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Senators consider bid on GOP slate

Three state senators are considering bids to become the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor. Lincoln attorney Don Stenberg is the only announced candidate.

Those who might join him are Sens. Dennis Rasmussen of Scotia, Herbert Duis of Gothenburg and Donald Dworak of Columbus.

Rasmussen said he would not announce his plans until late November.

"It's a good possibility," he said of seeking the No. 2 spot on the GOP slate.

Duis, a 13-year veteran, is mentioned prominently in speculation about the lieutenant governor's race. Legislative and Republican sources say he is talking about the race privately.

GI's welcomed

Ramstein, West Germany (AP)—Gen. Alexander Haig, supreme North Atlantic Treaty Organization commander and senior NATO officers Wednesday formally welcomed 12,600 U.S. troops airlifted to Europe for the ninth "Reforger-Crested Cap" maneuvers.

During ceremonies at Ramstein Air Base near this village in central West Germany, Haig said "lying in American soldiers from as far away as Ft. Lewis, Wash., demonstrated American commitment to Western European defense.

Smith in control

Salisbury, Rhodesia (AP)—Prime Minister Ian Smith retained control of parliament in Rhodesia's general election, and when vote-counting paused late Wednesday appeared certain of the two-thirds majority he needs to negotiate a racial settlement on his own terms.

Partial results of balloting by the mostly white electorates gave Smith's Rhodesian Front party 35 of the 44 seats he needs for a two-thirds majority in the House of Assembly. Returns from rural areas, where Smith is strong, are expected Thursday.

There are 66 seats in the House, 50 reserved for whites.

Farm prices decline

Washington (AP)—The prices farmers got for raw products before moving into the consumer mainstream dropped 3% between July 15 and Aug. 15, the third consecutive monthly decline, the Agriculture Department said Wednesday.

The department's Crop Reporting Board said that lower prices for soybeans, corn, hogs, broilers and potatoes accounted for most of the decline.

Higher prices reported for tobacco, oranges and milk helped offset part of the decline for other commodities, officials said.

Overall, farm prices were down 6% from Aug. 15, 1976. Farm expenses, meanwhile, fell 0.5% during the month but still averaged 5% above a year earlier.

associated press datelines

Dworak has long been mentioned as a potential candidate. He is chairman of the group that led the state school aid referendum campaign. He does not plan to announce his political decision until late fall.

Tito views body

Tokyo—Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito viewed the body of his old ideological foe, Mao Tse-tung, Wednesday, China's official Hsinhua news agency reported.

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said the 85-year-old Tito was told by Chinese leaders he was the first foreign leader to see the Mao Tse-tung Memorial Hall, due to open Sept. 9, on the anniversary of the Communist party chairman's death.

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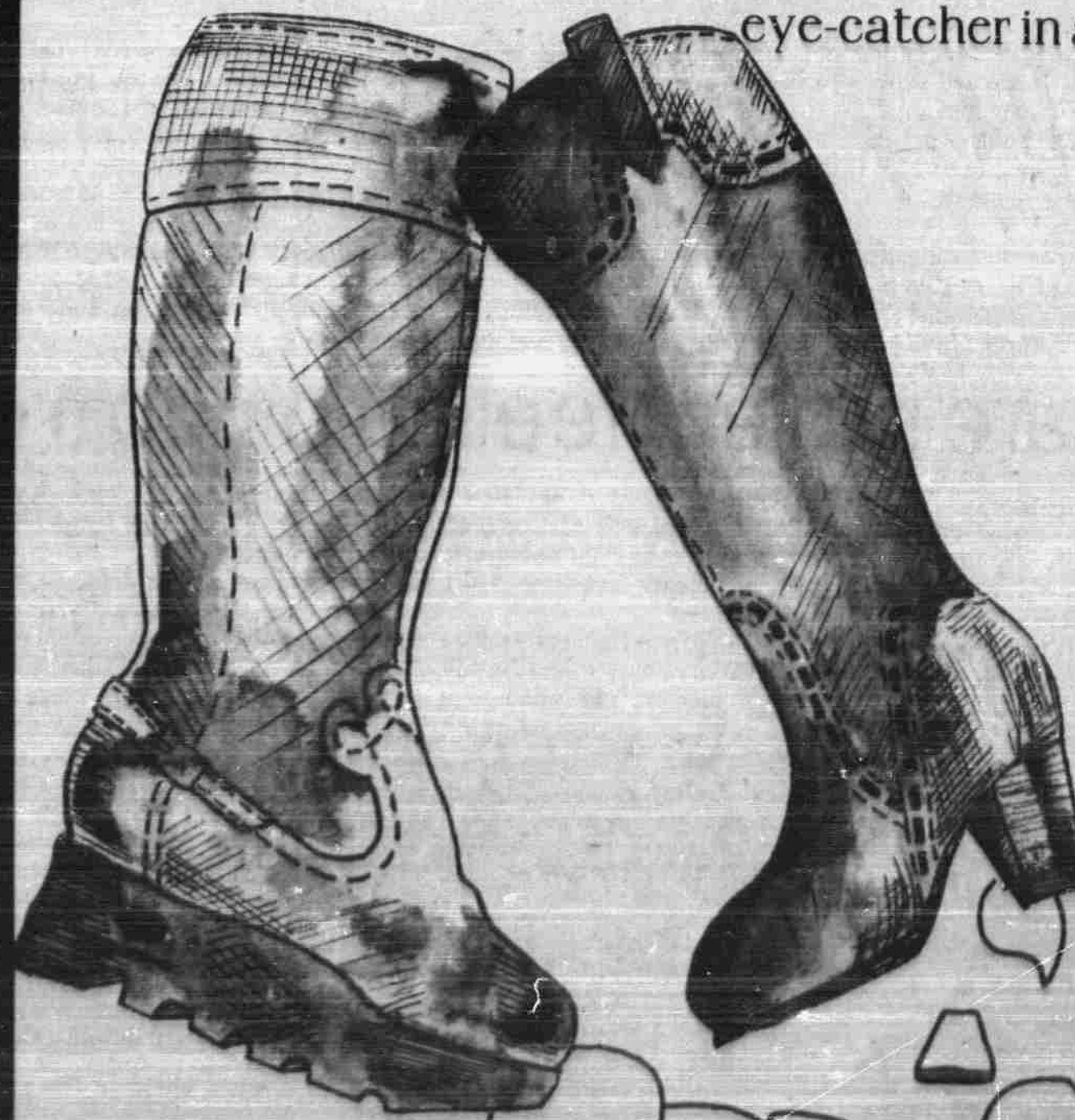
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