

If you like thrilling romance—and who doesn't?—you'll want to read Barrett Willoughby's story, "Lower Come Back," on page five of The Statesman today.

Partly cloudy; continued cool today and Thursday with local showers. Max. Temp. Tuesday 55, Min. 35. Northwest wind. Rain .33 inch. River -7 feet. Partly cloudy.

Quake Rocks Mexico, Volcano Explodes

Lava Sets Forests Afire Near Colima; Thousands Injured

Southern Half of Nation Hit Including Mexico City; Aid Rushed to Stricken Areas

Amateur Radio Keeps World Informed of Great Disaster; Blazes Spread in Many Towns; Deaths Unknown

MEXICO CITY, April 15—President Avila Camacho's office was informed late Tuesday night that probably half the 15,000 residents of the city of Colima were left homeless, injured or dead in an earthquake Tuesday afternoon, and that the Colima volcano nearby erupted and set fire to the forests.

Radio advices to the president from Governor Pedro Torres Ortiz of Colima state reported the stricken provincial capital was menaced seriously by the forest fires.

The volcano was set in eruption when the quake rocked the southern half of Mexico, shaking Mexico City as well as the provinces, and starting fires here.

Fire and other damage here was estimated at \$1,000,000 or more.

Colima military authorities reported numerous smaller towns around the city had been levelled, and that surrounding forests were a "roaring mass of flames."

A radio message picked up here from an operator who described himself as an amateur sending from Colima said at least 30 persons were dead.

The station kept repeating: "Colima in ruins. We need aid."

The reports to the president's office said the earthquake lasted five minutes at Colima, nearly as long as the disastrous quake which wrecked the city in 1932.

Avila Camacho ordered doctors and nurses to leave with medical (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)

Airport Land Deals Near Completion

Salem's airport dealings, which appeared Tuesday to be settled only to run into another hitch, may come to a conclusion today or Thursday and the affidavit that the necessary lands have been acquired by the city speeded on to Washington.

Only one deed of the four the city must acquire is now out of its hands as an unforeseen delay arose in obtaining title to the 10.6 acres to be purchased from James R. Linn.

The city Tuesday received title to three of the four parcels included in the 89 acres needed for airport expansion. Deed for 42.7 acres was received in exchange for a city of Salem warrant for \$5337.50 paid to Chandler Brown, as agent for William Brown of Redlands, Cal. Warrants were issued for \$3800 to Roy and Maude Rae for 32 acres and for \$551.80 to the state of Oregon for 3.86 acres.

Yet unsettled are the questions of where to move the powder house on the remaining William Brown property and whether the civil aeronautics authority will agree to pay for removal of other buildings on the same property as damages.

Robber Youth Escapes Home

Clad only in pajamas, Earl Bonney, 16, of Salem, escaped from the state training school for boys at Woodburn late Tuesday, state police reported.

Bonney was sentenced February 18 on a conviction of assault and robbery with a deadly weapon. Accompanied by another youth, Bonney robbed W. H. Henderson, local publisher.

Senate on Vacation WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—The senate decided Tuesday to take an unofficial vacation until next week after Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky observed that there was not a single "legislative egg" on hand. He said the senate would meet perfunctorily Friday and adjourn until Monday.

Germans Claim British Retreating in Greece

FDR Plans Red Sea Convoys

Asserts Supply Ships Will Get Armed Help

WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—President Roosevelt indicated Tuesday that American merchant ships carrying war supplies through the newly-opened Red sea route to Egypt would have armed protection.

He was asked at a press conference whether it was the policy of this government to protect its ships wherever they go, so long as they stay out of the combat zones defined in the neutrality act. He replied that was the law.

He did not say to what law he referred, but other officials expressed belief he meant international law which, they said, provided for the freedom of the seas.

Although the president refrained from going into details about methods of protecting ships, naval men said several courses were possible.

They mentioned actual escorts by United States naval vessels, assignment of such vessels to patrol specific areas of the sea to see that no harm comes to American merchantmen, the use of airplanes, and the arming of the merchantmen themselves.

The president had told reporters, however, that he knew of no discussion of arming merchantmen, except talk by orators.

The day also brought a new development related to the recent seizure of German, Italian and Danish vessels in American harbors. Chairman George (D-Ga.) of the foreign relations committee introduced legislation authorizing the president, during the present emergency, to purchase, requisition, and take possession of foreign vessels lying idle in the ports of the United States.

Less than a week ago, President Roosevelt eliminated the port of Aden and the Red sea from the areas listed as combat zones. Consequently, American vessels may (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

Sing Sing Dash Is False Alarm

OSSINING, N.Y., April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—A miscount of prisoners in a cell block caused Sing Sing prison authorities to send out an alarm early today that two convicts were missing.

The prison siren and whistles sounded the warning for 20 minutes, and Ossining and state police sped to the scene before the error was discovered.

The Ossining police alarm, which Ossining headquarters said was authorized by prison officials, was sent at 12:13 a. m. (EST) and said:

"Escaped prisoners. Unknown how many. Further information will follow."

A third count of the cell block today showed all 640 prisoners safely behind bars.

First Army Aviation Unit in Oregon Ready for US Okeh

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After receiving federal recognition as a component part of the army of the United States, the observation squadron will be maintained on an armory-drill status for a brief period and then ordered to active duty for a year, officials said.

Nazis Dig Deeper Into Greece



When reading the lead war story this morning note on the map (above) the British-Greek defense line as indicated by the inverted "V" which the Germans claim they pierced on the right as far south as Larisa, 35 miles beyond Mt. Olympus. The Nazis also claim to have broken through the upper part of the right side of the "V," some 50 miles south of Phlorina (below the figure 2). The Hitler Storm Troopers came through from Yugoslavia into Greece (1) through the rough Bitolj pass. The Rupel pass battle (3) is reported completely over with the Greek defending army either killed or captured. The black arrows show the general direction of the axis thrusts.

Soft Coal Strike Nears Accord; South Balks

US Conciliator Says Wage Contract May Be Signed Today; Dies Group Hears Communist Testimony

NEW YORK, April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—Chief Federal Conciliator John R. Steelman announced early today that "virtually the entire wage contract has now been completed" for a major portion of the country's paralyzed soft coal industry, and that there were indications that at least an important part of the shutdown mines would reopen soon.

He made this statement after northern Appalachian coal operators and the United Mine Workers of America (CIO) worked past midnight in an effort to complete all details for a new wage contract.

The proposed contract, Steelman said, was "very nearly in shape" for possible signing today.

WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—Southern soft coal producers, refusing to rejoin the Appalachian coal wage conference in New York, asserted Tuesday that the shortage of soft coal was growing more acute each day the mines are closed pending a wage agreement.

WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—The house military committee was told by a Dies committee official (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Labor Silent On Pickets

Salem labor organizations have no intention of replying to an advertisement published here Tuesday by the Salem Automobile Dealers association regarding pickets posted in front of the place of business of an association member, Charles W. Grary, president of the Salem Trades and Labor council, declared Tuesday night.

The pickets returned to their stands early this month after having been removed pending negotiations with the dealers' organization, Crary said.

The labor council executive said further that he knew nothing of reports that pickets would appear today in front of at least one restaurant and one bakery.

"The usual procedure in case of a grievance is to report it to the central council, to attempt to settle the matter by arbitration and, if no agreement can be reached, for the council to put a place on the unfair list, before picketing is started," Crary explained. "Nothing of the sort has come before the council."

Woman Hurt in Fire

PORTLAND, April 15—(AP)—An apartment house fire critically burned Mrs. Laprele Bewley, 24, Portland, and injured three firemen who rescued her from a second story suite Tuesday night.

Transports Reported Ready To Evacuate Troops After Defense Lines Penetrated

War Secretary Sees US Fight Outside Nation

WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—Secretary Stimson, one of several ranking officials to testify at congressional hearings on defense problems, strongly intimated Tuesday that it might become necessary for the United States to wage war, in its own defense, outside the Americas.

"Our forces must be prepared for the possibilities of war in many and varied terrains," he told the special senate defense committee, "it being quite uncertain in what part of North or South or Central America, or even possibly other regions, it ultimately may be necessary to use in the defense of this country and its possessions."

Robert P. Patterson, the undersecretary of war, following Stimson on the stand, told the senate committee that the army's light and medium tanks were "superior in speed, armor and weapons to those of any other nation," and said American pur- (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

Service Station Defers to State

Owners Will not Ask for Permit if Plans Hinder Buildings

No request for a permit to erect a service station at Capitol and Center streets will be made by Breyman Boise and A. C. Eoff until a determination has been made whether such a building would hinder the building program of the state of Oregon, their attorney, Paul R. Hendricks, indicated Tuesday.

Boise and Eoff, owners of property on the southeast corner of the intersection, have asked the city engineer to determine whether such a permit could be issued under local option provisions of the city zoning ordinance.

Engineer Harold Davis has notified property owners in the affected area of 300 feet and has received objections, but has not yet determined whether the objectors constitute holders of 51 per cent of the affected property.

Under the zoning ordinance the engineer could issue the permit for the service station erection, when requested, if holding of objectors (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

City Council Asked to Clear Status of First Aid Car

The Salem civil service commission broke up a meeting heralded as one to settle the fate of the Salem first aid car Tuesday night by voting to ask the council to clarify the status of the first aid car under civil service.

Dr. W. C. Jones of the civil service commission made the motion after stating that the civil service commission has no authority to decide the fate of the first aid car and merely wants to know how it is to go about filling a vacant captaincy on the first aid crew. He then moved adjournment.

About 50 people, including the police and fire department committees of the city council, were present at the session, but only one of them spoke.

Herman Lafky, Salem, attorney, said that he was interested in seeing that the first aid car should be continued. He suggested that means might be devised by which persons who benefit from the car could contribute to its maintenance.

Last night's session grew out of a request of the commission to the council that an examination open to the public instead of men with three years civil service experience be authorized.

The council at its last session authorized the examination, but confusion exists as to whether it authorized making the examination open.

Alderman Ross Goodman, chairman of the fire department committee, recalled Tuesday night that after he made the motion to authorize the commission to hold the examination Mayor W. W. Chadwick asked if he wished to include the request of the commission making the examination open.

"You can include that if you want to," Goodman said he answered. Minutes of the council do not (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

War News Briefs

LONDON, April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—British bombers attacked the German naval base at Kiel Tuesday night while a heavy force of German warplanes made a large scale raid against northern Ireland and roved widely over England.

BERLIN, April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—British raiders flying over northern Germany Monday night dropped explosive and incendiary bombs at several places, killing two persons, injuring others and destroying buildings, informed Germans said today.

ROME, April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—The official Italian news agency Stefani, declared Tuesday night that there was "insistent" information that the British would abandon Greece and Yugoslavia "to their sad destiny," even though it said "official" confirmation was lacking.

BERLIN, April 16—(Wednesday)—(AP)—German news agency dispatches from Sofia said that Bulgaria had broken off relations with Yugoslavia on the grounds that Yugoslav diplomats in Sofia had tried to foment a revolt. It was charged that Yugoslav planes had killed Bulgarian women and children.

ISTANBUL, April 15—(AP)—The newspaper Yeni Sabah declared Tuesday that rumors Turkey is negotiating with Germany for a non-aggression pact are "a shadowy form of German propaganda."

BUDAPEST, Hungary, April 15—(AP)—A report that Yugoslavia has requested an armistice of Germany came from official quarters here Tuesday but nothing was published to that effect.

Authorized military and diplomatic sources in Berlin denied knowledge of such a request, although first reports of it were attributed to German sources.

OTTAWA, April 15—(AP)—Prime Minister MacKenzie King left Ottawa for Washington and what observers said would be "momentous" conversations with President Roosevelt.

An appeal to the mercy of the police was substituted for a plea for mercy from the court Tuesday night when Circuit Judge Arlie Walker, lieutenant-governor of Kansas, closed a district meeting at the Marion hotel and found the keys to his automobile missing.

"A judge doesn't like to be arrested, you know," he explained as he asked a city police sergeant the courtesy of tagless parking for his car.

It seems Judge Walker had loaned the car to a friend, who returned the wrong set of keys when he brought the auto back. The judge rode home to McMinnville with fellow Kiwanians.

Murders Claimed Strike Violence

MIDDLESBORO, Ky., April 15—(AP)—A hail of bullets on a dark mountainside road killed four men—including the president and vice president of a coal mine—and wounded possibly 25 others Tuesday in this month's third life-taking outbreak of violence in southern Appalachian coal fields.

Eight wounded men were taken to hospitals. The shooting was near the Kentucky-Tennessee line, on a road leading from Middlesboro to the Fork Ridge Coal company mine in Tennessee about one mile from the border.

In One Ear..

—Paul Hauser's Column

Things were pretty confusing up in Seattle the other day and had the officials of a steamship line all up in the air—all on account of a cow.

The cow's name was Daisy and she was going to Alaska. Her fare was paid and everything was fine when she walked up the gang-plank of the steamer Tongass and started to sample the excellent cuisine (hay and vetch) of the seagoing cattle car.

Of course, everybody was very considerate of Daisy. After all, she was an expectant mother, but her former owners had assured the Alaska Transportation company that the blessed event could not possibly occur before Daisy docked at Sitka six days later.

That's where Daisy exercised feminine perversity and fooled the experts. Because at 9 p. m. Daisy made lars out of the cow cognizant.

That was where the problem started. The calf stood there, wobbling, not knowing that it was a crisis in the affairs of the Alaska Transportation company. The company officials pondered.

Here was the calf—named Winnie by a deckhand in honor of a company official named Winston—and here were the rules and regulations governing the fees to be paid for cattle taking jaunts to Alaska. The fee for a calf (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Fliers Discover Monoplane Wreck

RAWLINS, Wyo., April 15—(AP)—A shattered small monoplane, in which two Denver men were lost during a storm yesterday, was sighted from a searching plane Tuesday and Captain H. H. Clark of the Wyoming highway patrol said he did not believe "anyone could be alive in the wreckage."

The men aboard the lost plane were Charles Owen, 48, Denver contractor, and Stanley Jameliner, 30, Continental Air Lines copilot.



MAJ. C. ROBERT DODSON

New Addition To Kay Mills Starts Soon

Contract May Be Let Today for \$8000 Improvement

National defense demands on the facilities of the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill company of Salem brought announcement from Erceel W. Kay, vice-president and manager, Tuesday night that a contract probably would be let today for an \$8000 addition to the firm's 46-year-old plant on South 12th street at Trade.

Bids for the new unit, a two-story brick and heavy timber structure 36 by 60 feet in dimensions, were opened Tuesday afternoon in the offices of Lyle J. Bartholomew, architect, Pioneer Trust building. Barham Bros. was announced as the low bidder.

Bartholomew said construction would start Thursday and be completed within 40 working days.

The addition will include the area occupied by the plant's present dry finishing unit, a one-story structure adjoining the main building on the south and east. Because of the pressure for blanket production, operations in the finishing room will be carried on while walls and supporting inner timbers for the enlarged structure are being erected.

The first floor above ground in the addition will be equipped for blanket dressing and the second, constructed without obstructing posts or pillars, will house new carding machines now on order from an eastern factory. Shortage of carding equipment has been the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

Reveal Quints' Doctor Has Major Operation

TORONTO, Ontario, April 15—(AP)—Dr. Allen Roy Dafeo, physician to the Dionne quintuplets, underwent a major operation here Monday, his brother, Dr. William Dafeo, announced tonight. The nature of the operation and Dr. Dafeo's present condition were not disclosed.

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Major Carlisle I. Ferris, air corps, USA, has been designated to inspect the unit when it is presented for federal recognition. Major Ferris recently arrived in Portland to serve as instructor for the squadron.

The squadron is in command of Major G. Robert Dodson, Portland, with First Lieutenant Wallace J. O'Daniels, second in command. Both are former air corps reserve officers.

Besides the two officers there (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)