

WILLKIE TO TRY NEBRASKA NEXT

Makes Final Appeal for Votes in Wisconsin Election Tuesday.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 31 (U.P.)—His pre-primary campaign in Wisconsin ended. Wendell L. Willkie turned today to Nebraska where Republicans elect 12 delegates to the national convention April 11.

Willkie arrived here last night after completing his 13-day tour of Wisconsin, where he sought support for his slate of 24 delegates running for election in Tuesday's primary. The 1940 G. O. P. candidate showed evidence of the strain of his 1500-mile trip through the Badger state and with the exception of an appearance at the Minneapolis club today, he planned no political activities.

Willkie Final Appeal

In a final plea to Wisconsin voters yesterday, Willkie told an audience at Superior that he campaigned in that state because he "wanted the people of Wisconsin to know the beliefs and purposes of at least one candidate in the field."

"I came here," he said, "because I believe that democracy can survive if the people remain their own sovereigns and are given an opportunity to select their leaders not on the basis of mere men, but on the firm rock of ideas and principles. I didn't want the people of Wisconsin to have to buy a pig in a poke in the presidential primary next Tuesday."

"I have come to know and respect the people of Wisconsin," he added. "They will go to the polls next Tuesday and cast their votes

'Big Bill' Thompson Stored 1½ Million in Deposit Box

By LEONARD SHANE

United Press Staff Correspondent CHICAGO, March 31.—A dramatic end to his life as he was in death, William Hale (Big Bill) Thompson, former mayor and one of the most colorful figures in Chicago's lush prohibition era, added a sensational postscript to his story today when more than \$1,500,000, mostly cash, was found in one of his safety deposit boxes.

Mr. Hale Thompson, Big Bill's widow, who had been estranged from her husband for several years prior to his death March 19, faints at the sight of the huge pile of greenbacks that confronted her as the safety deposit box was opened and immediately shut herself up in her apartment, refusing to comment on the discovery of the bonanza.

The two boxes, which bank officials said had not been opened for six months, were crammed almost to overflowing with gold certificates and bills in \$20, \$50, \$100 and \$1,000 denominations. Their value amounted to \$1,465.25.

In addition, there were more than 6000 shares in the Middle West Utilities Corp. of the old

on the issues, not on the labels."

Willkie termed the defeat of the Republican congressional candidate in the Oklahoma special election "regrettable" and said it might have been beneficial to the party "if it makes its leaders think and turn to a real discussion of the issues."

Willkie will leave for Omaha tonight to open a five day tour of Nebraska. The drive will be similar to the one he just completed in Wisconsin, he said, and was designed to place his political philosophy directly before the voters.

Thompson's income was a source of public conjecture even while he served as mayor. His campaign funds always received large contributions from wealthy persons and at one time it was alleged that Al Capone contributed more than \$250,000 to the Republican campaign fund to support his election in 1927.

His political associates, however, insisted that Thompson made no personal economic gain from politics.

Three more of Thompson's safety boxes remained to be opened. They will be examined Monday, his attorney said.

Since Thompson apparently died without a will, the money will go to his widow, after taxes have been deducted.

Tax experts estimated that between 40 and 50 per cent of the estate would be taken for taxes.

Samuel Insull empire which were worth \$550 each before the firm collapsed in 1929.

Although the gold certificates, which constituted the bulk of the cash found in the boxes, were recalled in 1933, federal authorities said they would be redeemed.

Thompson would have faced a penalty had he been alive when they were found, they said.

The boxes were rented in 1931, the last year of Big Bill's final term as mayor, bank officials reported.

Friends of Thompson expressed amazement when the inventory of Big Bill's estate was filed with the probate court showing a total estate of approximately \$150,000.

The meager size of the estate led authorities and his attorney, James W. Breen, to institute a search for further assets.

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"She told me she would not kill me because she did not believe me worth it," he said. "She said, 'I am going to kill myself; I am going to do it in your room.' I heard a disturbance in the hall. My children, my two boys, were downstairs."

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"I was talking on the telephone when Joan walked in, pointing a gun at me. I was scared, and I tried to reason with her. I said, 'All your supposed love and affection for me is a sham; otherwise you wouldn't do things like this.'

"I went to the balcony and told my two boys to go home and stay the night with their mother. They could not go; they had no car. Joan still was holding her gun. I said, 'You'd better go; the children are here.' She said, 'I'm destitute; I have no place to stay.' I said, 'You than stay here; I'm going to throw you out.'

Theirs Juries Faces

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