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Wheeler Gets A. F. of L. Post

Ex-Senator to Run Group's Political League
During Presidential Campaign.

Miami, Fla., Feb. 3 (A. P.).—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, today announced the selection of former United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Democrat, of Montana, as director of the federation's new political league in the coming elections. The post will pay \$20,000, Green declared.

Wheeler will appear before the thirty-member Administrative Committee of the newly formed league here tomorrow. His selection by the Executive Council must still be approved by the committee, but Green indicated that that would be a formality. Wheeler's wartime isolationist views, Green continued, would not interfere with the organization's political objectives, which are, he said, primarily to bring about repeal of the Taft-Hartley act.

Earlier today the council turned thumbs down on Henry A. Wallace for President, declaring that that third party candidate was an apologist for the Communist party, and that the A. F. of L. could not be hoodwinked by Communist claims of liberalism.

Wheeler's labor record in the Senate appealed to both Republicans and Democrats on the council. His selection came as a surprise, however, because those making the choice had said frankly that others were being considered, and none mentioned Wheeler. The political split in the Executive Council itself is believed to have prompted the selection.

Wheeler, now 66 years old, served four terms in the Senate, from 1923 to 1947, and was candidate for Vice-President in 1924 on the Progressive party ticket, the only ticket ever endorsed by the A. F. of L. In 1946 he was defeated for re-election to the Senate despite the personal endorsement of John L. Lewis, the United Mine Workers' chief. As Lewis is no longer in the A. F. of L., he had no direct hand, however, in Wheeler's choice today.

Record Poll Expected In Eire Tomorrow

Dublin, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—Political leaders predicted a record vote in tomorrow's general elections winding up Eire's hottest campaign since the civil war.

The big question before every Irish voter was whether Prime Minister de Valera's sixteen years of unbroken control would be ended, and today no one is sure of the answer, least of all the candidates ending a strenuous campaign for 147 seats in the Dail.

Houses of Wood.

Over four-fifths of United States houses are made of wood.

Constituents Eye Bachelor Martin

Massachusetts Women Serve Leap Year Notice on
Speaker of the House.

Boston, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—If House Speaker Joseph W. Martin Jr. (R-Mass.), wishes to preserve his bachelorhood this leap year, he would do well to examine the fences guarding his single bliss.

The non-partisan Massachusetts Women's Political Club, claiming 50,000 members who would not object to becoming the nation's First Lady either, today offered Martin its collective hand in matrimony, according to the Boston Traveler. The club announced that if Martin gave "the slightest, tiniest hint of an S O S, this organization will rush to him sheaves of applications of the flowers of Bay State womanhood."

"We would be willing, especially in these days of dire housing shortage, to move into the White House with or without the much discussed porch and thus insure to the favorite son of Massachusetts the opportunity to become its occupant as President of the United States."

The Rev. Donald D. Sawyer of Ware, a former State Representative, recently suggested that if the House Speaker would come to Ware, 200 single women would attend a meeting. Thus far, Ware has been strictly on a detour as far as Martin is concerned.

Man Shoots Wife in Street

Fires Three Bullets as School Children Look On—
She May Die—He Is Seized.

An estranged husband shot his wife down in a Bronx street today before the eyes of several children hurrying to school, the police said. He fired three bullets into her body, pocketed his pistol and calmly walked off, only to be arrested two blocks away.

The woman, Mrs. Ella Esposito, 45 years old, of 1423 Cottage Place, the Bronx, was taken to Morrisania Hospital. She is not expected to live. Her husband, John, 58, a locksmith of New Britain, Conn., was taken to the Bathgate police station to be booked on charges of felonious assault. He readily admitted the shooting, the police said.

As the police got the story, the Espositos were separated two years ago after twenty-one years of marriage. The husband had tried in vain to effect a reconciliation. He met her again at 8:15 A. M. today in front of 1525 Fulton avenue, the Bronx, as she was on her way to work as a waitress in a downtown restaurant. When she again refused to listen to him, Esposito produced a .32 caliber pistol and fired three shots, the police said. One bullet struck her in the chest, another in the abdomen and the third in the back, as she turned to flee.

As she fled Esposito turned and walked away. An adult witness followed him and two blocks away saw Patrolman John O'Mara. "This man just shot a woman," the witness said, pointing to Esposito. O'Mara arrested him.

Esposito is a mild looking little man, 5 feet, 4 inches in height and weighing 125 pounds. His

Claims Blast Credit



Associated Press Photo.
Abdul Khader Bey Hussein.

ARAB BUILDING BOMBED IN HAIFA

Jerusalem, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—The police said that Jews bombed the Arab Welfare Headquarters in Haifa today, killing four Arabs. A car laden with dynamite was parked before the building by two men who quickly left in a following taxi, it was stated. The Jews have said in the past that Arab snipers fired from the top of the Welfare Building.

Occasional sniping was reported along the border between Jaffa and Tel Aviv and a few shots rang out in Jerusalem today.

Abdul Khader Bey Hussein, commander of the Arab fighters in Jerusalem, announced last night that it was the Arabs who bombed the offices of the Palestine Post on Sunday night "to prove we could strike at the heart of our enemy."

Today's deaths brought to 1,027 the unofficial count of persons slain in Palestine since the United Nations voted on November 29, last, to partition Palestine.

Damascus, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—Truckloads of armed Arabs rolling into Damascus led many observers to believe today that a general attack on the Jews of Palestine may be approaching. Fawzi Bey al Kaukji, leader of the Arab forces, announced that "the finest army in the Middle East is moving in" and that he expects to transfer his headquarters to Palestine soon.

Berry Enters Plea Of Nolo Contendere

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 3 (A. P.).—The Federal Government today accepted a plea of nolo contendere by George L. Berry, president of the International Pressmen's Union and former United States Senator, on one of three counts of income tax evasion. The Government also was agreeable to Berry's plea of not guilty on the two other counts, automatically dismissing them.

Berry was charged with evading more than \$19,000 in income taxes for 1939, 1940 and 1941. When the case came up for trial last July the Government declined to accept a plea of nolo contendere.

LITHOGRAPHERS IN STRIKE VOTE

Action May Be Taken Here
Against 200 Plants.

A strike of all or a major part of the 7,200 members of Local No. 1, Amalgamated Lithographers of America, C. I. O., may be called against some 200 lithographing firms in New York city tomorrow, a union spokesman said today. The spokesman said that the local's members would meet at a closed session at Manhattan Center tomorrow at 10 A. M. to discuss the failure of negotiations for an across-the-board wage increase, and a shorter work week, and that the members "might decide to strike."

"All legal requirements have been complied with, and the strike, if voted, could occur tomorrow," he added. Both the union and a spokesman for the employer group, the Metropolitan Lithographers Association, said the effect of the strike would be to halt the production of paper and cardboard for and cigarette containers, beer cans, greeting cards, posters, and other container and advertising items.

The union spokesman said that most of the 7,200 members of the local work in plants in Manhattan and Long Island City. Some are employed in Jersey City and Newark, but the plants there are not members of the association and therefore would not be struck, he said.

He said that a contract expired last December 31 and a meeting last night failed to bring a settlement of union demands for an across-the-board increase of \$10 weekly and a reduction of the work from the present 36 1/4 hours to 35 hours. An association offer of a graduated increase of \$5, \$6 and \$8 to workers, depending on their present earnings, was not acceptable to the union, the union spokesman said, adding that the present rates range from \$35 to about \$106 weekly.

Two Sisters Die in Fire.

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 3 (A. P.).—Colleen Moore, 15 years old, and her sister, Wilma, 11, perished in their blazing home here today and their father, Stanley Moore, was burned critically.

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A Streetcar Meets With Ire

Automobile Driver With One Track Deside Finds
Conductor With Will Undaunted by Gunfire.

Chicago, Feb. 3 (A. P.).—One of the cardinal tenets of Peter Gerame, 36 years old, a conductor for the Chicago Transit Authority, is that the trolley car must go through. According to the police Dr. Frederick H. Schmidt, a 67-year-old physician, thinks that's a lot of nonsense.

The conductor and the doctor had a clash of wills today when Dr. Schmidt's automobile, loaded with guns after a hunting trip, stalled on the tracks just as Gerame's trolley came along.

The police said that the following events ensued:
Gerame and his motorman got out and pushed Schmidt's automobile some thirty feet. But the physician refused to turn out of the tracks. A verbal tilt led to

an exchange of blows between Gerame and Schmidt.

Then the doctor selected a shotgun and fired a blast which did no damage. Gerame called the police. Meanwhile the doctor attempted to board the trolley, but was repelled by five passengers.

A transit authority tow truck, which arrived after the doctor locked himself in his car, shoved aside the automobile. But the doctor stood around a block and parked his car. Policemen seized him in a tavern telephone booth.

Dr. Schmidt went to Police Headquarters, where officials held him without charge, and debated what to do next.



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