

MARAGON ON TRIAL IN FIVE PERCENT CASE

Highway Modernizing Calls For \$750 Million, Member Of Interim Committee Advises

Necessary Taxes Would Likely Come From Motorist, Belief Of State Senator P. L. Patterson

Modernizing of Oregon's highways will cost in the neighborhood of \$750 million, State Senator Paul L. Patterson of Washington county, a member of the legislative interim committee, told a public meeting at the courthouse in Roseburg Saturday. Present plans, he said, call for the spending of this amount in the next 15 years to bring the state's roads to a condition that can properly handle modern traffic.

The senator stated that the principal problem in carrying out the program was financing. He believed that the real property taxes had reached a limit and that additional revenues for the 15-year program would have to be raised by taxes on the motoring public. He offered no suggestions as to what specific form these taxes should take.

In closing his talk, Patterson pointed out that the purpose of the present tour the committee is making throughout the state is to listen to suggestions from the public on just how such a program can be carried out. He reminded the public that the committee has no authority to order specific highway construction projects. This power, said Patterson, lies only with the state highway commission. Patterson reminded his listeners that the commission would hold a public meeting in the near future at Roseburg at which time people with specific highway projects would be heard.

Problems Posed
In the discussion period, a complaint was raised against the practice by highway crews of leaving warning signs up over the weekend. It was pointed out that this practice endangers highway safety. The committee acknowledged the complaint.

The problem of log truck operations received a great deal of comment during the discussion period. No specific recommendations were made for solving the damage to highways brought about by log trucks. However, it was suggested that if log trucks would slow down before crossing wood bridges, the underpinnings might last longer. A visibility problem on highway 99, south of Roseburg was brought to the committee's attention. The problem was acknowledged by the committee but no specific measures were proposed as a remedy.

Committee's Task Explained
Ralph T. Moore, state representative from Coos Bay and chairman of the committee, opened the meeting by presenting a brief outline of the committee's history. Moore stated that the first interim committee had been created in 1947 by the state legislature to make a complete and exhaustive study of the transportation facilities of the state. This committee, said Moore, was charged with the responsibility of determining the immediate and future needs and requirements for construction and repairs of public roads throughout the state. The 1947

(Continued on page Two)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce over in Klamath the other day, Hank Semon, Vern Owen and I were grousing about the weather. It's too wet to suit us. That brought us around to the subject of other and wetter times. Hank dug out of his memory a year (1912, he thinks maybe it was) when we had SIX INCHES OF RAIN IN JULY. He says it rained so hard the hay shocks floated off into the low corners of the meadows. (Remember, that was in the Klamath country, which claims to be semi-desert.)

Vern and I couldn't beat that one, so we dropped the subject. We went from there to plowing, with horses, in the old days. Hank had a three-horse team that included one named Old Dan. Old Dan was a smartie. He discovered that when he hung back on the equalizer he could take the load off

(Continued on Page Four)

Time Bomb Tears Airliner On London-To-Paris Journey; Evidence Of Sabotage Seen

LONDON, April 17—(AP)—Who put a time bomb on a London-to-Paris airliner last week—and whom was he trying to kill? In an all-out attempt to answer this question, Scotland Yard began today to dismantle a two-engined British European Airways Viking at Northolt airport.

The Viking limped back to London last Thursday night with its tail assembly almost torn away from Northern France. The stewardess, suffering from a broken arm and shock, was taken to a hospital, the 28 passengers—including a babe in arms—escaped injury.

The line's chief press officer asserted all the evidence pointed to sabotage. He said an explosion apparently occurred in the plane's toilet, next to the little kitchen where the stewardess was preparing food and drinks. The plane staggered home with both sides of the fuselage blown out and the riddled tail assembly hanging by only the top struts and the flooring. The pilot landed it



AGED CANDIDATE — Mrs. Helen Dortch Longstreet, (above), 89-year-old widow of Confederate Gen. James Longstreet, is a candidate for the governorship of Georgia. She wants Gov. Herman Talmadge to be "gallant enough to step out of the race." (AP Wire-photo).

Shooting Story Hoax, Lakeview Minister Admits

LAKEVIEW, April 17—(AP)—That story about the gunshot attack on the pastor of Lakeview's largest church wasn't exactly the gospel truth.

The Rev. Omer Isdo admitted here Saturday that he just made up the story in an attempt to "wake up the community."

"I sort of cracked up," he told District Attorney Robert Welch, police officers and an Associated Press representative.

"I have been under terrific pressure ever since I have been here. Everything I have tried to do in a civic way or in the church has met with opposition. I had no cooperation," he said.

Isdo earlier said he had received a number of threatening letters. Then 1½ weeks ago he announced a carful of men stopped his automobile outside Lakeview, warned him to leave town, and then fired a shot at him.

Actually, he confessed to the police Saturday, he drove out of town by himself with a .22 caliber rifle, hung his coat on a fence and fired three shots at it, then fired through the window of his car.

He came to the office of sheriff Tom Elliott and made his admission after being served with a subpoena to appear before the Lake county grand jury.

Isdo insisted, however, that he had received several threatening letters in past months. Five of them were stolen when his office of the Methodist church was burglarized a few months ago, he said.

EXAMINER SLATED
A drivers license examiner will be on duty at the Roseburg city hall Thursday and Friday this week from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., according to an announcement from the secretary of state's office. Persons wishing licenses or permits to drive are asked to get in touch with the examiner well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure completion of applications.

The Weather
Partly cloudy with scattered showers today. Increasing cloudiness tonight with rain on Tuesday.
Sunset today 6:57 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 5:27 a.m.

Established 1873

ROSEBURG, OREGON—MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1950

Loyalty Board Procedure Has 2nd Approval

Appellate Court Upholds Ouster Of 26 Employees From P. O. Department

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—The U. S. court of appeals today reaffirmed its ruling that government loyalty board procedures are constitutional.

At the same time, in a 2-1 decision, it rejected claims by 26 post office department employees that they were victims of racial and religious discrimination and of decisions based "solely" on guilty by association. The group includes 12 Negroes and eight Jews, from Cleveland, Philadelphia, Detroit, New York City and Plainfield, N. J.

The 26 brought a civil suit in district court here after receiving loyalty board "notices of proposed removal action." The notices said the board had found reasonable grounds for belief that they were disloyal to the United States.

They were in various stages of the investigative procedure when they sued. Some had had hearings, and some had been suspended, and some had not reached either stage.

District Judge Alexander Holtz dismissed their petition in the lower court and specifically upheld constitutionality of the procedure. They appealed from that ruling.

Justice Prettyman, writing the appellate court's majority opinion, held that most of the constitutional ground had been covered in previous rulings upholding the loyalty board procedures.

Procedural Not Evidenced
The only new matters, he said, are the racial, religious and guilt by association questions.

The justice said that government affidavits filed in the case "demonstrated that neither the race nor the religion of the employee enters into the proceedings."

Justice Edgerton dissented, without writing an opinion, but citing his arguments in disagreeing on other loyalty board cases. He referred especially to his dissent from a court of appeals ruling which upheld the discharge of Dorothy Bailey, 38,000-a-year employee of the federal security agency.

The Bailey case is already on the way to the supreme court for a final ruling and the postal workers' case will follow it, lawyers said.

Husband Jailed As Wife Slayer

TILLAMOOK, April 17—(AP)—A 46-year-old farm wife was slain near here Saturday night, and only a lucky break prevented another killing, Sheriff Allen Birch said.

Birch said police chanced across the woman's estranged husband as he was enroute into Tillamook to shoot another man. After a short chase, police arrested Jess Malone, 47, a .22 caliber pistol was taken from him.

The sheriff said Malone's wife, Bytha, 46, was shot to death with a .22 caliber pistol 45 minutes earlier.

A neighbor reported seeing Malone leave the place, six miles southeast of here. Police sighted Malone as they left town, swung around and caught him in the heart of the city.

Birch said Malone admitted he was heading to the grocery store of Raymond Eastwood, intending to kill Eastwood. The grocer earlier had signed a complaint accusing Malone of being in possession of stolen property.

Malone was booked on a first-degree murder charge.

Navy Bomber's Crash Kills All 4 Occupants

SPOKANE, April 17—(AP)—The crash of a navy torpedo bomber that killed four men Saturday was under investigation today by naval officers.

The plane crashed from a low altitude into a timbered area near Geiger municipal field as it came in for a landing. The pilot and three crew members were found dead in the wreckage.

The dead were identified by Commander W. C. Grover as: Lt. Duane K. Johnson, 34; James F. Upchurch, 37, chief aviation mechanic; Lewis J. Knezevich, 21, aviation ordnanceman; and Donald W. Westervelt, 25, aviation mechanic. All were from Spokane and members of the naval reserve.

The News-Review

ROSEBURG, OREGON—MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1950



"A SILLY KID"—Air Force Corporal Gustav A. Mueller, 19, of St. Paul, Minn., described by his attorney as "just a silly kid playing games," was convicted of attempted espionage and sentenced to five years in prison by a court martial in Garmisch, Germany. Mueller admitted he offered to act as a spy for Russia, but he said he did so only because he wanted to trap the "Russian spies" and turn them over to his commanding officer. (NEA telephoto)...

Phony German Cops Held For American Trial

BERLIN, April 17—(AP)—Eight members of the east German "people's police"—branded by the prosecution as Soviet-sponsored army—were held for trial today by an American court here.

The policemen were arraigned on a charge of illegal possession of weapons while traversing the U. S. sector of Berlin. Originally a capital offense, this now carries a maximum penalty of 99 years.

However, the U. S. District Attorney, Irvin Robbins of Chicago, asserted he would make his case "an indictment" of Russian and German Communist policies in Eastern Germany—specifically the formation of military groups in violation of four-power statutes.

"I am going to prove," Robbins asserted, "that these youths are not police but soldiers, that they live in camps and that they get infantry training with weapons subscribed to by all four occupying powers."

The eight policemen, ranging in age from 18 to 23, were arrested last week by west Berlin police while traveling from Magdeburg in the Soviet zone to the Russian sector of Berlin. They were wearing pistols for side arms and carrying such outlawed weapons as machine pistols and an automatic storm rifle.

Three Ordinances Get Council Action Tonight

Third and final readings of three special ordinances will be given tonight at the regular meeting of the Roseburg city council at 7:30 in the council chambers.

Up for final readings are ordinances calling for a budget election and one calling for an election on the airport bond issue. The third reading of the daylight saving time ordinance will also be heard.

Other matters on the agenda are reports from the police committee, street committee, city manager and a revised engineer's estimate on the West Roseburg sewer.

One Angler Drowns, 2nd Dies Of Heart Attack

PORTLAND, April 17—(AP)—One fisherman lost his life on the first day of the new trout fishing season near here Saturday.

A boat overturned in the Columbia river below Bonneville dam, and the swift current carried Lee Talley, about 24, Portland, to his death.

Another occupant of the boat, Martin W. D'Volve, 30, also Portland, survived by grabbing the edge of the boat and holding on until two other fishermen rescued him.

Another fisherman collapsed and died with a heart attack near Elk city in the coast range Saturday. He was Arnold Meyer, 64, Salem, who was fishing with his son, Arnold Meyer Jr.

The plane was one of several taking part in training exercises.

Gas Bill Veto Acclaimed By Truman Bloc

Attempt To Override Held Improbable In View Of Close Vote On Measure

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—An applauding wing of his party prepared a champion-of-the-people campaign role for President Truman today on the strength of his veto of the Kerr natural gas bill.

Mr. Truman killed the bill Saturday in an action critics labeled as "purely political" and supporters said was "sound and timely."

The measure would have prevented the federal power commission from regulating the sales of natural gas by so-called independents, who produce 80 percent of the product but don't operate pipelines.

Congress approved the bill despite charges by opponents that it would pave the way for an increase in the price of gas to consumers. While its proponents denied this vigorously, Mr. Truman made clear that was on his mind when he sent the bill back to Congress labeled "not in the public interest."

Unless the independents are subject to federal regulation, the President said, "there is a clear possibility that competition will not be effective, at least in some cases, in holding prices to reasonable levels."

Kerr Says Truman Erred
Said Senator Kerr (D-Okla.), one of the bill's authors:

"The President has made a mistake. Time will prove that the consuming areas which need abundant supplies of natural gas will receive less gas and at higher prices than if the bill had been approved."

Talking to reporters later, Kerr dismissed any idea that supporters might try to override the veto. However, he protested quickly when one newsman suggested that this apparently kills the bill for this session.

"I didn't say that," Kerr said. "I only say that I haven't any plans yet as to just what I should do. He added:

"This is only a skirmish." Mr. Truman was reported to have faced one of the toughest political decisions in his career in vetoing the measure.

Besides Kerr, arrayed in favor of the bill were such staunch supporters of the President as House Speaker Rayburn and Senator Connally, both Democrats from gas-producing Texas.

In view of the close votes in Congress on the bill, some backers said flatly there was no use trying to override the veto—an action that would require approval by two-thirds of those voting in both houses.

Chinese Reds Gain Toehold On Hainan Island

TAIPEI, Formosa, April 17—(AP)—A Communist invasion force gained a precarious toehold on the north coast of Hainan island today after suffering heavy losses at sea, official Chinese Nationalist dispatches reported tonight.

Most of the invaders were killed, but up to a late hour tonight fighting was still in progress west of the island capital of Hoihow, the dispatches stated.

The Reds were said to be under heavy attack by Nationalist warplanes and ground forces.

The Reds attempted the 10-mile overwater crossing from the mainland last night in more than 200 junks, the accounts said.

More than half of these were declared to have been sunk during the night by Nationalist warships, but some succeeded in landing on the island this morning.

The Communists have made a half-dozen previous small attempts to invade Hainan, but have failed each time. They have vowed to take the Nationalist stronghold this year, and all reports have depicted them as preparing for a major effort. Mention of 200 junks suggests that the current attempt might be the start of the big push, but details were lacking.

THREE DIE IN CRASH
WASHINGTON, Pa., April 17—(AP)—Three young men were killed yesterday as their small cabin airplane crashed and burned near the Washington county airport.

The victims were identified as Richard Spencer, about 30, a glassworker and part time instructor at the tri-state aviation school; Leroy Couts, 24, a student pilot; and Harland Robinson, also about 24. All lived in Washington.

'RESTRAINT LACKING' Russia Chided By U. S. In Note On Baltic Affair

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—The United States chided Russia today for lack of "calmness and restraint" in dealing with the alleged clash of American and Soviet planes in the Baltic area.

The criticism was in a formal announcement that the U. S. will delay its reply to Moscow's note until all possible information about the incident can be collected and "the true facts determined by calm and thorough appraisal."

"This government believes that this careful approach is the only proper one in an important and delicate matter of international relations and regrets that the Soviet government has failed to show equal calmness and restraint."

Decision On Rail Strike Deferred

CHICAGO, April 17—(AP)—The threatened strike of 110,000 locomotive firemen and engineers still hangs heavy over the nation's railroads.

The union, demanding a third crew member on multiple-unit diesel engines, called in more of its officers for further executive committee talks today on strike action.

A spokesman said at the conclusion of yesterday's session that the committee has been considering whether the walkout, if called, should be against all railroads or only those using the largest number of diesel locomotives.

The union, having exhausted all legal mediation requirements, is at liberty to call a strike at any time. If the union members should walk out, they might have similar support from the 30,000 members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who also have fought for a third crew member.

In both cases, presidential fact-finding boards have supported the railroads' contention that the additional man is not needed.

The unions insist the third man is necessary for safe operation of trains, but the carriers called the demands an attempt at "featherbedding" and said that all necessary factors for safety have become standard equipment on diesel engines.

School Election Being Held Today

All registered voters residing in Roseburg school district 4 will be eligible to vote today on the special "permissive" election called by the city school board.

The polls will be open from 2-3 p.m. today and are located in the junior high school building. Voters will be asked to grant the board permission to change plans for expenditure of capital funds, originally authorized for additions on the present senior high school building.

The board proposes to use the money now on hand to erect a new elementary building and to use the present Fullerton school as a part of a campus-type high school.

Georgia's County Unit Election System Upheld

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—Georgia's hotly disputed county unit election system weathered a supreme court test today.

The tribunal affirmed a lower court decision which had the effect of upholding the legality of the Georgia system.

The supreme court's action was announced in an unsigned opinion. The vote was 7-2.

Justice Douglas wrote a dissenting opinion with Justice Black concurring.

Critics of the system call it a unique protector of rural political power in Georgia and an important factor in the entrenched forces of Gov. Herman Talmadge.

Two Georgia voters asked the supreme court to invalidate the system before the state Democratic primary is held on June 28.

Collision Of Cars Near Newberg Kills Woman

NEWBERG, Ore., April 17—(AP)—Two automobiles collided at the brink of a hill on a rural road near here yesterday, killing Mrs. Maude C. Jones, 70, Route 1, Newberg.

Her husband, Amos George Jones, 67, was hospitalized here. Attendents said his injuries did not appear critical.

The driver of the other car, Maurice H. Elde, 17, also of Route 1, Newberg, escaped injury. The crash came on Spring Brook road, a half-mile off highway 219.



ON TRIAL — John Maragon, above, Greek immigrant, mystery man and former White House frequenter, went on trial in Washington today on four charges of lying to a Senate committee about his employment and income. Maragon was a key figure in last year's inquiry into capital "five per centers," or influence salesmen.

Truman Plans Hit By Votes Of Committee

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—Two of President Truman's 21 government reorganization plans were threatened today by adverse votes in the Senate expenditures committee.

By margins of more than 2 to 1, the committee adopted resolutions of disapproval toward:

1. A plan to end the independent authority of the general counsel of the National Labor Relations board, vesting the power instead in the five-member board itself.

2. Reorganization of the Treasury department, which among other things would put the controller of the currency directly under the secretary of the treasury.

The disapproval resolutions now go to the Senate. If 49 senators support the resolutions, those plans are dead. Each of the 21 reorganization plans takes effect unless one house or the other disapprove them by May 24.

The action amounted to another setback for Mr. Truman in his long skirmishing with Senator Taft over the country's labor laws and their administration. Taft introduced the resolution to disapprove the NLRB plan.

On NLRB, Mr. Truman's plan would end the independent powers now held by the NLRB counsel, Robert Denham. Republicans have assailed the proposal as an attempt to repeal by indirect action a part of the Taft-Hartley law. The T-H law gave Denham's office its powers independent of the NLRB itself.

On the treasury, one of the main criticisms of Mr. Truman's plans is that it would put the controller of the currency directly under the secretary of the treasury. The comptroller supervises banks.

Mayor Survives Recall; Nine Quit

SPRINGFIELD, April 17—(AP)—This town, whose mayor survived a recall test last Friday, was somewhat shy of officials today.

Nine city employees—including the city recorder and the police chief—presented their resignations Saturday. All had been supporters of City Manager Fred Cheatham, who was fired last week.

City Recorder Kenneth Gile and some others remained on temporarily. But Police Chief Clell Pryor and four of his officers made their resignations effective this morning.

Only a force of seven policemen, including a new man hired yesterday, was left in Springfield.

And the city needs a new police chief, new recorder, and new city manager.

The people who announced their resignations Saturday gave various reasons. The city recorder said he thought it advisable for him to leave. The police chief said he no longer saw a future here.

Petty Theft Charge Faced By An Heiress

LOS ANGELES, April 17—(AP)—Heiress Mary Catherine Reardon Gucci, 18, who once figured in a sensational case involving the slaying of her father, is in jail charged with stealing a dress from a department store.

She was arraigned yesterday on a petty theft charge.

She will not inherit the \$100,000 trust fund left her by her father until she is 21. Meantime she and her husband, Gabriel Gucci, 19, she said, are jobless and broke.

Four years ago Mrs. Gucci was acquitted by a juvenile court jury in St. Louis on a charge of delinquency by reason of murder. Her father, J. Vincent Reardon, was shot to death. The girl blamed the slaying on a boy friend, killed when the car her father was driven in plunged over an embankment.

Ex-Bootblack Faces Charge Of Perjury

Lied At Senate Probe Of Connection With Federal Deals, Government Says

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—John Maragon, who used to run in and out of the White House as a friend of Presidential Aide Harry Vaughan, went on trial today on charges of lying to a senate investigating committee.

The process of picking a jury got under way in the court of U. S. District Judge Jennings Bailey.

The 35-year-old Maragon was flanked by three lawyers. He had nothing to say to reporters about what he has been doing the last few months while he has been on bail.

A grand jury accused Maragon last January of lying four times about business connections and financial affairs. Maragon was witness at the senate inquiry into activities of five preachers—men who represent others in dealings with the government for a cut that usually amounts to five per cent.

The talkative little Greek-American, who used to shine shoes in Kansas City and then became a man about town in Washington, has pleaded not guilty. If convicted, he could be jailed for two to ten years on each count of the indictment—a maximum of 40.

Own Words Snare Him
It was last July 28 that Maragon gave the senate investigating committee the testimony—behind closed doors—that now has him in trouble. L. A. on he appeared at a public hearing and refused to answer question after question on grounds he might incriminate himself.

But in the interval, other witnesses had told stories that varied widely from Maragon's account of personal affairs and business dealings with the government.

It developed, among other things, that Vaughan had been given seven deep freezers for himself and friends by the Albert Verley perfume company of Chicago, which had Maragon on the payroll.

The investigators rebuked Vaughan later in a report. President Truman stood by his military aide and kept him on the job.

The defense isn't tipping its hand yet as to what line it will take. The lawyer Maragon had last summer protested that his client had not been informed by the senate investigators of his rights to refuse to give testimony that might incriminate him.

Cop Breaks Free Of Bonds, Saves Girl From Negro

NEW YORK, April 17—(AP)—A young policeman saved his girl friend and himself from an abductor early yesterday by breaking free of his clothes-line bonds and shooting the assailant to death.

Patrolman Anton Stayduhar, 27, off-duty and dressed in plain clothes, was sitting in his car at 4:30 a.m., talking to Miss Ann Sandles, 21, in front of her home.

The car door was jerked open and a Negro gunman shoved a pistol in Stayduhar's face saying it was a stickup.

He tied the policeman's wrists with clothes line and made him get in the back seat.

Then, according to Stayduhar, he took a long look at Miss Sandles, slid into the front seat beside her and said:

"I want you, baby." He started the car as the girl shrieked away from him.

The car had gone hardly four blocks, however, before Stayduhar wriggled free and went for the gun in his shoulder holster.

"When I got the gun out, I put it back of him," Stayduhar told his superiors.

He spotted it and threw his hands up. I did not know whether he had a gun in his hand or not.

"Then I fired." The abductor slumped on his side, dead. The car bumped against a pole. Neither Miss Sandles nor Stayduhar was hurt.

Police identified the dead man as Artus Davis, 23, of Brooklyn, and said he had a record as a wayward minor and policy game runner.

Auto Accident Near Yoncalla Injures Two

Two Cottage Grove persons were hospitalized late Saturday night as the result of an automobile accident on Highway 99 near Yoncalla.

State police said the injured were William A. Whitted and his 17-year-old passenger, Virginia Lee George.

Miss George suffered severe facial lacerations, requiring 32 stitches, according to Mercy Hospital spokesmen. They said Whitted was hospitalized with a fractured leg.

State police said the Whitted vehicle struck the rear of a parked car registered to Harry Warren Carpenter of Drain. Carpenter said he was attempting to repair his lights at the time of the accident. He was not injured.

Levy Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Father, dear father, come home with me now,
It isn't your day for good luck;<