

WEATHER

Cloudy tonight showers or snow flurries Thursday; highs 40-50; low 25-35.

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

TEMPERATURE

Tuesday maximum 48; night low 17. Sunset today 5:22 p. m.; sunrise Thursday 6:48 a. m. Winds gentle.



WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Local and area ministers and lay leaders of the Conservative Baptist church were present last night and this morning to greet incoming conference representatives for the three-day meeting in La Grande. Left to right, Rev. James Soden, Independence; Harry Munsey, La Grande, and Rev. Elmer Paulson, Salem. (Observer Photo)

State Tax Structure Criticized By Solon

State Senator Monroe Sweetland, Democrat of Milwaukie, told the La Grande Kiwanis club Tuesday night that more money for schools should come from the state's general fund to relieve the strain on local taxpayers. Sweetland urged the Oregon Tax Commission, the legislative interim tax committee and the governor to give immediate attention to the urgent revenue needs of Oregon's local taxing districts. The senator called for "reorganization of the Oregon tax system" to meet the demands of the next decade. He argued that a greater portion of the support of public schools should be shifted from the local property taxpayer to the income and corporation excise taxpayer of the state's general fund. The state budget now provides for less than 30 per cent of operating costs of schools. It makes no contribution to construction costs. Sweetland also supported federal aid to education. The publisher of the Milwaukie Review and chairman of the senate education committee remarked on improvements in Oregon's educational system in the past 10 years. "Oregon's schools are among the very best in the nation," he said. "But the best school systems today are not good enough for tomorrow." In the last 10 years the number of teachers in public schools has increased from 9,838 to 15,920, he said. At the same time enrollment in public elementary and secondary schools has risen from 262,000 to 338,000. On the "quality" side of the ledger, Sweetland noted that 10 years ago 42 per cent of Oregon teachers had less than a bachelor's degree. Today, only 16 per cent have less than a bachelor's degree. And 10 years ago only nine per cent of teachers had a master's degree or better, while 18 per cent have higher degrees today. "There is no question that education in Oregon has made great strides in both quantity and quality in the last decade," the senator declared. "The question to which we must now attend is: Will we be able to continue to make the improvements in the next 10 years which will be necessary to our survival as a free nation?"

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SEN. SWEETLAND

C. BECHTOLD UNION JUDGE

UNION (Special)—Union city council has named Carl Bechtold as city judge on recommendation of Mayor Wayne Ferguson. The council decided to divide the city recorder-municipal judge into two different agencies with John Wright continuing as recorder.

SHELL KILLS BOY REIMS, France (UPI) — Benjamin Baudry, 15, was killed Tuesday when an artillery shell he found in a woods near here exploded.

Mafia Foiled In Move To 'Take' Nevada

GANGSTERS SET TO RULE POLITICS AND GAMBLING

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Narcotics Commissioner Harry J. Anslinger has informed Congress that the police raid on the 1959 Apalachin gangland convention blocked a hoodlum plan "to take over the state of Nevada politically." Anslinger related the plan to a House appropriations subcommittee behind closed doors Jan. 26. His testimony was made public by the House group Tuesday night. The federal official said American Mafia bosses drafted such a plan at the Apalachin, N. Y. meeting when they decided to quit the narcotics racket because federal authorities were making it too hot for them. The plan, he said, was for the mobster elements to move into Nevada's gambling casinos and take some \$50,000 daily "off the top" of the legal gambling operation. But, Anslinger said, the effort was never made because New York police interrupted the Apalachin talks. Some of the younger hoodlums at the Apalachin meeting defied the antinarcotics order, he said, despite a warning from old time: "if you do not get out in six months something is going to happen to you." "Well, it already happened to two," Anslinger said. "Two of the younger fellows who decided to continue in the business have since been killed." Attack Is Pressed The Argentine vessels promptly attacked the mysterious undersea craft, and reports circulating here today said the Murature may have hit it. The report suggested the Murature may have been using the late-model depth charges bought from the United States. Argentina's own charges had proved ineffective because they could not be detonated deep enough to be a serious threat in the 800-foot waters of the gulf. Naval circles were optimistic about the possible effect of the attack. World War II Type Unofficial reports said the submarine was operating at about 10 knots — approximately half its estimated normal underwater speed. It was said, however, that it was maneuvering more freely than the last time it was detected.

Argentine Ship Hits Submarine

PUERTO MADRYN, Argentina (UPI) — The Argentine frigate Murature attacked and perhaps damaged the mystery submarine of the Nuevo Gulf Tuesday night, apparently with depth charges flown from the United States. The U-boat, undetected for more than 36 hours, was picked up on sonar Tuesday night by the Argentine frigate King. The Murature, following word from the King, closed in and also detected the submarine. Attack Is Pressed The Argentine vessels promptly attacked the mysterious undersea craft, and reports circulating here today said the Murature may have hit it. The report suggested the Murature may have been using the late-model depth charges bought from the United States. Argentina's own charges had proved ineffective because they could not be detonated deep enough to be a serious threat in the 800-foot waters of the gulf. Naval circles were optimistic about the possible effect of the attack. World War II Type Unofficial reports said the submarine was operating at about 10 knots — approximately half its estimated normal underwater speed. It was said, however, that it was maneuvering more freely than the last time it was detected.

State To Aid Street Work

The state highway department has given "tentative approval" to a maintenance project which would see Adams Avenue given a new layer of asphalt from Willow to Fourth Streets. If the project is passed, the work will be let on contract. The city has been advised of the department's plan. City Manager Dave Slaght is now working on a report which will reveal whether the city will be able to repair all old water or sewer pipes under the street before paving is laid down. The highway department has said it will not begin paving until July 1 in order to give the city time to make its service repairs or replacements. The project is one of several proposed by the La Grande district office of the highway department. Final approval must now come from Salem.

Humphrey Team In Area Thursday

PORTLAND (UPI) — Four members of the Oregon Humphrey-for-President Committee will make a four-day visit to eastern Oregon starting Thursday. They plan to spend Thursday morning in The Dalles, the early afternoon at Hermiston, and the late afternoon and evening at La Grande. Meetings are scheduled in Baker Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be spent in Pendleton and Hermiston with possible trips to Nyssa and Ontario.

Baptist Conference Begins Here Today

Conservative Baptist Association members began arriving here last night and this morning for the 12th annual meeting of the group with headquarters at the host First Baptist church, 1105 Spring St. Prior to today's official opening of the conference, however, state board members, representing 140 Oregon Conservative Baptist churches and 25,000 members, met with Rev. Victor Zacharias, host pastor. Bernard H. McClain, state moderator, Portland, presided at the board meeting. Laymen Meeting Registration began this morning and continued through the afternoon. Today's program also included a morning pastor-laymen meeting conducted by Dr. Willard Miller, The Dalles, and Rev. Guy Zehring, Roseburg, former pastor of the local church. The afternoon opening session, held at the First Christian church where most of the meetings are being held in order to accommodate large attendance, featured the Rev. John Henderson, West Linn; Rev. Howard Roth, Newell, Calif.; McClain and Rev. Zacharias. Rev. Murl Gassaway, Cove, gave the afternoon sermon and



CHURCH CONFERENCE MEMBERS ARRIVE

Conservative Baptist church delegates from throughout Oregon arrive at the Union Pacific depot in preparation for the 12th annual meeting here of the association. Several hundred representatives are on hand for the three-day affair. (Observer Photo)

Chessman Fate Up To Brown As High Court Rejects Plea

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. (UPI) — Caryl Chessman, 38, rebuffed for the 15th time by the U.S. Supreme Court, today gave up legal efforts to escape his scheduled execution date Friday and rested his case on the "conscience" of Gov. Edmund G. Brown. Brown, in San Francisco, planned to meet later today with Chessman's attorneys, George T. Davis and A. L. Wirtz. In a press conference here, the convict — author emphasized that his latest action was not an appeal to the governor. During the meeting with newsmen, Chessman dictated a telegram that was forwarded to the governor. "I ask you to do what ever your conscience dictates you should," it said. "Mine tells me that I again must affirm the fact that I'm not the Red Light bandit even if the price for that affirmation must be death." Chessman said he had instructed his attorneys not to make any more legal moves. Under Extreme Pressure Chessman said he had been under "extreme and intense pressure" from his attorneys and friends to seek clemency from the governor. Brown turned down Davis' bid for clemency for Chessman last October. Davis contended today that the clemency request will remain in effect before Brown until Chessman is executed.



CARYL CHESSMAN

Civil Rights Measure Action Now Assured

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House Rules Committee tentatively agreed today to free a long-stalled civil rights bill for early House action. The informal agreement, reached at a closed session, broke a deadlock over the bill which has been held up by the committee since last August. One member said the committee might give formal clearance to the bill Thursday or next Tuesday. In the Senate, the Rules Committee postponed action on civil rights legislation to guarantee Negro voting rights because of the illness of Chairman Thomas C. Hennings (D-Mo.). The official business before the Senate is an unrelated minor bill, affecting a Stella, Mo., school district. But senators have been invited to make it a civil rights vehicle by attaching amendments. Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R-N.Y.) pro civil rights member of the rules committee, predicted there was enough support in the nine-member group to approve a voting rights proposal. But he would not predict action at today's meeting. The committee had before it a plan for federal voting registrars, advocated by the Civil Rights Commission; Atty. Gen. William P. Rogers' proposal for a system of federal voting referees; and a bill drafted by Hennings to combine features of the two plans in a proposal for "federal enrollment officers." Tuesday, southern Democrats blocked a move by Keating to get the judiciary committee to act on long-stalled civil rights legislation. Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-S.C.) objected to Keating's motion for approval of a seven-point administration bill. Johnston argued that the committee could not legally sit while the Senate was in session. He was upheld by Chairman James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) and the committee adjourned without acting.

CHURCH-COMMUNIST TIE? AIR FORCE RESERVE MANUAL UNDER CONGRESSIONAL PROBE

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sweeping Pentagon and congressional investigations were ordered today into an Air Force Reserve training manual which linked churches with Communism and termed as "foolish" demands for the American people to know what is going on. Air Force Secretary Dudley C. Sharp announced the manual had been withdrawn from use Feb. 11 but said a full scale inquiry would be made to find out who was responsible for the publication. In Congress, Rep. John E. Moss (D-Calif.), chairman of the House freedom of information subcommittee, ordered his investigators to "gather every fact." He termed the manual as "an outrageous display of arrogance." May Hold Hearings Sharp in his statement "categorically repudiated" the viewpoint of the manual which had brought a vehement protest from the National Council of Churches. He said that in addition to finding out the individuals responsible for the publication, the Air Force will investigate its other publications to see if similar information is being carried. Moss told United Press International his group may hold hearings on the situation. "We want to know who wrote it. We want to know who approved it and we want to know its distribution," he said. Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates Jr. was reported "startled and stunned" at the contents of the manual. Sharp said that he acted immediately on learning of the existence of the manual Tuesday evening. He found that Air Force headquarters had directed withdrawal of the document last Thursday, the day the church council sent a letter of protest to Gates. Used as a text for a training course for noncommissioned officers in the Air Force Reserve, the manual contained these quotes: "Communists and Communist fellow-travelers have successfully infiltrated our churches." "Pastors Are Communists" "It is well known that even the pastors of certain of our churches are card-carrying Communists." "The National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. officially sponsored the revised standard version of the Bible. Of the 95 persons who served on this project, 30 have been affiliated with pro-Communist fronts, projects and publications." "Another foolish remark often heard is that Americans have a right to know what's going on. Most people realize the foolishness of such a suggestion." "Keep in mind that public news media present only as much information as the government wants to release."

ENTERPRISE LEADER DIES

ENTERPRISE (Special) — William W. Zurcher, 78, justice of the peace, and a retired stockman, died Monday afternoon at the Enterprise hospital where he was taken Saturday evening after suffering a heart attack. Funeral services will be conducted by the Bollman Funeral Home Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Community Church. The Rev. John V. Munsey will officiate and Mrs. C. C. Jacobs will be organist. Burial will be in the Enterprise cemetery beside the grave of his wife who died Dec. 16, 1959. B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 1829 will have the ritual committal service. Zurcher who had lived in the county since 1894, was born in Cadiz, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1882, son of John and Helen Zurcher, who homesteaded land on which part of Enterprise is located. For many years he was one of the larger stockmen of the county. On Nov. 23, 1904 he was married to Helena Devore. He was a member of the Community Church and of B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 1829. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Kermit (Alice) McCully, Enterprise; a son, Devore Zurcher, and a sister, Mrs. F. A. (Nellie) Clark, Portland; six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

NOSE CONE EPLODES

EGLIN AFB, Fla. (UPI) — The nose cone of the Nike-Cajun rocket fired Tuesday to measure micro-meteorite activity 100-miles above the Gulf of Mexico disintegrated a few seconds after launching. It was the first malfunctioning of a Nike-Cajun shot at the Air Force test center here.

Ike Not Worried Over Safety During Latin American Tour

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Eisenhower said today he has no fear for his safety during his forthcoming Latin American trip, and he does not think the Secret Service is worried, either. Eisenhower told his news conference he expects to make a nationwide radio-TV speech Sunday night concerning his trip, beginning Monday, to four major South American countries. The President said his talk will begin at 6:15 p.m. e.s.t. It will be a general discussion of his tour plans but also will touch upon matters of U.S. defense. Asked specifically whether he planned to carry to the people his side of the current defense controversy, Eisenhower said that he would suppose that during his Sunday evening talk he would include items such as the security and strength of the United States. The President hinted, in remarks about Cuba, that U.S. patience eventually may run out with Fidel Castro's revolutionary regime. Commenting on new Soviet trade and aid arrangements with Cuba, the President recalled that the Castro regime recently has repudiated or disturbed a number of the traditional economic arrangements under which the U.S. tries to help the Cuban economy and people. Hopes For Agreement He concluded by saying that he hoped that the U.S. troubles with Cuba could be worked out so that the Cuban people themselves would not suffer. Other highlights of Eisenhower's news conference: —He said Russia appears to be offering greater hope for agreement on an H-bomb test ban by moving away from its previously rigid position on inspection and control. He deplored Russia's action in rejecting his plan to ban all nuclear weapons tests except smaller underground blasts which defy detection under current long-range methods. —He described as despicable charges or implications he had mislaid the American people in the debate of U.S. defense policies. He said U.S. defenses are strong and awesome and he was tired of hearing people cite national defense as an excuse for wasting money. —He said an Air Force reserve training manual, which referred to churches following the Communist party line, had been recalled and repudiated by the Air Force. —He believes that a presidential nominee must have a voice in the selection of his party's vice presidential nominee if there are to be the same close relations between a president and vice president that he has had with Vice President Richard M. Nixon. —He deplored the fact that a spirit of nationalism and craving for prestige impelled countries such as France to want to explode their own A-bombs. But he acknowledged that this was a perfectly understandable desire under current circumstances. He recalled that the United States in 1947 warned that one of the dangers, unless there were a ban on testing, was that many nations would want to develop such weapons. But he expressed the hope for an early workable test ban agreement which might end such nationalistic striving.