

West Virginia's Governor Youngest in State History

CHARLESTON, W. Va. (AP)—Five years ago William C. Marland was graduated from the West Virginia University Law School at Morgantown.

Today the 34-year-old veteran and ex-coal miner stands ready to take over the Democratic administration which has been in power at the statehouse here since 1952.

Although he'll be by four years the youngest governor the state has ever had, Marland is no "boy wonder."

Rather, he moved steadily upward under the guiding hand of the administration of retiring Gov. Okey L. Patteson. His self-determination has yet to be proved.

Marland moved through a turbulent campaign, rife with vilification, without becoming involved in the heavy oratorical crossfire. Few GOP attacks were aimed at him personally.

Against him stood Republicans Rush D. Holt, who in 1935 was a "boy wonder" senator. United Mine Workers' Chieftain John L. Lewis came to West Virginia—largest producing state of soft coal in the nation—and gruffly told his 115,000 miners not to vote for Holt or any other Republican.

West Virginia was one of nine states which went for Stevenson. Marland's followers tell of the time during a particularly heated period of the campaign when he was to make what was considered an extraordinarily important speech.

As the preliminary speech-making progressed Marland had not made his appearance. His workers found him quietly napping in an offstage room.

They credit his experiences as a naval officer for his ability to relax. Marland once took command of an LSM in Philadelphia and found that he, of all the crew, was the only one with sea experience. He got his ship to Pearl Harbor safely.

Marland's father is a mine superintendent at the family home town, Glen Rogers. The new governor worked in the mine there.

Farm Leader Lauds Benson

PORTLAND (AP)—Farmers of the Pacific Northwest got a good break when Eisenhower named Ezra Taft Benson of Utah to his cabinet as secretary of agriculture.

That's what Roy Ward said Tuesday—and Ward was a member of the board of directors of the National Council of Farmer Co-operators which hired Benson as executive secretary in 1944.

Both Benson and Ward are currently members of the board of the American Institute of Co-operation.

Ward, who has been manager of the Pacific Wool Growers Co-operative Association for many years, said that Benson has a close knowledge of the Northwest's agriculture and can be depended on to give fair treatment to everyone.

"Anybody can feel free to bring ideas to him," Ward said. "He has no cronies, and will not pull any fast deals."

The fact that Benson has been closely associated with co-operatives does not mean that they will get any favored treatment, Ward said.

States Plan Columbia Span

PORTLAND (AP)—Oregon and Washington plan a new \$11,000,000 bridge across the Columbia River between Portland and Vancouver.

The proposed span is to run parallel to the present Interstate Bridge which connects the two cities. Each would carry one-way traffic.

The Legislatures will be asked to O. K. the plan.

The request to the Legislatures will be a petition which was approved here Monday at a meeting of the Oregon and Washington Highway Commissions.

The petition asks that authorization be given for the sale of bonds to finance construction. Repayment, including interest, maintenance and operating costs, would be by a toll on both bridges, the petition states.

Commissioners said they hoped construction could get under way within five years. The Oregon Highway Commission is in charge of designing the bridge. The two states would share the cost equally. The present bridge, toll-free since 1929, was built by Clark and Multnomah Counties in 1917.

KLAMATH COUNTY BLOOD PROGRAM

Donor Pledge Card

Name (Home)
Address (Business)
Telephone (Home) (Business)
Group Affiliation
I am willing to donate my Blood through the Red Cross
Blood Program to assist in saving someone's life.
PREFERRED TIME
(Signature)
Mail Card to Red Cross Office, Spring and Main

Reds in Government First GOP Issue

WASHINGTON (AP)—An investigation of communism in government is expected to be the first order of business of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in the new GOP-controlled Congress.

Rep. Velde (R-Ill.), slated to become committee chairman in January, said the Communists-in-government probe would have priority, with investigations of Red influences in labor and education coming next.

"Subject to the views of the other committee members, our first duty will be to co-operate with the new President, and especially with the attorney general, in determining whether Communists, or punks, or any subversives are on the payroll of the executive department of government," he told a reporter.

"Our next duty will be to function as a watchdog against the infiltration of subversives in the new administration. The Communists always attempt to infiltrate the political party and administration in power."

Velde, a former FBI agent, said he felt the committee should maintain a constant check to make certain that "no offshoots of Americanism" find a place on government payrolls.

Coming early in the committee activities, possibly "simultaneously" with our activities against Communists in the federal government, Velde said, will be further

investigation of any communism in the labor movement.

The committee for the past year or two has been inquiring into the extent of Communist infiltration into defense industry through labor unions.

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