

FLYING SAUCER SECRET

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America Will Test Craft Soon

WASHINGTON (UPI)—America is about to test fly its first flying saucer.

But the hush-hush project is about four months behind schedule according to a timetable made available to United Press International earlier this year.

Even so, this country is hoping to beat the Russians to the punch in developing the radical new aircraft, which the Soviets also are assumed to be working on.

The latest word on the saucer came from Toronto Wednesday after a free-lance photographer flew over its hangar and took a picture of the shining craft parked outside.

The incident caused red faces but prompted Sir Roy Dobson, board chairman of Avro Aircraft Ltd. of Canada, which is developing the saucer for the United States, to disclose that the first outside test flight will be made soon.

Dobson said the 50-foot diameter saucer already had made a successful flight inside a hangar, rising under its own power on a cushion of air jetted from beneath the craft.

Few details have been made public about the new aircraft but Pentagon secrecy wraps are expected to be at least partially removed once the saucer makes its first test flight.

Reliable sources said the saucer will provide the U.S. Army with a modern airborne cavalry, "the likes of which have never been seen in warfare."

'Biggest' Battle In Rail History Rapidly Building

CHICAGO (UPI)—Management and unions readied today for one of the biggest battles in the history of the nation's railroads.

Conferences are underway or soon will be on contracts involving most of the 800,000 railroad workers. The procedures are complicated, but charges ringing out from both camps are quite clear.

For example, the railroads claim featherbedding practices of the unions are costing the carriers 500 million dollars a year, money spent for work not performed or not needed.

The unions retort that management intends, "even if it provokes a strike," to insist on changes in the working rules which labor has established by negotiations dating

back as much as 40 years to protect the public as well as the workers.

The allroads say the unions this year have presented demands for wage and fringe gains which would amount to 750 million dollars annually, among them:

—The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Order of Railroad Conductors and the Brakemen, and Switchmen's Union of North America seek a 12 per cent pay increase.

—The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers are asking for a 14 per cent pay increase.

—The 16 nonoperating unions, composed of employees who do not man the trains, want a flat 25-cent an hour wage increase.

The railroads' answer:

A 25-cent an hour pay reduction, "the amount by which wages increases for railroad employees have exceeded those for workers in industry generally since 1953" plus elimination of all cost of living escalator provisions.

The nonoperating unions will ask for changes in working rules, in addition to the 25-cent an hour increase, when a three-year moratorium ends Sunday.

The railroads are waiting for Sunday, too. After Sunday the railroad will be free to try to get the so-called featherbedding rules amended. The issues thus will come to a head, the unions demanding more money and the railroads demanding new rules.

Agricultural Census Takers Are Appointed

Census takers for Union and Wallowa counties in the 1959 census of agriculture have been appointed and are now taking an intensive training course in preparation for the start of the field canvass on Nov. 2.

The training sessions are being held at the Sacajawea Hotel and are being conducted by Crew Leader J. T. "Bud" Jones.

Many Enrolled

Taking the training course are Mrs. Edna Aschenbrenner, Nadene Harper, Frances Huber, Bessie Butterfield, Hazel Wilson, and Margaret Brechan, all of Wallowa County. From Union County are Mrs. Genevieve Morris, Estella Puckett, Grace Henderson, Noel Scott, and Mrs. Phil Cuthbert.

The training course covers the use of the census questionnaire, census definitions, interviewing and map reading. Emphasis is placed on the importance of locating every farm and obtaining complete and accurate information. The census takers (enumerators) will conduct some actual interviews as part of the training.

Man Injured When Vehicle Rolls Over

Don Oren Nesmith, Pendleton, was injured last night when his 1960 model car left Highway 30 about two miles west of here and rolled over three times in a narrow pit, Oregon State Police said today.

Nesmith told police that he was adjusting the heat regulator when he lost control of the vehicle. He was cited for violation of the basic rule.

Accept Petitions On Water, Sewer

City commissioners at their regular meeting last night agreed to accept petitions from Earl Miller for water and sewer improvement districts to serve a new housing development.

Acting on the recommendation of Dave Slaght, city manager pro tem, the commissioners voted unanimously to accept the offer.

Miller has two houses on the proposed development more than half complete. He also has graded and opened a street to provide access to the present structures and further houses should they be built.

Slaght recommended a six inch main be installed because of the altitude of the area and to insure water for fire protection. Property owners would be required to pay 100 per cent of sewer installation costs and \$1.25 per foot for water mains. The project would require 200 feet of pipe and would be joined to present water facilities at Alder Street.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND DIES

By H. H. BUSHNELL
Observer Staff Writer

WALLOWA (Special) — A tragedy came to Wallowa not long ago when Tige Meek died in an automobile accident on the main street.

Tige had considerable experience in dodging cars in traffic, but grew overconfident and a little careless. Mercifully, he did not suffer long.

Tige was an orphan sheep dog. He was adopted by Grover Meek when he was only a puppy. That was nine years ago.

He assumed what he believed was his duty — to guard his master against danger and also to guard his wheel chair.

Nobody was allowed to touch that chair and nobody but Meek was allowed to sit in it except Tige himself.

If a man showed such unwavering loyalty to what he believed was a joyful duty, he would be honored.

All Tige asked was a kind word and a pat on the head — reward for a life of faithful devotion.

Need More Research On Bering Dam

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The U.S. weather scientists said today more research is needed to determine whether a Soviet-proposed dam across the Bering Strait between Alaska and Siberia would do more harm than good.

Another U.S. scientist expressed doubt that such a dam would do what the Russians think it would—warm the frozen Arctic area.

But Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska) urged this week that the United States give "prompt and sympathetic consideration" to the Soviet proposal. He said he would ask Congress in January to approve a Soviet-American study of the dam and suggested that Canada be invited to participate.

Soviet engineer A. I. Shumilin proposed some time ago that a 33-mile dam be built between Siberia and Alaska. With atomic power, he would pump water by the thousands of cubic miles from the warm Pacific side of the dam to the cold Arctic side.

Another Russian engineer, Peter M. Borisov, came up with another dam proposal last week. Instead of pumping from the Pacific to the Arctic, he would draw cold water out of the Arctic.

This, according to Borisov, would pull warm Gulf Stream water into the Arctic from the Atlantic side and improve the climate of Alaska, Canada, and Siberia. Borisov suggested that the United States and Russia bear jointly the cost of \$17,500,000,000.

Dr. Harry Wexler, the Weather Bureau's chief of meteorological research, and Dr. Earl Drossler, program director for the National Science Foundation's, said much more information must be obtained before it would be possible to say whether the dam would be good or bad for humanity.

There are places in the world, such as Southern California and the Mediterranean regions, Wexler said, which conceivably could be hurt by the dam. These areas are dry most of the year. They get most of their moisture during the short winter seasons when storms bred in the north dip far to the south.

Anything that made the northern winters milder would cut down the number of storms venturing southward, and might dry up these regions, Wexler said.

Right To Jury Trial Passes

An ordinance providing for the right of trial by jury was passed at the city commission's regular meeting last night. The ordinance was put into effect following a law passed by the last Oregon legislature providing that every person charged with any offense defined and made punishable by ordinances of the city shall have the right of trial by jury.

The defendant must post a \$30 deposit to the court at the time of arraignment or entry of plea to entitle him to a jury. If the defendant is acquitted by the jury, the jury fee deposit by the defendant shall be refunded.

\$5 Per Day

The jury, which shall consist of six members, will be paid at the rate of \$5 a day. If the defendant is found guilty, the municipal judge shall add to the fees paid to jurors. The jurors will first be paid from the \$30 deposit and upon conviction the defendant will also have to pay any additional costs.

The list of prospective jurors shall be taken from the latest tax roll and registration books used at the latest city election. The list of jurors shall be chosen at random from the books.

The chief of police shall serve notice of jury duty under the direction of the judge. Any person who fails to appear or disregards the notice will be considered in contempt of court and may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100 dollars or ten days in jail or both.

Bend State's 'Icebox'

BEND (UPI) — The mercury dipped to 14 degrees above zero here early today, lowest official reading in Oregon so far this fall.

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HEAD 4-H JUNIOR LEADERS

These five Union County teenagers were elected last night at the annual recognition banquet in Island City to head activities of junior 4-H leaders for the coming year. From left are Jean Wick, secretary, La Grande; Cathie Jones, secretary, La Grande; Ruth Hoxie, president, La Grande, and Steve Waite, program chairman, La Grande. (Observer Photo)



BANQUET PREPARATION—Ladies of the Union County Farm Bureau prepared banquet last night in recognition of the county's 4-H leaders and junior leaders. From left are Mrs. Everett Cornett, Mrs. Bud Jones, and Mrs. Frank Council. Many of the women of the sponsoring Farm Bureau assisted in the preparation of the dinner. (Observer Photo)



Gulf Braces For Storms

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—Storm-triggered floods threatened in four Mexican Gulf Coast states today while rescue and relief efforts were intensified on the cyclone-battered Pacific Coast.

Latest reports placed the death toll in Tuesday's cyclone at 76 in the Manzanillo area alone. Navy department reports placed the number of injured at 710.

The cyclone cut a crescent-shaped path of death and destruction 150 miles wide and 400 miles long in three Pacific Coast states. The Navy Department reported the entire town of Cuyutlan in Colima, with a population of 800, was wiped out.

A new storm lashed the Gulf Coast Wednesday night, swelling rivers to flood stage. The storm threatened large areas of Vera Cruz, Campeche, Tabasco and Yucatan states which were still digging out from storms and floods 10 days ago.

Two Motorists Are Arrested

A La Grande motorist was arrested for violation of the basic rule on Fourth Street between K and M Avenues yesterday.

Gorman Paul Harris, 404 H Ave., was cited for traveling 34 miles per hour in a 20 mile zone, police said. He was stopped on Fourth Street at 7:45 last night. Jail was set at \$14.

Police also arrested an Island City teenage driver for violation of the basic rule and failure to stop at a stop sign at 9:30 last night. The youth was halted at the intersection of Elm Street and Jefferson Avenue following the violation on Fourth Street.

Jail was set at \$15. Hearings on both cases were scheduled, Sunday afternoon.

GOP Leaders Here For Party Confab

Conducting a swing through Eastern Oregon this week are two ranking Republican party officials, Peter M. Gunnar, Salem, state chairman, and Mrs. Paul Daugherty, Portland, state vice chairman.

The pair will visit La Grande this weekend, according to Forrest Masters, Union County GOP Central Committee chairman.

Mrs. Daugherty will meet Republicans at the home of Mrs. Nora Bradley, 1005 Thirteenth St., at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, while Gunnar confers with GOP city and county leaders here Sunday afternoon.

Aluminum Strike Is Eased, Copper Plant Hit; Steel Meeting

PITTSBURGH (UPI)—Major developments affecting the nation's basic aluminum and copper industries took place today as management and union prepare to resume industry-wide bargaining in the marathon steel strike.

As the four-man bargaining teams representing the basic steel industry and the United Steelworkers Union prepared to go into direct bargaining at 11 a.m. p.s.t., the union announced developments which erased a threat of a strike in the aluminum industry but shut down the nation's last major copper producer still operating.

The union announced it had agreed to "indefinite" contract extensions with the "big three" of the aluminum industry—Alcoa, Reynolds and Kaiser. Together they produce virtually all the nation's aluminum. The extensions provide for retroactivity to Aug. 1 of any final settlement, which will be patterned after whatever settlement is reached in the steel industry.

Copper Producer Struck

The USW also announced that the White Pine Copper Mines of White Pine, Mich., last major copper producer still operating, was hit by a strike Wednesday night.

All other major copper producers have been shut down by strikes by the USW and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union.

The bargaining teams resuming direct talks in the steel strike today were headed by R. Conrad Cooper, for the industry, and USW President David J. McDonald, for the union.

The meeting will be the first between Cooper and McDonald since last Sunday. Since then company-by-company bargaining has been underway in an effort to end the strike, which has cut sharply into the nation's economy.

Finnegan Sounds Warning

The talks will get underway with a warning from Federal Mediation Chief Joseph F. Finnegan that he would move back into negotiations Monday unless an agreement was reached by midnight Sunday.

The U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday rejected a government plea that the USW be compelled to file by noon today its appeal of a Taft-Hartley 90-day back-to-work order. The government hoped to wipe out a six-day stay granted the union by the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia.

Rejection of the government appeal by the high court meant the union had until Monday to file its appeal of the lower court decision, which held up the back-to-work order against the strikers.

Cuban Plane Buzzes U.S. Naval Ship

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A two-engine Cuban bomber buzzed the U.S. Navy destroyer escort John Willis in the Caribbean Monday, the Defense Department disclosed today.

The department said the plane passed over the ship at a height of 300 to 700 feet. It said the plane took "no hostile action."

A spokesman said he did not know whether the Navy or State Department planned to protest the incident to the Cuban government. But he said the service considered the buzzing "insignificant."

The spokesman said only scanty details of the incident were available from a report radioed to Washington from the ship. He said he did not know what kind of bomber was involved or exactly where the buzzing took place, other than in the "Key West, Fla., operating area."

The incident came amidst growing ill feeling between the United States and Cuba. Cuban Premier Fidel Castro has charged that planes have "bombed" Havana from airfields in Florida.

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\$1,892,877.14 COLLECTIONS

Sheriff Announces Mailing Of Union County Tax Statements

By GRADY PANNELL
Observer Staff Writer

Union County tax statements have been mailed, according to Union County Sheriff H. A. Klinghammer. The tax roll was turned over to the sheriff's office earlier in the week by the county assessor's office.

The total amount of tax to be collected is \$1,892,877.14 for 1959-60. For the tax year of 1958-59, the amount collected was \$1,825,106.64.

Deadline for the 3 per cent rebate is Nov. 15, the tax collection officer announced.

Here's a partial breakdown on the tax roll:

Real property totals \$1,821,435; personal property, \$4,326,650; forest patrol, \$27,447.67.

The total taxable value, less \$202,395 soldiers' exemption, and \$4,762,254 value of public utilities assessed by State Tax Commission, is \$27,407,944.

Land Valuation

Valuation of lands inside corporate limits, \$1,738,540; lands outside corporate limits, \$9,325,550; improvements inside corporate limits, \$5,375,725; improvements outside corporate limits,

\$1,859,960; timber (exclusive of land), \$211,660.

In the personal property bracket, merchandise and stock in trade is valued at \$1,301,000; with machinery (other than farm) and equipment, \$1,042,600. Cattle (2,673 head), \$929,225; farm machinery and equipment, \$705,340.

(There are 169 trailers, 1,144 horses and mules, 11,828 sheep and goats, 4,662 swine, and 19,884 poultry listed among the taxable items.)

The assessor's value on total real and personal property is \$22,645,690; estimated assessed value of non-taxable property belonging to the federal government, state, county, cities, school districts, churches, etc., is \$8,267,153.

The tax dollar is used as follows: .43 per cent rural fire districts; 2.04 per cent cemetery districts; 12.91 all cities; 23.75 all county purposes, and 60.87 schools.

County Tax Total

Total county taxes are \$498,824.58 on county valuation of \$27,407,944. The millage rate averages out at 18.2, based on general fund (\$167,736.62); general road fund (\$25,215.31); market road fund (\$214,056.04); school fund (\$35,912.20); weed control fund (\$23,844.91); indigent soldier fund (\$822.24); re-appraisal fund (\$11,237.26).

The highest millage rate is 7.81 on the market road fund; the lowest is .03 on indigent soldier fund.

La Grande leads in special taxes levied by cities and towns with a valuation of \$7,043,501. Millage rate of 29.3, city tax of \$207,783.23, total rate, \$899,949, millage rate, 17.8, city tax, \$16,018.93, total rate, 91.9; with Union third, \$854,034, city tax, \$8,967.36, millage, 10.5, total rate, 80.8.

Island City valuation is \$267,775, millage, 2.8, city tax, \$749.97, total rate, 43.2; North Powder, \$234,975, millage, 19.3, city tax, \$4,535.02, total rate, 77.0; Cove, \$167,339, millage, 12.0, city tax, \$2,008.07, total rate, 76.2; Imbler,

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WEATHER

Clearing and colder tonight; mostly sunny Friday; low tonight 20-25; high Friday 47-53.