

inter/national news

From Associated Press reports

Report predicts worsening economy continues to worsen

SALEM

A draft forecast for the state economy predicts more unemployment and inflation showers with few glimpses of sunshine.

The report released Monday was prepared by the state Executive Department for the Nov. 17 meeting of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors. The council will review the economic assumptions which will be used by the state to produce a 1981-83 revenue estimate.

Highlights of the draft economic forecast include the following:

- Employment is expected to keep declining until the first quarter of 1982 and then grow at a rate that would be the most laggard post-recession recovery in Oregon. The drop in employment during the current quarter would mark the seventh quarterly loss since the first quarter of 1980.

- Housing activities during the fourth quarter of 1981 are expected to decline 43.8 percent, following a 63.1 percent drop in the previous quarter.

- Personal Income after adjusting for inflation would expand only 1 percent in 1981 and 1.5 percent in 1982 after declining 0.6 percent in 1980.

- Inflation reached an annual rate of 15.4 percent in the third quarter of 1981. The report says higher mortgage interest rates, medical care, food and transportation contributed to the third quarter of 1981 rise.

Poles dismiss state prosecutor

WARSAW, Poland

The government dismissed Prosecutor-General Lucjan Czubinski on Monday, the official news agency reported. The move was seen as a victory for the independent union Solidarity, which had accused Czubinski of harassment.

Czubinski, a former army general, was replaced by Franciszek Rusek, the PAP news agency said. Rusek has specialized in labor relations as president of the Supreme Court's labor and social welfare chamber.

At Solidarity's national headquarters in Gdansk, union leaders drafted a six-point agenda for talks with the

government about Poland's economic and social ills.

A union spokesman said Solidarity would like the talks to begin Friday. He said Solidarity wants mass media access, free local elections, judicial independence, creation of a social-economic council, economic reforms, and compensation to low-paid workers to offset price increases.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, who did not attend the meeting, urged workers to be flexible in their demands because "nobody can eat slogans or ideology," PAP reported.

In another development, provincial authorities balked Monday at ratifying an agreement to end Poland's biggest regional strike since Solidarity was formed 14 months ago, a union spokesman said.

Senators press for budget plan

WASHINGTON

Senate Republican leaders pressed a reluctant Pres. Ronald Reagan on Monday to support a three-year budget balancing plan that includes a scaled-down, \$48 billion tax hike.

Congressional sources said the president's aides, meeting privately with key Republican senators, advocated delaying discussion of both tax increases or cuts in benefit programs, such as food stamps and Medicare or Medicaid, until after the first of the year.

"They want a hold on everything," said one source, who asked not to be identified. This official said the administration is concerned in part that the president would suffer a defeat in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives if deep cuts in benefit programs or tax hikes were raised.

Burma appoints new president

RANGOON, Burma

U San Yu, a 63-year-old retired army general and veteran politician, became president Monday, taking over from Gen. Ne Win, the ailing leader who ruled this Southeast Asian nation for 19 years.

San Yu was the government's No. 2 man before he was chosen by the newly elected 475-member Parliament to replace Ne Win, who remains chairman of the only party, the Burma Socialist Program Party.

National debt only \$998 billion

WASHINGTON

Two weeks after surging past the \$1 trillion mark for the first time, the national debt has quietly slipped back into a mere 12 digits — about \$998,782,000,000, Treasury Department officials said Monday.

But it's hardly the start of a trend.

The federal debt is financed through Treasury bills, notes, bonds and other "debt instruments" paying a wide variety of interest rates, being sold in huge or tiny amounts every day and maturing on a wide range of dates from now on into the second decade of the next century.

Every now and then a day occurs when the Treasury happens to retire more maturing debt than it issues in new debt. But those days are the exceptions, and the upward trend of the national debt is well-established.

Last Thursday, the most recent day for which figures are available, a big batch of maturing debt took more than \$5 billion off the "debt subject to congressional limit."

Saudis claim Israelis invade

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia claimed Monday that Israeli warplanes invaded Saudi airspace over the kingdom's northwest regions and were driven back by Saudi jet fighters.

Israel refused comment.

The location of the purported violation, about 105 miles from the kingdom's Red Sea coast, is in the vicinity of the Tabuk military air base.

In Washington, President Reagan was informed about 9:30 a.m. EST that Israeli jets had entered Saudi airspace and left "on their own accord," Deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes said. Speakes would not comment further.

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Cultural Forum Presents



Marge Piercy

To be of use
The people I love the best
jump into work head first
without dallying in the shallows
and swim off with sure strokes almost out of sight
They seem to become natives of that element,
the black sleek heads of seals
bouncing like half-submerged balls.

I love people who harness themselves, an ox to a
heavy cart,
who pull like water buffalo, with massive patience,
who strain in the mud and the muck to move
things forward,
who do what has to be done, again and again.

I want to be with people who submerge
in the task, who go into the fields to harvest
and work in a row and pass the bags along,
and work in the line and haul in their places,
who are not parlor generals and field deserters
but move in a common rhythm
when the food must come in or the fire be put out.

The work of the world is common as mud.
Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust.
But the thing worth doing well done
has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident.
Greek amphoras for wine or oil,
Hopi vases that held corn, are put in museums
but you know they were made to be used.
The pitcher cries for water to carry
and a person for work that is real.

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