

Seven Are Selected For First Spaceman

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Seven candidates have been selected for the honor and the danger of being the first American in space. But the final choice won't be known until 1961.

The seven were picked from 55 volunteers, all so highly qualified the experts had a hard time choosing the final team for the manned satellite program, dubbed Project Mercury.

Names of the seven candidates will be announced later this week by the Federal Space Agency. They will go to Langley Research Center, Hampton, Va., "in the

early future" for training as astronauts.

Some time in 1961, if all goes well, one of the seven will be told to get into his gear. Not until launching day will he know that he is the chosen one.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration originally planned a 12-man Mercury team but reduced the number to seven "to assure more complete participation" by each member in all phases of the project.

The seven, picked after thorough examination of their educational, mental, physical, and psychological qualifications, are "superbly adapted to the demands of the manned satellite program."

All are "highly motivated" which means, an NASA spokesman said, that "everyone of them wants like the devil to get the job" of being Mercury pilot No. 1.

No. 1 will be the candidate judged by flight surgeons to be "at the peak of physical and psychological readiness" on launching day.

His teammates will be dis-

Discuss Civic Music Drive On Television

Sean O'Dowd, representative of Civic Music Service, Inc., will be interviewed over station WANE-TV by Ann Colone on the "Women's Page" program at 10 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. O'Dowd, who is here in connection with the annual membership drive of the Adams County Civic Music Association, will talk about the work he is doing in Decatur, and his past experiences as a travel guide in Ireland.

pointed only temporarily. Deputy NASA Director Hugh L. Dryden has given assurance that "he will be followed by others" in subsequent Mercury flights.

All the candidates have a degree in engineering or science, are graduates of a military test pilot school, have 1,500 hours of flying time, are well under 40, and are no taller than 5 feet 11 inches. All are married.

Three-Year-Old Boy Drowns In Cistern

MADISON, Ind. (UPI) — Lonnie Ricketts, 3, drowned Monday when a rotten wooden cover on a cistern broke beneath his weight and plunged him into five feet of water.

The accident occurred on a farm west of here in view of the child's mother, Mrs. William Ricketts.

When Mrs. Ricketts saw her son fall into the well, she tried to rescue him but could not reach him. She ran to a nearby highway and flagged two motorists.

The motorists, David Kemper, 36, and Edward Rowe, 51, Seymour, lowered the distraught mother into the cistern by tying a sheet around her. She pulled Lonnie out, but artificial respiration failed to revive him.

District Meeting Of Elks At Huntington

Huntington, Ind. — Huntington Elks Lodge No. 805 will host the annual spring meeting of the northeast district Elks Association April 10, 11 and 12. Convention headquarters will be in the Elks Lodge on West Park Drive. Indiana state Freeland will lead a delegation of Elks association president Norman state officers and their wives to the three-day meeting.

Manfred Weber, a builder of Eastchester, N.Y., was resting comfortably with burns of the face, neck and arms, Lawrence Hospital spokesman said in Bronxville, N.Y.

Weber was burned in a stunt with a dummy firecracker Monday. The program was being viewed by a nationwide audience when Weber caught fire. Several stagehands and show aides rushed on stage to smother the flames with towels and a blanket.

A viewer, Mrs. Daniel Hayward, a housewife of Marblehead, Mass., said a firecracker had been placed under a chair on which Weber was seated wearing a ragged suit costume.

Voorhees said a poultry farmers' cooperative marketing association in New Jersey was picketed for nearly six months when the cooperative refused to "sign up" with a union. Secondary boycotts were instituted by "pressure on buyers" in a number of markets in which the cooperative marketed eggs, he testified.

Voorhees also said the "truck unloading fee racket" was another example of need for legislation to protect farmers. He said truckers hauling farm products to moist middle Atlantic cities must pay \$18 to \$22 per truckload for unloading.

"If the trucker refuses to pay this charge and tries to unload himself, the warehouse employees will not forklift away the pallets on which the packages are stacked, so the driver has no alternative but to pay the fee," he said.

"We submit this is not a legitimate labor union activity. It is pure and simple extortion."

Weber was blindfolded and told to stamp out the fuse before it reached the firecracker. Mrs. Hayward said:

"I thought it was a phony firecracker," Mrs. Weber said. "I heard an explosion but thought it was supposed to happen. I heard a lot of noise and rushing around. Then I felt heat on the plastic cover all I was wearing and heard somebody say 'get it off...get it off'."

Mrs. Weber said she was led off the stage. The first that she knew anything was wrong "I saw my husband stripped down to his underwear sitting on a chair backstage. He looked badly burned and in great pain."

Weber was taken to the NBC infirmary and from there went to the hospital. NBC later issued a statement saying an investigation was underway. Network spokesmen said both the firecracker and fuse were dummies.

Steinwedel traded in his big state car for a Studebaker Lark the new, small economy car produced at South Bend. But Drayer said Steinwedel ordered an eight-cylinder, rather than a six-cylinder model, and also ordered automatic transmission.

"I bought the automatic transmission because both my knees were injured in service during World War II which makes it necessary for me to use a car with automatic transmission," Steinwedel said.

"I was advised by the Studebaker-Packard people that their automatic shift works best with the eight-cylinder model."

Steinwedel termed Drayer's remarks "a politically-inspired personal vendetta" and said it was his belief that no "high-handed employee is so indispensable that he can indulge in baseless and shamefully false accusations when by so doing he threatens an entire program of economy through attempted ridicule."

"It would appear that all an official has to do to become the target of a political attack is to suggest economy in government," he said.

Steinwedel also took exception to

Drayer's statement that he was the first to buy the Hoosier-made car on a large scale.

Steinwedel said he talked to Studebaker president Harold Churhill in December, January and February and then advised Drayer "of my desire to have a Lark for myself and to see the state purchase more Hoosier-made automobiles."

Steinwedel also warned Drayer "I intend to look closely into his department, since it obviously is operated by one with so faulty a memory. He also forgot to mention that at the time I made my original request, he tried to talk me into buying a bigger, more expensive car."

He told me he was only sowing his wild oats. He told me to wait, he would come back to me," the reporters quoted Mrs. Nicholas as saying.

"A Misunderstanding"

"We agreed long ago if either of us found someone else we would be free," Mrs. Myers quoted Mrs. Nicholas.

"I accused him of breaking that agreement. He said it was the result of a misunderstanding."

Mrs. Myers quoted Mrs. Nicholas further:

"I meant to kill myself but after he said he was coming back, I didn't mean to. We didn't try to hide. He walked right into my apartment whenever he wanted."

"On one occasion my husband came home and Forrest was there and I told him he had just delivered a case of scotch. My husband didn't say anything but I don't think he believed me."

"We planned to get married in 1961. That was because of Tommy. He would graduate then and Teel told me he would get a divorce then."

Mrs. Myers said the reporters asked Mrs. Nicholas whether she had ever seen Mrs. Teel.

"I saw her ice-skating a long time ago—about 15 years ago."

Mrs. Myers said Mrs. Nicholas was asked why she married Curt Nicholas, her second husband, whom she divorced in April before Teel's death.

"I was trying to live my life for myself."

"Never Saw Laura"

She was asked whether she had ever seen Laura Mowrer.

"No, but I'd like to," she said. "Forrest told me about remarks she made. I could see she was on the make for him."

Clifford told the all-husband jury it was his opinion that Mrs. Nicholas' injured eye had been inflicted by a blow.

Mrs. Myers and Clifford were among the first defense witnesses called this morning after the state rested yesterday. Defense attorneys planned to picture Mrs. Nicholas as a foreseen woman ready to take her own life, who shot her ex-lover accidentally in a final tryst to find out why he left her.

TV Contestant Is Burned During Show

NEW YORK (UPI) — A television stunt show contestant was reported in satisfactory condition today recovering from first- and second-degree burns received on the Bert Parks "County Fair" television show.

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Voorhees said a poultry farmers' cooperative marketing association in New Jersey was picketed for nearly six months when the cooperative refused to "sign up" with a union. Secondary boycotts were instituted by "pressure on buyers" in a number of markets in which the cooperative marketed eggs, he testified.

Voorhees also said the "truck unloading fee racket" was another example of need for legislation to protect farmers. He said truckers hauling farm products to moist middle Atlantic cities must pay \$18 to \$22 per truckload for unloading.

"If the trucker refuses to pay this charge and tries to unload himself, the warehouse employees will not forklift away the pallets on which the packages are stacked, so the driver has no alternative but to pay the fee," he said.

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Farm Bureau Backs Labor Reform Bills

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The American Farm Bureau Federation today threw its support behind labor reform legislation it said was needed to protect the public — and farmers — "against abuse of power by union leaders."

The Farm Bureau statement, prepared for presentation at a House Labor Committee hearing, also called for language in the final bill to prohibit union expenditures for election purposes.

"It is our position that any organization whose membership is other than voluntary should be prohibited from expending money for political purposes," testified Herbert W. Voorhees, president of the New Jersey Farm Bureau and a member of the federation's executive committee.

Voorhees said a poultry farmers' cooperative marketing association in New Jersey was picketed for nearly six months when the cooperative refused to "sign up" with a union. Secondary boycotts were instituted by "pressure on buyers" in a number of markets in which the cooperative marketed eggs, he testified.

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Workers who have reached retirement age, 62 for women or 65 for men, were invited by Luecke to call at the social security office to file their claims, or to discuss any social security problems they may have.

He also suggested that the retiring worker bring to the office any available documents which show his age or date of birth. "While a birth or baptismal certificate based on a record at the time of birth is preferable," Luecke stated, "we accept many types of evidence such as life insurance policies, naturalization certificates, union, hospital or college records, etc."

The department's feed situation report said production of feed grains this season may range between 150 and 155 million tons. The forecast was based on the assumption that of a normal growing season and on the guess that yields will be above average.

A crop of 150 to 155 million tons would be a little below last year's record of 158 million tons. But total supplies may go up because the carryover of feed grains is expected to be up at the end of the present season.

Agriculture Department experts don't expect as much strength in feed prices through the spring and summer as a year ago. Prices are expected to average below the 1958 level through this period.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Agriculture Department Solicitor Robert L. Farrington, Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson's top legal adviser since May, 1954, today was reported ready to resign in the near future.

Farrington was reported leaving to take a job with a wool marketing co-operative at