

Labor Bill Gets Dewey Backing

EN ROUTE WITH DEWEY, July 18 (AP)—Thomas E. Dewey was quoted by a group of Young Republicans today as having told them he favored the controversial Taft-Hartley labor law.

The New York governor declined to confirm or deny the report.

The Young Republicans said the New York governor told them yesterday that he favored the law and that he predicted within a year its operation would demonstrate it is not so bad as depicted by its foes.

At the same time it was learned that a delegation of 10 Republicans from Washington state will urge Dewey to take Eric Johnston of Spokane as his vice presidential running mate if he wins the 1948 republican presidential nomination.

Conference

The Washington state republicans have a conference engagement with Dewey at Bozeman, Mont., Saturday, Johnston, former president of the United States chamber of commerce, now is the motion picture industry's "czar."

Dewey, en route to West Yellowstone, Mont., with his wife and two sons to combine a week's sight-seeing of national parks with political huddles with GOP leaders of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, declined to confirm or deny the report of the Young Republicans. There was no doubt in informed quarters, however, that he had endorsed the Taft-Hartley act.

Library Said Public Hazard

ALTURAS, July 18—The Modoc county library, built by Carnegie in 1916, was declared to be a public hazard when examined by Fred W. Clayton, Alturas city engineer.

Clayton in his report to the board of supervisors, who had engaged him to examine the building, stated that a slight earthquake or a heavy snow-fall might or might not cave in the roof but he does consider it to be in a hazardous condition.

A state engineer will be engaged to verify Clayton's report. Clayton said it would cost between \$5000 and \$8000 to repair the structure and put it in shape for safety.

Between 10 and 12 tons of books on the main floor rest on single stringers, according to the librarian, Edith Oant.

The library furnishes books to all districts of the county.

Traffic Accident Toll Rises in '46

SALEM, July 18 (AP)—Oregon's 1946 traffic accident toll was 482 deaths and 11,514 injuries, a 43 per cent increase over the previous record year of 1941. Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr., announced today after completing final tabulations for last year.

The 1946 total of deaths and injuries was 11,996, compared with \$404 in 1941.

Farrell said 137 deaths were charged to excessive speed. Almost 90 per cent of last year's accidents were caused by broken laws.

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Poe Valley Road Receives Macadam Surfacing



Part of the summer construction work of the Klamath county highway department is the surfacing of the Poe Valley road. This picture, taken by Herald and News Photographer Wes Guderian, shows county dump trucks at work.

Here's Hard Way To Spend Your Summer Vacation

Editor's Note: Mrs. Majella Johnston, wife of Bill Johnston of Spokane, Wash., bureau of the Associated Press, here recounts her experiences as one of the first two women to run the rapids of the wild middle fork of the Salmon river of Idaho. With them on the trip, besides the boatmen, were Don Butler, veteran student at the University of Montana, Missoula, and Mrs. Butler.

By MAJELLA JOHNSTON

SALMON, Ida., July 18 (AP)—There must be simpler ways to escape household chores at vacation time than traveling down the middle fork of the Salmon river in a rubber boat.

When our friends, Don and Betty Butler, first suggested the 75-mile tour down the swift river, my husband and I were enthusiastic for somewhat different reasons.

As an Associated Press writer and camera fan, Husband Bill was eager to get news and pictures of the first women to make the trip down the middle branch of the "River of No Return." As an amateur artist and mother of three young sons, I was interested in scenery sketches and especially a 10-day rest from household duties.

Bill got his pictures. I got my scenery and some sketches, but the rest periods were sandwiched in between climbing cliffs and hanging onto ropes as the rough river tossed the boat around.

House Work Simple

The "house work" is simple when all camping equipment must be packed in a 12-foot rubber boat. I washed clothes in the icy river or in hot springs. I shook sand out of bed rolls and combed twigs from my hair. I longed for vegetable salads at times as I devoured the sour-dough style meals cooked by the boatmen, Carl J. Kirley and C. L. Gilpin of Salmon.

But for all the rough edges I wouldn't trade that week on the river for a vacation in a swanky resort.

Sleeping in a "sac" on the rough ground wasn't bad at all—except for one time. I was so tired each night as I crawled into the sleeping bag that I went to sleep immediately and slumbered until chow time.

The single exception was the night we were sleeping under a cliff at the river's edge. I went to sleep watching bats hunting against the

pale sky. I was awakened by the cracking of branches and the smell of strong animal scent. I was sure it was a cougar.

After listening 30 minutes to cracking branches and rolling rocks, I awakened Bill. Sleepily mumbling that cougars don't bother campers, he finally got up. Barefoot and armed with a book of matches, he explored through underbrush. He found nothing, not even a porcupine. Eventually I went to sleep.

First Trout

I caught my first trout during the trip. In an hour I hauled in three 14-inchers while Bill, who kept urging us to eat more fish so he could catch more, landed six.

It was a thrill to see mountain sheep and a bear as well as salmon leaping at the falls, but the most exciting episodes were in the rapids where I really clung to the ropes. We went over falls and through high waves as the water boiled swiftly over submerged rocks and around those resting above the surface. I had no desire to use my rubber "Mae West" but on the last day I almost needed it.

Near the mouth of the river we hit a 10-foot wave which tipped the boat on its side, swept away my shoes which were lying amidships and hurled Don out of his seat onto the boat floor. The sturdy boat half full of water regained its balance and reached shore safely under the expert guidance of the boatmen.

Thus Betty and I became the first women to make the long trip down the river. It was great sport but I still need a rest.

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seated onto the boat floor. The sturdy boat half full of water regained its balance and reached shore safely under the expert guidance of the boatmen.

Few Jews Figure In DP Problem

SEATTLE, July 18 (AP)—Despite a feeling in the United States that the majority of displaced persons in Europe are Jewish, the opposite is true, George Rundquist, associate secretary of the national citizen's committee on displaced persons, said here today.

"Actually, Rundquist said, "about 65 per cent of the displaced persons are Catholic, 15 per cent are Jewish and the rest are Protestant."

Rundquist visited church, labor and veterans organizations to gain support for the Stratton bill which would admit 400,000 refugees, at present in Europe, to the United States at the rate of 100,000 a year.

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Americans Said Held By Soviets

WORCESTER, Mass., July 18 (AP)—Two American-born wives of former Lithuanian diplomats, relatives here charged today, were being held "prisoners" by the Soviet Union in Siberia.

They were identified as: Mrs. Valdemaras Carneckis, 55, the former Eleanor Schultz of Worcester, whose husband was premier of Lithuania when that country was overrun by Russia.

Mrs. Stanley Kairukstis, the former Anna Migasikas of Worcester, whose husband was Lithuanian minister of education.

Status of the two women could not be immediately clarified in official quarters, but relatives here claimed both had retained their American citizenship after marriage.

Children Registered

Mrs. Mae Aldrich, a sister of Mrs. Carneckis, said the latter had registered her five children as American citizens in Washington in 1938. The children, she said, are being held "prisoners" with their mother.

Mrs. Philip Breen of Worcester, sister of Mrs. Kairukstis, said she had not heard directly from her sister since 1940.

A few months ago, however, she said an unidentified woman in Franco had written stating her sister was incarcerated in Siberia with her 19-year-old daughter.

Mrs. Kairukstis lived in Worcester until 1926 when she went to Lithuania in the employ of the United States Steamship Lines.

Lieutenant-Governor Arthur W. Coolidge first announced the report of a Massachusetts mother and her five children being held "prisoners" by the Russians but he did not identify them.

He coupled this revelation with a denunciation of the Soviet Union before the Massachusetts American Legion, charging the Russians with "ingratitude" in ignoring all requests for the woman's release.

Insurance Waiver Okay

World War I veterans who have been totally disabled for six consecutive months or more at any time since August 1, 1941, are eligible to apply for waiver of premiums on the national service life insurance on or before August 1 of this year, Patrick W. Kilby, veterans administration representative for this area, said today.

After August 1, 1947, no premium will be waived which becomes due more than one year before the VA receives application for waiver, Kilby explained. This provision was not included in the recent extension of the August 1 deadline for reinstatement without physical examination—now possible until January 1.

A special feature of all GI policies at no extra cost, waiver of premiums may be granted upon written application by the insured after he has been totally disabled for six consecutive months. Any veteran who continuously is unable to follow

gainful work because of illness or injury is eligible.

Veterans who were hospitalized six consecutive months while in service and did not file a claim for waiver, should do so now, Kilby advised. If the waiver is granted, all premiums paid during the illness will be refunded.

To prevent lapse of his NSLI policy, the veteran should continue his payments until he is notified of his waiver approval, the VA warns.

HIGHWAY MEET

SALEM, July 18 (AP)—The state highway commission will meet in Portland next Monday and Tuesday to open bids on about \$2,000,000 worth of projects.



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