

Council Enacts Utility Privilege Tax

Al Sarena Hearing Gets Under Way

'Unbelievable' Handling Of Case By Interior Dept., Charge Of Demo Chairman

By FRANK W. VAILLE
WASHINGTON — A half dozen witnesses were on call Tuesday to discuss what a Senate subcommittee chairman has described as "unbelievable" handling by the Department of the Interior of a group of Southern Oregon mining claims.



RICHARD EDGE
... new manager

Richard Edge New Roseburg Theatre Company Manager

The appointment of Richard (Dick) Edge as new manager for the Roseburg Theatre Co. was announced Monday by owner Eino Hemmilla. He replaces Russell Osborn, who will enter the insurance field here.

Edge has managed theaters in Astoria and Sweet Home, and formerly owned a motion picture house in Clatsop. Prior to coming to Roseburg, Edge was a publicist for Hallmark Productions. In that position, he worked throughout the United States.

The new Douglas County resident will make his home at the Hotel Umpqua. Born in Pennsylvania, he has worked in the theater business most of his life.

While in Astoria, Edge was a member of the Optimist Club, and he also served as campaign manager of the March of Dimes Drive in Clatsop County.

The snowy weather in the area doesn't bother Edge. He says it is tame, after two years in Astoria.

The Neal Children's Fund Nearing \$1,000 Mark

The Neal Children's Fund reached the \$1,000 mark today.

Donations now totaling \$970.72 have been sent to the local newspapers, radio stations and the Douglas County State Bank.

Beneficiaries are the three surviving children of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Neal, who died Dec. 28 in a landslide at Remote. They are Margaret Elaine, Alvin and Billy Neal.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Foreign aid note: U.S. Ambassador to India John Sherman Cooper formally presented to the Indian government today the first of 100 railroad locomotives made available under the U.S.-Indian technical co-operation program.

Cooper, who tomorrow will present at Port Okha the first of 8,700 freight cars, says that in the eight years since India became free America has given her aid amounting to nearly 478 million dollars, with 230 million more given by private agencies.

After all that, India is flirting scandalously with the communists — maybe with the idea of blasting MORE millions out of us.

More on foreign aid: The United States is giving South Korea \$25 million dollars more to keep it going economically for this fiscal year — which means until next July.

This is in addition to 227 million in economic aid the U.S. had

Mild Economic Decline Seen For Nation In Talk Before Chamber By Bank Manager

A mild economic decline nationally, somewhere around six per cent less than 1955, was predicted for 1956 by a prominent Douglas County business man Monday.

The "guess" was made by Harold Schmeier, manager of the U.S. National Bank, who addressed a capacity audience at the initial Chamber of Commerce forum for 1956.

Schmeier predicted his finding on a review of farm issues, defense spending, the 1956 budget, capital outlay in business, inventories, home building and construction, prices and wages and exports.

He was hopeful that the decline would not continue through 1956, but told listeners in the Hotel Umpqua Civic Room that they could expect "a little less than in 1955." The decline, he believes, "won't hurt us," and "won't take anything special to bring us out."

Farmers took the biggest punch

The Weather

Mostly cloudy with occasional rain beginning during Tuesday night, continuing Wednesday morning. Partly cloudy Wednesday afternoon. Little change in temperature.

Highest temp. last 24 hours	40
Lowest temp. last 24 hours	35
Highest temp. any Jan.	71
Lowest temp. any Jan.	6
Precip. last 24 hours	.28
Precip. from Jan. 1	4.59
Precip. from Sept. 1	29.52
Excess from Sept. 1	14.59
Sunset tonight, 4:37 p.m.	
Sunrise tomorrow, 7:44 a.m.	

The News-Review

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Britain Orders More Troops To Middle East

LONDON — Britain ordered more troops to the Middle East Tuesday "as a precautionary measure" for the protection of British subjects in the whole disturbed region.

The War Office announced that airborne and ground troops are being flown to the island colony of Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean as a "fire brigade" in the event fighting spreads. Cyprus already is torn by a rebellion against British rule.

The shock troops will strengthen the 100,000 man garrison on the island which serves as headquarters for Britain's air and land forces in the Middle East. The Royal Navy's Mediterranean headquarters is in Malta, to the west.

The British forces in Cyprus will be in a position to strike out in any direction if serious fighting should flare. Britain has a system of alliances with such Arab countries as Jordan, Iraq, Iran and Libya—pacts that bind it to act against any aggressor.

Britain's action came after a wave of anti-Western rioting swept the Arab state of Jordan in December and last weekend. The Foreign Office Monday blamed local Communists and other elements—presumably Egyptians and Saudi Arabians—for the demonstration in which American and British properties were damaged.

Critics, meantime, dispatched C. A. Evelyn Shuckburgh, ranking expert on the Middle East, by plane to Washington Tuesday to confer with State Department officials. He has been laying the groundwork for talks in Washington Jan. 30 by President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Eden on the explosive Middle Eastern situation.

Roseburg's Fire Losses In '55 Nearly \$92,000

Damage estimated at \$87,000 in a warehouse fire last November boosted the city's total loss by fire in 1955 beyond the 1954 figure, according to Roseburg Fire Chief W. E. Mills.

Chief Mills said the estimated losses for the year totaled \$91,948, compared to about \$34,000 in 1954. Approximate valuation exposed to fire loss during 1955 was \$2,335,630, Mills said. The fire department answered 173 calls including eight false ones, and trucks and equipment were in use 134 hours.

There were two injuries from fire, but no deaths. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Madden were burned, not seriously, when a pan of grease ignited at their residence.

There were 520 burning permits issued during 1955, and firemen were called out 29 times for services other than extinguishing fires.

Little equipment was added during the year: Four ladders, 300 feet of booster line hose, 1,000 feet of double jacket hose, three nozzles and a bunker coat.

The department now consists of the chief, deputy chief, four lieutenants, three first-class firemen and six second-class firemen. Duty for 1955 totaled 50,499 hours. Twenty volunteers donated more than 100 hours of their time just to drills and meetings, Mills said.

CHAINS RECOVERED

Some tire chains she reported stolen have been recovered, Mrs. Denning Bronson, 428 SE Chadwick St., told city police. Earlier, she said the chains disappeared as she drove around the block after using the chains to get her car started in the snow.

Hubcaps Stolen

Fred Albertus, Winston, complained to state police Monday that two hubcaps were stolen from his car, which was parked at Douglas High School.

City Police Investigate Theft Of Two Guns Here

City police today were investigating a burglary at Roseburg Cabinet and Supply Co. in which two guns were stolen.

Officers said a .35 caliber rifle and .22 revolver apparently were the only items taken when the business, at 440 N. Jackson St., was entered sometime Sunday night or Monday morning.

Entry was gained through an old skylight on the roof. The culprit reached the roof by climbing a ladder at the rear of the building. The business is owned by Arthur McGehee.

Knife, Fork Club To Hear Adventurous Englishman

Ralph Church, secretary of the Umpqua Valley Knife & Fork Club, reminded today that the club's first meeting of the year will be held Friday.

Guest speaker at the session in the Roseburg Elks Ballroom will be an adventurous young Englishman, Patrick Eklam, who once crossed the Atlantic Ocean on a 19-foot craft.

Dinner will be at 7 p.m., with the speaker to follow.

Douglas County Utilities Working At Fever Pitch To Restore Broken Lines

Douglas County's utilities were still working feverishly to patch up the systems of lines which snapped with distressing rapidity as a result of the weekend snowstorm.

Several areas were still without electricity on both California Oregon Power Co. and Douglas Electric Cooperative systems. A Copco spokesman said, "Sometimes it seems like we're not making any progress because the damage was so extensive."

Actually, he said, however, the situation is steadily improving. He said practically everything will be patched on the Copco system today. He reports that electricity reached up to the Little River Store. The company hopes to push electricity through to the end of the line at the Associated Plywood operations by tonight.

The assistant district manager at Myrtle Creek said between 75 and 100 customers were still without electricity, most of them in the Milo, north and south Myrtle Creek areas. Here in Roseburg a series of street light lines are not operating, but they will not be repaired until all customers have electricity.

Howard Backen Jr., manager of Douglas Electric Cooperative, reported that about 200 customers in northern Douglas County still have no electricity from the system. Most of these are in the Draytonville area. Some 60 or 70 are affected in central Douglas County, most of them in the Nonpareil area.

Communications were still disrupted also. Jack McGuire, manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., related that repairmen are making some progress. He said no estimates can be given when all telephone lines will be restored. Today approximately 1,000 were still off. However, toll service to Glendale and Camas Valley has been restored. Telephone lines to be repaired number 153 in the Glendale area and 65 at Camas Valley. Toll service to Myrtle Point was still being routed on alternate circuits.

California Pacific Utilities in Myrtle Creek was still going at full tilt to repair its services, one of the hardest hit in the County.

Leading Jet Ace Killed In Crash

EGLE AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Maj. Lonnie Moore, one of the leading jet aces of the Korean War, was killed Tuesday in a crash of the Air Force's newest supersonic fighter, the F101 Voodoo.

The jet crashed and exploded at this base just after it was airborne. Firemen extinguished the flames within three minutes but were unable to rescue Moore.

The plane, which was undergoing tests at the Air Proving Ground Command, was demolished. Cause of the crash was not determined.

The 36-year-old Moore was a double ace in Korea with 10 enemy MIG 15s destroyed and one probably destroyed. He was making his first flight in the McDonnell Voodoo.

He "is above normal intelligence... and his mental processes do not betray any illness or disease," the report added.

A report by Dr. R. Robert Cohen declared Graham is "sane and mentally competent both at this time and on Nov. 1, the day of the alleged crime."

Parents Leave Meeting In Segregation Protest

NEW ORLEANS — A racial dispute rocked Louisiana's largest Catholic high school today after a group of parents walked out on a priest-principal rather than without a pro-segregation resolution.

Touching off the row at a Jesuit high school parent's club meeting was a resolution asking indefinite postponement of any plans to integrate classes.

The Rev. C. J. Stullworth, a Jesuit priest and principal of the school, threatened to dissolve the club if his request was refused.

He branded the resolution "un-Christian, un-Catholic, undemocratic, un-American and ungentlemanly."

Amateur Radio Class Session Opens Wednesday

The initial class for persons interested in becoming amateur radio operators will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Roseburg School of Business, Kohlhagen Hall. The class is sponsored by the Umpqua Amateur Radio Club and is open to men and women.

President Chuck Reinhardt said a business meeting would follow the class. It is slated for 8 p.m. Reinhardt added that although there are only a few women "hams" in the Roseburg area, he hoped others would come to the club classes and meet.

Umpqua River Ferry Begins Service Today

The ferry on the Umpqua River, circumventing the big slide on Highway 38, began service about 6 a.m. today, carrying 77 passengers to Reedsport on its initial trip.

The ferry will operate between Reedsport and a point about four miles east of the coastal city until such time as the highway can be cleared. The big mud slide has been blocking travel between the coast and inland points in Douglas County.

Children from areas east of the slide who attend Reedsport schools are being transported by train from Schofield Road to Reedsport in the morning and back to the coast in the afternoon. School buses meet them at each terminus.

The ferry, for other travelers, is making a round-trip each hour. It carries no vehicles, but passengers can carry hand freight.

A parking area is being arranged at the docking area east of the slide, which blocks the road about a mile from Reedsport. At the western end of the trip, the ferry docks at Port of Umpqua facilities. Upriver from the slide, it docks near Koepeke Slough.

The tugboat Cathlamet has been outfitted as a ferry. The 64-foot craft formerly operated as a Columbia River ferryboat.

Crowded School Condition Topic For District 116

Members of the Citizens Advisory Committee for School District 116 are delving into the problem of what can be done to alleviate overcrowding in the district.

The citizens have met twice in one week to null the matter. Monday evening they called in Supt. William Bromley to ask him what he believed were necessary needs for the district.

Chairman E. V. Gubser Tuesday commended the committee. "We have a good cross section of persons residing in the area," he said, "and the turnout to meetings has been excellent." Gubser said all sessions were still in the suggestion stage, but he thought some concrete thoughts would be forthcoming soon.

He pointed out that the committee was not empowered to act, but only to "try to find workable suggestions that school board members may have missed."

"We give them the credit of having an awful tough problem," he said. The citizens will meet next Monday at 8 p.m. at Douglas High School.

Iverson Lumber Co Will Resume Operation Jan. 16

After a two-month shutdown, Iverson Lumber Co. south of Roseburg will resume operations on Monday, Jan. 16.

A spokesman said operations at that time will be back on par with the way they were on Nov. 17 when the company closed for an indefinite period. At that time, owner Sever Iverson said lack of logs and the lumber market were the reasons for the layoff.

The company's planer and shipping departments kept working until Dec. 1. About 35 or 40 employees are involved in the whole operation.

Occupies New Quarters

The Douglas County Court and the road department moved Monday into new quarters in the east wing now under construction at the courthouse. Both the court and road department will remain on the same floor, the first.

Flood Damage Information Asked By Sen. Neuberger, Resources Chairman Irving

Two requests for flood information were issued today, one by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger and the other by Sen. B. Irving of the Douglas County Water Resources Survey.

Irving states his office would like to make a compilation of damage to real property (3) damage to improvements (3) damage to personal property (4) cost of cleanup (5) loss of wages due to layoff caused by flood (6) location of property where damage occurred, preferably by township, range, section and quartersection, and including the name of the stream causing the damage.

The secretary of the South Douglas Conservation Assn., Myrtle Creek, also requested such information at a public meeting Jan. 3 in the Winston-Dillard area.

Norwegian Coastal Ship Sinks Off Dutch Coast

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands — The 284-ton Norwegian coastal steamer Sirabuen sank Tuesday after a collision 15 miles off the Dutch coast. Seven of the eight-man crew perished, said Dirkzwagers shipping agency.

The sole survivor, First Mate Berne Nilsen, was rescued aboard a lifeboat sent out from the other ship in the collision, the 5,408-ton Brazilian vessel Loide-Venezuela.

CONFER ON AID

PORTLAND — Two Red Cross and labor officials conferred Tuesday with the Oregon AFL-CIO Disaster Relief Committee on further aid to flood victims.

The two are Cecil H. Davis, director of Red Cross disaster relief in the recent West Coast floods, and Arthur Hellebrandt, western area director for the AFL-CIO disaster group.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Smelt, which in some past mid-seasons have retailed at 2 pounds for a quarter, have made their 1956 debut in Portland markets at a mere 75 cents for just one pound. This deservedly promoted them to the front page, but the consumer must, as usual, do his own clean—pardon, eviscerating.

VALUE DAY TOMORROW