



ANNUAL BAZAAR of the St. Augustine's Church in Merrill will give away a bride doll with a complete outfit of clothes, made by Mrs. Joseph Brandejas of Klamath Falls, on Saturday evening, November 8, at the parish hall. A smorgasbord dinner will be served from 6 until 8 p.m. with no charge for preschool children. Mrs. Jackie O'Connor, Klamath Falls, Mrs. Donald Brechtel, Malin, and Mrs. Dan Barry, Merrill, are dinner co-chairmen. Mrs. Don Ratliff, president of St. Augustine's Altar Society, is general chairman of the affair which will feature various booths, including fancy work and cooked foods, and games.

Nearly As Many Salesmen As Buyers In Land Boom

By DOUGLAS LARSEN
NEA Staff Correspondent
ORLANDO, Fla. (NEA) — If all the lots staked out in Florida's incredible land boom suddenly sprouted houses and occupants, the state's population would jump by 50 million.

Even at today's record rate of construction, it would take more than 10 years to build homes on the countless subdivisions whose sites are now being offered.

"I doubt whether one of those electronic calculators could have kept up with exact figures on acreage and funds invested," says a spokesman for the Florida Real Estate Commission here in Orlando.

There are 30,000 licensed real estate salesmen and brokers in this state, a ratio of land-sellers to land buyers triple the average in other states. And that does not include thousands of salesmen engaged in mail-order and out-of-state land-selling activities. Florida land is being peddled in all the states, territories and dozens of foreign countries.

Florida is enjoying a substantial industrial expansion. This is bringing in new citizens. Many defense

plants have been built in this area for proximity to the Cape Canaveral missile test base 80 miles from here.

But the bulk of Florida's population boom has consisted of elderly people. A survey of the firms promoting these big land projects reveals that upwards of 75 per cent of the customers have eventual retirement in Florida as their motive for buying.

John N. Webb, a University of Florida population expert, says: "Between 1950 and 1957 the state gained more than a million and a third in civilian population. This has contributed to a 50 per cent increase of persons 65 years of age and older. This is striking when compared with a rate of increase of around 20 per cent in this group in the nation as a whole."

Another University of Florida expert, George B. Hurff, says: "Ease of living, the belief that there's more elbow room here, sunshine and warmth and good fishing, in about that order, are the things people think they will find in Florida which make them want to retire here. The trouble is, some retirees find that the problems resulting from uprooting themselves to come here are not compensated for by the sunshine."

The University of Florida is planning extensive new research on this question.

Newspaper and state officials are

constantly warning possible customers for Florida lots to see any land before they buy it and be sure they understand what living conditions are like in the state. Everyone fears a repeat of the notorious land boom of the '20s.

Some land which is under water part of the time is being offered. Some swampland is being peddled by crooks. But this appears to be a minute fraction of the total sales effort. The vast bulk of the selling is free of fraud or chicanery.

And a great deal of the boom is in the offering of attractive lots and homes which will give low-cost retirement in a land once believed only available to the rich.

Ten dollars down and \$10 a month for four or six years will get you a lot with maybe some shade and close to the water.

Lots selling for \$2,000 will guarantee shade and water. Oceanfront property at Cocoa, for example, is between \$175 and \$700 a front foot. At Sarasota it's between \$300 and \$2,500 a front foot.

There are some jokers in the picture. Persons buying the \$10-down lots who want to sell within the next few years stand a good chance of losing money, experts say.

By the time this land is offered to individual buyers most of the speculative value has been drained off. One tract of land wound up

being sold four times, with each seller taking a handsome profit, before it was finally broken into lots of public sale.

On some projects, most of the income from lot sales is going back into large advertising programs, with promised improvements being short changed. If sales slow down these projects could collapse, and lot buyers would be stuck with unimproved land.

"The hope for this boom continuing is to keep it clean," says a Real Estate Commission lawyer. "If we do this nobody will feel he has been cheated by Florida real estate."

Survey By New York Paper Indicates Democrat Gains

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Times said today a nationwide survey of political conditions by Times correspondents indicated Democratic gains in the House of Representatives in the Nov. 4 election.

The Times said the general impression, slightly more than two weeks before the election, was that the Democrats might gain from 15 to 40 House seats.

This would give them a comfortable majority in the next Congress. When the present House was at full strength, the Democrats held 235 seats and the Republicans 200.

The Times said the survey was not intended as a final forecast. It noted that many races were reported close and subject to change in the closing days.

Not included in the survey were Maine, which voted Sept. 8, and Alaska, where elections will be held Nov. 25.

The Times survey reported: Democrats were confident—and many informed Republicans privately agreed with them — that they would add to their present House majority.

Correspondents of the Times reported that the Democrats had fair to excellent chances of adding one or more House seats in New

York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California, West Virginia, Indiana, Michigan, Washington, Maryland, North Dakota, Kentucky and Ohio.

There seemed to be little chance that Vice President Nixon would get the nationwide vote of confidence in the Eisenhower administration for which he has asked. Nixon has urged campaign audiences to vote for Republican House and Senate candidates who would support President Eisenhower's program.

There were few signs of the landslide that some Democrats predicted when they said their party would gain 60 to 80 House seats.

Other samplings of political opinion reinforce the impression of the Times survey that the Democratic gains in the House proportionately would fall below the expected Democratic increases in Senate seats.

Recent surveys, including those by teams of New York Times correspondents, have shown that the Democrats might gain as many as 16 or 14 Republican-held Senate seats, while no Senate seat now held by a Democrat is in serious danger.

The last Senate was divided 49 Democrats to 47 Republicans.

Official Cites State Ruling

OLYMPIA (AP) — Unless the law is changed the state can't withhold industrial insurance payments to State Penitentiary prisoners disabled by pre-prison on-the-job injuries, an official said Monday.

A. L. Wiley, supervisor of the industrial insurance program, commented after State Rep. Tom Copeland (R-Walla Walla) reported at least three prisoners were drawing money for loss-of-time accidents that occurred before they entered the prison.

Wiley said the attorney general's office held in 1956 that eligible claimants in such cases were entitled to compensation.

"Under the opinion," Wiley said, "our hands are tied until such time as the law is changed."

Wiley said he didn't know how many prisoners now are receiving industrial compensation, but he added his department sends a doctor into the prison to check closely on such claims.

"If the doctor says they can do even the lightest work—such as sweeping floors in the prison—we'll cut them off," Wiley added. "The ones who are receiving payment are physically unable to even sweep floors."

Education Commissioner Relates Capital Views

YAKIMA (AP) — The state's administration of the National Defense Education Act will not be interfered with by the federal government, a federal official told Washington state educators Monday.

Lawrence G. Derthick, U. S. commissioner of education, made the statement in a conference with members of the Washington State Research Committee for the Gifted Child.

But, Derthick said, his department is tapping the best educational brains in the nation in order to work out guides for use by the individual states for implementing the act, which was passed by the last Congress.

He said the federal government does not intend to force the states to conform to a set pattern, al-

though individual plans for guidance and counseling of young students toward higher education must be approved by his office before funds can be released.

Derthick met with the committee at the invitation of Lloyd J. Andrews, state superintendent of public instruction, who appointed the group to study guidance and counseling of the state's gifted children.

Derthick is here as a guest of the Washington State School Superintendents Assn., now holding its annual meeting.

The convention was told by Andrews Monday that it was the superintendents' responsibility to see that students get the most education for the money.

He told delegates they should "promote and encourage practices that will give our children the best education with the greatest efficiency in the use of funds, personnel and facilities available."

Increase Noted In Forest Fires

OLYMPIA (AP) — Forest and brush fires burned over nearly 28 times as many acres this year than in 1957.

The State Department of Natural Resources reported Monday that 1,566 fires burned over 16,170 acres through Oct. 15 this year while 42 blazes singed 581 acres during the same period of 1957.

Most of the blazes were blamed on lightning, smokers, debris burners, locomotives, campers, arsonists, slash burners and logging operations—in that order.

Demos Hear Solon's Wife

ALBANY, Ore. (AP) — Mrs. Richard L. Neuberger told an Albany Democratic rally Monday night there is much in common between successful teaching and effective political leadership.

The wife of Oregon's junior Democratic senator, speaking on behalf of a measure to allow teachers to serve in the Legislature, said it was "one of the most justified measures on the ballot this November."

"Not only would this amendment put teachers on equal terms with the rest of the citizens of the state, it would make it possible for the public to draw on the great potential of leadership and background which our teachers can offer," Mrs. Neuberger said.

She is a former school teacher and three-term member of the state Legislature.

Elected Secretary

ELLENSBURG (AP) — Election of Roy Holland, Bremerton, as secretary of the Washington State Sportsmen's Council was announced Monday by Council President H. J. Smelsey. Holland succeeds the late Fred Mintzer.

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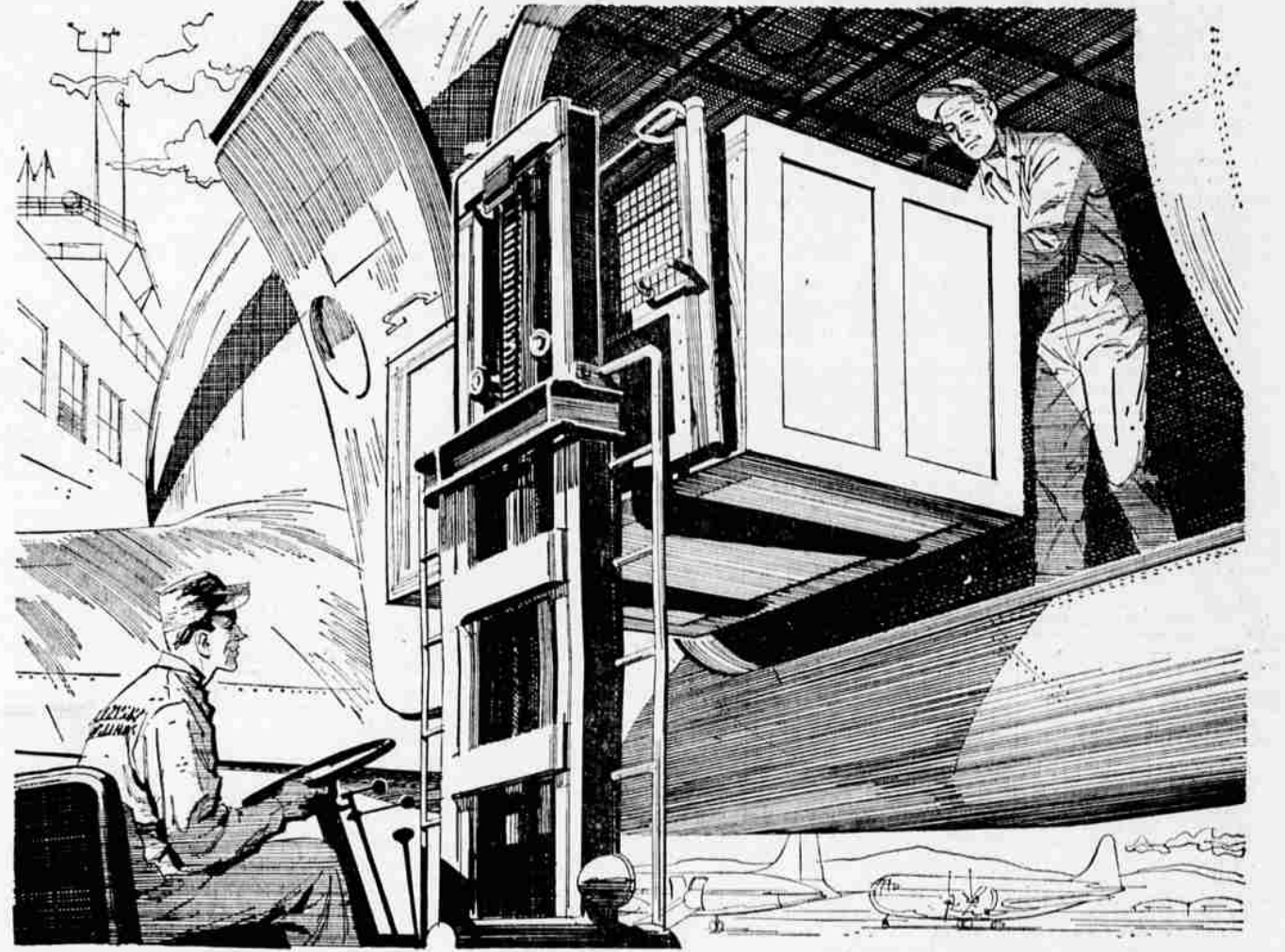
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MEETING SET

CORVALLIS (AP) — The annual sectional meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers will be held at Oregon State College Oct. 22-25.

Scheduled speakers include Eugene G. McKibben, head of the U.S. Department of Agriculture research service.