

TRUMAN REHEARS TRY TO END STEEL STRIKE

The Weather

Light rain tonight and Saturday.

Established 1873

ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1946

27-46

Vets Administration Accused by Legion of "Tragic Breakdown"

Investigation By Congress Is Demanded

Five Complaints Listed By Commander Steele in Letters to Lawmakers

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The American Legion called on Congress today for an immediate investigation of a "tragic breakdown" in the veterans administration under Gen. Omar H. Bradley, who took over as chief less than six months ago.

John Steele, the Legion's national commander, made the "demand" for action in letters to all members of Congress and said the lawmakers should see that their "mandates are no longer ignored by the veterans administration."

VA officials at first reserved comment on the letter, but Steele's letter said its release was preceded by an aluminous telephone battle between Steele and Bradley over major VA policies.

Later, officials of the administration announced that Bradley would give a report at a late afternoon news conference on his six months administration.

Five Charges Preferred

Steele's letter to Congress claimed an inquiry was warranted because:

1. Between 300,000 and 500,000 disability cases cannot receive proper compensation without undergoing physical examinations because of VA's failure to secure adequate medical records from the Army and Navy.

2. The hospitalization applications of more than 7,000 needy veterans await processing.

3. Thousands of Army hospital

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

NEW wrinkle in strikes boils into the news.

Back in Nebraska and Oklahoma (Kansas seems to have been skipped so far) farmers are meeting and talking about holding their products off the market until labor troubles in industry are settled and the flow of production starts again.

A speaker in a meeting in Nebraska says: "Farmers have their Irish up because they can't get farm tools, machinery, bathtubs, refrigerators or even overalls—all of which they want and need."

He adds that it might be a good idea for the farmers to "go on strike against strikes."

It wouldn't be, of course.

Taking products OFF the markets at a time when our great need is to get more products ONTO the markets could work nothing but HARM.

But this tempest in the teapot in Nebraska and Oklahoma does

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Landed Gentry of Europe on Way Out as Vast Estates Are Doled Among Small Farmers

By DEWITT MACKENZIE

MADRID, Feb. 1.—One of the most impressive aspects of this changing Europe is the acceleration in the disappearance of the landed gentry—proprietors of vast estates whose holdings have come to them through inheritance, sometimes through many generations.

This landed aristocracy is for one reason or another being compelled to divest itself of its wealth in the soil. The causes vary in different countries. High taxation is forcing the change in some; cost of maintenance has wiped out revenues in others; and in some there has been expropriation and redistribution among small farmers by the state.

In England high taxation has turned the trick. The position there was well summed up for me recently in London by an economic expert who cracked:

"The idea of a duke in a red coat, riding to hounds across his estate with a cry of 'tallyho' is an anachronism, old boy. He just doesn't exist."

Well, of course, Britain still

Death Ends Stormy Work of Editor Magee, Who Helped to Expose Teapot Dome Scandal

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Death last night ended the turbulent career of Carl C. Magee, 73, crusading newspaper editor who played a prominent part in exposing the Teapot Dome oil scandal.

Magee—former editor, school teacher, lawyer, inventor and businessman—died of heart disease after a short illness with influenza.

The man who in later years invented the parking meter was a stormy petrel of political journalism in New Mexico where he once was tried on manslaughter charges.

As editor of the Albuquerque Morning Journal, he gained national prominence in the early 1920's for helping to expose the Teapot Dome Naval Reserve scandal, which brought about the downfall of Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall.

Magee, sentenced to jail in the summer of 1923 after a trial for contempt growing out of an editorial which appeared in his paper while he faced charges of criminal libel, was pardoned by Gov. James F. Hinkle after serving a night and a day of the sentence.

Magee set out to defeat the trial judge, D. J. Leahy, for reelection and his editorial campaign proved successful.

Two years later, Magee accidentally shot and killed a state highway employee in a fray which grew out of the trial.

The crusading editor was seated in the lobby of Las Vegas hotel when Leahy entered. The former judge spotted Magee, strode over, shouted at him, then struck him, knocking Magee to the floor.

From a prone position, the editor kicked at the judge and fired three shots from his pistol, striking Leahy in the arm and mortally wounding John B. Lassetter, a bystander.

Tried at Las Vegas on a manslaughter charge, Magee was freed by Judge Luis E. Armijo, who had defeated Leahy. Armijo ruled state's evidence was insufficient; that it failed to show an unlawful act, and that Magee acted in self defense.

Magee came to Oklahoma City in October, 1927, as editor of the Oklahoma News where he continued his crusading attacks on Oklahoma politics through his column, "Turning on the Light."

Gunnard Engebretsen, conceded the election today to his military opponent who could not campaign because of Army regulations.

McCutcheon would succeed his father, who died while in office.

Sugar Retail Price to Rise Less Than Cent Lb.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Stabilization Director John C. Collet announced today the retail price of sugar soon will increase "slightly more than half cent" a pound.

He said the effective date would be announced by OPA. An official of that agency said an increase of approximately six-tenths of a cent a pound would be put into effect "in the next few days."

Collet attributed the increase to a boost in the cost of Cuban sugar.

Ruling On City Authority

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Cities do not have authority to pass an ordinance to prevent outside electricians and contractors from working inside the city limits, Attorney General Neuner held today for the State Bureau of Labor.

Outside Officers Get Juveniles Here

Sheriff A. W. Kimerer of Sutter County, Calif., yesterday charged two juveniles here who had been arrested on a charge of auto theft. The boys were found to be in possession of bedding, fishing tackle, and an assortment of tools they had taken from houses and automobiles in this area a few weeks ago.

Sheriff Dick Baker said, Sheriff Kimerer was to return the young boy to the detention home at Yuba City, Calif.

Two other juveniles were handed over to Deputy Sheriff Nelson of Whipp of Lane County, to answer a charge of larceny of an automobile, Baker said.

Dale Francis Allee, 20, Keensburg, Colo., sailor, was handed over to Navy authorities from Portland yesterday without charge, Baker said. Allee had reportedly been arrested while in possession of a stolen automobile.

Baker said his identification papers showed he was on furlough from his ship at San Diego.

Gun Carried 30 Years Produces Slaying Clue

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Here's one for the true detective thriller writers to work over. British Columbia police yesterday received a revolver from the customs department which had been seized from a settler.

The man told G. A. Yardley, collector for the Port of Victoria, that his wife had been carrying the gun for 30 years.

Taking the weapon apart preparatory to destroying it, police found the following message scratched on the inside of the bakelite hand grips: "This is the gun that shot Creford at Union, Oregon. Shutting done by..."

Police at Union are being contacted to check any record of a shooting involving the name Creford, possibly 30 years ago.

Four Truckers Fined

Justice of the Peace Thomas C. Hartfield yesterday fined four truck drivers for traffic violations: Lawrence V. Pearson, no chauffeur's license, \$10; George R. Wilkinson, axle overload, \$10; Roy V. Long, axle overload, \$20; Raymond C. Laurance, Jr., axle overload, \$15.

Constitution Drafted For Rule of Japan

Hirohito to Keep Throne But Stripped of Power And Status of Divinity

TOKYO, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The government has drafted tentatively a new constitution stripping the emperor of his military command but specifying that Japan shall retain the throne, the newspaper Mainichi said today.

Omitted in the text quoted by Mainichi was the clause, "The emperor is sacred and inviolable." There was little other change, however, in the first four articles dealing with the throne.

The newspaper noted these other changes in the proposed draft:

The Japanese people were declared legally equal, and feudalistic rights of the few were eliminated.

Freedom of religion was provided, and special rights given to Shinto shrines were abolished.

Rights and obligations of the people were recognized and the right and duty of every person to work was established.

Election of the house of representatives by secret ballot was specified.

Ministers were made responsible to the diet instead of to the emperor, and the diet was given

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Accord Launches All China on Era Of Full Freedom

CHUNGKING, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The emergence of China's millions from civil strife into a day of full freedom for all political parties was viewed today by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek as possibly foreshadowing an end to his leadership.

The man whose one-party rule has continued for 18 years said frankly that from now on the heavy task of rebuilding the nation rested not alone on the Kuomintang (Nationalist Party) "much less on me as an individual."

Whether in the government or out of it, he told last night's closing session of the historic political consultation conference, he would sincerely work for peace and solidarity.

He pledged that all the far-reaching decisions of the unity conference would be carried out. These included: Free and open elections by all political parties, nationalization of the Army; nationwide compulsory education; and economic reconstruction.

Chou En-Lai, No. 2 communist who helped reach the unity conference accord, today expressed full confidence that there will be no more civil strife in China. He said that apart from minor clashes in Shantung and the East River district of Kwangtung, near Canton, peace prevails throughout the country.

Advice Given Veteran Denied His Old Job

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—What should a veteran do when he fails to get his old job back?

The Justice Department's top official on veterans' affairs, Assistant Attorney General John J. Sonnett, gave this answer today: Consult the nearest United States attorney.

In an interview, Sonnett said, "U. S. attorneys have a specific statutory duty to give legal service to veterans in cases involving veterans' re-employment rights. There are 98 such attorneys in strategic cities throughout the country."

California Tops States In Black Bear and Deer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—California has more black bears and Columbian black-tailed deer than any other state.

The latest tabulation of big game by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, based on a census taken at the end of 1943, shows that there were 20,190 black bears and 223,565 black-tailed deer in the Golden State.

Maine was second among the states in black bear population, with 20,000, and Oregon was a poor second to California in black-tailed deer, with 113,278.



TOP COP—Maj. Gen. Ernest Harmon, former commander of the famous Second Armored ("Hell-on-Wheels") Division, has been named head of the newly formed American Zone Constabulary. This highly trained, hand-picked body of 38,000 men will form the nucleus of the U. S. Occupation Army.

Parolee Shot and Captured After Slaying Officer

WALLACE, Idaho, Feb. 1.—(AP)—A 21-year-old man who confessed that he stabbed to death John C. Farris, 64, Wallace night policeman, when the officer found him breaking into a grocery store, was shot four times as he tried to drive through a police road block in a stolen truck last night.

Police Chief Frank Hunt of Kellogg said the man was shot through the thighs four times when he failed to stop a blockade at Kellogg an hour and ten minutes after the body of Farris was found in nearby Wallace. The man is in good condition, Hunt said.

The chief said the man told officers he was attempting to rob a grocery store when Farris stopped him to inspect the place.

The man said he grabbed Farris' gun, struck him over the head with it and then stabbed him, Hunt said. He added that the policeman's gun was found on the suspect.

Eleven knife wounds were found on the dead policeman's body, Shoshone County Coroner Dr. H. Mowery reported.

Chief Hunt said the apprehended man told him he had left Montana 10 days ago while on parole from the state penitentiary at Deer Lodge where he had served two years of a ten-year sentence on larceny charges.

Bering Straits Tunnel Said Russian "Dream"

LONDON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Robert Magidoff, commentator, said over the Moscow radio today that Russian scientists were "dreaming" of a Bering Straits tunnel to connect the Soviet mainland with Alaska.

The broadcast, recorded by the Soviet monitor, said the Soviet scientists hope it "will become a reality in the not too distant future." He said the Russians are "chains of motor cars streaming back and forth."

The commentator said the sponsor of the idea was Vladimir Obraztsov, whom he listed as Russia's leading railway expert.

Pre-War Gum Returning At Original 5-Ct. Price

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Pre-war brands of Wrigley chewing gum will be back on the country's counters after Feb. 15 and will cost five cents a package, the same as before the war, Philip K. Wrigley, board chairman of William Wrigley, Jr., Company, said today.

Wrigley said that sugar was the only current supply problem, and that despite possible losses on small volume reduction, the five cents retail price would be maintained because "people just won't pay six cents for a package of gum."

Boy Loses Leg Trying To Swing Onto Train

BELLINGHAM, Feb. 1.—(AP)—David Eugene Paulson, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Paulson, lost his left leg Wednesday when he slipped while attempting to swing onto a slowly moving Great Northern freight train.

David pulled himself some 200 feet up the bank from the railroad right of way after the accident while his playmate, Frank Vitalje, ran for help. Physicians reported David was recovering following amputation of his leg above the knee.

Blizzard Baffles Try to Reach Wrecked Airliner

ELK MOUNTAIN, Wyo., Feb. 1.—(AP)—A screaming blizzard on the perilous sides of 11,125-foot Elk mountain today prevented new efforts to scale the peak into which a United Air Lines transport apparently crashed yesterday with 21 persons.

P. R. Gallagher of Cheyenne, member of an eight-man search party that fought to within 300 feet of the summit last night, said the climbers were forced back by a 75-mile-an-hour gale and 40-below-zero cold.

Jap General Faces Noose For Executing Yankees

MANILA, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Jap Gen. Hikotaro Taira was sentenced by a U. S. military court commission today to hang and 13 other Japanese officers drew lesser sentences for the execution of three U. S. Navy fliers in November, 1944, on Bataan Island off Northern Luzon.

The American fliers, whose names were withheld, were bayoneted and beheaded.

Filibuster End Demanded By Republicans

Gag Attempt Planned if Senator Foes of FEPC Keep Up Talk Marathon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Republican senators demanded today that action be taken to choke off the FEPC filibuster.

The G. O. P. lawmakers announced they are ready to take the initiative if something isn't done quickly by the Democrats who favor the bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission.

Kenneth S. Wherry, Republican Senate whip, gave Senator Chavez (D-N.M.) until the end of the week to seek limitation of debate.

Senate Republicans, he said, "are getting restless and they want some action. They mean business."

Chavez, who maneuvered FEPC up for consideration despite the vehement opposition of Southern senators, has been soliciting votes to have the so-called gag rule invoked against the filibuster. He claims to have lined up 44.

It requires a two-third vote of the Senate to limit debate, but

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Holdup at Grants Pass Admitted by Prisoner

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Wanted here for the armed robbery of Tracy's Steak House last December 31, Donald Van Buren Myers is being held at Santa Barbara, Calif., for Josephine County authorities, according to a wire received yesterday by Sheriff Lewis from Sheriff Ross of Santa Barbara county.

Sheriff Ross wired that the man had admitted the robbery and had waived extradition.

The robbery, which netted the hold-up man \$337, occurred early on the morning of December 31 while four women employees of the restaurant were cleaning up. With a revolver, the man wearing a white mask over his face, forced his entrance and took the cash from the till, officers here stated.

Drive Started to Halt Deschutes County Gaming

BEND, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—A unified campaign to shut down all forms of gambling in Deschutes county has been launched by city and county law enforcement officers.

Police Chief K. C. Gulick and Sheriff Claude McCauley, at a special meeting with club operators, announced a ban on slot machines, amusement devices with pay-offs, and card-game gambling.

Although the reason was not officially stated, observers said the move followed a report that one player had lost \$3500 at cards in the past eight months.

Federal Appropriation For Umpqua River Flood Control Jobs Asked by Rep. Ellsworth

Congressman Harris Ellsworth is endeavoring to have funds for flood control work on the Umpqua River included in the regular appropriation bill for War Department civil works.

He has been advised by the district office of Army engineers that a comprehensive report on the Umpqua River and its tributaries, taking into consideration all related problems, including flood control, power, fish life, irrigation and other multiple-purpose uses, is to be ready for submission by Oct. 1946. In the meantime, however, an interim report, devoted exclusively to flood control, will be submitted for approval within 30 days. The interim report, it is announced, will consider proposed improvements at Dillard, Sutherlin, Yoncalla, Drain and Beedport.

A preliminary report, compiled in 1940, outlined eight primary

projects calling for expenditure of approximately \$175,700. The project listed included three units providing levee rehabilitation and prevention of erosion, Smith River \$74,200, Gardiner Flats \$23,900, Leeds Island \$11,200. Providence Creek, levee construction, \$5,500; Reedport, concrete walls, dikes, rail and highway changes, \$31,900; Lion Lake, enlarging outlet, \$10,000; Melrose bank protection and channel clearing (removing gravel bar at Conn's Ford) \$17,000; Winston, closure of overflow channel, \$2,000.

Nature of work planned at Sutherlin and Yoncalla has not been reported, but is expected to include channel clearing.



GIVEN UNO POST—Choice of Russia for the job, Trygve Lie, above, Norway's foreign minister, has been elected secretary general of the United Nations organization, at an annual salary of \$25,000. His surname is pronounced "Lee."

Boys Held in Theft Of Explosives From Fort, Navy Vessels

SEATTLE, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Police arrested nine boys, ranging in age from 12 to 16 years, yesterday and Police Capt. George Kimball said the youngsters had stolen "enough explosives to start a war" from Fort Lawton and Navy vessels.

Police officers shuddered when they learned how the boys had tried to get powder from the shells and cartridges by pounding them on a vice using files and wrenches to open some of the ammunition.

The boys told police they climbed a cliff and raided a Fort Lawton ammunition store, and had sneaked aboard Navy vessels.

The loot included mortar shells, anti-tank rockets, hand grenades and parachute flares, Captain Kimball said. Army officials said nearly all the stolen explosives had been accounted for but Kimball said several highly explosive fuses which could be ignited by ordinary hand temperature or an overheated room were still missing.

Officers said the missing pieces may have been destroyed in a fire built by the boys on the beach.

An Army spokesman at Fort Lawton said the explosives were kept in a regulation Army magazine with a padlock door, surrounded by a nine-foot barbed wire fence. A rolling patrol looks the place over every 45 minutes, he said.

Seattle police last night issued a warning to all children and parents to report immediately any child discovered with any of the missing ammunition.

Gov. Snell Still Ponders Dennis Death Sentence

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Governor Snell, still undecided, said he would not have an announcement until late today on whether he would commute the death sentence of Andrew W. Dennis, 45, Portland railroad worker who is scheduled to die in the prison gas chamber at 8:30 A. M. tomorrow.

The governor said he still is working on the case, and that he had to interview some more people this afternoon.

Dennis was convicted of slaying Mrs. Anna Belle McAllen, 52, his mother-in-law, in her Portland apartment on Jan. 29, 1944.

Grants Pass Night Club Badly Damaged by Fire

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Fire of unknown origin badly damaged the \$30,000 Seacub Club early this morning, and had started eating into the Hotel Del Rogue rooms above when the city fire department brought the blaze under control.

The Seacub Club was opened just before New Years by Rex Godding, owner of the Hotel Del Rogue in which it is located, and was probably the most modern night club in Southern Oregon.

Let other nations produce, if they can, an atomic bomb to rival the Anglo-American weapon. They'll still be short of an explosive equal in power to Uncle Sam's super potent fulminator, Harold Ickes.

Fact-Finders, Head of OPA Get Summons

Possible Price Increase Likely; GMC, Electrical Strikes Still Mark Time

(By The Associated Press)

Reports the administration was ready to steno into the steel stalemate again with a new proposal gained impetus today when President Truman summoned the steel fact-finding board and Price Administrator Bowles to the White House.

Plans for terminating the 12-day strike of 750,000 steel workers were reported in the hands of White House advisers, although these proposals were said not to involve seizures, as yet.

The President said yesterday that the administration still was working on possible price increases for steel.

Although Bowles was reported favoring a steel price increase not to exceed of \$2.50 a ton, the U. S. Steel Corporation said it would require a price increase "greatly in excess" of \$6.25 a ton to meet the 181 cents hourly wage increase the union demands.

Other Disputes Mark Time

Meanwhile more than 200,000 workers in 96 General Motors plants marked their 73rd day on strike as a federal mediator in Detroit continued his efforts to effect an agreement between the corporation and leaders of the CIO United Auto Workers Union.

Wages and the maintenance of union membership were the chief issues under discussion.

The country's third major work stoppage involved 200,000 CIO Electrical Workers, who left their jobs on Jan. 15 from plants of General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors—the industry's big three. There are no prospects for early settlement and no conferences are scheduled to discuss the CIO United Electrical Workers Union demand for a \$2 a day wage increase.

Control Bill Passes

The strike control bill as a substitute for fact-finding legislation won almost solid support from House Republicans yesterday and by a vote of 258 to 114 it was to

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B. of L. E. Strike Vote Authorized

CLEVELAND, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Committee chairman of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers today unanimously authorized a strike vote among the organization's 78,000 members.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen already is polling 512,000 members on the question of a strike and expects to have the results compiled about Feb. 10.

Both Alvanley Johnston, grand chief engineer, and A. F. Whitsey, president of the trainmen, have predicted that a strike if called, would paralyze the nation's railroad system. The two brotherhoods, since last July, have been demanding wage increases and changes in working rules from the country's railroads.

Should either organization call a walkout, railway labor legislation provides for the immediate appointment of a presidential fact-finding board to investigate the dispute.

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