

'Peace, Prosperity, Eisenhower' Said Unbeatable In Michigan

By JACK BELL

DETROIT (AP)—Michigan Republicans are holding their hopes of defeating Democratic Gov. G. Mennen Williams on President Eisenhower's name and a single state ballot next November.

Police Sift Ashes For Death Clues

CHICAGO (UP)—Police sifted rain-soaked ashes found in a forest preserve today to see if they back up a deaf mute's weird story of the murder of three young boys.

The deaf mute, 52-year-old Herman Rohlfes, has told in crude picture language that he saw a short, bearded man fight and kill a naked boy in Robinson's Woods last Oct. 18.

The man then started a fire, Rohlfes reported, and drove away, leaving the naked bodies of three young boys in a roadside ditch.

In an effort to back up his story, Rohlfes led 200 policemen to the woods Wednesday and pointed to ashes on the rain-soaked ground.

The spot was about 100 feet from the ditch where the nude, mutilated bodies of Robert Peterson, 13, John Schuessler, 13, and his brother, Anton, 11, were discovered Oct. 18.

Police crime lab experts hastily dug up ground in a 10-foot area around the ashes. They took the debris to headquarters and began sifting it in hopes of finding traces of the murdered boys' missing clothing or some other clue.

Rohlfes, a slight man who wears a chauffeur's cap, is illiterate as well as deaf and dumb. His relatives say his life has been so sheltered he probably still believes in Santa Claus.

But everyone who knows him agrees that Rohlfes has never been known to lie.

On the night of Oct. 17, Rohlfes and his brother, Edward, slept in a truck in Robinson's Woods.

Through wild arm waving, grimaces, and gestures interpreted by sign-reading experts, Rohlfes told this story:

He awoke shortly after midnight and saw a short man with a heavy growth of beard standing at the door of the truck. He had a knife.

He began pounding at the door and Rohlfes, terrified, locked it.

Then he saw the same man struggling with a naked boy some distance away. The boy fell. The man lifted his arm and then dropped it when he saw the lad was dead.

In the estimate of Sen. Felker (R-Mich.) "peace, prosperity and Eisenhower are unbeatable" in Michigan.

But in a perhaps more realistic appraisal of the state situation, State Chairman John Felkens says the Republican organization is going to put up "a strong, uphill battle against Williams."

"The base of popular support for President Eisenhower which exists in Michigan may be the secret weapon which knocks off Williams," he said.

He said he thinks the Democratic governor signed his political "death warrant" when he signed a bill combining the state and national ballots. The Republicans themselves separated state and national ballots when the late Franklin D. Roosevelt was sweeping national elections and carrying state Democrats into office with him.

Portified with four victories in governorship contests — including a 253,000 margin in his latest run in 1954 — Williams says the consolidated ballot is likely to cost him "a few votes" in his fifth try. But he does not discount the appeal of the Eisenhower name in Michigan.

"It is very difficult to say," he said, "whether the President can be beaten in Michigan, but he can — and I think he will — be beaten nationally."

Sen. McNamara (D-Mich.) said he thinks Vice President Nixon, who appears likely to be Eisenhower's running mate again, will hurt the GOP ticket. He said that while Eisenhower's health won't be the principal issue, "the man in the street is more conscious about the health and age of candidates than he ever has been before."

Felker said he thinks that if the Democrats stress the health issue "the people will feel it is in bad taste and react against it." He said he figures the Eisenhower name will be worth 100,000 votes to the Michigan Republican candidate for governor, who hasn't been chosen yet.

The big question mark in Michigan, however, centers around how the farmers are going to vote. They may well play a deciding role in the November outcome.

Organized labor, particularly in the state's automobile plants, is regarded as drifting back into the Democratic camp. Many union members voted for Eisenhower in 1952.

Republicans contend they will get a fair share of this vote. But if there is a serious defection among the state's farmers — about a third of whom work 40 hours weekly in an industrial plant and farm on the side — even Eisenhower could be in trouble in Michigan.

FARMER'S MOOD
The politicians don't agree on the farmer's mood. Felkens says there is "no resentment against Eisenhower" among them. Gov. Williams says there is palpable farm dissatisfaction reaching into the smaller cities where the Republicans traditionally have had their greatest strength.

No cursory examination of farm sentiment ever could be conclusive but here is a cross-section of opinion from farmers attending a Lansing meeting:

Fred Knoblauch, general farmer, Blaisfield: "I think farm prices would be the same as they are now no matter who had been in office. I'm not for those farm supporters anyhow. I'm voting Republican."

Harold Mitchell, livestock feeder, Grand Blanc: "I voted for Eisenhower last time and I'm going to again. But a lot of the farmers who went for him before won't this time the way the price business is. They seem to be dragging their feet on farm programs down in Washington."

Loren Ewald, dairy farmer, Unionville: "Farmers are living in a depression era. I want to see better prices than we are getting and would vote for whoever could get the job done."

Thurlow Heath, general farmer, Milan: "We're not getting the prices we should. But I'm not too wrapped up in this support business. Let supply and demand take care of it. I'm going to vote Republican and hope things adjust in good time."

FARMER
Elmer Dobson, general farmer, Quincy: "I'm old enough to remember Hoover—that made a Democrat out of me. I like Kefauver so far. I don't blame Eisenhower for the present farm situation, though. I blame the men under him. But I don't like the idea of having more and more men doing his work and him becoming just a figurehead."

In the industrial areas opinion on the Eisenhower administration also is divided.

Bill Neil, a taxi driver, said he thinks "the Republican party is not for the working man."

George Gasper, barber, said Eisenhower ought to have a second term "because he needs more time to develop his program."

Roy Christmore, a bellhop, said he is a Democrat "and I'm for Kefauver."

Victor Dionne, a hotel employe, said he is a Democrat who is going to vote for Eisenhower and Nixon.

William Lothrop, auto plant worker, said he voted for Eisenhower in 1952 but he is going to support the Democratic candidate this year.



THIS FARM NEAR DAIRY was flooded recently by runoff water from the surrounding hills. Seventy acres of the 120 acre farm are under water with no way to drain or pump the water from the land. J. J. Thomas and his wife and two children evacuated the house. It is believed to be the first time in many years that this area at Pine Flats, about 1 1/2 miles west of Dairy on Highway 66, has been covered by water. The man shown in the picture to the left of the house is James Thomas, father of J. J. Thomas.

Dorris Scouts Hold Court

DORRIS—Buy Scouts, Troop 70 held a court of honor at the city hall Monday evening with Don Clark, committeeman in charge. Woodrow Tuter, institutional representative was unable to attend.

In a candlelight ceremony, the following awards were made: First class to Glenn Bell, Gary Felipe and Dean Lyon, who received miniature badges which they pinned on their mothers and the mothers pinned the badges on their sons.

Merit badges were given to Dean Lyon for home repairs, Warren Crouse for music and woodcarving, and Gary Felipe, home repairs.

Tenderfoot badge went to Mike Brannan.

ANITA ERBERG ENGAGED
HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Buxom Anita Ekberg, 24, says she is engaged to marry Anthony Steel, 36—the dark, handsome British actor she has been dating here and in Europe.

Plane Crash Kills Hero

WICHITA, Kan. (AP)—A hero of the New Guinea campaign in World War II was killed yesterday in the fiery crash of a B47 Stratofortress bomber.

Lt. Col. William H. Dames, 34, of Oconomowoc, Wis., was one of three men killed when the bomber exploded and crashed at the edge of a residential area here. It had just taken off from McConnell Air Force Base.

Dames won fame as the leader of a ground attack that drove the Japanese out of Buna Mission, New Guinea, in 1943. He was then a National Guard infantry captain with the 32nd Division.

He transferred to the air force shortly after that and returned to action at Iwo Jima in 1944 as a fighter pilot.

Also killed in the crash were Capt. William C. Craggs, 34, Wichita, and 1st Lt. John G. Leysath, 24, North, S.C.

Citizens Charge Charter Violation

DORRIS—The Citizens Committee of Dorris recently made formal complaint to Floyd Merrill, district attorney of Siskiyou County, charging that provisions of the city charter had been violated. Chief grounds of complaint related to the purchases of supplies for use by the city from a council member.

Correspondence from Merrill stated he had investigated the charges and his office had come to the conclusion that irregularities had not been committed "by any one person willfully." He indicated no further action would be taken by his office, adding, however, that a taxpayer's suit "could be brought to recover any monies found to be illegally paid."

We wish to thank the many friends who sent floral offerings last Saturday for the funeral of Viola Hilt.

ELMER HILT

Club To Give 'Ghosts' Play

FORT KLAMATH—Regular evening rehearsals are under way for a "three-act mystery play," "The Valley of Ghosts," to be presented by members of the Civic Improvement Club early in May.

Mrs. Frank Strahan is director; sound effects and properties are in charge of Mrs. John Bergstrom; Mrs. Dan Brown is prompter and Mrs. Ober Brown is in charge of make-up.

The stage has been built by Mrs. Wilbur B. Hescoek. Mrs. Richard O. Varnum and Mrs. Elmer Zumburn, Edward (Bud) Strong has done all necessary wiring for lights and has set up his public address system offstage.

The plot revolves around the Missouri Ozarks home of Lucille Evans and the time is autumn.

Cast of characters includes: Minnie Brown, housekeeper for the late Lucille Evans; Mrs. Ober Brown; Helen Wayne, friend of Lucille Evans; Mrs. Gail Culver; Sal-

ly Ann, Helen's maid; Mrs. Clarence Jenkins; Lily Violet (in pursuit of Pete); Mrs. Gene A. Page; Elvira Todd, a villager; Mrs. Edmund Stanton; Mrs. Scott, an escaped lunatic; Mrs. William C. Martin; Jonathan Black, lawyer; Mrs. Raymond E. Van Wormer; Jack Martin; a friend of Lucille Evans; Mrs. James F. Van Wormer; Pete, his chauffeur; Mrs. Harold Redden; Amos Hill (in pursuit of Sally Ann); Mrs. Warren (Lety) Wilder; a watchman; Mrs. Claude Shepherd; ghost; Mrs. Edmund Stanton.

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