

The News-Review

Established 1873 ROSEBURG, OREGON—SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1951 ★ ★ 95-31

Collision Of Tankers Claims Lives Of 17 Seamen, 22 Presumed Lost

Gulf Mexico Crash Called Top Since '43

Esso Greensboro's Crew Suffers Greatest Loss; Second Ship Loses One

NEW ORLEANS — (AP) — Seventeen seamen were known dead and 22 others were missing and presumed dead today in the collision of two tankers that set both ablaze in the Gulf of Mexico 200 miles south of Mexican City, La.

Marine records indicate it is the greatest disaster off the U. S. coast since 84 lives were lost in the collision of an American tanker and freighter off the Atlantic coast on June 6, 1943.

In yesterday's pre-dawn collision during heavy fog, a 10,000-ton Esso Greensboro and the 26,500-ton super tanker Esso Suez crashed, exploded and burst into flames.

Only one man among the 44 man crew of the Esso Suez was killed in the collision but another, unidentified, died of burns. There were other men on the Suez who were burned.

16 Bodies Recovered
All the other dead were aboard the flaming Greensboro, carrying 42 men. The bodies of fifteen men from the Greensboro were recovered and five survivors from the Greensboro were picked up.

Four of these nine—two from the Greensboro and two from the Suez—were flown to Corpus Christi, Tex., for medical attention.

Storekeeper Leroy E. Fay, of Baltimore, Md., a survivor from the Greensboro, said he was lying on his bunk when the ship "exploded."

He was severely burned when flames roared through the port hole.

"The passageways filled with men trying to get out," Fay said. "You should have heard all those guys screaming and hollering for help. Everybody tried to run topside. Quick as they did, they were burned alive."

"I opened a hatch and flames blew back in my face. There was a kid there got burned standing by me. He was 'oing to marry a Baltimore girl. Another man opened a door and was burned alive where he stood."

This morning two coast guard planes, two navy planes, two coast guard cutters and the Esso Burlington searched the disaster area for any bodies that might still be recovered, or possible survivors not already picked up.

Ship Taken In Tow
Crewmen from the 10,000 ton tanker Virginia, one of a dozen ships that went to the scene boarded the Greensboro late last night, the coast guard said, and put out the flames and took the disabled ship in tow.

The Virginia, owned by the National Bulk Carrier Co., of New York, claimed the tanker for salvage. She was towing the ship to Galveston.

The Virginia reported this morning 10 bodies were found aboard the Greensboro.

The coast guard received the first SOS from the Suez at 5:29 a.m. (EST) Friday. The message read: "Struck tanker and apparently all hands are lost."

The Esso Burlington, another of the ships that went to the scene, picked up three charred bodies. The Burlington reported last night that additional bodies were seen in the water, but darkness prevented further recoveries. Planes joined in a search of the area early today.

Among the bodies recovered was that of electrician Michael Wajda of Highland Park, N. J. It reported it was the only fatality reported aboard the Esso Suez was first mate Walter Brehm of Lyndhurst, N. J. The ship's crew put out the fire, and she proceeded under her own power. Esso officials said they had ordered her to Mobile because the New Orleans drydock facilities could not take the big tanker.

TRAIL BLAZER
SYDNEY, Australia—(AP)—Capt. P. G. Taylor landed his flying boat, Frigate Bird II at Rose Bay base here early today, winding up his trail blazing trip across the Pacific from Sydney to Valparaiso, Chile, and back.

Taylor made the flight to map a trans-Pacific route for future commercial airline traffic.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein
Four days in a row the forecast was "rain"; The weather man came a sad cropper; Perhaps Jupiter's bracing To give us a posting When everyone dons a straw topper.

Eleven Pups Born To Caught Coyote

C. E. Puckett's trapline on Honey creek yielded an unexpected windfall.

A visit to the traps revealed a female coyote had given birth to 11 pups after being caught. She previously had lost one leg, apparently from a trap. Puckett collected bounty in the sum of \$3 each for the pups and \$9 for the adult.

The bounty check is welcome as he is leaving to visit in Montana while recuperating from an accident suffered about three weeks ago.

He was seriously injured when a falling limb struck his head while he was working in the woods at Honey creek. He spent two weeks in the hospital.

New City Hall Forum Topic

A new city hall for Roseburg will be considered by four speakers at the chamber of commerce forum luncheon Monday noon at the Hotel Umpqua.

Speakers on the program, each to be allotted five minutes, will include George Luoma, chamber president, Mayor Alfred G. Fiegel, Fred Lockwood, chairman of the planning commission, and Fire Chief William E. Mills.

Al McBee, forum committee chairman, stated that this program is scheduled at the request of the civic affairs committee to provide the chamber membership and other Roseburg citizens an opportunity to learn how urgently this city needs an adequate building.

Following the presentation of the speakers, a 10 minute period will be provided for questions and answers.

The meeting is scheduled as a prelude to Tuesday's election in which voters will be asked to vote upon two issues—a \$370,000 bond issue for erecting and equipping a new city hall and a city budget amount of \$100,528.10 in excess of the six percent limitation.

The election will take place between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., with the Douglas county courthouse, junior high school, Roseburg hotel and city hall as polling places for wards 1 to 4, respectively.

The speakers at Monday's meeting will discuss not only the need for the new city hall, but will point out other phases of pertinent city finances. The bond issue, if approved, would cost the taxpayers approximately two million, or \$2 per \$1000 of assessed valuation over a 20-year period. The amount would be proportionately lowered with increased assessed valuation.

Proposed sites for the new building and the types of building that could be erected will be discussed. The sites usually considered are the present city hall location at Main and Oak streets and the city library property.

Police Vacancies Exist; Applicants Being Sought
Police Chief Calvin Baird said today he is taking applications for both the city police and for the civil defense police reserves.

Two vacancies exist in the regular force, said Baird. One of the vacancies was occasioned when Robert Phillips recently accepted a position with the state police.

Applicants for both the regular force or reserves should be 35 years or older, but this age limit will be waived under certain conditions, said the chief.

A considerable number of civil defense reserve police are needed. It is very necessary under this program to have an adequate reserve force to be called during an emergency, said Chief Baird.

Floods Ravage Midwest, Pose Serious Threat

3,000 Evacuees Flee Swollen Mississippi In Stricken Lowlands

The mighty Mississippi, on a spring rampage in the upper valley area, today threatened serious floods to river towns in three mid-west states.

"Old man river," fed by rains and heavy runoff, spilled over midwest lowlands and forced thousands to flee their homes. The Red Cross estimated nearly 3,000 persons have been evacuated in the flood-stricken area.

Other hundreds were threatened with evacuation over the weekend or early next week.

A state of emergency has been declared in some Iowa communities as the big stream's crest inched to near record levels.

Feverish Activity
There was feverish activity in some of the cities along the river southward from Wisconsin in Iowa and Illinois. Levees were being strengthened. Bulldozers were put into operation in building earthen dikes.

The Red Cross, national guard and civil defense agencies joined in caring for flood victims and preparing to combat what might be the highest floodwaters in years.

Cooler weather, with showers, was predicted for most of the flood-stricken area today.

There appeared no immediate danger of serious flooding in the lower Mississippi valley below Cairo, Ill.

Two national guard units were sent to Muscatine, Ia., after a state of emergency was declared for the city of 20,000 which is in danger of serious flooding.

From 500 to 600 residents in south Muscatine were urged by Sheriff Charles Anson to evacuate or be ready to leave their homes on an hour's notice. The sheriff said the homes, in a mixed industrial and residential section, were endangered by seepage or a possible levee break further downstream.

Iowa Communities Hit
The Red Cross said about 300 families have been evacuated from lowland homes in the Dubuque, Ia., area, where the Mississippi reached a record level of above 22 feet. The record was 23.7 feet in 1886.

Most railroad yards in Dubuque were under water. Although rail traffic still was moving it was feared all trains will be halted before the expected crest of 23.5 feet is reached, probably Sunday.

In East Dubuque, Ill., some 400 families have been removed from their homes.

About 600 persons have been forced to leave their homes in Prairie Du Chien, Wis., where a third of the city of 5,000 is under water. The river was expected to crest today at 21.4 feet, 3.4 feet above flood stage.

Two Automobiles, Truck Are Involved In Accident

Two cars and a truck and trailer were involved in an accident five miles north of Roseburg yesterday afternoon.

Estelle Edith Parker, Medford, who was cited for allegedly violating the basic rule, attempted to pass a Los Angeles-Seattle truck, struck loose gravel and hit the trailer of the truck, state police reported.

The car went out of control, collided with a 1949 Nash driven by Alice V. Benz, Oakland, and overturned four times, police said. There were no injuries.

Truman Creates New Wage Board

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman today created a new 18-member wage stabilization board with power to recommend settlement of a wide variety of labor management disputes affecting the defense program.

The members are expected to be named in a few days. George W. Taylor, a university of Pennsylvania professor of industry, has already agreed to serve as chairman and the board is organized.

The new public will comprise six members each from industry labor and the public. It will replace a smaller board which broke up two months ago when organized labor withdrew from all defense agencies, charging big business was running the show.

The executive order today follows the recommendation of the national advisory board of mobilization policy. This board has voted for the new agency in a 12 to four decision, with industry members dissenting. Management wants the board restricted to consideration of strictly economic disputes such as those over pay.

County Buys New Park Site Near Rivers

Land Located At Forks Of Umpqua; 3.31-Acre Tract Called 'Singleton'

Douglas county has purchased a new public park.

It is the newly designated Singleton park, located at the forks of the Umpqua river. A warranty deed conveying the 3.31 acres to the county was presented Friday by the former owners, George L. and Dena D. Singleton.

The site is a triangular piece of land where the north and south forks of the Umpqua river meet. It is located about 10 miles from Roseburg at the end of the Curry estate road. It fronts approximately 600 feet on the south river and 400 feet on the north fork.

Popular Picnic Spot
Mr. and Mrs. Singleton bought and improved the property several years ago. Their summer home recently was destroyed by fire and the site was offered to the county parks department for recreational use.

Prior to purchase by the Singleton, the site was one of the popular picnic spots of the community. It was used especially for group and class outings. Excellent boat moorage is provided along the west bank in the South Umpqua.

County Parks Superintendent Charles Collins reports the grounds will not be opened to the public for a week or 10 days, as the former owner is removing some personal property.

Improvements Planned
Included in the sale, are a pump and water system, yard lights, fencing and electric wiring. Further improvements are contemplated during the summer months.

Collins said that the parks department expects to install tables and cooking facilities, together with road improvements, construction of parking areas, and tree and shrub plantings.

(Picture on Page 9)

Detroit Transfer Workers Strike

DETROIT — (AP) — Detroit's transit workers went on strike today, threatening a citywide tie-up of all municipal transportation.

The AFL's street car and bus operators union climaxed a wage dispute with the city in a surprise walkout starting at 4 a.m. (EST).

Night crews struck 10,000 drivers were called off the streets and buses and street cars rolled into the big barns.

The immediate effect on defense-producing Detroit, the fifth largest city with 1,600,000 population, was not clear.

Ordinarily, Saturday is a non-working day in the auto plants. However, there has been an increasing amount of extra work in view of a rising volume of defense orders.

Both AFL and CIO men work in the city's transit system. The CIO union has jurisdiction over maintenance workers.

One CIO source, however, indicated that this union would stay out with the AFL.

The bus and street car drivers voted Tuesday to authorize a strike by a reported 4 to 1 margin.

First O.K. Given To Up Douglas Judge's Salary

SALEM — (AP) — A bill to increase the annual salary of the Douglas county district court judge from \$5,000 to \$5,700 was passed by the Senate and sent to the House.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.

SALEM — (AP) — The weekly newspaper Akhbar El Yom said today 17-year-old Nairram Sadek, King Farouk's fiance, will make her appearance as queen of Egypt of Abdin palace on the afternoon of May 6.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.

Senator Raps Issue Hiding

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senator Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) accused the administration today of "smoke-screening" the issue of whether the high command ever shared Gen. Douglas MacArthur's military views on the Korean war.

Senator Long (D-La.) replied that MacArthur had "lost one gamble" when the Chinese Communists entered the war and President Truman was only preventing the deposed Pacific commander from "taking the final gamble that Russia would not come in if we bomb China."

Hickenlooper is a senate foreign relations committee member. Long is a member of the armed services group. The two committees will sit together for an investigation late this month of Far Eastern military and diplomatic policies.

Their differences were characteristic of a congressional split so deep it erupted into a bustle yesterday between three of four senators recording a radio debate on the issues MacArthur's firing has raised.

The three contestants—Senators Humphrey (D-Minn) and Lehman (D-N.Y.) on one side and Senator Capehart (R-Ind) on the other—couldn't agree on exactly what happened. Everyone's tempers and clothing were ruffled considerably. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) acted as peacemaker.

MacArthur Rests As Tumult From Greatest Ovation Ends

NEW YORK — (AP) — The tumult of history's greatest ovation at an end, Gen. Douglas MacArthur rested today, leafing through a stack of invitations from all over America.

There are other cities for the five-star general to conquer if he wishes—Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, to name the larger ones.

But none can pay him greater tribute than he got here yesterday when 7,500,000 persons sent thunderous cheers echoing to the masonry peaks of this skyscraper wonderland.

MacArthur's immediate plans were not made public. He, his wife and 13-year-old son were secluded on the 37th floor of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

However, he tentatively plans to visit Chicago next week.

If he goes there, he has been asked to stop at suburban Maywood, Ill., where a memorial immortalizes 100 tankmen who died in the World War II defense of Bataan.

MacArthur also is committed to visiting his wife's home at Murfreesboro, Tenn. But no date for that trip has been announced.

MacArthur is expected back in Washington late in the month to testify before a congressional inquiry into far eastern military and foreign policy.

'Shall Never Forget'
His sharp split with President Truman over far eastern policies cost him his Pacific command and touched off a bitter debate that may last until the 1952 elections.

"We shall never forget it," MacArthur said yesterday of the historic welcome paid him by New York's millions.

The general emerged from the Waldorf-Astoria shortly after 11 a.m. (EST), buttoned to the neck in his familiar trenchcoat and with his famed gold-braided hat on his head.

From that instant, all New York went wild in a tumultuous carnival of joy that lasted unbroken for four hours.

There never was anything like it before as massed humanity shouted, wept and waved the general along his 15-mile parade route.

On scrubbed, sedate Park avenue, through central park, down the teeming expanse of Sixth avenue, through a packed and roaring Times Square, past the east side docks where ships raised a deep-throated whistle of acclaim, up the financial canyons of lower Broadway and between the rows of smart Fifth avenue shops—every turn of the motorcade's wheels brought MacArthur fresh homage.

Ticker tape by the tons swirled down on MacArthur and his party, and went twinkling off across the city in the brightest of springtime April suns.

It was the greatest of all the ticker-tape parades that for generations have been a trademark of New York's hero welcomes. The police estimate of the crowd made it nearly twice as large as the 4,000,000 spectators who turned out for Charles A. Lindbergh in 1927 and again for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1945.

"This is the greatest city in the world," said MacArthur in frank amazement at the spectacle of thousands before city hall.

Admiral Halsey Reported In Good Condition Today

NEW YORK — (AP) — Admiral William F. Halsey (retired), reported in good condition at Roosevelt hospital today.

Senator Raps Issue Hiding

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senator Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) accused the administration today of "smoke-screening" the issue of whether the high command ever shared Gen. Douglas MacArthur's military views on the Korean war.

Senator Long (D-La.) replied that MacArthur had "lost one gamble" when the Chinese Communists entered the war and President Truman was only preventing the deposed Pacific commander from "taking the final gamble that Russia would not come in if we bomb China."

Hickenlooper is a senate foreign relations committee member. Long is a member of the armed services group. The two committees will sit together for an investigation late this month of Far Eastern military and diplomatic policies.

Their differences were characteristic of a congressional split so deep it erupted into a bustle yesterday between three of four senators recording a radio debate on the issues MacArthur's firing has raised.

The three contestants—Senators Humphrey (D-Minn) and Lehman (D-N.Y.) on one side and Senator Capehart (R-Ind) on the other—couldn't agree on exactly what happened. Everyone's tempers and clothing were ruffled considerably. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) acted as peacemaker.

Martin Brothers Meets With Union But No Settlement

Employees of the Martin Brothers Box company, Oakland, will not be returning to work for at least another week.

The Martin Brothers Co., which employs approximately 500 men, met with union representatives Friday, but nothing was settled. Federal conciliator I. Pickett, Portland, conferred with both union and management Friday afternoon.

Friday, April 27, is the date set for the next meeting.

Martin Brothers has announced they will not acknowledge the following union demands:

1. The right of the union business agent, or an accredited union representative to have access to the plant.

2. The demand that new employees be approved by the company and the union.

3. The right of either party, under grievance procedure, to do as it should choose in the event a grievance could not be settled immediately.

4. Prevention of maintenance and repair crews from working on Sunday.

Company officials said they would consider a counter proposal on the controversial hours of work agreement. The company is maintaining its right to employ a relief shift.

Youth Suffers Injury When Rifle Backfires

John Hill, Roseburg high school student, suffered an injury to his right hand, when the bolt flew out of the .22 rifle he was firing Thursday night.

Hill suffered the loss of one finger and parts of three other fingers in the mishap. He is now at Douglas community hospital, where his condition is reported good.

According to a report on the accident, young Hill had taken the powder from a shot gun shell and put it in the barrel of a .22 rifle, to test what friends had said would "cause a loud noise." Inserting a cartridge, he fired the gun, and the bolt was blown out, causing his injury.

Women At Penitentiary Inadequate Medical Care, Scant Vocation Training, Absence Of Privacy Irk

SALEM — We have been discussing the general conditions at the state penitentiary the last few days and it might be well to mention the problems confronting the women prisoners. There are not many of them but they, too, are dissatisfied and are even offering to put on a demonstration that will make the hunger strike by the men look like child's play.

There are usually less than thirty women in the state penitentiary and so very little attention is paid to them. There aren't enough to warrant their own building or any training or classes to help them become self-sustaining, if and when they are released.

At the present time some instruction is being given in typing, shorthand, etc. by a woman who was returned to the pen for breaking parole. But the other women say she is so well behaved they are afraid she'll be paroled soon and that will be the end of their classes.

Temporarily at least they are busily working at typewriters, etc. A former beautician in the ranks gave some instruction in hair-dressing and cosmetics and was quite popular. I'm not sure that she is still inside.

One inmate remarked to me that the thing she would prize most in (Continued on Page 2)

CONGRESSIONAL OVATION FOR GENERAL

Senators, representatives and visitors give Gen. Douglas MacArthur (left center) an ovation as he stands at the rostrum in the house chamber in Washington, to begin his address to a joint meeting. Behind the general are House Speaker Sam Rayburn (extreme left, bald head), and Vice-President Alben Barkley, Arthur MacArthur, 13, is in front row (arrow) beside Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney, MacArthur's chief adviser. Other military men are in front row. (AP WIREPHOTO).

County Buys New Park Site Near Rivers

Land Located At Forks Of Umpqua; 3.31-Acre Tract Called 'Singleton'

Douglas county has purchased a new public park.

It is the newly designated Singleton park, located at the forks of the Umpqua river. A warranty deed conveying the 3.31 acres to the county was presented Friday by the former owners, George L. and Dena D. Singleton.

The site is a triangular piece of land where the north and south forks of the Umpqua river meet. It is located about 10 miles from Roseburg at the end of the Curry estate road. It fronts approximately 600 feet on the south river and 400 feet on the north fork.

Popular Picnic Spot
Mr. and Mrs. Singleton bought and improved the property several years ago. Their summer home recently was destroyed by fire and the site was offered to the county parks department for recreational use.

Prior to purchase by the Singleton, the site was one of the popular picnic spots of the community. It was used especially for group and class outings. Excellent boat moorage is provided along the west bank in the South Umpqua.

County Parks Superintendent Charles Collins reports the grounds will not be opened to the public for a week or 10 days, as the former owner is removing some personal property.

Improvements Planned
Included in the sale, are a pump and water system, yard lights, fencing and electric wiring. Further improvements are contemplated during the summer months.

Collins said that the parks department expects to install tables and cooking facilities, together with road improvements, construction of parking areas, and tree and shrub plantings.

(Picture on Page 9)

Detroit Transfer Workers Strike

DETROIT — (AP) — Detroit's transit workers went on strike today, threatening a citywide tie-up of all municipal transportation.

The AFL's street car and bus operators union climaxed a wage dispute with the city in a surprise walkout starting at 4 a.m. (EST).

Night crews struck 10,000 drivers were called off the streets and buses and street cars rolled into the big barns.

The immediate effect on defense-producing Detroit, the fifth largest city with 1,600,000 population, was not clear.

Ordinarily, Saturday is a non-working day in the auto plants. However, there has been an increasing amount of extra work in view of a rising volume of defense orders.

Both AFL and CIO men work in the city's transit system. The CIO union has jurisdiction over maintenance workers.

One CIO source, however, indicated that this union would stay out with the AFL.

The bus and street car drivers voted Tuesday to authorize a strike by a reported 4 to 1 margin.

First O.K. Given To Up Douglas Judge's Salary

SALEM — (AP) — A bill to increase the annual salary of the Douglas county district court judge from \$5,000 to \$5,700 was passed by the Senate and sent to the House.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.

SALEM — (AP) — The weekly newspaper Akhbar El Yom said today 17-year-old Nairram Sadek, King Farouk's fiance, will make her appearance as queen of Egypt of Abdin palace on the afternoon of May 6.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.

SALEM — (AP) — A bill to increase the annual salary of the Douglas county district court judge from \$5,000 to \$5,700 was passed by the Senate and sent to the House.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.

SALEM — (AP) — The weekly newspaper Akhbar El Yom said today 17-year-old Nairram Sadek, King Farouk's fiance, will make her appearance as queen of Egypt of Abdin palace on the afternoon of May 6.

The royal wedding will take place on the morning of that day. The day also is the 15th anniversary of King Farouk's accession to the throne.