

OPA PRICE CEILING OVERHAUL VOTED

Bus Strike Negotiations to Start Friday

The Oregon Statesman

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sponage

A hundred years ago some men in Philadelphia, concerned for their city's future, solicited subscriptions to stock in a railroad company. The stock was priced at \$50 a share, payable in \$5 installments. On April 13 the railroad company, begun the century before, celebrated its 100th anniversary and for the 100th year paid a dividend on its stock. It was the Pennsylvania Railroad whose charter was granted by the Pennsylvania legislature on April 13, 1846.

Philadelphia during colonial times was the principal city on the continent. In the early part of the 19th century, however, New York was benefiting by the construction of the Erie canal. From Baltimore a wagon road was pushed over the Alleghenies and the Baltimore and Ohio railroad had been projected. Philadelphiaans feared their city would lose out in the race for the rapidly expanding western trade. The state of Pennsylvania owned most of the railroad between Philadelphia and Harrisburg, so the object of the new Pennsylvania railroad was to construct a line from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh. This was not finished until 1852, but in the meantime the company had operated so profitably that it began dividends in 1847.

The organizers and managers of the road were men of vision who looked beyond Pittsburgh. They invested in stocks of railroad lines being built westward and during the 1850s they succeeded in controlling lines extending from Philadelphia to Chicago. They put together by lease and purchase

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Poles Suggest Spain Making Secret Weapon

NEW YORK, April 17 (AP)—Poland told the United Nations security council today there were some indications of Nazi scientific efforts to carry on atomic research in Spain and suggested that weapons even more terrible than the atomic bomb might be under experimentation there.

The statement was made by Polish Delegate Oscar Lange with his demand that the United Nations collectively break off diplomatic relations with the regime of Generalissimo Francisco Franco.

France and Mexico joined in Poland's effort to isolate Franco Spain from all the fifty-one members of the United Nations.

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., the United States delegate, ended the day's debate with a brief re-statement of American objectives: (1) That the Franco government should be removed by the Spanish people and (2) that the overthrow should be peaceful. He did not say definitely how the U. S. would vote on the Polish resolution.

Animal Crackers

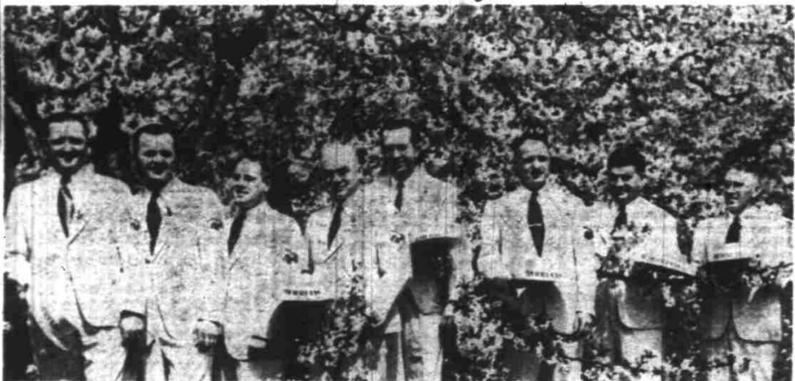
By WARREN GOODRICH



Chicago Sun Syndicate

"I tell ya it isn't necessary to take them off every night!"

Cherrians and Cherry Blossoms



Cheerio Cherrians! They're back again with pre-war vigor, all set to resume their Blossom Day events on Easter Sunday. Leaders of the group, which has kept its organization intact despite curtailment of activities, include these council members (left to right): John Meyers, E. Burr Miller, Hal Randall, King Bing W. W. Chadwick, Phil Schnell, Fred Carstensen, Lloyd Demarest and H. M. Boesch. (Photo by Nels Tonnig)

Additional 60 Housing Units Offered to City

An additional 60 apartment units, or 15 buildings, may be applied for by the Salem Veterans Housing committee. It has been notified.

The first of the 30 buildings which were previously assigned to Salem are expected here within a day or so and the area engineer for the federal housing authority, Norbert G. Kulser, is now in Salem.

The units were cut in panels at the Guild's lake project in Portland for transportation. Furniture for the entire project is being moved here and will be stored at the state prison, W. J. Braun, chairman of the local committee, said.

Applications are on file for many more apartments than will be available, Braun said, although he admits he stopped counting after the first 300.

Most buildings will have four apartments each. Two buildings of two-story construction will have six apartments. The contract calls for them to be in place by August 10. The water main for the local project is ready to lay and is now awaiting the plans.

The buildings will be heated by wood and coal, will be of varying size and will be located on the Otto Klett tract, bounded on the west by 16th, on the north by Hines, on the south by Wilbur and on the east by the alley between 19th and 20th.

Braun is chairman of the committee and other members are R. L. Elfstrom, George K. Aiken, Steve Anderson and Ralph Nohlger.

Registration Tabulation To Get Underway Soon

Tabulation of the registration for the primary election, May 17, will get under way in the state elections bureau here within the next few days, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., announced Wednesday.

Officials said the registration for this year's primary election probably would be under that for the primary election two years ago.

LUMBER CEILING RISES

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AP)—OPA today authorized increases which it said will average \$4.50 per 1000 board feet in mill price ceilings for western red cedar lumber.

Proposed YWCA Building to Include Quarters for 52 Women

Quarters for 52 women, a large swimming pool and a standard gymnasium are features of the proposed new Salem YWCA building, architectural details of which were made public Wednesday by the YWCA's board of directors.

Directors gave final approval to plans for the modernized Gregorian style building to be erected on the YW's present 82 1/2 by 150 foot site at 768 State st. The architect is the distinguished Portland designer, Pietro Belluschi.

China Reds Push Into Changchun, Portlander Lost

(Editor's Note: The following fragmentary dispatch was received last night from Associated Press correspondent Tom Masterson, cut off with four other American reporters in besieged Changchun, Manchuria.)

By Tom Masterson
CHANGCHUN, Manchuria, April 17 (AP)—Chinese communist forces captured the soviet-managed Yamoto hotel today as they pushed back Chinese government troops in this embattled capital city of Manchuria.

There was no word of Maj. Robert B. Rigg of Chicago, assistant military attache, or his pilot, M/Sgt. Clayton Pond of Portland, Ore., who had been staying at the hotel. Telephone communications were broken. The Chinese government air force continued to drop ammunition to the small nationalist garrison.

Program to Conserve Food

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AP)—A far-reaching program designed to conserve food and speed exports to famished peoples abroad was urged tonight by President Truman's famine emergency committee which declared that the present voluntary wheat-saving program is not enough.

A boost in corn price ceilings to discourage the feeding of this grain to livestock and steps to end strikes hampering farm production were among the measures proposed.

Higher Rate Asked For Motor Freight

Common motor carriers in Oregon Wednesday filed with George H. Flagg, public utilities commissioner here, application for authority to increase all motor carrier freight rates applicable on intrastate traffic approximately 18 per cent.

Hearing on the application will be held in the commissioner's office here Monday, April 19. The application for increased rates was based largely on increased operating costs.

EXILED PRESIDENT DIES

LOS ANGELES, April 17 (AP)—Dr. Juan B. Sacasa, former president of Nicaragua who has lived in exile for nine years, died at his home tonight.

Union Meets Today

Expecting word from both Reconstruction Finance corporation and the regional wage stabilization board today concerning the local alumina plant strike, Secretary F. D. VanSweringen of the Salem building trades council has called a meeting of the local chemical workers' union for 7 this evening in the labor temple.

At the request of the RFC, which finances the plant, the contract calling for a 20 cents per hour increase has been referred to the Seattle board for the third time, VanSweringen said. The board's decision is expected today.

Iran Clamps Censorship on News Reports

By John M. Hightower

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AP)—An iron censorship, which some American officials suspect originated in Moscow, was clamped by Iran today upon all news dispatches by foreign correspondents in that country.

The United States state department, announcing the development as soon as word of it was received here from the embassy at Tehran, was considering tonight what action it should take in protest. A strong formal objection may be registered with the government of Premier Ahmed Qavam.

The censorship is of the "blind" type which denies to the authors of dispatches any information as to how their stories are being changed. Newsmen regard this as a most dangerous form of news control since it allows governments to distort the meaning of stories without any recourse permitted the writer.

Local Mercury Climbs to 77

The sun over Salem Wednesday drew the mercury to its highest level since Oct. 8, 1945, and kept the temperature in the 70's all afternoon.

Salem's high of 77 in mid-afternoon compared with 77 last October 9 and 82 last October 8, according to the McNary field weather station. The highest temperature this spring was one recent recording of 73.

Central Oregon and coastal points were cooler, while similar temperatures in the high 70's occurred in the Willamette valley and 82 was noted at Medford.

RFC Alumina Ruling Due; Crops to Suffer

Fertilizer Needed

Reduction in crop yields and acreage in Oregon this year may result if the Salem alumina plant strike is not settled soon to allow production of fertilizer, stated Arthur S. King, Oregon State college extension soils specialist, Wednesday.

He pointed out that approval for resumption of ammonium sulphate production until May 15 was received Monday. Production had been stopped several months ago by RFC order.

"Every day of lost production now means the loss of \$60,000 of food crops that would otherwise be produced by Oregon growers," he stated, since it is almost the only source of nitrogen available for this season.

First Sign Of Break In Dispute

Relief of the Salem bus tieup loomed as an early possibility Wednesday when a conciliation meeting was set for 1 p.m. Friday in Portland.

Mayor I. M. Doughton will join the Eugene mayor, U. S. Conciliator George D. Brewer and State Public Service Commissioner George H. Flagg in the meeting with representatives of the Oregon Motor Stages Co. and the striking Motor Coach Employees union, local 1055.

First Parley

It will be the first negotiations between the parties in the wage increase dispute since the strike began April 5 in Salem and Eugene and on the intercity routes of Oregon Motor Stages.

Meanwhile in Salem some relief was offered when two buses of the Salem Suburban Lines began city passenger service Wednesday, under authority of the city council.

May Buy Buses

Chairman Albert H. Gille of the council's public utility committee reported Wednesday that dealings with the McClean Transportation Co. for possible use of school buses in the city runs were at a standstill, but that at least one and probably more of the striking bus drivers are considering purchase of buses to be put into immediate operation.

The city's licensing ordinance would permit such operators in addition to Oregon Motor Stages even after the strike emergency passes, provided council gives its permission, Gille said.

W.U. Summer Term Features 5-Day Week

The summer session at Willamette university will feature a five-day week with seven 60-minute periods offered each day, instead of the customary six-day week of most summer sessions. The new schedule for the eight-week term beginning on July 8 and ending August 31, will make it possible for students attending to earn eight full semester hours of credit.

Varied summer activities including an historical tour of Salem and vicinity led by Dr. R. M. Gatzke, head of the department of political science, and a trip to Silver Creek falls under the leadership of Prof. Herman Clark, head of the department of physical science, are planned. A barn dance at the beginning of the session is planned as a mixer for the expected new students.

Young GOP Names Delegates to Meet

The Young Republican club last night named eight delegates to the regional and state conventions in Portland April 26 and 27. Delegates, besides officers and directors, are Jack Hay, George Neuner, Jr., Pat Emmons, John Stark, Richard Wick, E. E. Boring, Howard Temple and Robert deArmond.

President Adam F. Lefor said Gordon Allott, Lamar, Colo., national president, plans to attend the regional session Friday.

Letter Answered



SAN FRANCISCO, April 17—Joan Dewey MacKay (above), 8-year-old orphan, yesterday received the Purple Heart, won by her father before his death in a Japanese prison camp. Joan, in a letter addressed to Gen. MacArthur said "Please try and find his Purple Heart and send it to me—I have nothing of his. I pray for you every night." Gen. MacArthur issued an order and Maj. Gen. Homer M. Groninger (left), commanding the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, made the presentation. (AP Wirephoto to The Oregon Statesman)

Realtor Says Meddling By U. S. Blocks Building

Federal government interference is blocking construction of hundreds of new homes for veterans in this area, Ed D. Potter, president of the Salem Board of Realtors, charged Wednesday.

Potter declared that this interference not only is delaying the start of construction of many housing developments, but also has delayed or blocked the completion of scores of homes already started.

Seek 300,000 Homes

Permission has been asked to build more than 300,000 homes throughout the nation under the veterans housing program since it was started last January 15, Potter stated. Applications for home construction under this program are being made at the rate of more than 1,500,000 dwelling units per year, he said, but doubt exists as to the possibility of that much construction unless the government changes its policy with regard to building material prices.

Potter asserted that the solution to the problem of producing more housing in Salem is reasonably simple. "Building material manufacturers cannot reach maximum production without relief from existing price curbs," he said. "Small lumber mills have shut down entirely. Brickyards that had resumed production have closed down again and nail factories have curtailed their output."

Garment Firm Seeking Site

An inquiry has been received by the local office of the U. S. employment service from an eastern garment manufacturer seeking a location in this section, the office reported Wednesday.

The company plans to establish a plant in some locality where women are available for factory work, the USES office said. The factory would require a building with approximately 35,000 square feet of floor space and would employ 200 people to start. This would later be increased to 350, the company indicated.

FIRST FIRE OF SEASON

REDMOND, Ore., April 17 (AP)—A small forest fire, the first of the season, was fought today about six miles west of Sisters.

Salem Meat Wholesaler Closes Doors as Protest to OPA Curbs

Edwards & Drakeley, local meat wholesaler, has suspended operation in protest against OPA and other small wholesalers may soon follow suit, William C. Drakeley stated last night.

"And we will stay 'down' until OPA regulations are changed to permit us a fair profit," Drakeley declared. He said his action had decreased the local meat supply in retail markets. However, the slaughterhouse connected with his firm, Edwards & Isom, continues to operate, doing mostly custom slaugh-

Cost Plus Profit To Be Factor Representatives Cut Extension To Nine Months

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AP)—In an upsurge night session, the house rushed toward final passage tonight a bill to load up with restrictions that Price Administrator Paul Porter termed it "repeal of price control."

One amendment, whopped through on a roll call vote of 259 to 137, would require the OPA to make a drastic overhaul of its price ceilings. It provides that they must reflect cost plus a "reasonable profit" to producers and distributors.

An amendment to drop all price controls on meat, however, was defeated, 172 to 223, on a roll call after the house earlier had approved it on a tentative ballot, 139 to 122.

A requirement that the government halt its \$2,000,000,000 annual subsidy program by January 1 was adopted on a record vote of 245 to 150. The amendment, by Rep. Wolcott (R-Mich.), stipulates that as subsidies are reduced corresponding increases in prices shall be allowed by OPA.

The actions were in the form of amendments to OPA extension legislation which were subject to later roll call votes. The bill has yet to be acted upon by the senate.

\$750,000 Local Cannery Wins Building Nod

PORTLAND, Ore., April 17 (AP)—Approval of \$750,000 worth of non-housing construction in 54 Oregon building projects was announced today by Nelson English, state director of the civilian production administration.

Update projects approved include: Paulus Bros. Packing Co. cannery, Salem, \$750,000; Cascade Plywood Corp., factory sawmill, Lebanon, \$375,000; Albany Ice and Coal Storage, Inc., Albany, \$179,000. Rejected were W. W. Chadwick, hotel, Salem, \$80,000.

Although Paulus Bros. has made no announcement of its building project locally, the firm and other property owners near Oxford and 14th streets have petitioned the city for a zone change to permit construction of a cannery there. Tentative approval for the necessary zone change was granted by the zoning commission which called a public hearing on it for April 24.

Labor Camp May Hold 400

Possibility that Salem's projected farm labor camp, to house 400 migrant workers' families during the harvesting and canning season, may be located in the army buildings at the local airport was indicated Wednesday by the state farm labor office in Corvallis, according to Associated Press.

The Salem chamber of commerce last week decided to raise \$7500 to join canners and farmers in establishing housing as an inducement to the greatly-needed itinerant labor. But details and site of such a project were not announced.

Migrant camps at Milton-Freewater, The Dalles, Colburg and Marlin will be expanded and new camps will be set up at Forest Grove, Salem and Adrian in Malheur county, the Corvallis office reported.

Record Number Seek Realtor Licenses

Ninety-six applicants wrote in the state real estate examinations held here Wednesday under the direction of Claude H. Murphy, state real estate commissioner. Other similar examinations will be held in Portland Thursday and Friday.

Murphy said more applicants are appearing for real estate licenses this year than at any time in the history of his department.

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Rain
Salem	77	43	50
Eugene	77	43	50
Portland	77	43	50
San Francisco	77	43	Trace
Seattle	63	45	50

Willamette river 2.2 ft.
FORECAST from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem: Cloudy today, occasional light rains. Highest temperature 60 degrees.