the pose was reversed. A blacksmith, an innkeeper, anyone could—and did—act as parson.

A rigid English law of 1754 which prohibited marriages without parental consent sent lovers packing into Scotland where a pair had only to declare themselves before two witnesses to be legally married.

As runaway couples increased, so also did the trade war among the border "clergy". One house hung out a sign—"Ginger-Beer Sold Here, and marriages performed on the most reasonable terms."

Another sign, probably the origin of the marrying-blacksmith legend, depicted a young couple joining hands over an anvil. Places like these handled the quantity business, while Gretna Hall, a spacious mansion, cornered the quality trade.

It was at Gretna Hall that John Peel, the song-celebrated huntsman ("D'ye ken John Peel?") married Bonnie Mary White. Officiating was the most illustrious of Gretna's "clergies," enormous, hard-drinking Joe Paisley. A "twenty-five-stone mass of fat irrigated by brandy," Paisley once, when marrying two couples simultaneously, transposed the brides and grooms on the certificates. "Awell," said he, "juist sort yersel's out."

In later years, Gretna Hall marriages were punctiliously presided over by Mr. Linton, the innkeeper. So suave and urbane was he that he was called "The Bishop." When irate parents beat on the door, he would not let them in until he had first tied the knot and hidden the couple away.

Finally, in 1856, Lord Chancellor Brougham, himself a Gretna Green elopee, drafted a law requiring a 21-day Scottish residence for either bride or groom. The Bishop's marriage house came tumbling and once again became a private mansion.

Another law in 1940 illegalized marriage by declaration. Hence couples who elope to Gretna Green today must take their vows before a registrar. They are free, however, to marry without parental consent (a requirement still in England for couples under 21).

Now a honeymoon inn, Gretna Hall has preserved its marriage register listing 1134 couples, many of exalted rank. Also intact is the original bridal chamber with its extra wide, crinoline-accommodating entrance, the sliding panels in the door, and diamond-scratched initials on the windowpanes.

Kaiser Plans To Build Steel Plant in India

Washington — (U.P.) — The Henry J. Kaiser Company will build a \$130,000,000 steel plant expansion project at Jamshedpur, India. The plant will increase India's steel capacity by about 45 per cent, the company said. The project, one of the largest steel plant construction jobs ever

awarded an American firm, will raise the plant's production about 1,300,000 to 2,000,000 ingots long tons annually. The job will take about 30 months to complete.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

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