



ADULT EDUCATION night classes are being offered jointly by Oregon Tech and Klamath Union High School. Above, H. A. Pedersen (seated), OTI supervisor of instruction, is registering a class in leathercraft. Standing (l to r) are Mrs. Raymond Clark, G. D. McKell, Ernie Wyld, Earl Tabor, Robert Burke (coordinator of the joint venture), Ed Gifford and Pete O'Toole.

Former Virginia Governor Endorses Ike As Democratic Party Faces Severe Split

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—With two of his "Big Three" sitting out the presidential campaign because they don't feel they can endorse the Stevenson-Sparkman ticket, the Virginia Democratic organization today faced one of the biggest splits in its ranks in recent years. Former Gov. William M. Tuck last night joined Sen. Harry Byrd in calling Gov. Adlai Stevenson candidate of "Trumanism."

Tuck, who resigned Aug. 26 as Virginia Democratic chairman because he was unwilling to commit himself on the presidential race, said he had hoped to remain silent. "But now that Stevenson has embraced Trumanism," he added, "I cannot be true to myself and those near to me... without speaking out firmly, particularly in the light of the dangerous situation which confronts us."

organization have been able to bring about in the last 15 years. Many lower echelon members of the Byrd organization came out for Stevenson before Byrd made his speech, and most of them have reiterated their support of the national ticket despite the stands of Byrd and Tuck. Others, including two members of the State Senate and several in the House of Delegates, have been campaigning actively for the Republican ticket within a state-wide organization of "Democrats for Eisenhower."

Storm Moves In Caribbean

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—A small but potentially dangerous hurricane moved northward in the Caribbean Sea today on a course that could bring it over Cuba and Florida. The hurricane, sixth of the season, was about 350 miles south of Havana and 550 miles south-southwest of Miami, the Weather Bureau said in an advisory at 5 a.m. (EST).

Washington Vote Close

OLYMPIA (AP)—Editors consider the presidential race in Washington State so close that either Gov. Stevenson or Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower can win in a photo finish. In a mid-October survey of 30 newspapers, the editors indicated a belief that Stevenson was leading the neck-and-neck race by a hairbreadth.

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Blind Man Wins Success As Electronics Repairman

OMAHA (AP)—You don't find many success stories about blind men, but when you do they are likely to be pretty spectacular. Take the case of a determined red-haired kid at the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind.

To young Lavon Peterson, success meant two things: learning to be a radio repairman and being able to live like those not handicapped by blindness. But who ever heard of a blind man mastering the intricacies of a finely wired radio circuit, ferreting out troubles that could only be traced by delicate meters and making pin-point repairs with a scorching soldering iron?

Today, at 33, Lavon Peterson has found a substantial measure of success. He has proved that a blind man can make a living repairing radios, even teaching others how to do it. And he's gone a good deal further in giving other blind men a chance at a better living as radio technicians. Peterson created quite a stir seven years ago when he established his Radio Engineering Institute here and enrolled three blind students in radio technicians' courses.

Today the school has 85 students. In seven years it has graduated between 700 and 800. About 200 of them were blind, about as many more had other handicaps. Of the blind ones, Peterson says, "A strong 70 per cent are making a living at it."

Only eight of the students today are blind. The real come to Peterson's school simply because it's a good place to learn practical radio and television mechanics. "We put the emphasis not so much on theory as on servicing the manufactured article," Peterson explains. "The students learn by doing regular service jobs. In big schools, they can't do that."

Peterson, blind since birth, began picking up a working knowledge of radio as a 12-year-old hanging around a radio repair shop. He added to it by asking questions, experimenting, reading braille and absorbing what was read to him.

By the time he went to college for some work in physics and math, he was running a part-time radio repair business on the side. When the war started Peterson was operating his own business but moved over to the Omaha Electronics School for Soldiers and Marines as a teacher.

In a pitch-black room, the servicemen learned how to repair field radio equipment under battle conditions. Meanwhile an idea was beginning to jell in the instructor's mind. Why couldn't the blind be taught this same thing—and more? Why couldn't the way be opened for them as Peterson had opened it to himself, to a better living?

In 1945, with a couple of sighted fellow instructors who joined him in the project, Peterson started the Radio Engineering Institute in the basement of the Omaha YMCA. By this time Peterson had licked one of the problems that led others to throw cold water on his own radio ambitions. He had devised testing equipment that combined sound and touch to tell the blind technician what the sighted radio-man learned from his meters.

Gradually the Veterans Administration, various state and rehabilitation departments and the Army gave their stamp of approval to the school. Peterson acquired a couple of new partners and the school moved from the basement of the "Y" to a building of its own.

Peterson, his wife, who also is blind, and their three sighted children live pretty much like other people in a bungalow they are buying in a pleasant suburban neighborhood.

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