Herald and News

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CAUGHT In The ROUNDS

By DEB ADDISON

The good citizens of Klamath county this spring have voted in six elections—some of them have—and there's one more to go this month.

At the time of the primary election there were 18,129 registered voters eligible to cast their ballots. Let's take a look at what happened by way of participation.

In the primaries about 85 per cent of them did go to the polls and vote. That's pretty good. There, definitely, is rule of the big majority.

The other six elections that we're talking about are school elections. For purposes of participation, call it two elections.

One of the two is on the school budget and the authorizing of taxation for same. The other is the matter of electing school board members to run the schools.

Actually it amounts to six elections on two subjects, because there are three school districts in the county.

A tax levy to run the schools is the biggest piece of taxation that Joe Pungle gets a chance directly to vote "yes" or "no" on. How many Joe Pungles exercised this right? The total of all "yes" and "no" votes amounted to just about 7 per cent of the registered voters.

Those voting for school board members, city and county (the KUHS board election is June 23), were even fewer. Total vote was less than 5 per cent.

There are two things about this that should worry you. One is, that on important school matters there is practically no vote. The other is, that it's scarcely on the thrifty side to hold seven separate and distinct elections in the course of two months.

The obvious answer is to put all ballots before the voters in one election, just as city residents voted both city and state ballots in the primary election. Had that been done this spring you could assume that 85 per cent of the voters would have expressed themselves on school matters as well as the others. Election costs would have been down materially.

That's easily said, of course, but not so easily done. The manner of conducting these various elections is completely prescribed by law. Local officials have no other course than to follow the law to the letter.

It follows then that this is a matter which should be studied and acted upon by the state legislature. The only remote possibility of this happening is if enough people tell their state legislators, or their candidates for the legislature, that they think it ought to be done.

So you're still in the driver's seat, Joe Pungle—if you want to drive.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The place where I work is full of desks but this stranger in the soiled white shirt naturally had to walk up to my desk.

"I been up all night," he said belligerently. "You don't expect me to stay up all day, too, do you?"

"No indeed," I murmured.

"Well, I'm going to stay until I get the rules clarified," he said. "Does a baseball fan have legal rights or doesn't he?"

"Of course, he does."

"They can't throw a fan out of the ball park just for hollering, can they?"

"Oh no, indeed."

"That's what I told them after they threw me out of the park last night," said the stranger. "I knew I was right all along."

And he walked out of the office, completely happy.

My visitor was obviously slightly screwball, and I fell to thinking: "Why out of all the ears in sight he could bend with his tale of woe, did he pick on my ears?" The only answer I could find was that in me he instinctively recognized a kindred soul.

Screwballs seem to love me, and I must confess I find them fascinating, too. Looking back on 20 years of newspaper work, I expect I must have spent at least 15 of them listening to screwballs.

Every newspaper office is visited by an almost daily parade of mildly daft crackpots, and the man assigned to the chore of hearing them is sometimes known as "The Screwball Editor."

I always loved this work myself, although it makes some reporters nervous, particularly if the visitor is carrying a small parcel that could turn out to be a homemade bomb.

My trouble with crackpots is that I usually end up on their side. If an addled inventor shows up with plans for a flying submarine, he has no trouble at all convincing me submarines should have wings.

I remember the fellow who wanted to launch a crusade to get raspberry flavored stamps. That seemed so sensible to me that I sat down and helped him draft a letter to the postoffice.

My favorite screwball, however, was a lady we came to know as "Rambling Mary." Every week she wrote a long rambling letter, telling of her fights with the landlord and the neighbors, and the small children down the hall who teased her.

The letters, bearing no return address and signed only "Mary," came year after year, and I got so I felt I knew the lonely old lady real well. When the letters finally ceased, I missed them for a long time. It was like losing a friend, and I never learned whether death had taken Mary or they just shut her away.

I suppose the most interesting screwball was "Operative X-37." He was a distinguished looking young man laboring under the delusion he was an FBI agent in counter spy work.

Every few nights he would slink up to my desk and whisper, "Operative X-37 reporting." I would give him a typewriter and he'd write a detailed account of the spies he was shadowing, then slink out mysteriously.

One evening "Operative X-37" showed up with his sister. While he was pounding out his report, she said:

"My brother is harmless. I hope he isn't too annoying."

"Not at all," I told her, "but he only shows up at night. What does he do during the day?"

"He keeps office hours," she said. "He's a psychiatrist."

More Power For Marines

WASHINGTON (AP) — A group named to iron out differences in Senate and House bills has agreed to strengthen the Marine Corps and give it a bigger voice in military policy.

But the joint Senate-House committee discarded House-approved provisions to make the Marine commandant a permanent member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) and to set a minimum strength of 220,000 enlisted men for the Marines.

The compromise bill was worked out Wednesday. It now goes back to both House and Senate for final action.

House Armed Service Committee officials said these were the main points of the agreement:

1. The Marine commandant would sit with the Joint Chiefs as a "co-equal" on matters affecting the Marines, with the same voice and same right of appeal as other members. He now is an adviser. The Senate bill proposed to give him a consultant status.

2. The maximum strength of the Marines would be 400,000 men, plus officers, and the proposed minimum would be eliminated because no other service has one. The ceiling has been approved by both houses.

3. For the first time, the law would specify the organization o the Marines into three combat divisions and three air wings. These would not necessarily be maintained at full strength continuously. House conferees originally proposed four divisions and four air wings.

Seattle Bakers Still On Strike

SEATTLE (AP) — Striking Seattle bakery workers will meet Thursday night to consider the new employer contract offer.

Frank Hoover, business representative of Local 9, Bakery & Confectionery Workers Union (AFL), announced the meeting Wednesday. He declined to give terms of the offer.

Bakers here and in Portland are in the 48th day of their walkout. Tacoma bakers accepted a new contract Tuesday night and voted to return to work Sunday. Spokane bakers ended their strike June 9.

OFL Approves Expansion

SEASIDE (AP) — The Oregon Federation of Labor, by resolution, approved the employment Wednesday of J. D. McDonald, president, to head an expansion program.

The resolution authorized Secretary James T. Marr to employ additional personnel at $6,000 a year for the work, and Marr said he would name McDonald to the post.

James L. McDevitt, national director of the AFL League for Political Education, had high praise for Sen. Wayne Morse, Oregon Republican. He told the federation's state convention that Morse is "the most outstanding member of the United State Senate for the courage he has demonstrated in voting and standing for the common man and woman."

But McDevitt, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, said Guy Cordon, Oregon's other Republican senator, should be defeated. Cordon, he said, "has not once voted right (as far as labor is concerned) even by mistake."

Five high school winning examinations on labor subjects. They are Micheal McCloskey, St. Francis High School, Eugene; Jack Triplett, Coos Bay; Kathleen Anne Kilkenny, Roseburg, and Mary Jane Robinson and Lois Rieve, both Portland.

Referred to committee was a resolution asking price controls on fruits and vegetables and for restoration of rent controls in Portland, Salem and Eugene.

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To the People of Klamath County,

Klamath County is a modern thriving area with an inspiring record of growth and progress. This record did not just happen—it is the result of careful planning by serious minded citizens and businessmen. Retrospect has no place in aggressive, forward looking areas. It is necessary therefore to exercise constant vigilance and through cooperative, intelligent planning to continuously devise ways and means to promote this county's economic, social and cultural interests.

With this thought in mind and to develop a long-range program, the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce has embarked on a plan to develop a broad, practical, far-reaching area program to make our county an even better place in which to live and work. In so doing, the Chamber will further the role it is designed to play in community affairs.

The Klamath County Chamber of Commerce is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, organization comprised of business and professional men and women and other public spirited citizens working together unselfishly to promote the business, civic, cultural and general progress of the entire county. Only an organization such as the Chamber of Commerce can undertake and accomplish projects which have an economic bearing on the general progress of this area.

To have an even more "far-reaching" effect—this Chamber of Commerce needs:

(1) A vital, comprehensive program of work; (2) Intelligent local surveys to obtain needed facts; (3) Proper publicity; (4) A well organized system of active committees; (5) A large and representative membership; (6) Adequate financial income; (7) Competent leadership; (8) Maintenance of a trained, adequate and efficient staff.

Therefore, we call for the cooperation of the business and professional men and women, civic groups and all public spirited citizens. We respectfully invite and urge them to take an active part in this "Build the Basin" Program which will be faithfully reported to the public as it progresses during the weeks just ahead.

Klamath County is your home, as it is ours. Let us, therefore, all work together for Klamath County to assure its development as a well balanced economic area. This is a responsibility of every citizen who sincerely has the interest of the communities of this county at heart.

Board of Directors
KLAMATH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dr. E. P. Jordan

One of the most pressing problems of today is the preventions of accidents. Thousands of deaths are caused each year by unnecessary and avoidable accidents, and our hospitals offer constant testimony to the other thousands who are injured.

There are many of us who might now be lying injured in a hospital who have escaped accidents as a result of precautions taken in numerous industries, safety measures on the highways and other steps. Much more remains to be done.

One problem is to identify those people who are particularly likely to be involved in accidents. In recent years such persons have been called "accident-prone."

In the state of Connecticut, a six-year study showed that about 4 per cent of drivers of automobiles involved in traffic accidents are involved in more than one-third of all such accidents.

The same thing applies in industry. For example, a large trucking company has reduced its accident rate to one-fifth of its previous record merely by discovering those drivers who were accident prone and transferring them to other duties.

All this may mean life or death to the rest of us because at any time we may get tangled up at a stop light with someone who just cannot stay out of trouble.

This was only too well shown in the tragic death of Margaret Mitchell, the author of "Gone With the Wind," who was hit by an automobile driven by a man who had a record of many, many traffic violations.

Part of the answer to this question is to rule off the streets those likely to produce the most accidents. Part of it is to identify individuals in industries who are likely to cause accidents to themselves or to others.

Besides a record of violating the law (which offers a good clue) there are other ways of picking out these dangerous persons.

It has been pointed out, for example, that the accident-prone individual is "decisive" or even "impulsive." He (or she) concentrates upon immediate pleasures or satisfactions and is apt to act upon the spur of the moment.

The accident-prone person is believed to have an instinct of rebellion and resentment and to demonstrate the "show-off" and "don't-give-a-damm" type of psychology.

It would be better for all of us if these "accident-prone" persons could be picked out and prevented, or at least discouraged, from placing themselves, as well as the rest of us, in danger of our lives.

Merchants Get Bonus Lists

PORTLAND (AP) — A list of Oregon veterans about to receive a state bonus, offered for sale to merchants, was obtained from an established mail list company.

That was the report Wednesday of L. C. Swafford, an Army reserve captain, whose offer of the list for sale brought a protest from the American Legion.

Swafford said he got the list from the C. B. Rhoades Mail List Company, which has been selling various types of lists in Portland for 40 years. The Rhoades company got the names from county courthouses, Swafford said.

Letters were mailed to merchants offering the list for sale at 2 ½ cents a name in units of 1,000. The letters were signed by D. L. Swafford, who is Swafford's wife.

Swafford, a mail clerk, is a member of the Legion and was active in promoting the bonus.

Everyone Mum At Truce Talks

MUNSAN, Korea (AP) — Not a single official word was exchanged Thursday at Panmunjom in the second day of a three-day recess the United Nations command called in the stalled Korean truce negotiations.

By nightfall the Communists had not even asked for a meeting of liaison officers. These officers met daily during an Allied-called recess last week.

People DO TOO read small space ads — you are!

Another Koje Compound Closed

KOJE ISLAND, Korea (AP) —Compound 62, scene of Koje Island's bloodiest prisoner riot, was emptied peacefully Thursday of some 7,000 pro - Communist North and South Korean civilian internees.

Their transfer to more manageable groups of 500 raised to 70,000 the number of inmates re-located since operation breakup started 10 days ago. Koje holds 80,000 prisoners.

OSC Students Get Degrees

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, (Special) — Twenty-one students from Klamath county were among the 1176 seniors and graduate students receiving degrees at the 83rd annual commencement exercises at Oregon State College June 9.

Thirty-four doctor's degrees, a record number, were granted this year. Of the total of 1176 graduates, 964 won bachelor degrees and 212 earned advanced degrees.

Dr. A. L. Strand, OSC's president, conferred the degrees. Candidates represented 27 states, 17 foreign countries and possessions, and 35 of Oregon's 36 counties.

Students from Klamath county and the degree they earned included: Graduate school—

Fred David Reinoldson, Klamath Falls, master of science in chemistry. For his advanced work he minored in education. He earned his bachelor of science degree in 1950 at OSC.

George Mike Tokos, Klamath Falls, master of science in forest products. He minored in organic chemistry and received his bachelor of science degree at Pacific University in 1950.

School of agriculture—

Clarence Henry Bussman, Orman Ogden Gildow, Ralph Waldo Stearns and Melvin LaVerne Sutherland all of Klamath Falls; bachelor of science.

Stearns was also commissioned second lieutenant in the United States air corps.

Sutherland was an honor graduate. To be eligible a student must have at least a .35 point grade average on the basis of an A equaling 4 points.

School of business and technology—

Richard Martin Beck, Klamath Falls, and James Gillis Hannigan, Chiloquin; bachelor of science.

Beck also graduated with honors.

School of education—

Laura Lou Hill, Virginia Joyce Masten and Palmer Norseth, all of Klamath Falls, bachelor of science.

School of engineering—

Aubrey Russell Avery, Wright Andrew Carleton, David A. Mocabee and Donald J. Zarosinski, all of Klamath Falls; bachelor of science.

Zarosinski also received a second lieutenant commission in the United States air corps.

School of forestry—

Norman Ralph Smith, Klamath Falls, was one of 14 students to be awarded two degrees. He received a bachelor of science in both forest management and forest engineering.

School of home economics—

Betty Jeanne Chin, Carol George and Dorothy Rae Gysbers, all of Klamath Falls, bachelor of science

School of science—

Charles Bruce Crawford and William Millard Mosby, both of Klamath Falls; bachelor of scienc

Mosby was commissioned second lieutenant in the artillery of the United States army.

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Raco Biasat

Even his stoutest enemies concede that President Truman is a shrewd politician and a tough campaigner. As has been widely noted, he is already embarked on his 1952 campaign for the Democrats, and plainly intends to keep his early pace. His speech to Congress on seizure powers and the Taft-Hartley act fits right into that program.

It's old stuff that Mr. Truman faithfully avoids use of the Taft-Hartley law wherever possible because of its red-flag character in the minds of labor officials. The current steel situation has been no exception; merely proved the rule.

When the President addressed Congress, he explained why he didn't want to use the law: he considered it would to more harm than good. He didn't say all he may have meant by that, or he could well have included "harm to the Democrats."

What he really was doing was to set a trap for his opposition, chiefly the Republicans and southern Democrats. Though it is his business to enforce the laws of this country, he tossed back to Congress the matter of whether Taft-Hartley should be used in this instance. He may easily have guessed that his opponents would brush aside his own alternative — seizure—to insist on use of the law labor hates.

The Senate promptly obliged him by voting 49 to 30 to request him to use Taft-Hartley. What the Senate did does not have the force of law. But if the President should now choose to employ Taft-Hartley, he may turn to union labor and say: "I didn't want to use it, but the Senate forced my hand."

The trap, in other words, was Mr. Truman's apparently successful effort to shift to Congress the blame for resorting to that act. It leaves him clean, in labor's eyes, and puts the onus upon Congress. And since the Republicans voted 31 to 3 for use of Taft-Hartley, they must bear the brunt of responsibility.

Depending on your viewpoint, this may all be either shrewd campaigning or playing politics with the nation's steel output. But there can be little question that it is effective with workers, who are still one of the strongest elements in the Democratic coalition that has won the White House steadily since 1932.

The Republicans may see no profit to themselves in trying to ape Mr. Truman. They may have no real hope of winning the bulk of the labor vote this fall. But all signs indicate they will need some of it. And hence they are faced with the formidable task of devising a strategy to counter the President's course.

If they cannot keep from falling into Mr. Truman's traps, they at least should find some way to set a few of their own. As it stands, they are playing his game.

James Marlow

ABC's

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anyone who has followed Gen. MacArthur's career for the past year may be a little puzzled by the rumpus over his making the keynote speech at the Republican national convention in Chicago.

There is an Army rule that an officer like MacArthur, on active duty, cannot participate in "activity at political conventions, or on political committees, the making of political speeches."

When Gen. MacArthur came home to campaign, he went on the retired list. This left him free to run for the presidency or make political speeches since the Army rule covers only officers on active duty.

Last week Sen. Taft gained control of the GOP national convention machinery through appointments made by the Republican national committee which at the same time picked a Taft supporter for keynoter, Gen. MacArthur.

This at once raised a question which, to those who have watched MacArthur or listened to him for the past year, might seem more academic than real.

It was this: Would the Army—let MacArthur, an officer on active duty, get up before the convention and make a political speech, perhaps plugging Taft for the presidency?

The President has kept hands off, at least publicly. It would hardly be bright politics if he slapped MacArthur down again and in so doing not only created fresh sympathy for him but votes for the Republicans.

The Pentagon showed no eagerness to rebuff him, either. Tuesday it disclosed how it could let MacArthur, an officer on active duty, do what the rule book says an officer on active duty can't do: Make political speeches.

The Pentagon said that while MacArthur technically is on active duty, he is really in a retired status — like Eisenhower — although not formally, because he has no command and no present military responsibility.

In the light of MacArthur's previous speeches, there's a question still not answered:

When is a speech a political speech? Only at a convention? Or is it political whenever it's made if it attacks a political party in an election year and the speaker not only supports the opposition but might even be its candidate?

Since his recall from Japan MacArthur has made eight major speeches. The tone has been increasingly critical of the Truman administration without mentioning Truman by name.

MacArthur never left any doubt whom he had in mind. He has blasted the Truman administration across the board, not only for its foreign policy but for its political practices.

In the last of the eight—to the Michigan Legislature, May 15—he had such comments as these on the administration:

"Faltering leadership. . .fiscal instability. . .political insecurity. . . moral jeopardy. . . narrow-minded petulance . . financial irresponsibility. . . reckless spendthrift policies. . .defeatist attitude. deplorable indecision . .through the long tenure of one group in public office, the disease of personal power has become deeply rooted."

Now, while the Truman administration might consider that a very political speech, MacArthur took pains to say he didn't, which was like taking out a little insurance in case the Trumanites tried to knock him down for that one.

He assured the Michigan Legislature: "There is no politics in me, nor none intended in what I say. I plea nothing but Americanism . . .I have been impelled as patriotic duty of simple citizenship. . ."

South Koreans Start Trials

PUSAN, Korea (AP) — The Republic of Korea Thursday secretly placed 14 men on trial on a charge of conspiring with Reds to overthrow the United Nations-sponsored government.

Seven of the defendants before a nine - man civilian - military court are national assemblymen, political opponents of President Syngman Rhee.

Hardly had the closed trial begun when the National Assembly, meeting but a few yards from the drab courtroom, adopted a resolution 84-0 urging Rhee to open the hearing to the public.

Observers said there was little possibility the trial would be opened to any but 12 foreign observers invited by the Korean Government.

Maj. Gen. Won Yong Duk, martial law commandant, said the trial was closed because of security reasons and the necessity of protecting families and friends of some persons involved.

Two trial sessions were held Thursday. Court then recessed until Saturday afternoon at the request of the defendants for time to prepare answers to the indictments.

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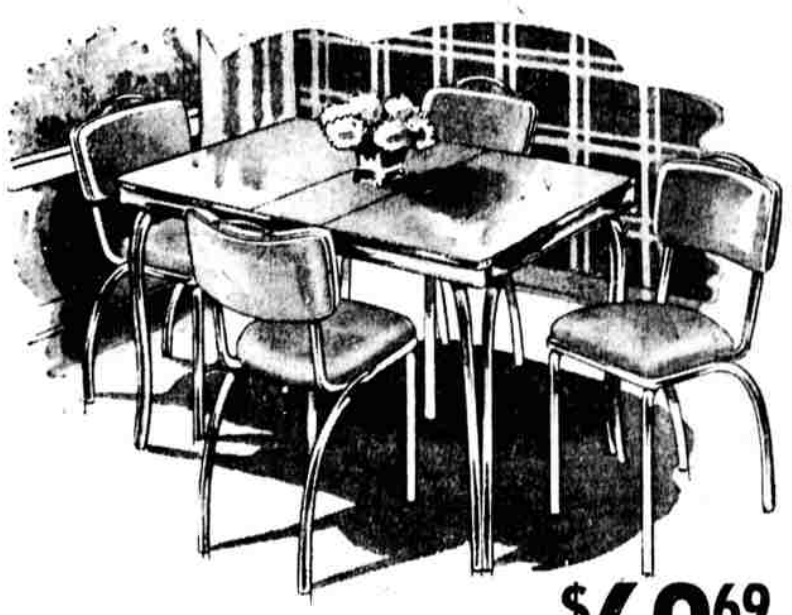

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