

# Era Of Americana Ends With Death Of Evalyn Walsh McLean At 60

WASHINGTON, April 18 (AP)—Mrs. Evalyn Walsh McLean, who in life loved parties and large gatherings will be buried secretly Tuesday to avoid crowds.

Only survivors and closest friends will be told the time and place of funeral services for the central character of "Father Struck It Rich," owner of the ill-reputed but magnificent Hope diamond and almost to the end, hostess to the world's most famous names.

Her death Saturday at the age of 60 during a recurrence of pneumonia ended an era of Americana.

And it meant the Hope diamond waits a new owner who will defy its storied curse.

A Cinderella whose dream held past midnight, Mrs. McLean began life in a two-room log cabin, the daughter of a prospector whose pickax hit yellow dirt in Colorado. She grew up in luxury to marry a

millionaire and become hostess to presidents and royalty.

Her father's lucky strike at Camp Bird in Duray, Colo., resulted in a gilded life in one of Washington's largest mansions, residence in Bar Harbor, Me., trips to Europe, lobbying with royalty, and marriage in 1908 to Ned McLean, son of the multi-millionaire publisher of the Cincinnati Enquirer and Washington Post.

Her first-born, Vinson, known as the "Hundred Million Dollar Baby," was cradled in a golden crib given him by King Leopold of Belgium. She and her husband were in and out of the White House at will during the presidencies of Harding and Coolidge.

Mrs. McLean, on most of the occasions on which she entertained, wore the famous Hope diamond, a 44 1/2 carat stone with strange and beautiful blue lights.

Said to have been stolen from the forehead of a Hindu idol, legend has it that the gem brought violent death or misfortune to at least six of its owners, among them Mme. de Montespan, Louis XVI and Lord Francis Pelham Clinton.

It was her favorite jewel, but she would never permit her children to touch it, especially after her son, Vinson, was killed in a traffic accident at the age of 10.

Exactly what is to become of the diamond will not be known until her will is filed for probate by her attorney, former Circuit Judge Thurman Arnold.

Mrs. McLean reportedly paid \$180,000 for the diamond but is said to have refused offers up to \$2,000,000 for it.

## HIGH SCHOOL News Notes and Comment

### MARY LOU CASE

Column readers will see a change of name and face for the coming two weeks while Mary O'Brien takes time out to play the lead in the senior play, "Our Town," which will be presented in the KUHS auditorium the nights of May 14 and 15. This is the first senior class play since 1942 and it is under the able direction of Miss Genevieve Oppen, foreign language instructor and former dramatics coach at Willamette university.

The staff positions of the Krater and El Rodeo for the 47-48 school year were announced at the publications banquet which was held Friday night in the Winema hotel banquet room. Editor of the Krater will be Ronnie Brown, the present sports editor. Rosemary Bigbie will head the El Rodeo staff.

A trip to Albany for the district music contest resulted in the rating of A-1 for the clarinet quartet and the four voice contestants, Catherine Blanas, Doris Weaver, Wilbur Elliot and Gerald Fales. The brass sextet and piano soloist Barbara Zinn rated a 2.

The clarinet quartet is made up of Lois Larson, Norma Jo Smith, Jim Pearson and Charles Martin. Composing the brass sextet are Charles Anderson, John Epley, Bill Mosby, Cameron Stewart, Bill Southwell and Bruce Crawford.

Student congress met today in activity period to discuss compulsory learning of the school song and yell. If possible a plan will be worked out whereby they can be taught in the English classes. The idea behind this move is to give the opportunity to those who have never had the chance to learn the song and yell as well as to bolster school spirit.

The school calendar is crammed full of events scheduled for the rest of the year as only 22 official school days remain for the seniors, 27 for the juniors, sophomores and freshmen. This is the time when the majority of the clubs hold their annual banquets and social functions to initiate new members and terminate a year's activities.

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