

TRUMAN ASKS HOUSING CEILING

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Building Priority On Docket

Gives Approval To Bill Pending Before House

By Marvin L. Arrowsmith
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—President Truman, acting to avert "further skyrocketing of home prices," today called for legislation to fix price ceilings on houses. In a companion move aimed to relieve what he termed an acute housing shortage, the president announced at his news conference that building materials will be back under a priority system in a few days. Under the system, about 50 per cent of all construction supplies will be earmarked for single or multiple dwellings costing \$10,000 or less a unit. The priorities program also will set up preferences for veterans in the purchase or rental of such housing. A third step in the new overall housing program calls for immediate release to states and local governments of any surplus federal property suitable for housing. Included under this plan, already put in operation by the surplus property administration, are army and navy barracks and dormitories. To search out and attempt to crack all bottlenecks affecting home construction, Mr. Truman appointed Wilson Wyatt, former mayor of Louisville, to be housing expeditor in the office of war mobilization and reconversion. A bill is pending in congress to put price ceilings on new and old houses. The president gave his blessing by endorsing a statement by reconversion boss John W. Snyder that "such authority is essential if we are to avert further sky-rocketing of home prices." The bill provides that ceilings on new houses would be determined on the basis of actual construction costs, plus the fair market value of the land and the generally prevailing contractors' margin for comparable units in 1941.

Elliott Back in Radio Business On Cash Basis

CAMDEN, Ark., Dec. 12.—(AP)—Elliott Roosevelt, former operator of a chain of radio networks in Texas, has entered the business in Arkansas. Roosevelt is second vice president of the Camden Radio, Inc., which will operate a 250 watt station here as soon as a studio site is located, President W. E. Husman of Texarkana has announced. The FCC has authorized its construction and operation on 1450 kilocycles. The late president's son has a "minority interest" in the corporation according to Treasurer Leon Wilson of Hot Springs. The firm incorporated with \$10,000 worth of stock. Wilson said Roosevelt paid his stock subscription in full.

\$2,300,000 Highway Bids to Be Opened

Bids on highway construction projects aggregating a cost of \$2,300,000 will be opened by the state highway commission at a meeting in Portland today and Friday. These projects are a part of the commission's \$38,000,000 post war construction program.

CUT OFF IN HER PRIME

WOODGATE, N. Y., Dec. 12.—(AP)—Mrs. Elizabeth Turk, a plaintiff in a negligence suit resulting from an automobile accident last August, told a New York state supreme court jury that her injuries prevent her from dancing. Mrs. Turk is 95.

Buy CHRISTMAS SEALS



Navy Quit Listening To Japs

Marshall Opines Nip War Certain In August 1941

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Pearl Harbor investigators were told today that the navy, after a row with the FBI, stopped listening in on Japanese telephone conversations in Hawaii five days before the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. The FBI continued tapping one Japanese consulate line up to the moment of the assault, and in this way learned that the consul in Honolulu was destroying his codes. The tapped line led to the cook's quarters in the consulate. This evidence, placed before the joint congressional investigating committee, was included in a report by Lt. Col. Henry C. Clausen, assigned by Secretary of War Stimson to make an independent inquiry in 1942. This testimony was developed by Rep. Keefe (R-Wis) from a message sent by Admiral Harold R. Stark, then chief of naval operations, to Admiral J. O. Richardson, commander of the Pacific fleet. Both disclosures came as Gen. George C. Marshall, former chief of staff, proceeded through his sixth day as a witness. Marshall gave his personal opinion that war with Japan was "inevitable" from August, 1941, on but he hoped to avert it by making a show of force in the Philippines.

IWA Get Added 2 1/2 Cent Raise

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 12.—(AP)—CIO lumber workers in western Washington and the Columbia basin today were granted an additional 2 1/2 cent an hour pay increase to bring their recently negotiated 12 1/2 cent scale to 15 cents and \$1.05 minimum. Agents for the International Woodworkers of America and the Shipmen's Industrial Relations Committee, representing the bulk of CIO manned lumber industries in the "big six" belt, announced other terms to be submitted to locals and approved by operators.

Court Suspends Portland Attorneys

Two Portland attorneys, Ronald L. Heilly and Tom M. Kerrigan, Wednesday received two year suspensions by the state supreme court for misconduct. The charges, filed by the state bar, involved misappropriation of funds. Justice Percy R. Kelly wrote the opinion.

All 40 Dachau Officials Guilty

DACHAU, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Forty officials and guards of the notorious Dachau concentration camp today were convicted today by a U. S. military court on charges of murder, torture and starvation, and will be sentenced tomorrow. The court, deliberating 90 minutes, found Camp Commandant Martin Weiss and all the other defendants guilty of a regime of horror at the camp, overrun by American troops last April 30. Dachau then housed 32,000 men and 350 women. The accused took the verdict stoically, although a few flushed when their names were read. Nor was there any demonstration by the audience of nearly 300 German civilians who filled the courtroom in the camp itself.

Accident Fatal To Salem Girl, Eight Injured

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 12.—(AP)—A Salem girl was killed and eight other persons were injured tonight in a two car crash north of here on the Camp Adair and Polk county three lane highway. State police reported Mary Louise Reeves, 1055 N. 16th st., Salem, killed and the others in the U. S. naval hospital at Camp Adair where there was no report on the condition of seven. One six year old boy was reported not seriously hurt. Police said a car driven by a navy hospital sailor whose identity had not been announced by naval authorities had attempted to pass a car while driving toward Salem after leaving the camp area at 5:15 p. m. The car struck a second driven by Mrs. Don Eckman, Corvallis. Police said there were five girls in the car, one of them Miss Reeves. In the Eckman car was Mrs. Eckman's son, Martin, six, reported not seriously hurt, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Lucile Dahl, Corvallis. (Miss Reeves was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Reeves. Her father is office engineer in the bridge department of the state highway department.)

Makes Debut



SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—L. F. J. Woods of Birmingham, Ala., has his pet Rhesus monkey perched on his shoulder and decked out in "longies" as he arrived here yesterday aboard the USS General Mitchell which returned some 5000 soldiers of the 37th (Buckeye) division to the United States. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman.)

Portland Entry, La Grande Give Tie for Queen

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 12.—(AP)—Two Oregon girls picked as Victory queens in the state-wide contest promoting bond sales were selected tonight for Hollywood trips and a chance at a screen contract.

Patton's Condition 'Remains Good'

HEIDELBERG, Germany, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A medical bulletin tonight said the condition of Gen. George S. Patton, jr., "remains good," and Mrs. Patton, after seeing her husband again today, declared herself "not the least worried." Further optimism over the condition of the general, paralyzed after his neck was broken in an auto crash near Mannheim on Sunday, was evoked by the departure of three of his consulting surgeons.

One Fully-Equipped Town for Sale Cheap

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 12.—(AP)—The government is offering a town for sale. The Reconstruction Finance Corp. office here announced the town — complete with churches, stores, factory and houses for 1000 people — has been declared surplus. The town, between Las Vegas and Boulder Dam, Nev., was used to produce magnesium during the war.

U. S. Revising Pessimistic Unemployment Forecast

By Sterling F. Green
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The national job outlook brightened today with indications there may be 3,000,000 fewer unemployed by spring than the government had figured. Government experts, acknowledging that they over-estimated the bearish impact of reconversion on employment, now believe that not more than 5,000,000 will be seeking work by March instead of the 8,000,000 officially forecast in October. The 5,000,000 level may be sustained until mid-1946; then joblessness may decline as civilian production hits full stride, but officials now are wary of forecasting beyond the middle of next year. One official described current unemployment as "amazingly small," probably ranging between 2,500,000 and 3,500,000. The war manpower commission had estimated that 6,000,000 would be unemployed by the year's end. The new estimates include discharged veterans and others who are "resting" now, and thus not technically unemployed but who will be in the labor market later. Federal economists and statisticians are declining to be quoted at this stage — in fact, an informal ban on employment forecasts exists because of the error in earlier calculations — but it is known the revised conclusions are accepted by officials of the office of reconversion, the census bureau and other informed agencies. Census estimates for November, which cover only actual job hunters, not discharged veterans and others voluntarily idle for a time, support the trend. The newly issued census report indicates November unemployment was 1,580,000 over the nation, or an increase of only 40,000 from October. The reasons given are numerous. They include heavy withdrawals of women from the labor market, and an unsuspected demand for workers among small non-war businesses which apparently had been getting along with inadequate help. Two other factors now loom as unexpectedly important: First, the lightness of layoffs in reconverting industries, and second, the high, sustained level of consumer purchasing.

Committee to Probe Training School Beating

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 12.—(AP)—State Senator Frank Hilton, chairman of the state legislature's interim committee on state institutions, said tonight the committee would conduct a special and separate hearing into punishment being administered inmates at the Woodburn state training school. Senator Hilton, Portland, said he was not satisfied with the state report on whippings given two boys and that State Representative Jack Bain, Clackamas county, had also requested the committee take some action. Hilton said the committee would interview the two boys involved and the attendant who brought the whippings to public attention. A state board of control report filed by Secretary Roy Mills said the whippings were justified under the circumstances and pending other punishment measures he would hesitate to halt the whippings. The report followed a complaint filed by W. H. Runyan, 70, who witnessed the whipping of Robert Lee Davis, 16, and William F. Tollman, 14. (Additional details on Page 2.)

Sun Makes Futile Attempt to Raise Salem Mercury

Salem residents who pulled their covers up a little higher Tuesday night when the temperature dropped to 34 degrees were fishing for the extra blanket again last night as the temperature stood at 28 degrees at midnight and showed every intention of going lower. Salem wasn't the only town in Oregon where there was a rush to the filling stations to buy anti-freeze however. Klamath Falls recorded 18 degrees, Medford 25, and Baker shivered under a scant 8 degrees above zero. The forecast for today is for more sunshine and more cold.

To Ballot Strike Today

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A union-estimated 200,000 workers in plants of the General Electric and Westinghouse companies from coast to coast will take a strike ballot tomorrow.

30% Raise Rejected By Ford

Truman Names Fact-Finders for G.M. - CIO Strike

By the Associated Press
The Ford Motor company reiterated yesterday that it was unable to grant a 30 per cent wage rate increase, while in the General Motors strike President Truman intervened by appointing a fact finding committee. In Washington, the house passed legislation to subject unions to the anti-racketeering act. The day's rapid-breaking developments on the labor front included:

To Lose Money
1.—The Ford company told the CIO United Auto Workers it would lose about \$35,000,000 next year, on the basis of OPA price ceilings, even with a 18 per cent increase in production and no increase in wages.

Richard T. Leonard, UAW's Ford director, told newsmen the union would "give serious consideration" to scaling down its wage demands if the company offers an annual wage proposal.
2.—President Truman named a fact finding board to inquire into issues of the 23 day old General Motors strike and the appointment brought a prompt pledge of cooperation from leaders of the striking UAW.

New Board Due
Mr. Truman said he also would appoint "soon" a fact-finding board to look into the steel industry dispute.

The house passed on voice vote and sent to the senate legislation applying the 1934 anti-racketeering act to labor unions—a measure bitterly opposed by organized labor. The senate once before refused to pass a similar house-approved bill.
4.—Contrary to the views of some congressional leaders, President Truman expressed confidence that congress would pass by Christmas a law he proposed to prohibit strikes until fact-finding boards can study the issues.

Buy or Return Ships Ordered

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The senate decided today America's allies must either return government-owned merchant ships or buy them on the same terms of ferred United States citizens. By a vote of 36 to 28, the senate rejected an amendment to a ship sales bill to permit the maritime commission to charter approximately 600 vessels built during the war and valued at approximately \$10,000,000. The ships are now operated by the allies under lease-lease. Senator Raddiff (D-Md), sponsor of the amendment, said the charter provision was asked by Secretary of State Byrnes.

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Rain
Salem	39	27	.00
Eugene	38	30	.00
Portland	44	27	.00
Seattle	40	27	.00
San Francisco	56	36	.00
Willamette river	8.3 ft.		

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Clear today except for local fogs till 10 a.m. Maximum temperature 45 degrees.

U.S. Marines Due for Long Stay in China

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—United States marines are destined to be held in north China for many months yet unless Gen. George C. Marshall, under special orders from President Truman, is able to work out an early agreement between Gen. Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese communists. President Truman made this clear at a news conference today at which he also spoke of the approaching meeting of Secretary of State Byrnes with Foreign Commissar Molotov and Foreign Minister Bevin in Moscow as a rather routine affair. Byrnes left by plane for Moscow this morning taking with him as advisor on atomic energy problems Dr. James B. Conant, Harvard university president, and a panel of experts on European and Asiatic problems. Asked for comment on the tri-partite session opening Saturday, Mr. Truman said it was planned a long time ago as part of the program of meetings among the big-power foreign ministers which was laid down at the Yalta Big Three conference last winter. He added that he expected the next meeting to be held in Washington in March or April.

Nips Slip Up In Payments

TOKYO, Thursday, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Japan is behind in her payments of occupation costs, Finance Minister Keizo Shibusawa told the house of representatives yesterday, yet this debt already has become an important factor in rising inflation. The Bank of Japan is advancing less than one-third of the 1,000,000,000 yen (\$66,666,667) monthly occupation budget. The finance minister said discussions were being held with allied authorities regarding inflationary dangers of these modified payments.

Sugar Thief Draws Penitentiary Sentence

Theft of nine sacks of sugar from the Allen Fruit company sent Edward Harold Pearson, route 3, box 791, Salem, to the state penitentiary Thursday to serve 15 months without parole. Pearson, who pleaded guilty in circuit court to a charge of larceny, is married and has five children. Handing down the sentence, Judge E. M. Page declared that "stealing rationed goods is something that cannot be overlooked."

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH
Prevent TB
"Easy there, Gertrude. That's all I said to your poppa—'Hello there.'"

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Comment was made in this column some days ago respecting the great demand for office space in Salem and in Portland. An Oregonian reporter digs into the subject now and comes up with the story that the Portland demand is equal to the space in three large office buildings. The singular thing in his report is the fact that the federal government is the biggest customer for office space. We had thought that with the ending of the war, agencies like the WPB, OPA, war manpower commission, maritime commission, etc., would shrink drastically and then fold up, so the overall demand of the government would be lessened. Such does not seem to be the case. The postwar requirements of government threatens to exceed the wartime demand, at least in Portland. Understandable is the expansion of the veterans' administration. It seeks 80,000 square feet of office space in Portland, which would call for a ten-story office building about 100 by 135. But other peacetime agencies are asking for more space. This leads to the observation that there is little chance for shrinking the civilian establishment of the government, already swollen under war necessities. Senator Byrd of Virginia has been hammering for a scaling down of the various boards and bureaus whose payrolls have been greatly increased although they were not direct war agencies. Evidently his crusade is bearing little fruit. Government thus becomes enormous, absorbing, constantly growing. It seems to have generated growth hormones within itself so it keeps on expanding and expanding. The sheer size of it becomes appalling, to say nothing of its cost. And how to administer it intelligently and efficiently becomes an almost superhuman task.

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Hollywood, General Motors Garner Most Of Nation's Top Individual Income Honors

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The treasury issued a report on the big incomes tonight and the name of Louis B. Mayer led all the rest. The movie magnate got \$908,070 from Loew's Inc. for personal services in one year. Mayer's top ranking was disclosed in a supplement to an earlier partial listing of individuals' income from corporations. The report as a whole covers returns for the calendar year of 1943 and fiscal years ending in 1943 and 1944. Ranking immediately after Mayer, who was in front by nearly \$450,000, were Charles E. Wilson, of General Motors, and Thomas J. Watson, of International Business Machines. Fred MacMurray, in fifth place, and Deanna Durbin, in tenth place were the only actors to make the first ten as individuals. But the income of comedians Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, which was reported as a single salary—\$424,320—ranked fourth. Following in the list of the 20 individuals who, according to the treasury statements, received the greatest income from corporations for personal services in one year: Louis B. Mayer, \$908,070; Charles E. Wilson, \$459,041; Thomas J. Watson, \$423,548; Fred MacMurray, \$419,108; Walter Wanger, Universal Pictures producer, \$409,928; John B. Hawley, Jr., president of North Carolina Ordnance, Inc., \$400,000; Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, \$391,860; Ormond E. Hunt, General Motors, \$359,519; Albert Bradley, General Motors, \$350,432; Deanna Durbin, from Universal Pictures, \$326,491; Barbara Stanwyck, from Paramount and Warner Bros., \$325,333; E. H. Ross, of Hoffman-La Roche, Inc., \$298,175; John Thomas Smith, General Motors, \$286,210; Donaldson Brown, General Motors, \$266,108; Charles F. Kettering, General Motors, \$266,117; Elmer J. Mannix, Loew's, \$260,725; Sam Katz, Loew's, \$258,125; Harry L. (Blind) Crosby, \$254,444; William Powell, \$252,500; and David Bernstein, Loew's, \$255,900. Income taxes took a big bite out of these payments, however. The rates generally ranged from 50 per cent or more on income of \$200,000 to about 90 per cent on income approaching \$1,000,000.