

Fair through Wednesday with patches morning fog; highs 36-42; lows 32-38.



CHRISTMAS MAIL POURING IN

Bud Hendrickson of the La Grande post office staff, stacks mail bags containing Christmas cards and packages for local residents. Mail "jam" continues as citizens across the nation send packages to friends and relatives as Christmas draws near.

ALLEY CAT REAL SMART

SAN FRANCISCO UPI — Municipal Judge Byron Arnold ordered the Avenues Pet Shop to pay \$500 Monday for losing an alley cat which had been entrusted to its care. The owner, Richard D'Amico, argued during a two-hour trial that the cat was "just like a member of the family." "He ate peached eggs for breakfast," D'Amico said. Dr. Ernest Siegel, co-owner of the pet hospital, admitted that the cat apparently was an exceptional one. "He must have been very clever," Siegel said, "he escaped."

High Cost Of Living Up And Up

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The nation's living costs edged upward last month to another record high, the government reported today. The Labor Department said its consumer price index rose 1-10 of 1 per cent to 125.6 per cent of average 1947-49 prices. It was the sixth time in the last seven months that it climbed to an all-time peak. Higher costs for transportation, medical care, housing and personal care more than offset declining food prices in November. The increase means that 176,000 meat packing, aircraft, and other workers will receive pay boosts of from one to three cents an hour. Their wages are tied to changes in the index by escalator clauses. Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, predicted the index will stabilize between now and next spring, before climbing again next summer.

ARCHBISHOP ARRIVES

ISTANBUL, Turkey (UPI) — Francis Cardinal Spellman, Roman Catholic archbishop of New York, arrived Monday on his annual Christmas visit to U. S. troops stationed abroad. The cardinal is scheduled to go to Africa next Sunday.



'GUINEA PIGS'—U.S. Naval Radiological Laboratory "Guinea Pigs," still wearing canvas identification vests and waving "diplomas," express their joy at being out in the fresh air after being underground for 14 days. The 99 volunteers, who are prisoners at the Santa Rita Rehabilitation Center took part in an experiment at Parks Air Force Base, Calif., to determine human reaction under minimum space in event of a fallout disaster. The experiment was an "unqualified success."

Ike Will Withdraw All U.S. Troops From Moroccan Bases

PRESIDENT ENDS FOREIGN TOUR IN WILD RECEPTION

CASABLANCA, Morocco (UPI) — President Eisenhower wound up his gruelling 11-nation good will tour today with an announcement that all U. S. forces will be withdrawn from Morocco by the end of 1963. The President was running behind schedule when his jet airliner took off for Washington at 10:08 a.m. P.M. following talks with Morocco's King Mohammed V and the wildest and most spectacular reception of his historic peace mission that may change the course of the cold war. In a final communique issued jointly with King Mohammed, the President said that "preliminary preparations for the departure of U. S. forces will begin in the immediate future." Then it added that all U. S. forces will be out of Morocco in three years. At present, U. S. forces use four air bases and a naval base at Port Lyautey. There now are an estimated 10,000 American troops in Morocco. The communique said that "immediate steps will be taken to release the air field at Ben Slimane" and "this will be achieved not later than March 31, 1960." Given Wild Welcome It added that Mohammed emphasized to the President "the vital importance to Morocco of the end of the war in Algeria." The communique came near the end of the President's 22,000-mile journey of "peace and friendship in freedom" that carried him to parts of Europe, Asia and Africa in the last 49 days. His reception here after a flight from Madrid, where he conferred with Spanish leaders, was in true wild west fashion, with rugged Berber tribesmen firing their rifles in the air and hundreds of thousands of Moroccans roaring their version of "We like Ike." Ahead of the President was a refueling stop at Gander, Nfld., and a planned warm welcome home in Washington late tonight and a later report to the nation Wednesday night on the results of his trip. He was met on arrival here by King Mohammed in person. The King, speaking in Arabic, welcomed the President to this country and said he hoped his short stay would be enjoyable. Eisenhower replied he was glad to be in Morocco, "one of the first nations of the world to recognize the independence of the United States." Eisenhower and Franco's farewells were almost as brief, but in a joint communique they disclosed they had discussed the western summit conference just ended in Paris, Eisenhower's trip to Moscow next spring, and Eisenhower's efforts to improve Spain's lot in the western alliance.



LAST TRIP—Vernon D. Bull, Union Pacific Railroad employe, made the last run before retiring on Friday night. Bull has been with the UP since 1920.

Vernon Bull In Last Run For UP Railroad

BY MAXINE NURMI Observer Staff Writer Vernon D. Bull of La Grande has completed his life as an active railroad man, turning in his conductor's uniform to the Union Pacific. The 1104 M Avenue resident made his last run Friday evening, and, before the sun was up Saturday, was on his way for a much earned vacation to "points south." Bull began as a brakeman and was promoted to conductor in 1941. He was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1934, and remained there until being elected to the state senate in 1946, serving until 1951. To his knowledge, he is the only brakeman to ever have been elected to the Oregon legislature. Capital Punishment While in legislation, he worked to reduce interest rates on small loans and reported progress on this. Bull didn't like the form of capital punishment by hanging. He introduced the bill to "change hanging to the gas chamber." The unique part of this is the fact that it passed, and the train carrying the lethal chamber was one that Bull worked on from Huntington to La Grande. When Bull left Saturday, he took his "house" with him. He is traveling with a trailer house and plans to visit a number of southern places before returning in the spring. He will spend Christmas in Sacramento, Calif., and visit a daughter, Donnie Ober, and children, Greg, 3 and Susan, 2, of Salt Lake City. Mexico is also on his list of places to visit, a brother-in-law, Fred Krebit, formerly of La Grande, may accompany him. Later in the season he hopes to see some historical places in Kentucky and the home of Abe Lincoln. The Mardi Gras is to be one of the highlights of his trip, he said.

Talk Or Fight With Red China On Indian Border

NEW DELHI (UPI) — Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru said today India must either negotiate with the Chinese Communists over the Sino-Indian border dispute or face up to the grim prospect of "indefinite war" between the two nations. The Indian people have a right to be angry over Chinese incursions across the nation's borders, Nehru told the upper house of Parliament, but they would be better off translating their anger into building industrial and military strength and national morale.

Steel Union Members Polled On New Offer

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Steelworkers' union is conducting its own "vote" on management's last offer in the steel dispute, informed sources said today. It has asked the 500,000 Steelworkers to indicate on postal card ballots whether they approve or oppose the rejection of the company's proposal by top union officials. The union survey was viewed as a "dry run" of a government-sponsored poll to be taken next month under the Taft-Hartley law. There was speculation that union leaders wanted to check for possible weak spots in their ranks. The postal cards were sent out last week and to union members across the country. Union officials said the results of the balloting would be made public. Call Joint Talks The disclosure came as federal mediators called both sides into joint negotiations in a final bid for a settlement before President Eisenhower returns tonight from his overseas tour. The Chief Executive apparently will be disappointed in his hopes that an agreement could be reached while he was on his good will mission to 11 nations. Settlement prospects in the waning days of 1959 seem remote even though union and management agreed Monday on a method of procedure. The "big 11" steel firms yielded to the Steelworkers' demand for reopening company-by-company negotiations and schedule separate talks starting next Sunday in Washington. Another 42 subsidiaries and smaller firms will meet in other parts of the country for bargaining sessions. Hopes For Contracts Union President David J. McDonald said Monday after the first mediation session in 10 days that he hoped the individual company talks would lead to the early signing of new coal acts. But before they reluctantly agreed to resume the separate bargaining, the 11 companies said they could not "effectively negotiate" in this way. They said the union could play off one firm against another in such a situation. Federal Mediation Director Joseph F. Funnegan made it plain that he would continue industry-wide negotiations under his supervision in any event.

Symphony In Concert At EOC

Family Christmas concert of the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra will be presented tonight at 7:30 in the Eastern Oregon College auditorium. The annual free concert, the symphony orchestra's gift to the community, will feature the Walla Walla County Chorus as special guests.

TEMPERS FLARE IN NATO

Small Nations Assert Rights Before Endorsing Power Meet

PARIS (UPI) — The foreign ministers of small nations in the NATO council flared up at big power summit strategy today but endorsed the Big Three invitation to Russia for an April summit conference. The 15-nation council reaffirmed the need for a strong stand by the Big Three of Britain, the United States and France to maintain their rights in Berlin when the leaders of those nations meet in Paris with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev. The NATO foreign ministers called together to "ratify" the policies laid down by President Eisenhower, British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, and French President Charles de Gaulle in the western summit conference that ended Monday did their duty. But the bulk of the time was devoted to small power complaints over the threat of being shoved around by the big powers. Informed sources said some small nations were unhappy over being scarcely consulted while working out a round-robin of summit conferences between the West and Russia. Finally Smoothed Over The "little brothers" in NATO also were miffed at what they considered an effort by De Gaulle last weekend to set up a big power "directorate" to run NATO. This would effectively make them second class members of the alliance. Informed sources said the small power rebellion cracked through the secret council meeting for a hour. It was started by Turkish Foreign Minister Fatim Zorlu and the Greek and Belgian delegates immediately hopped into the argument on his side. The flare up was finally smoothed over by Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange, chairman of today's session. Then the delegates went on to give their stamp of approval to the Big Three's summit decisions. The small nations won over-all agreement that political consultation among the members was more important than ever. Lists Developments The big powers agreed to keep the permanent council continuously informed on preparations for the East-West summit. Lange, summarizing today's council review, listed these major developments: —U. S. and Canadian reaffirmations of support for European defense, with the hope Europe would bear a greater share. —Approval of Secretary of State Christian A. Herter's plan for a 10-year strategy for the alliance. —The decision to seek a joint western solution to economic groupings. Lange said he personally considered the determination to avoid a threatened trade war as the main achievement of the session.

Christmas Rush In Post Offices Highest Ever

Postal authorities in Washington estimate the current Christmas mail on a nationwide basis will be the highest on record both for greeting cards and parcels. Postmaster Victor Eckley announced today. These conclusions are based on samplings of postal receipts made in several major cities across the country which show anticipated increases of two to five per cent over last year. Eckley called attention to the recent action of CAB which approved Postmaster General Summerfield's plan to make use of surplus space on commercial planes to speed the movement by air of first class mail during the Christmas rush. Local mailing conditions, Postmaster Eckley stated, show a decided increase to date over last year.

Plan Classes On Livestock Production

Special instruction in livestock production will be available to Union County farmers and ranchers beginning Jan. 12 and continuing for five weeks. Livestock men in the area will have an opportunity to study the latest information on all phases of livestock production. Included in the course will be discussions of genetics, physiology of reproduction, new information on nutrition, management practices and sanitation and parasite control. Two Sessions The classes will be held each Tuesday and Wednesday with two sessions of two hours per day scheduled. Class in La Grande will be held at 1:30 p.m. The other class will be in Elgin at 7:30. Instructors include Dr. Ralph Bogard, Dr. Fred McKenzie, Dr. Jim Oldfield and Dean Frischknecht, all of Oregon State College. The program has been designed to include all classes of large animals. Union County Extension Agent Chuck Gavin has urged all livestock producers to attend. Disguise Disclosed DALLAS, Tex. (UPI) — Dianne Leitz, 4, was telling her daddy about the Santa Claus she saw in a downtown department store: "He has white hair on his chin, with rubber bands fastening it on."

3 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT HELP FIGHT TB CHRISTMAS SEALS 1959 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 1959

Freighter Sinking Off Cuban Coast

MIAMI (UPI) — A 360-ton Dutch freighter began sinking on a Cuban reef today as a Cuban patrol boat made an attempt to rescue the eight persons aboard. How the rescue could be accomplished was not clear. The Coast Guard reported only minutes earlier that the freighter could not lower its own lifeboats and other vessels could not reach it because of heavy seas on the reef. The freighter's master also reported that the reef had pounded a hole all the way through his vessel's double bottom. A Coast Guard spokesman said this would enable the sea to rush in swiftly and sink the ship. The freighter June ran onto the reef Monday night nine miles east of Buena Vista light on the northwestern tip of Cuba. The June, a 150-foot freighter was on a voyage from Nassau, Bahamas, to Guatemala.

NOTHING TOO BIG OR SMALL FOR LIGHT HAND OF AIRMAN

OAKLAND, Calif. (UPI) — Police smiled politely when Air Force M. Sgt. Harold L. Townsend said he had stolen an estimated \$12,000 in merchandise from major department stores from here to Sacramento. But he was so persistent, offering to pay for the items, that he finally sent inspector Eric Gustavson to Townsend's home in Vacaville. An hour later Gustavson made a hurried call to headquarters: "Send another truck. Mine's not big enough." Gustavson had found 466 separate items in Townsend's home—including electric organs, chicken incubators, lamps, hi-fi sets, electric belt massagers, whirlpool baths, pumps, movie cameras, tools, guns, clocks, typewriters, air conditioners, vacuum cleaners, and swimming pool filters. Townsend, 42, married and the father of three children, said he had acquired the loot during the past 12 months. He said he used neither skill nor subterfuge in his shoplifting spree. "It was easy. There was nothing to it. Some of the items took a little effort to carry, but I had my station wagon outside." Townsend, who recently was honored by a full dress parade at Travis Air Force Base for outstanding work as a flight engineer, said he often devoted an entire day to shoplifting. "I'm glad I got caught," he said. "I knew something terrible was wrong with me. But I couldn't stop stealing." Rifle Trick Fails His downfall came when he tried the same trick twice. On Dec. 12, Townsend phoned a store and asked a clerk to wrap up a 30-caliber rifle and place it in the cash register. He said he was in a hurry and would pick up the rifle in a few minutes. The store agreed—and Townsend added another item to his collection. Last Friday he tried the same thing on another store. The store alerted by the first victim, called police. When Townsend came to collect the merchandise, officers allowed him to walk out of the store, then arrested him on a charge of petty larceny. Mrs. Townsend told police her husband said he had good friends in each of the victimized stores and couldn't afford not to buy because of the "terrible discounts."