

No Substitute!  
You'll find no newspaper  
can give more real satisfac-  
tion than your LOCAL  
MORNING PAPER, with its  
WORLD NEWS and HOME  
COMMUNITY NEWS.

Weather  
Scattered showers today  
with a snow in mountains  
rain Friday. Max. temp.  
Wednesday 47, min. 39.  
River 11.8 ft. South wind.

## Drager Salary Advances Traced in Detail

### In One Ear... —Paul Hauser's Column

The automobile dealers may talk all they wish of economy of operation, but if you want to keep your mileage down, drive a fire engine.

We checked up yesterday on the fire department's rolling stock and discovered that it hasn't been around much. Fire engines are very poorly traveled.

For instance, we found that the big aerial truck has traveled only 239 miles in its 16 years in the department. That's about 15 miles a year, which is still better than the average of a 1930 Mack pumper at the main station. Its speedometer shows 94 miles traveled since the department bought it in 1924.

Hardest working car in the fire department is the little 1939 Ford pick-up which goes whizzing off to chimney fires. It has gone 85 miles in a year's time. That's traveling!

There's no mileage record on the oldest truck in the department, a 1913 American LaFrance pumper housed at the east Salem station, but it's probably been around more than the others. A 1929 Reo holds the record for the central station with 3359 miles.

Chemical engines get a little more work than pumps, because they answer more alarms and also make runs into the country for outside fires. The big Seagrave chemical which was new in 1937 has gone 533 miles already.

The mileage figures don't mean a thing as far as pumps are concerned, because they may stand still and pump, motors going full tilt, for hours at a time. We thought we'd better warn you about the pumps. In case this has encouraged you to go out and pick up a good used fire engine with lots of miles left in it.

### IDIOTS' DELIGHT

While the life span of idiots and imbeciles is brief, as a rule, they seem to live longer in California than elsewhere in the country.

### Trivial Information

Hal Allen, young cartoonist whose work has been appearing in The Statesman recently caricatured Don Nicholson, the three-wheeled cop. After the cartoon appeared, Nicholson told him it was a good thing he didn't own a car. Yesterday Hal borrowed a car, drove it down town. At day's end it had two of the city's best parking tags on it.

### PHOENIX, FU-TZE

Aw, go away, Confucius say.

### NLRB Dictating Loans From RFC

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14—(AP)—Chairman J. Warren Madden of the labor board disclosed to house investigators today details of an understanding with the reconstruction finance corporation whereby the board sought to bar companies accused of unfair labor practices from obtaining RFC loans.

The house committee also examined writings of David J. Sapos, the board's chief economist, which led to an inquiry as to whether he advocated revolution. Sapos disclaimed such extreme views.

Madden said the understanding with the RFC had been suggested by that agency last fall and that the board had been glad to cooperate. He presented correspondence from board offices setting forth details of the understanding.

### Germany Refuses To Consider Zone

BERLIN, Feb. 14—(AP)—Germany informed the Americans today that the British and French viewpoints must be "fundamentally revised" before she could consider the American "safety zone."

The German government declared its readiness for a further exchange of thought on the subject but said it saw little hope for success because of the "will of the British and French governments to destroy from the beginning the basic thought of the security zone."

The Nazi position was stated in a note handed to the foreign minister of Panama by the German chargé d'affaires there in reply to a protest from the pan-American neutrality conference on the running battle between the pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee and three British cruisers off the Uruguayan coast last December.

## Blizzard Hits East Seaboard; Hundreds Hurt, Ship in Peril

### Roads Blocked By big Drifts; 12 States Hit

Traffic Deaths Mounting and Communications Badly Disrupted

Storm Will Be Well out to Sea Today; Tanker Sends SOS, Sought

NEW YORK, Feb. 14—(AP)—The worst blizzard of the year pounded the Atlantic seaboard all day and tonight with a blinding mixture of snow, rain, sleet, wind and fog.

The storm, screaming up from the south and funneling as it spread, reached a 100-mile-an-hour crescendo atop the Empire State building and dropped a burden of deepening snow and ice over a dozen states.

The freezing gale winds, strongest since the 1938 hurricane ripped a \$500,000,000 path of destruction across Long Island and New England, left a trail of traffic deaths and wrecked power lines and hindered shipping. The storm blocked highways with snowdrifts up to 20 feet deep and grounded commercial air traffic from Ohio to Boston.

Hundreds were hurt in storm accidents. In New York City, faced with the possibility of its most serious traffic tie-up in years, emergency police details were kept busy caring for more than 100 injured. A wind gust swept one man to his death from a fourth floor scaffolding on the Criminal Courts building. A woman, blown against a building in the financial district, suffered a fractured skull.

Traffic Is Stopped In Several States

Hundreds of highway workers equipped with snow blows fought a losing battle to keep main roads open, but daylong drifts had stopped traffic in sections of New Jersey, New York, New England, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Highways still open were so ice-laden and snow-jammed that cars moved at snail's pace.

Buses ran hours behind schedule in mountainous districts, where travel was particularly hazardous, and hundreds of marooned motorists abandoned their cars and trudged through hip deep drifts to farmhouse shelters.

The National Broadcasting company reported power failures resulting from storm-damaged wires had forced its two networks off the air 28 times during the day, ranging from three seconds to 12 minutes.

In a special broadcast from (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

### St. Valentine's Mail Keeps Salem Postmen On Run Wednesday

Dan Cupid kept the postmen busy yesterday. Incoming mail was about 1 1/2 times as heavy as usual yesterday, St. Valentine's day, Postmaster H. R. Crawford reported.

Both cards and larger gifts were evidently used to express the day's sentiments since there was an increase in both letter and package deliveries.

## Ickes-Weir Debate Outlines Fundamental National Issue

NEW YORK, Feb. 14—(AP)—Secretary Ickes said in a debate with Ernest T. Weir tonight that "million of people who no longer have faith in the profit system" would follow President Roosevelt "in the protection of that system, as well as of individual liberty and political democracy."

The cabinet officer and the industrialist discussed before the Economic club of New York, the relationship of government to business.

The chairman of the National Steel corporation argued that the Roosevelt administration was attempting not regulation but "definite government control" of business.

"What," he asked, "does enterprise ask of government? It does not ask government to 'let it alone.' It does not deny the right and necessity of government to police and referee business activity. It asks government to stop trying to run business—it asks government to stop its competition, its restrictions and its threats—it asks understanding of the economic necessities of business."

### Presbyterian Leader Says India Doesn't Want Full Independence



DR. SAMUEL HIGGINBOTTOM

## Dominion Status India Aim Says Higginbottom

Natives Fear Russia, Japan; Head of Presbyterian Church Tells of His Missionary Work

The man whom the maharajahs of India coaxed into sparing time from mission work to help them develop their territories agriculturally, Dr. Samuel Higginbottom, doesn't believe the people of that country want absolute independence from Great Britain. They are afraid to attempt to stand alone.

### Durham Candidate For School Office

Heater Announces He Will Run for Judge; Neal Urged by Demos

Interest in Marion county election races picked up yesterday as new candidates, including one for school superintendent, received mention.

H. F. Durham, retired principal of Parrish junior high school in Salem, filed notice of candidacy for the non-partisan nomination for county school superintendent, position held by Mrs. Agnes C. Booth by appointment of the county court following the death last year of Mary L. Fulkerson.

Mr. Durham served as principal of Parrish for 14 years' earlier service in the Salem schools. His slogan is listed in his notice (Turn to page 2, col. 2)

### Fern Ridge Unit Bids Are Called

Bids for construction of the \$2,500,000 Fern Ridge reservoir dam, first of a series in the Willamette valley project, will be opened March 5 at the office of the United States army engineers in Portland, R. H. Kipp, executive secretary for the Willamette River Basin commission, reported here yesterday.

Kipp predicted construction would be under way late in March. The dam will consist of a 300-foot long concrete spillway structure flanked on either side by an earthen dam.

### Fern Ridge Unit Escapes Electrocuting

RAINIER, Ore., Feb. 14—(AP)—City Fireman Roy McCaskey answered a fire call last night and narrowly escaped electrocution. Hospital treatment for shock and burns was necessary after he tripped over an electrified wire and fell into a mud puddle. The fire damaged the home of Mr. Rainier.

### Turkish Press Predicts War Over Oil Area

Hostilities "by April" Said Indicated With Allies Attacking

Germany Like Britain Is Sending Troops There; "Partition" Rumored

ISTANBUL, Feb. 14—(AP)—The Turkish press turned sudden attention today to the strategic position of Soviet Russia's rich caucasian oil fields, lying along the Turkish frontier, and openly discussed the possibility of war over them "by April."

One inspired newspaper, the usually well informed Son Telegram, suggested that Great Britain, France and Turkey, with combined near eastern forces of nearly one million men, may be considering an attack on these fields.

Several newspapers featured reports that Germany was sending a large number of troops to the caucasus to help Russia defend the oil supplies. Indian and Moslem Troops Imported

All this coincided with reports that large forces of British Indian and Moslem troops had arrived in French-ruled Syria from Egyptian bases. This would free French troops now quartered there, and was interpreted in foreign military quarters as meaning that the British-French near-eastern army, already more than 500,000 strong, was being concentrated even closer to Turkey.

The entire press carried descriptions of Russia's new fortifications on the caucasus frontier and said the Russians were fortifying Odessa and other ports in this part of the world.

The Son Telegram predicted: "Toward the end of March or the beginning of April events are going to precipitate themselves," and then said of the new Russian fortifications: "We do not know whether the USSR is proceeding with these fortifications with the object of placing her coast and petroleum regions in a state of defense or whether she figures on using the points as bases for attack."

In carrying the reports that German troops were being sent into the caucasus the papers also told of alleged German plans for "occupation and partition" of southern Europe.

Editorial statements declared Turkey would regard any German-Russian threat to Rumania, Iran, or Iraq—all having oil wells—a threat to her own security, necessitating her immediate entry into the war.

Several hours later reports of new trouble circulated as detectives were summoned to the prison. Warden Herbert Smith said, however, he had asked police to check houses at one end of a tunnel and that "everything is quiet."

Guards found the body of James Wilson, 25, of Williamsport, Pa., hanging in his cell by a belt, soon after prison officials discovered the tunnels, one 33 and the other 33 feet long, extending from a cell block on the first floor toward the prison wall.

The tunnels had not been dug far enough to make escape possible.

### Late Sports

SEATTLE, Feb. 14—(AP)—Vancouver's high flying ice team came from behind tonight to defeat Seattle 5 to 3, in overtime and widen its first place lead in the Pacific coast hockey league.

The victory gave the Lions a two-victory lead over the second place Portland Buckaroos, the widest margin in many weeks in the see-saw first place battle.

EUGENE, Ore., Feb. 14—(AP)—Eugene high defeated University high of Eugene, 36 to 15, in a district 7 basketball league game here tonight. Eugene led 16 to 9 at haltime.

### Finnish Crisis Nears; British Sink two Subs

Russians now Claim 100 Forts are Captured; Losses Said Huge

Over 2000 Volunteer in England; Hungarians Vow to Slay Ten

(By The Associated Press) Fighting along the dented but unbroken Mannerheim line, Finland rushed more men to the colors Wednesday and her president proclaimed the determination of the Russian-invasion republic to fight on regardless of the outcome of the battle.

While the Finns admitted Russian gains in the Summa sector and called up men between 42 and 43 years old to bolster defenses there, President Kyösti Kallio declared his people had no choice but to carry on the fight despite the overwhelming odds against them.

"Everyone knows we are outnumbered 50 to one," said Kallio, "but the issues at stake are clear."

Material Help Is Needed Says Kallio

"We appreciate the sympathy shown us by Americans in our struggle to be free—in fact to live at all—but we really hope our cause may stir onlookers abroad to offer us material help. For after all we are defending the interests common to all civilized peoples."

The Finns acknowledged the red army gains in the Summa sector after 14 days of merciless assaults but declared their stout-hearted defenders had repulsed the invaders elsewhere along the Mannerheim line with tremendous enemy losses.

The Russians claim that a total of 100 Finnish steel and concrete emplacements have been captured.

Finland's renewed appeal for outside help found a ready response in London where the British (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

### FR Decision May Depend on Welles

Foreign Situation First Item in His Choice Is Inside View

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14—(AP)—Informed sources on Capitol hill expressed belief today President Roosevelt would defer his decision concerning a third term until Sumner Welles, undersecretary of state, returns from Europe.

This prediction was based on the belief the president would be influenced largely by conditions abroad.

Welles will leave in a few days to visit Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany. The president recently announced information Welles obtained on European conditions would be reported in confidence to himself and Secretary Hull.

Several democrats on the hill have privately expressed the view that war conditions abroad and in the far east probably would have more to do with the president's decision on the third term than any other single consideration. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

### Danish Ship Is Sunk; Most of Crew Missing

LONDON, Feb. 15—(Thursday)—(AP)—The Danish ship Martin Goldschmidt, 2,095 tons, was sunk off the northwest coast of Scotland, a British press service reported today in a dispatch from Oslo. Fifteen of the crew were lost. Five were rescued by a Norwegian ship.

## Defendant Asserts Deputy "Must Have Taken" Some Funds

Accusation Made Only After Lengthy Cross-Examination; Temporary Shortages Are Admitted

Earlier Intimations County Accounts Were "off" Figure in Testimony As Treasurer Retains Stand

County Treasurer David G. Drager, under visible strain after two days spent on the witness stand in his own defense, yesterday testified in response to persistent cross-examination by Special Prosecutor Francis E. Marsh that W. Y. Richardson, his former deputy, "must have taken" \$23,520.41 of county funds which the state contends are missing, and admitted that he himself had written "a few" county checks for personal obligations several days before cash had been put in the treasurer's till to reimburse the county.

This testimony, given in a calm voice and without hesitation despite fatigue apparent from hours of questioning by attorneys from both sides, placed a sudden climax on monotonous days of testimony taking by both sides.

Drager laid blame for taking county money on Richardson only after intensive questioning by Marsh as to division of tasks in the treasurer's office between himself and his former deputy.

In response to the prosecutor's inquiries, Drager admitted that he had usually written out vouchers and checks and had totalled them up at the end of the month before turning them over to the county.

Marsh then inquired why the treasurer had never noticed that certain vouchers, though marked paid in December, had actually been paid in the first days of January. To this, which amounted to a statement of the prosecution's contention that altered vouchers were the means used to conceal shortages, the defendant replied that such vouchers must have been included by mistake.

Claims Richardson Checked on Treasury

Continuing the examination, Marsh inquired whether Richardson, the deputy, was allowed to draw personal checks on county funds and subsequently reimburse the county. Drager replied that the deputy was accustomed to do so, but that he had no proof that there was any harm in it, but "I've changed my mind now," Drager declared.

Marsh then elicited from the witness an admission that taking of a trial balance at any time would have consumed no more than one or two hours, and would involve merely adding up ledger accounts of receipts and expenditures, and subtracting the latter from the former.

"The shortage would have shown up at any time here, except for perhaps a week at the end of the year. Didn't you ever see this?" Marsh asked.

"I left the bookkeeping to Mr. Richardson," Drager responded. When Marsh pressed the question of losses showing on the ledger, he added, "figures were put in the book, but the money was taken elsewhere."

Previous Auditors Were All "Friends"

Marsh then sought information from the treasurer in respect to county audits. Previous county auditors, including Harry Roland, J. C. Slegmund, Warren Richardson, A. L. Downing and A. A. Lee, the county treasurer testified were all his "friends," who would have expected nothing wrong with the treasurer's books.

Having stated in response to questions that he had been present during the state audit in 1933 which revealed shortages on the county books, and that he had had access to the records used by the auditors at that time, the defendant then admitted an assertion made by Marsh that \$23,520.41 was actually missing from county books.

Drager also answered "no" when the prosecutor asked whether the treasurer thought the shortage was due to errors in bookkeeping, or to the way in which county books were set up. "Somebody took it," he asserted. "Conversation With Auditors Recalled"

The treasurer then recalled, on Marsh's suggestion, a conversation between state auditors and himself at the state office building in 1933. At that time, he said, both he and Richardson agreed that either one or both of them had taken the sum, but both denied any participation.

"Then it simmers down to the fact that a large portion of the money was taken by yourself or Richardson?" the prosecutor inquired. "You have declared that you took none, and Richardson has said the same. Thus you are telling the jury that Richardson took the money?"

"Yes, sir, if he or I took it, he's (Turn to page 2, col. 1)

## Irrigation Surveys Will Be Fisher Job, Valley Project

Irrigation surveys important to the Willamette valley project will be made by C. C. Fisher, United States bureau of reclamation engineer appointed to the task, R. H. Kipp, executive secretary for the Willamette River Basin commission declared here yesterday.

"We have been working for some time to get the bureau of reclamation to start a study of irrigation possibilities throughout the whole valley," Kipp said. "Our problems are different than those of other reclamation projects, where the biggest expense is usually for structures to hold and store the water."

In the Willamette valley, however, "all this is taken care of by the flood control works," Kipp explained. "All the reclamation bureau will have to do is take this water as it is let out into the streams to clear the reservoirs for the following winter's floods."

The reclamation bureau surveys will "show just what can be done with irrigation in the valley," Kipp said, pointing out that here only one foot of water per acre is required in a season as against three to four feet in other irrigated areas.

The three small dams that are first to be constructed, all to be started this year, in the valley project, will alone provide 200,000 acre feet of water for irrigation.

Fisher has been construction engineer on the \$8,000,000 Deschutes project in central Oregon and will go to Denver to complete reports on Grand Ronde investigations in eastern Oregon before moving his headquarters to Portland. Survey parties will be sent throughout the valley from there, Kipp said.