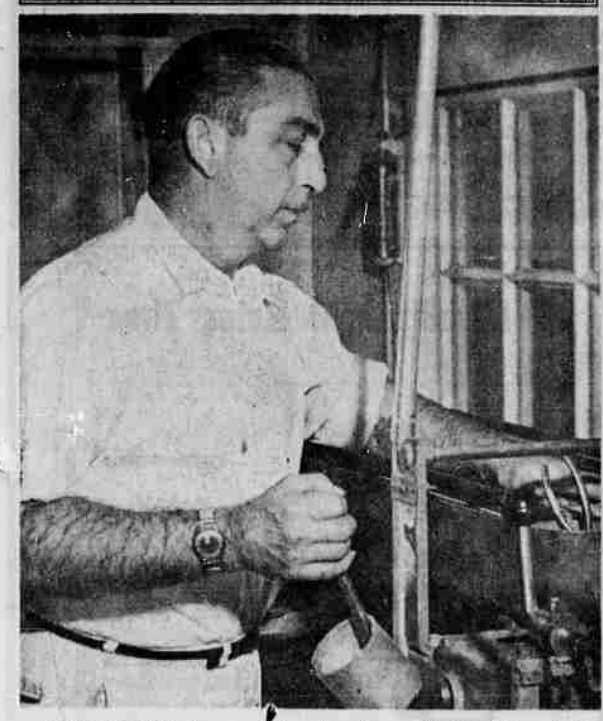


SLAYING OF MOFFITT RELATED BY MOSER

WHO DOES WHAT



GLENN HALL, Eugene baker, has been relieving Glenn Bailey, superintendent at Patterson's bakery, for the past several weeks during Mr. Bailey's absence on sick leave.

Mr. Hall is pictured above at the wrapping machine at Patterson's. He has been a baker for 25 years. "I'd like to stay in Roseburg," he informed me, "but I have been absolutely unable to find a home for my family."

It would be interesting to know just how many people are in this predicament. Roseburg grows out of its clothes mighty fast.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FROM China, we get an interesting personal opinion. A correspondent on the Suchow front reports that morale of nationalist soldiers seems to be oddly higher in the past few days. Trying to explain why, he says that for one thing the wounded are being taken better care of.

Also, he says, the soldiers are being paid in SILVER for the first time since the Japanese war. (The Chinese have confidence in metal money. They feel that it will buy things. They haven't much confidence in paper tokens.)

ALL this could be highly significant, if true. There can be little doubt that the south Chinese could whip the northern Communists if they wanted to. All down through history, it has been amazing what people can do if they WANT to badly enough. (Leonidas and his little band of Greeks at the pass of Thermopylae, for example.)

The trouble in China lately seems to be that the south Chinese have come to the conclusion that Communism couldn't be any worse than what they've had. If Leonidas and his Greeks had felt that way, they wouldn't have stood and died at Thermopylae and the Persians would have won.

MADAME CHIANG is in America again to ask us for help. This time, she traveled in a NATS

(Continued on Page Four)

BUILDING CODE PASSE

Roseburg Needs New One, Wider Streets, Modern Lighting, Slankard Says

By LEROY INMAN

Hopes that the city building code would soon be ready to submit to the City Council for adoption were expressed by City Manager Matt Slankard, who stated at the Kiwanis luncheon Tuesday that Roseburg was the only major city in the state that does not have a new or modernized building, plumbing and electrical code.

Slankard, in a brief talk, followed by a question and answer forum, stated that the budget as set up provides this year for a building inspector at \$3,600, and a car has been secured for his use. There now awaits only the adoption of an adequate building code and the hiring of a full time inspector.

The definite need for a code was cited by Slankard in the fact a local business man has been forced, for the present at least, to abandon his plans to construct a \$50,000 building because of one conflicting detail in the city ordinances under which the city now operates.

Better Lighting Planned

In reference to street lighting, he said plans are now being studied for a complete street lighting program, which would provide fewer lights per block than there are at present, but far stronger lighting.

The new system of mercury lights under consideration will be the most modern possible, produce

The Weather

Increasing cloudiness today, becoming cloudy with rain to night and Thursday.

Sunset today 4:39 p. m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:25 a. m.

Established 1873

Nanking's Peril Mounts; Madame Chiang Seeks Aid

Communists Surge Nearer China Capital

Air Link With Suchow Cut in Attempt to Force Garrison Into Open War

By HAROLD K. MILKS

NANKING, Dec. 1.—(AP)—Two Nationalist army groups were reported today desperately trying to establish a new defense line to save this jittery capital from advancing Chinese Communists.

Diplomats expect to hear from the government—perhaps within 24 hours—that Nanking is no longer safe for them. Despite government denials, it was learned reliably such a warning is being prepared.

These developments came as the government abruptly cut its air link with isolated Suchow, some 200 miles northwest of Nanking, and deployed its forces for a battle to save the nation's capital city.

A new defense line was reported under construction on the southern bank of the Hual River, which approaches the lower Yangtze valley and 100 miles northwest of Nanking.

The line is anchored to Pengpu, on the rail line midway between Nanking and Suchow, and is being manned by the bulk of some 85,000 troops.

Those groups are the last major Nationalist force standing between Communist armies and Nanking.

Red Trap Halts 140,000

The government's 12th army group, of some 140,000 troops, was reported still tightly encircled by seven Red columns about 50 miles south of Suchow, in the Suchow sector.

Three other Red columns were reported massed about 25 miles south of Suchow to block the southward movement of the Suchow garrison. The garrison, of some 250,000 men, was reported abandoning Suchow in an attempt to rescue the trapped 12th army group.

With the Nationalist armies thus separated in three pockets and threatened with destruction by numerically superior Red forces, Nanking circles found little comfort in the preparations being undertaken along the Yangtze River itself.

Gen. Tan Gen-Po has set up a Nanking-Shanghai defense area command headquarters at Wushih, midway between the two cities. He has a total combat force of about 40,000 troops.

The airlift to Suchow was stopped as the garrison troops tardily heeded orders to hurry south to relieve the trapped forces.

Any kind of urgent order to the abandonment of Suchow five days ago.

Because the order was not obeyed promptly, suspension of the airlift was regarded as a move to force the ground troops to get out and fight. And it means that no additional supplies will fall into Communist hands if the Reds march into Suchow.

Pro-Truman Suit In Alabama Thrown Out

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 1.—(AP)—The Alabama Supreme Court today dismissed a petition seeking to force the state to deny electoral support to President Truman.

It was the court's third action in the legal fight started by Gov. James E. Folsom soon after Mr. Truman's victory in the Nov. 2 general election.

The ruling precluded that of Federal District Judge C. D. Kenner who yesterday ordered the governor's suit thrown out of his court for lack of jurisdiction.

Bend Wrangle Results In New Police Chief

BEND, Ore., Dec. 1.—(AP)—Henry A. Casaday, former Lake county sheriff, is now police chief here.

He was sworn in by City Recorder George Simerville, to succeed K. C. Gulick.

His appointment climaxed a month-long wrangle here which resulted in five city commissioners who backed Gulick, being recalled by the voters.

Flaming Plane Crash Kills Private Pilot

SEATTLE, Dec. 1.—(AP)—A private pilot, tentatively identified as Tom H. Wheeler, formerly of Glendale, Calif., was killed when his single-engine plane crashed in the Cascade foothills about five miles northeast of Enumclaw yesterday afternoon.

Witnesses said the plane dove out of a heavy overcast and burst into flames when it hit. It was a BT-15 basic trainer.

The News-Review

ROSEBURG, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1948

Thieves Have Big Day As Passenger Auto Tires Tumble Out of Truck

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 1.—(AP)—Truck driver Joe Starr wondered why other motorists tagged along behind him as he drove from Kansas City to Warrensburg, Mo. Now he knows.

Starr left Kansas City Monday with a truckload of 630 new passenger tires, valued at \$15 to \$18 each. When he stopped for coffee at Warrensburg 50 miles away, the truck's rear doors were open. Approximately 230 tires had tumbled out along the way.

He traced his route but only found two tires in the darkness. Patrol cars searched the highway yesterday and found a few tires. A couple of honest motorists also turned some in. But 200 still were missing last night.

Starr, of St. Louis, was hauling the tires from the Goodyear plant at Topeka, Kas., to a branch depot at Indianapolis.

Officials At Washington None Too Glad

Courtesy Will Be Shown Visitor, but Any Help To China Will Be Limited

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—(AP)—Madame Chiang Kai-shek, first lady of China, arrived today to seek new American backing for China's hard-pressed Nationalist government.

The Chinese first lady was met at the airport by Mrs. George C. Marshall, wife of the Secretary of State.

Ambassador Wellington Koo and other embassy officials also greeted her.

Madame Chiang arrived from San Francisco aboard President Truman's former personal plane, the Sacred Cow.

Top American administration officials were missing. The State Department sent Walter Butterworth, chief of its office of Far Eastern Affairs.

Madame Chiang left immediately with Mrs. Marshall for the Marshall home at nearby Leesburg, Va., without a word to reporters on her unofficial mission or any other subject.

No White House Date

At the White House, presidential press secretary Ross said that Mrs. Chiang was represented at the airport by his air force aide, Col. Robert Landry.

In reply to a question, Ross said he did not know with whom in the government Madame Chiang might confer.

Also in reply to a question, Ross said no engagement for Madame Chiang to see Mr. Truman had been made "up to now."

He added that he did not know whether she had made a request to see the president.

While American officials undoubtedly will show Madame Chiang

Government Asks Larger Food Output

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—(AP)—The government staked more chips on continued prosperity today, asking farmers to produce extra poultry, milk, vegetables, sheep and lambs next year.

Anticipating "continued high consumer demands," the agriculture department announced these 1949 goals:

Poultry—35,100,000 turkeys and 700,000,000 young chickens—a 10 per cent increase. It suggested, however, that this year's estimated total of 425,000,000 laying hens be cut by 20,000,000. That would give each person an average of 370 eggs—instead of 380—during the year, and about four pounds of turkey and 23.5 pounds of chicken.

Milk—A three per cent boost to 120,000,000,000 pounds. The department didn't say what that amounts to per person, but it did give a per-capita figure: Better than the year's record 5,600-pound average.

Vegetables—With acreage increased to 717,850, the department suggested five per cent more lima beans, sweet corn and cucumbers; 7 per cent more snap beans; 15 per cent more sweet potatoes; four per cent more beets and watermelons and two per cent more tomatoes. Goals for peas, peppers, cabbage, cauliflower and spinach will be the same as this year's, but a cut was advised on lettuce, celery, cantaloups, honeydews and onions.

Sheep and Lambs—The addition of at least 2,000,000 to this year's flock of 28,500,000. The department already has

(Continued on page two.)

Price Cuts Preferable To Pay Boosts, Reuther Says

BERKELEY, Calif., Dec. 1.—(AP)—Walter P. Reuther says his CIO United Auto Workers' union would prefer a rollback in prices to a rise in pay.

"I mean it when I say we don't care about dough—but what it will buy," the UAW president said in a talk yesterday at the University of California.

"What we are looking for is a wage that will give us a 1944 standard of living. We don't care how we get it—by a rollback of prices or a wage increase. We would prefer a price rollback, however, because we believe \$10,000, but even so it far exceeds their dreams."

Beck pointed out that "instead of the three or four grasses mentioned 25 years ago, there are now more than 25 varieties." The lowest price grass is "just twice as much" as wheat and can stand the cost of freight shipment to other sections of the country.

Beck praised J. Roland Parker, Douglas County agricultural extension agent, as "one of the best informed men on grasses" and said that he had done a great

(Continued on page two.)

Proper Use Would Boost Douglas Livestock Crop, J. R. Beck of OSC Says

By JEROME SHELTON

Present livestock capacity of Douglas County's pastures can be increased 50 to 100 per cent with intensive use of the present-known grasses, said J. R. Beck, assistant extension director of Oregon State College, in a talk at the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce

Beck told of the advances in agriculture since the first Agricultural Planning Conference 25 years ago. At that time, farmers were producing far more than they could sell and the state's agricultural industry was "distinctly in the doldrums."

Because farmers could not pay the freight charges at the low prices their agricultural produce received, and because they could not compete favorably during growing seasons in other parts of the country, the first Agricultural Planning Conference made several recommendations.

Among them was that to cut out the growing of wheat in Western Oregon and to concentrate on grass seed crops which grow effectively here.

"They thought they saw a million dollar seed industry in Ore-

'Lifer' Names White as His Accomplice

\$30 Booty From Victim Wanted for Poker Game, Witness Says at Trial

Relating a grim story of beating and robbing Willis Moffitt, 80-year-old railroad pensioner, to obtain money with which to start a "poker" game, Elmer Jesse Moser, returned from the penitentiary to testify, took the witness stand here Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning in the murder trial of his alleged accomplice, Francis Stanley White, 42.

Without apparent emotion or noticeable change of expression, Moser, his hair closely cropped and now serving a life term on a second degree murder charge, to which he pleaded guilty, calmly related how, at White's suggestion, they planned to waylay the aged man on his way home that night, because, Moser stated, they thought Moffitt would be "easy to handle."

Moffitt, reportedly Roseburg's oldest native-born resident, was found in the alley near Spring Street, between Fourth and South Pine, the night of Aug. 13, and he died two days later in a Eugene hospital from injuries about the head. White was arrested by Roseburg City Police within three hours after the crime, and Moser was arrested Sunday afternoon, Aug. 15, the date of Moffitt's death.

Booty Was \$30

Moser, 37-year-old father of five children, told his story without hesitancy of meeting White, 15, at town the morning of Aug. 13, discussing as they went to a tavern to how they could raise money for a poker game, and finally deciding to "roll" Moffitt.

Moser continued his tale of waiting around town most of the day, then, while he was in The Spot Tavern, he said he was "given the nod" by White, and together they trailed Moffitt and then beat and robbed him.

The booty, according to Moser's story, was three one-dollar bills which they split after later cashing one of the bills. Moser told of his attempt to wipe blood from his shirt, and of washing his hands in a restroom, where the papers, taken to examine papers, taken to examine

He related going to the river to tear up and throw away the papers, stopping up town for coffee, and then of revisiting the scene of the crime, when Moser told of his attempt to wipe blood from his shirt, and of washing his hands in a restroom, where the papers, taken to examine

At this point Tuesday afternoon Circuit Judge Wimberly recessed the court until 9:30 a. m. Wednesday, when Moser's testimony was resumed. He was cross examined by the attorneys for the defense.

Assault Related

Moser in his testimony confessed to be the one first to strike Moffitt, while White waited behind him, and then, in the alley, he said they both went through the old man's pockets, that he hit Moffitt again when he started to rise, and that "White

(Continued on Page 2)

Robbery of Bank Starts in Dream Ends Behind Bars

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 1.—(AP)—It all began as a \$70,000 dream—then it went kerpunk.

Here's the way it happened: Jack Bowers, a 52-year-old carpenter, dreamed he robbed a bank of \$70,000. The dream put notions of the head of an open-air bank count at the Barnett National Bank and got a key to the night depository.

Then he made a gadget from a hat-stretcher and two boards. Saturday night he set out to make his \$70,000 dream come true.

He unlocked the door to the night depository, slipped the gadget in, and watched from a distance.

A depositor tossed some money bags down the chute, and left. Bowers fished them out. Two other late depositors also plumped in more money bags. Bowers fished them out also. It was that easy.

He left and counted his loot—\$552.96 in cash and about \$800 in checks. Bowers threw the checks into the St. Johns River and went back for another whirl with his gadget.

An excited crowd was milling around the night depository. Someone had discovered the gadget in the chute, so Bowers took off on the double.

A bystander, however, noticed his excitement, and gave him a description to the police, who lost no time in picking him up. Some of the cash was in his pockets and some in a tool chest.

In federal court yesterday, Bowers sorrowfully admitted it all and pleaded guilty to violating the federal bank robbery act.

Federal Judge Dozier Devane will pronounce sentence Friday.

Levy Fact Rant

By L. F. Retenatela

Madame Chiang having landed in Washington, the question now is whether she'll next "land on" the U. S. Treasury.