

Basin Potato Acreage Increase Tops Average

Al Mercker, one of the United States Department of Agriculture's top potato authorities, recently forecast a national increase in po-

Agent's office here shows the increase will run between 15 and 35 percent greater this season than last, probably hitting about the 20 to 30 percent mark.



AL MERCKER

tato acreage of no more than three percent over last year.

Marine Faces Murder Count

KELSO, Wash. (AP)— Charged with slaying a school teacher with a record of morals offenses because "he made improper advances to me," a 22-year-old Marine was returned here Friday night to face trial for first degree murder.

The Marine Pfc. Edwin E. Hanley of Seattle, brought with him the assurances of his wife that "I am with you." He was arrested in Seattle Thursday night.

King County Sheriff's Capt. A. W. Lyskoski said shortly after being picked up for being AWOL (absent without leave) Hanley blurted out a confession that he had stabbed and bludgeoned Martin Zellmer, 51 Longview teacher to death Monday.

The body was found near Kalama, 150 miles south of Seattle. Zellmer's car with \$430 scattered under its floor pads, was located near Kent Tuesday, centering the search for his slayer in that area.

Cowlitz county officials reported last night they had found another \$41,000 worth of securities in Zellmer's room at Longview. They surmised he had lived like a miser because a careful record of every cent he spent was found.

Sheriff C. W. Reynolds of Cowlitz county in which the killing occurred, said the school teacher had a record of four convictions for morals offenses in Wisconsin and Oregon. This was not known in Longview until after his death.

Flood Fails To Nip Cupid

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia. (AP)— While the wild Missouri threatened, an 18-year-old couple repeated their marriage vows.

The bridegroom, James Croghan Jr., was tired from duty with emergency crews fighting the river.

The bride, Wanda Delores Edie, wore a blue plaid raincoat, muddy shoes and anklets.

They were married Friday by municipal court Judge Andy Nelise in his office which was decorated with a withered potted plant for the occasion.

They had to call City Clerk John Stouffer off the levees, where he was carrying sandbags, to issue the marriage license.

After the flood is past, the young couple plan a trip.

Dancing Bear Gets Approval

LONDON, (AP)— Posters advertising a fete at suburban All Saints Church said there would be a dancing bear.

Edmund MacMichael, director of the performing Animals Defense League rushed off to the vicar, the Rev. P. W. Rushmer, with a strong protest.

Dancing bears, he said are trained by thumping a drum while the bear tries to keep his paws cool on a hot tub. A Church of England fete, he added, was no place for an animal trained in suffering.

The vicar sent him to John Purchase, organizer of the fete. Purchase summoned his 26-year-old wife Anne and exhibited a hired bearskin.

"That's no bear," He said "That's my wife."

Rites Disturbed By Pickets

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Funerals at the Groman Mortuary are having picket trouble.

Mortuary officials complained to the Superior Court that pickets of the AFL Building Service Employees Union are marching between caskets and hearses.

The mortuary also claimed the pickets have jostled bereaved relatives and friends at funerals and used profane language. The union is demanding that the company accept it as bargaining agent for workers.



HUGH MULLIN JR. is the new head of the Tulelake Branch of the American Red Cross. Mullin, manager of the Tulelake Bank of America, succeeds Ross Ragland, resigned.

Another Vegas Bomb Tuesday

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP)— That atomic explosion next week will come off between 7 and 10 a.m. Pacific Standard Time Tuesday, weather permitting.

It was the first time the Atomic Energy Commission has ever announced the day and hour of an atomic bomb test.

It said the reason for the announcement is that nearly 200 reporters and photographers, TV cameramen and radio commentators will witness the test from about 11 miles away. Army and civilian defense officials, some governors and several hundred soldiers also will be present.

Order Eases Signing Task

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Truman Friday signed an executive order which will save him and all future presidents the chore of signing their names an estimated 165 times a year.

Until now, every time the President has signed proclamations and five other kinds of documents he also has had to sign a separate order telling the secretary of state to put the great seal of the United States on each document.

The new order tells the secretary of state once and for all that when the President signs such documents it's all right for the secretary to affix the great seal without special authorization.

Oregon Democratic Primary Fight Features Factions, Not Candidates

By HALE SCARBROUGH

The late Will Rogers was credited with a statement something to the effect that: "I don't belong to any organized political party . . . I'm a Democrat."

He might have been talking about Oregon.

Although the party is putting forward to the public an air of serenity and confidence this election year, a catch-as-catch-can struggle for power is going on within the inner ranks of the party.

CENTER
The struggle centers in Portland, naturally, since most of the people involved in the leadership of the Oregon Democratic party live there and since they seem to play the game of politics with more avidness in big cities than in small.

The contest is between the so-called New Deal-Fair Deal faction of persons who seem to be rather idealistic in their concept of what the party should be, and a more down-to-earth faction that plays politics for whatever is in it, money satisfaction or even sport.

The Democrats have a pretty solid state ticket on this year, candidates of a considerably better stripe than some the party has been stuck with in the past. And

there isn't a real contest anywhere along the line of the state ticket to cause any dissipation of money and effort in the primary election.

Robert Y. Thornton of Tillamook is unopposed for the Demo nomination as Attorney General; Edith S. Green of Portland is unopposed for the nomination as Secretary of State; Francis Lambert of Portland is virtually unopposed for nomination as State Treasurer.

L. W. Blakeslee of Portland, on the ticket against Lambert, isn't making a campaign.

NO CONTEST
There actually isn't even a contest in the Presidential primary for the Democrats. Sen. Estes Kefauver apparently will get Oregon's convention votes almost by default. The other candidates on the ballot are Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas and Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, both of whom say they aren't running.

There are Congressional contests in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th districts, but they're being accomplished (like Hollywood divorces) without noticeable rancor.

But inside the top echelon of the party, that's something else again. On one side, the New Deal-Fair Deal faction, there is Monroe Sweetland of Milwaukee, who is Democratic National Committeeman. Sweetland is seeking re-election and aligned with him is Mrs. Margaret Cawood, also of Portland, who wants to be elected National Committeewoman.

OPONENTS
On the other side, the rough-and-tumble side, are Mike DeCicco, Portland tire dealer who is running against Sweetland; State Treasurer Walter Pearson, who is running for the State Senate; and Sen. Tom Mahoney of Portland, who is up for re-election and also wants to be a delegate-at-large to the Demo national convention. Mahoney was chairman of the Oregon convention delegation in 1948, and wants to go to the convention again.

Their candidates for the important National Committee posts are

DeCicco, of course, and Mrs. Lillian Burton, the latter also of Portland.

Why the interest in those non-paying jobs?

Well, for one thing Oregon does not have any Democrat in Congress (Senator or Representative) and in the absence of a Demo there Committeewoman are the most important members of the party in the state. They represent Oregon in national party affairs. And also, in the absence of an Oregon Democrat in Congress and with the presence of a Democratic national administration, what patronage comes to Oregon is handled by the National Committeeman and Committeewoman.

So there are two factions after those jobs—Sweetland and Mrs. Cawood on one hand, DeCicco and Mrs. Burton on the other.

The argument doesn't stop there. Oregon is to elect 12 delegates to the Demo national convention, and there are practically two slates.

The Sweetland-Cawood group has picked out Howard Morgan of Monmouth, Nancy Honeyman Robinson of Portland, Sheriff Terry D. Schunk of Portland and Sweetland himself as its choices for delegates-at-large. The DeCicco-Pearson faction favors Pearson, Mahoney, Jack Bain of Portland and Al Brown of Portland.

In the 1st District the DeCicco-Pearson group wants to elect Robert D. Maclean of Waldport in particular; in the 2nd District Harry Boivin of Klamath Falls is

Military Force Has New Name

TOKYO (AP)— The official name for American military personnel stationed in Japan now is "United States Forces, Japan," Army headquarters announced.

Although the Japan Peace Treaty is not scheduled to become effective until April 28, headquarters said use of the new term would begin immediately.

The headquarters said use of all other general terms such as "Occupation Forces" and "Allied Forces" would be discontinued "without delay."

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SALEM — State Forestry Dept. Sprays

SALEM (AP)— State Forestry Department officials said Friday 639,800 acres of timber land would be sprayed this year to kill spruce budworm.

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--- DANCE ---

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Dr. Paul A. Meigs, Berkeley, Calif. Evangelist	Ire I. Marks, Salt Lake City, Utah Evangelist	Emerald at Douglas C. R. Collier, Sacramento, Calif. Evangelist
Jimmy T. Williams, Berkeley, Calif. Singer		

that group's choice; in the 3rd District (Portland) DeCicco and Nicholas Granet get the backing. The Sweetland-Cawood faction favors this slate; 1st District, no particular choice; 2nd District, Horace A. Heat of Ontario and Gene Conklin, Pendleton; 3rd District, Phil Dreyer and George W. Friede. Apparently neither has made any choice in the 4th District, which includes Southwestern Oregon. It'll be interesting to see who wins the intramural struggle for power.

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