

Pro-Red POWs Abandoned By Indians, Commies

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR
By Paul Jenkins



BOB ALLEN, chief of the vocational counseling service at the United States Veterans hospital here for the past six years, is kept extremely busy caring for the work his job entails; yet finds time to help the American Legion, of which he is a member, in its rehabilitation activities; a pilot himself, he is secretary of the Umpqua Flying club; he is personnel officer of the Civil Air Patrol and is a member of the Governor's committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped. He is a member of the Elks, the Masons and the Forty and Eight. When he hasn't anything else to do, he busies himself at his hobby - woodworking. He and Mrs. Allen with his nine-year-old son, Bob Jr., live on the Fisher Road.

Living Cost Takes Another Slight Drop In December, Price Index Trend Reveals

WASHINGTON — The cost of living dropped less than one-tenth of 1 per cent in December, a minor movement which the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw as evidence of "continued stability" in the economy.

Local Red Cross Workers Attend Eugene Meeting

Three members of the Douglas County chapter of the American Red Cross were in Eugene this week for a home service workshop. They were Gen. Curtis T. Beecher, Mrs. Mildred Herman, executive secretary; and Mrs. Susan Bowman, county chapter home service chairman.

The workshop was conducted by Mrs. Myrtle Lytle, home service field representative for Oregon and Idaho. Max Novak, field director for the Veterans Administration regional office in Portland, gave a summary of the services the chapters can offer in the way of claims which might be pending for a veteran. Also on hand was Harold Davis, general field representative for the Oregon Red Cross.

Gen. Beecher was a speaker on the agenda.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Ike's budget in a nutshell: It proposes spending about \$54 billion dollars in the upcoming fiscal year (a fiscal year is a book-keeping year.) That's about five billion less than we've been spending in the current fiscal year.

The budget for the coming fiscal year is expected to be about three billion dollars out of balance (that is to say, we'll spend about three billion more than we'll take in). But that's a smaller deficit than we've been incurring for a long time.

In other words, WE'RE BEGINNING TO TURN THE CORNER.

We'll all criticize, of course. We just LOVE to criticize. It makes us feel so superior. That's human nature.

But — Here's a question we might ask ourselves somewhere along the line: "D'ya reckon I could have done any better if I had been making the budget instead of Ike?"

For example The President asks congress this morning to appropriate 154 mil-

(Continued on page Four)

The Weather

Intermittent rains tonight and Saturday.

Highest Temp. last 24 hours 46

Lowest Temp. last 24 hours 52

Highest Temp. any Jan. 71

Lowest Temp. any Jan. 4

Precip. last 24 hours .4

Precip. from Jan. 1 4.29

Precip. from Sept. 1 21.88

Excess from Sept. 1 5.30

Sunrise today, 5:12 p.m.

Sunrise tomorrow, 7:38 a.m.

The News-Review

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Owens' Case Expected To Go To Jurors Today

Defense Hopes For Verdict Of Manslaughter

State and defense attorneys gave final arguments before the jury Friday morning in the first degree murder case against Bert Owens of Ridge.

It was expected the case would be given to the jury this afternoon, following instructions from Judge Carl E. Wimberly.

The state has endeavored to prove Owens guilty of murder in the shooting last Aug. 25 of Mrs. Betty Owens, 29.

In summing up, defense attorney Fred H. Bernau said again that the shooting was not denied. But he maintained the defendant acted in a "heat of passion" and that the verdict should be one of manslaughter.

"We are not asking you to free Bert Owens," Bernau told the six men and six women. He said he hoped they would "temper justice with mercy."

In rebuttal, Dist. Atty. Robert M. Stults said Bernau's request for "mercy" was a "capitalization by the defense, that the case is clearly one of first degree murder."

Stults told the jurors it is "your duty to consider all the evidence... without passion." He said the state has proved the elements of first degree murder, and that it is the duty of the jury to uphold the law.

Realizing the impossibility of "telling how long the jury might be out, Judge Wimberly told them Thursday night to bring over-night cases and personal needs — in case the members must stay at the court house all night. (Also see story on Page 3.)

Mile O' Dollars Slated Saturday

The Roseburg Junior Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its annual "mile o' dollars" Saturday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Oak and Jackson Streets, according to Dean Bartlett, chairman.

Proceeds of the event will go to the March of Dimes. The club last year raised \$968, and Bartlett said the sum is expected to be exceeded this year.

The Myrtle Creek Lions have also decided to collect dollars for the March of Dimes on Saturday.

The Lions don't expect to stretch the dollars for a mile, but are shooting for a block long string. Leonard Dyer is in charge of the dollar collection.

Jury Convicts Youth In Woman's Sex Murder

ATLANTA — David G. Price, 19-year-old former Marine with a yen for "seamy comics," was convicted last night of the murder of a young club-footed woman.

A jury deliberated five hours before finding Price guilty of the mutilation murder of 22-year-old Betty Bagby in a wooded glade June 20. Superior Judge Walter C. Hendrix sentenced him to life imprisonment after the jury recommended mercy.

Miss Bagby's body, nude except for shoes, was found battered and knife-slashed near her home two days after the murder.

Price had denied the slaying at the trial. He said he signed a confession only after police cursed him and threatened him with a third degree.

French Troops Regrouping, Attempt To Woo Populace After Capturing Beachhead

SAIGON, Indochina — Vietnamese political teams swarmed into the Tuy Hoa beachhead Friday with loudspeakers and pamphlets wooing the populace of that rich southeast Indochina coastal land, under rebel Vietnamese domination since 1946.

This was the second phase in the new French Union offensive to drive the Communist-led rebels permanently out of the fruitful Annamese region around the provincial capital and sugar refining center of Tuy Hoa, 250 miles northeast of Saigon.

Over the loudspeakers, the political specialists who came to take over administration of the area urged the people to come to

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HIS FATE RESTS — Bert Owens, accused shotgun slayer of his wife, Betty Jean, is now awaiting a decision by the jury after a 4½-day trial. (Paul Jenkins Picture).

Highway Bids Opened Today

Bids on part of \$4,875,000 worth of highway construction slated the first half of this year for Douglas County were to be opened today by the State Highway Commission in Portland.

Set on the commission's schedule for the first six months are four separate projects in the Deady-Shady Point sector of the relocated highway. They include a bridge and railroad crossing at Shady Point; structures on the Winchester-Shady Point section; a bridge over the South Umpqua River in West Roseburg; and paving of the Deady-Shady Point unit.

Other projects are in the Shady Point-Cannonville stretch of the Pacific Highway. They include grading between Shady Point and Booth Ranch; structures on the same unit; and grading and paving of 4.07 miles of Booth Ranch-Myrtle Creek highway.

The Deady-Shady Point grading project will include 14.65 miles. The first four projects mentioned will be the last in the relocation of the highway between the Lane County line and Shady Point, five miles south of Roseburg.

No contracts for Douglas County were awarded in Thursday's meeting of the commission. However, Tom Lillebo, Reedsport contractor, submitted a low bid of \$82,750 to win the contract for the construction of an overpass in North Eugene.

30-DAY JAIL SENTENCE

Daniel Edward Baldwin, 18, Westlake, was lodged in the Douglas County Jail Wednesday after being returned from Reedsport where he was sentenced to serve 30 days for petty larceny, reports Reedsport Justice of Peace Robert Goodwin.

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TWO-HEADED BABY AT HOME

This exclusive Indianapolis Star photo shows the world's only living two-headed baby, Donald Ray-Daniel Kay Hartley, with its parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hartley of Petersburg, Indiana. The five-week-old infant, which has two heads, four arms and two legs, was photographed Jan. 18, shortly after the parents and baby arrived home after child was released from Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. Picture was taken by Star staff photographer James C. Ramsey, with approval of parents. (AP Wirephoto).

Big 4 Foreign Ministers Gird For Peace Talks

BERLIN — U.S. Secretary of State Dulles, French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault and British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden reached Berlin Friday for a Big Four conference opening Monday.

Communist secrecy cloaked the movements of Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, but he was expected in East Berlin by train Saturday.

The three Western ministers arranged a get-together to set up strategy for the meeting. A French foreign ministry spokesman said the three would hold a pre-conference talk Saturday at French headquarters.

Dulles, who flew to this divided city in President Eisenhower's plane, Columbine, said in a prepared statement the Western powers "hope to unite Germany by giving the German people as a whole the right which our civilization treats as fundamental, including the right of a people to free elections to choose for themselves their own sovereign government."

The American secretary of state was the first to arrive. He was greeted at the airport by a large delegation of Western officials and an American tank unit fired a 19-gun salute. Dulles was followed shortly by Bidault, who came in by train from Paris. Eden stopped off in Dusseldorf on his way to Berlin and told reporters at the airfield there "nobody can expect a full solution to the problem of Germany" can be found in a matter of a few weeks.

Later, on his arrival in Berlin, Eden voiced hope that a "decisive step toward the reunification of Germany could be taken," but counselled determination, firmness and patience.

Gen. Beecher Will Speak At Red Cross Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Red Cross tonight at 8 in the Armory will be highlighted by a report from Gen. Curtis T. Beecher on his recent trip to a Red Cross conference in Washington, D. C.

Beecher was named a national Red Cross fund and membership vice chairman at the Washington meeting last Saturday. The meeting will be public.

Seaburg Released After Paying Support To Wife

John Herman Seaburg, 44, a logger who lives at 128 Flint St. in Roseburg, paid \$470 in circuit court Thursday for contempt of court. He was released by order of Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly.

Seaburg was arrested Wednesday by state police after he had failed to regard a court order to pay support money to his wife.

Oil Developers Undaunted By Failure; Will Try Again

By GEORGE CASTILLO
City Editor, News-Review

The urge to tap Douglas County's suspected oil reserve bubbled up strong Thursday night in the Roseburg City Council chambers as 40 men, most of them stockholders in Oil Developers, Inc., crowded in.

The fact Oil Developers had drilled down 7,000 feet in Coles Valley last year seemed not to have dimmed the enthusiasm to gamble again. On the contrary, most of the men in attendance Thursday night agreed with President Herb Sullivan that much had been learned from digging the first hole — and it had been worth every cent of the \$92,000 necessary to dig it.

That enthusiasm was reflected in a statement by Dr. E. W. Carter that "there are plenty of gamblers here as well as in Nevada. His statement bolstered hopes that more money could be raised to drill again.

Probably most enthusiastic of the group was Geologist Les Childs. He called the drilling site of the first hole a mistake. He said he had originally contended the site should have been in the Lookingglass-Melrose area, although he had been talked out of it.

Believes Oil Exists
Childs said flatly oil exists in that area. He modified the statement with what he called the "big question: Whether it was commercial petroleum or not. He said it would even be a boon to the Roseburg area if a comparatively poor natural gas reservoir were found.

(Continued on Page Two)

Rotary Sponsored Polio Auction Draws Big Crowd

A Rotary Club-sponsored auction of new and used material gave the March of Dimes another \$300 last night.

The auction, held at the Fairgrounds, saw a bigger crowd attending than at a similar auction last year and more merchandise being sold. Frank Denton, chairman of the auction committee, remarked that people had less money to spend this year, but in spite of that, the fact that the weather was anything but conducive to outdoor attendance, the auction went surprisingly well.

The event, an annual affair, is staged specifically to raise funds for the March of Dimes. Last year it was held at the Roseburg Auction Barn, and the building could not accommodate the crowd. This year it was moved to the fairgrounds, but still was being handled by the Roseburg Auction Co.

Dr. Wadsworth Attends Hospital Manager's Meet

Dr. George Wadsworth, manager of the Roseburg Veterans Hospital, left Thursday for a conference of hospital and regional office managers of the Pacific Coast at San Francisco.

The conference was called to introduce Harvey Higley, new administrator of the federal Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D. C. Also on hand for the meeting will be Admiral Joel T. Boone, chief medical officer.

The conference will last through Friday and Saturday.

TAKEN TO PORTLAND

Mr. and Mrs. George Vincent, Roseburg, injured last fall in a one-car wreck on the Little River Road, were taken to Portland Thursday by P&B ambulance. They are to receive treatment by a bone specialist.

The wreck took the life of Jasper Palouse and seriously injured the Vincents.

House-Trailer Residents Now Have To Pay State Tax Under New Legislative Act

SALEM — The people who live in trailers are having to pay property taxes now, and they don't like it.

State Tax Commissioner Samuel B. Stewart doesn't feel sorry for them.

Stewart said he can't see why people who live in house trailers shouldn't pay their share of the cost of schools and local government, just like those who live in regular houses.

Until Jan. 1, residents of trailers paid only a \$10 vehicle license fee for using the highways. They paid no property taxes.

But since then, under an act of the 1953 Legislature, they pay property taxes.

The new tax applies to persons who have trailers for their residence. The assessor bills them Jan. 1 of each year.

The assessor collects the tax money immediately. Trailer residents don't get until November to pay up, like owners of permanent homes do.

The assessors collect the tax on the spot because they fear that the trailers might be moved before the tax is paid.

"The new tax on trailers is fair," Stewart said, "because trailer residents should pay taxes like anybody else."

"It hasn't been fair for school districts to have to educate children who live in trailers on which no school taxes are paid. And it isn't right to provide police and fire protection to the trailer residents for nothing."

Stewart said there are many hundreds of trailers in the state which will be taxed.

Some school districts, he said, have had to go to much extra expense to educate children in trailer families. These districts are located near big construction projects, like those at The Dalles and McNary dams.

The tax varies in each county, depending on the county's ratio of assessed valuation to true valuation, and on the county "millage rate."

An example: on a \$2,000 trailer in a county with a 50 per cent ratio and a tax rate of 75 mills, the tax would be \$75 a year — plus the \$10 license fee if the trailer is to be moved on a highway.

The new tax doesn't apply to trailers used only for vacations or occasional trips. It also doesn't apply to men in military service.

If a trailer owner doesn't pay the tax, the trailer can be seized.

Prisoners Get Freedom But Stay In Camp

14,000 Chinese Board Ships For Formosa; Koreans At Centers

PANMUNJOM — The Korean War prisoners who stirred world wide controversy by their refusal to go home were turned loose Saturday.

Twenty-one Americans, 1 Briton and 327 Koreans who chose Communism were abandoned by Indian guards in a flimsy neutral zone compound at 12:01 a.m. (7:01 a.m. Friday, PST).

The pro-Red POWs said they would stay until their food runs out, echoing the demand of the Communist command that Indian troops stay on.

The U.N. command liberated as civilians the nearly 22,000 anti-Red captives returned to it Wednesday by the Indian command — a course the Allies asserted was required by the armistice.

When official freedom came, more than 14,000 Chinese anti-Red POWs already were aboard American ships en route to Chinese Nationalist Formosa. More than 7,500 anti-Communist North Koreans were in South Korean army centers.

An Indian officer said the pro-Communist north camp was "absolutely quiet." There was no celebration among the Koreans. A ROK official said most were asleep.

Some of the freed prisoners had been in stockades almost from the

(Continued on Page Two)

Former Roseburg Residents Hurt In Washington

Five former Roseburg residents were treated in a hospital this week after being injured in a head-on collision four miles north of Benton, Wash., near Kennewick.

They were: John I. Shaffer 38; his wife Mary 32; their son Paul 11 months; Alan B. Shaffer, 42 and his wife Frances 40. All were riding in the same car. State police in Washington said the car driven by Jesse W. Evansier of Los Gatos, Calif., veered over the center line on a curve to cause the collision.

Mr. and Mrs. John Shaffer recently moved from Roseburg to Renton. Both Shaffer families are related to Mrs. H. J. Desbiers of Roseburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Shaffer are in Renton Hospital with severe head injuries and John Shaffer is being treated for serious back and head injuries. His wife Mary and Paul have been discharged. The three sons of the Alan Shaffer were not hurt and another son of the John Shaffers, Richard, was not in the car at the time.

Credit Union Meeting Set Monday Afternoon

The annual meeting of the Douglas County Federal Credit Union will be held at the Roseburg Junior High School Monday at 4:15.

Besides the annual financial report, an election will be held to replace Charles Hill, president; John Searle, secretary; Vera Fredrickson and Ina Farnsworth whose terms on the board of directors has expired.

The credit union is an organization among the teachers of Douglas County for the purpose of investing funds and making loans to teacher members.

Spoonmore Enters Plea Of Innocent To Charge

His broken arm in a sling, Richard Spoonmore, a 30-year-old boilermaker from Portland, pleaded innocent to a charge of drunk driving Thursday in district court, reports Judge A. J. Geddes.

Spoonmore was driving the car in which Ambrose Joseph Heilman, 40, Portland, was killed when it slammed into a tree. Heilman was from a broken neck. The accident occurred near Curtin while the two men were en route to Riddle to look for jobs.

Spoonmore was brought here from Cottage Grove Hospital. He was released on payment of \$750 bail, Judge Geddes said.

Preliminary Examinations For Naturalization Set

Preliminary examinations for naturalization of 16 petitioners from Douglas County are scheduled in the County Clerk's office Jan. 23 and 29.

The dates were scheduled by Harold M. Smith, immigrant inspector from the Immigration and Naturalization Service today.

Appointments for the 16 petitioners requesting naturalization will start at 9:30 a.m. each of the two days.

Levy Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Don't blow TOO hard, Mr. Wind Ye Olde Towne Hall must last us a few decades longer.