

# Lewis Orders Miners Back to Pits

## The Weather

Salem	Max. 43	Min. 23	Precip. 15
Portland	50	44	15
San Francisco	44	42	48
Chicago	41	34	00
New York	51	34	00
Willamette river 3 feet			

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy with intermittent rain today and tonight. Highest temperature 50. Lowest 42.

# The Oregon Statesman

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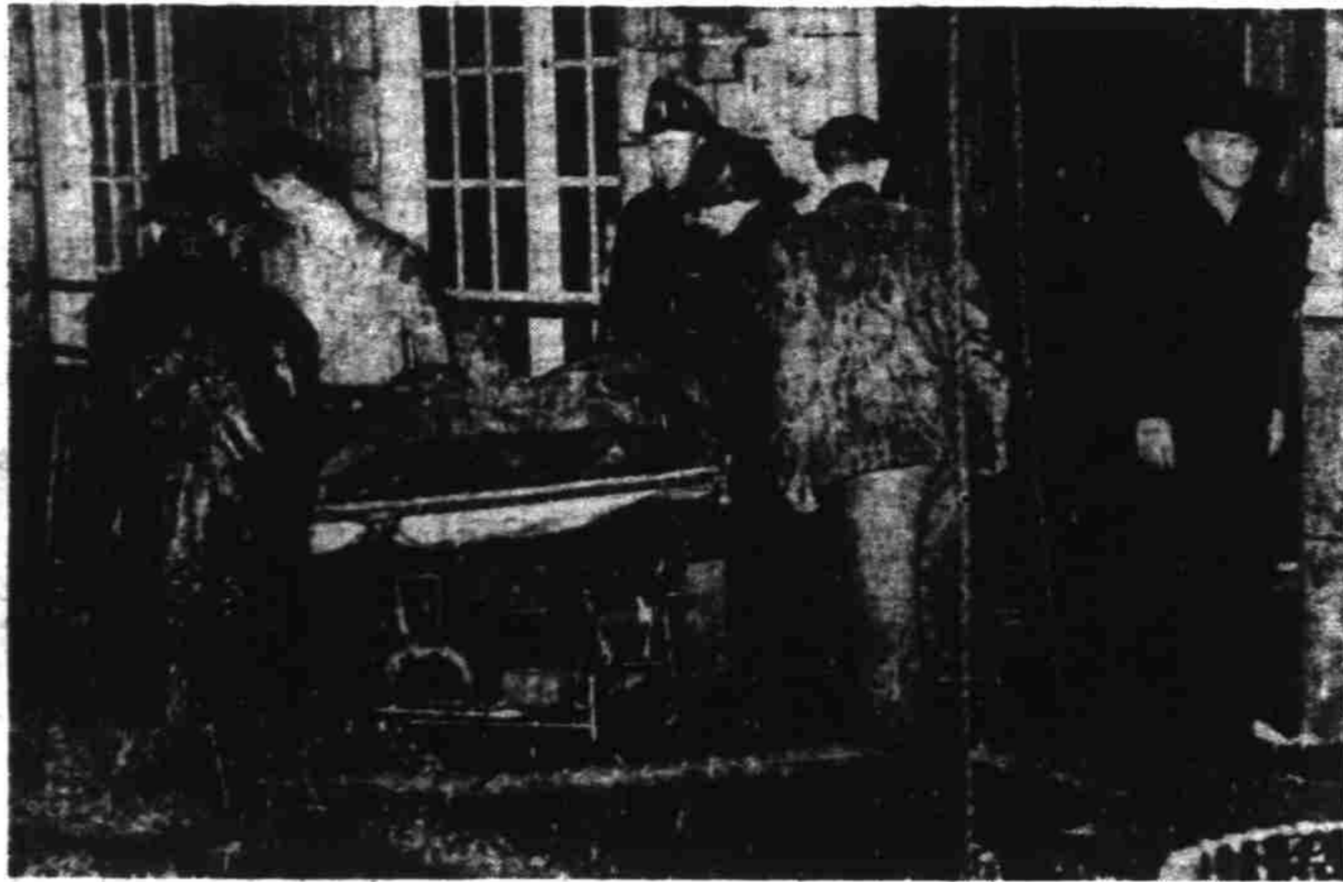
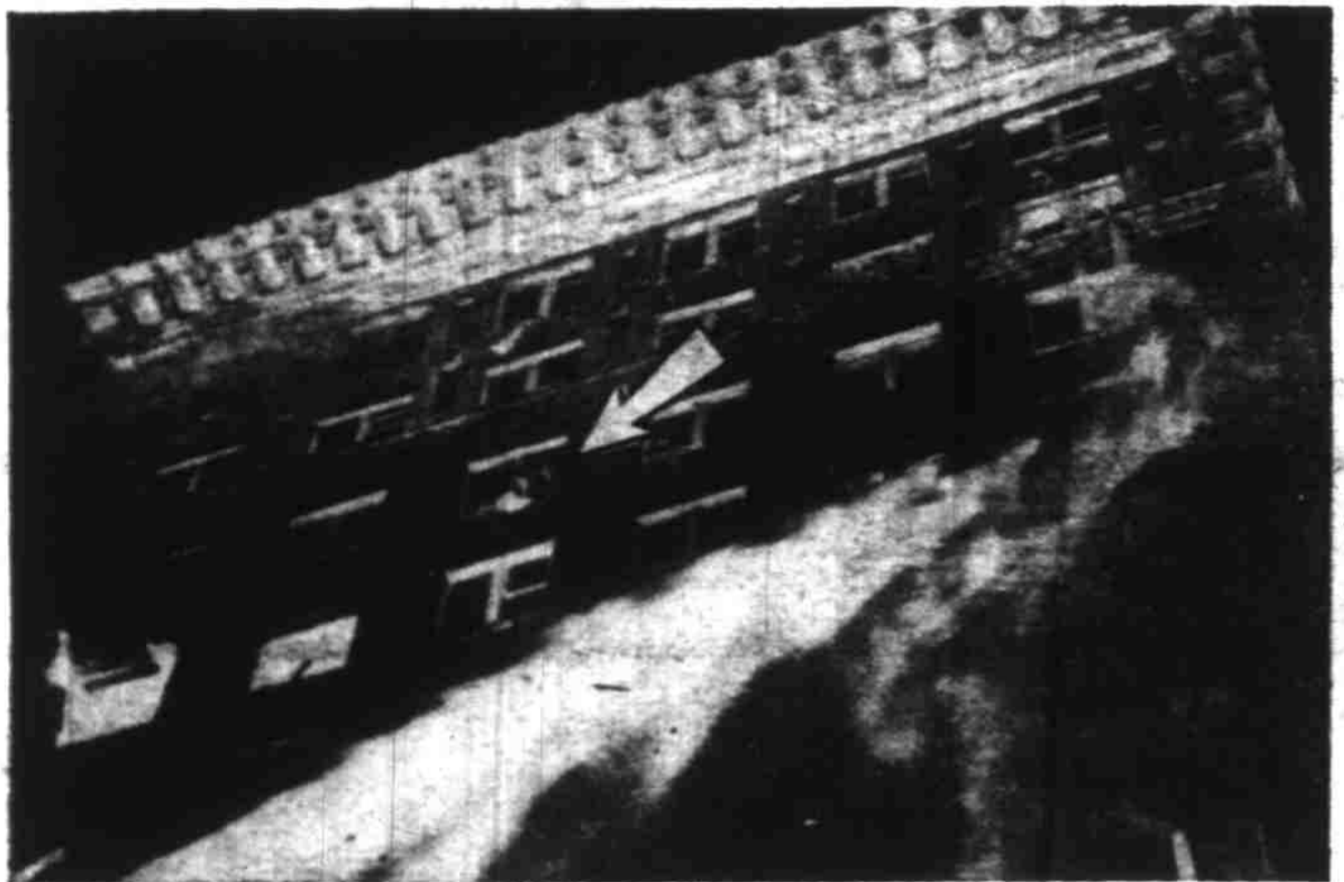
NINETY-SIXTH YEAR

24 PAGES

Salem, Oregon Sunday Morning, December 8, 1946

No. 218

## 127 Bodies Counted in Atlanta Blaze



ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 7.—(left) Two guests at the Wincoff hotel hang out an upper story window (see arrow) as flames from a fire which took 127 lives early this morning leap from windows directly below them. Water from fire hoses streams

up the side of the blazing building. (right) Unidentified dead fill the morgue at a funeral home as firemen bring in another body. Counting of the bodies is not yet complete. (AP wirephotos flown by Air Express to The Statesman.)

## Mines Reopening As Chief Bows to U.S. Government

### Wants Supreme Court to be Free From 'Public Pressure' in Deciding Case; Economy Controls Removed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—John L. Lewis gave in to the government today and ended the soft coal strike.

With it, like the finish of a nightmare, went virtually all the restrictions it had brought and the economic peril it had poised over this and other countries.

President Truman cancelled the broadcast he had planned for tomorrow night, closed his desk and went to an art show, smiling but silent on the outcome.

Lewis ordered the 400,000 miners to end the 17-day walkout and go back to work immediately. Reports from the

mine fields indicated ready compliance. Some maintenance crews headed for the pits tonight, and full-scale resumption of mining Monday appeared certain.

At the same time Lewis announced his readiness to negotiate with the private mine owners for new wage and other demands, a step which could clear the way for the government to get out of the coal business.

For his startling step Lewis gave two reasons—that the supreme court in considering the case might be "free from public pressure superinduced by the hysteria and frenzy of an economic crisis," and that "public necessity requires the quantitative production of coal during such period."

Supreme Court Silent

Lewis' retreat came abruptly between two conferences with Chief Justice Vinson of attorneys for the union and the justice department. One conference was held in the forenoon, and Lewis is expected to be in the late afternoon. The court said word that no announcement would be made today, and the lawyers all were tight-mouthed.

The nine justices at their regular Saturday noon conference had an opportunity to decide whether they will hear Lewis' appeal, at the government's request, and Lewis seemed sure that they would. He said that his future negotiations will be within the limitations of the findings of the supreme court, and made other references to an expected ruling.

Industry Unshackled

The sudden end of the strike brought swift action by officials junking the coal conservation measures which had shackled industry and darkened the Christmas outlook. The freight and express embargoes were lifted, the ban on passenger travel revoked, and the 21-state dimout cancelled in time for Saturday night shopping throngs except in a few places where the utilities are nearly out of fuel. A partial removal of the freeze on coal stocks was being prepared and probably will be issued tomorrow.

With the theatrics he loves, Lewis announced the capitulation to a hurriedly-called news conference at 2 p.m. Easton sternly be on a lecture tour, stopping at the ill-fated hotel. She was in Salem during the past summer.

Her sister-in-law is Mrs. Peter Buck, the former Josephine McGilchrist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McGilchrist, jr., 695 N. Summer st.

## Seattle Port Dispute Ends

SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—(AP)—United States Conciliation Service Commissioner Harry Lewis announced this afternoon that an agreement to end the AFL Checkers union strike and the 67-day waterfront tieup here had been reached by the negotiating committees of the union and the waterfront employers of Washington.

The agreement is subject to ratification tomorrow by meetings of the two groups, he said, and no details of the settlement will be announced pending action by the two bodies.

## Thief Ignores Jewels, Cracks 'Penny' Bank

W. P. Loder, 1297 S. High st., reported to police Saturday that about \$15 was taken from his son's "penny" bank by housebreakers Friday night while Loder and his family were away. He said the loot consisted of two \$5 bills, some \$1 bills and about \$2 in silver. Several articles of jewelry, in plain sight, were not taken. Entry was made through an unlocked window.

## City Manager to be Discussed at Lebanon

LEBANON, Dec. 7.—General discussion of the city manager form of government is planned by the local Lions club. Malcom Otis, club president, has named a committee to have speakers appear at club meetings and discuss the project. Committee members are Frank Mayer, L. E. Arnold, Lawrence Morley and George Britton.

## MORSE IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Senator Wayne Morse (R-Ore.) arrived in Palestine today to study the situation here. His visit was described as a "private tour."

## Double-Check Troop Census Debate Delayed

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—(AP)—A renewed British attempt to win United Nations assembly approval of international inspections to double-check national troop census reports was deferred tonight by prolonged and inconclusive debate on India's complaint of maltreatment of Indian citizens by South Africa.

Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, after a hard day at the big four conference at the Waldorf Astoria on preliminary German peace plans, arrived late in the evening with his three principal deputies at the Flushing Meadow park assembly hall after the new British move was announced.

However, the unexpectedly long debate on India's complaint put the British proposal over until Sunday's plenary sessions scheduled for 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

## 'Motionless Exercise' Boon To Lethargic

By Henrietta Leith

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—(AP)—If you take the latest in beauty shortcuts offered by a Fifth avenue salon—"motionless exercise"—you'll find out why a cradle puts a baby to sleep.

The poor little thing is just all tired out. The new boon to lazy women, the "rock-a-by lady" treatment, which entails a ride in a glorified cradle, is supposed to "give you the same exercise you would get from the same time spent at a game of tennis—but without lifting a finger."

The inventor of the cradle, Ann Deland, director of a beauty school, doesn't want her patrons to get the idea that she believes in doing all the work for them—the cradle is really used to stimulate the facial tissues, to carry to these tissues "the chemical hormones which stimulate and coordinate cell activity."

But, if you refuse to exercise as you should, says this life-long exponent of building the body beautiful, if you just won't play that game of tennis, then what you need is a little cradle rocking.

## Secret Societies' Deadline Passes

The deadline for withdrawal from Salem high school's secret societies passed without official announcement Saturday but circumstances indicated a probable statement on the situation sometime this week. Notices were sent to about 20 parents November 29 saying students who were affiliated with the illegal societies after December 7 could not remain in school.

## 30 CALLED IN BILBO CASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—More than 30 witnesses have been summoned to testify, starting Thursday, before the senate war investigating subcommittee looking into the relations between Senator Bilbo (D-Miss) and a group of war contractors, Chairman Mead (D-NY) announced tonight.

## 14 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT



## Worst Hotel Fire in History of U.S.

ATLANTA, Dec. 7.—(AP)—America's most destructive hotel fire early today turned the 15-story Wincoff hotel into a blazing inferno that brought death to 127 persons and injury to at least 100 more.

While scores of guests trapped in the upper part of the building burned or suffocated, other men, women and children plunged screaming to death on the pavements below in the pre-dawn darkness.

A revised death list compiled late tonight after a check of funeral homes and hospitals, which was complicated by the removal of bodies from one mortuary to another, set the toll of the disaster at 127. Of these, 114 had been identified and an estimated 13 bodies still were unidentified. It was possible that the total might be changed slightly upon completion of the difficult casualty check.

At daylight the sides of the tall, chimney-like structure were draped with torn bed sheets and blankets, marking in grim silence where victims tried to escape. Eyewitnesses told how panic-stricken guests swung from 10th and 12th story windows on flimsy make-shift ropes. A few were rescued, but most fell headlong into the flames, shrieking and praying, then disappearing into the terrible inferno.

At one time a half dozen broken bodies lay at the intersection of Atlanta's famed Peachtree street and Carnegie way, opposite the theatre where the world premier of "Gone With the Wind" was staged.

The origin of the blaze apparently was buried in the charred wreckage or sealed with the dead. City Fire Marshal Harry Phillips could say only that the flames started in the corridors of the third or fourth floors.

Phillips, accompanied by fire inspectors, said in every instance the flames had burned into the rooms of the third, fourth and fifth floors, indicating that the origin lay somewhere in the carpeted hallways.

The fire was out of control within a few minutes after it was discovered and before every piece of fire fighting equipment in Atlanta could be summoned, Phillips said.

The marshal said a bellhop testified he had noticed no fumes or smoke when he delivered some soft drinks to a room on the fifth floor, but, when he turned to leave the room he found he was trapped by flames in the doorway.

No Fire Escapes

The brick, concrete and steel structure had no outside fire escapes, but was classed as "fire resistant." Fire Marshal Harry Phillips said it met all safety codes when it was built in 1914. There were 285 guests registered at the hotel, which was one of Atlanta's leading hostels.

The nation's previous record toll in a hotel fire was 71 in the Newhall house holocaust at Milwaukee in 1883. (Eyewitness story of the fire on page 2.)

GAS LINE TO CONTINUE

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 7.—(AP)—The big and little inch pipelines will carry Texas natural gas to the east and north until at least April 30 despite end of the coal strike, Gardiner Symonds, president of Tennessee gas and transmission company said here today.

## Sweet Home Man Killed in Santiam Wreck

LEBANON, Dec. 7.—Maxwell Keiser, 41, of Sweet Home, was dead on arrival at Lebanon hospital after his car crashed into a truckload of lumber on the Santiam pass highway about three miles southeast of here early this evening, Linn County Coroner Fisher reports.

Fisher said lumber on a Salem truck, driven by a man named Riggs, crashed through the windshield of Keiser's car, after Keiser's car collided with the rear of the parked truck.

Riggs reportedly had lost a load of lumber the previous day, and was engaged in reloading it onto his truck at the time of the collision.

A second car barely avoided collision with Keiser's after the crash, by driving into the ditch, Coroner Fisher said.

## Who's Courteous-When?

Families and firms with several members driving the same car can well keep in mind these days just who had the car at certain times. Otherwise there may be an argument whether pop, mom, junior or Susie is entitled to a share in the prizes in The Oregon Statesman-Warner Brothers Courtesy Driving campaign.

The campaign now is underway, and starting Thursday in The Statesman will be a daily list of license numbers of the first 10 prize winners, chosen by traffic safety experts in the secretary of state's office from lists of courteous deeds noted by Salem police and assisting observers.

No red tape is necessary to win the awards, and everyone is eligible (except employees of The Statesman and Warner Brothers). All that is necessary is to be noted by observers as being extra courteous in driving on Salem streets. That—and noticing in The Statesman whether your car license number is among the winners. If it is, anyone may obtain his or her prize at The Statesman office merely by a proper identification.

The 10 prizes will be given daily through December 21, and the winners—as well as those cars now being noted prior to the start of the daily campaign—will be eligible for at least 12 grand prizes at the end of the contest. The awards are donated by Salem merchants in an effort to make Salem streets more safe and pleasant.

The prizes, which will be placed on public display soon, and their donors are listed in full elsewhere on this page. Driving courtesy will pay!

## Oregon City Debt Cleared Under Manager

The Oregon City manager, like Salem's, has the power of appointing all city employees with the exception of himself. He is accountable only to the three city commissioners, one of which is the mayor.

Franzen, a civil engineer, has quite a record. And while this series of stories is designed to show what a city manager does and can do—rather than to extoll Franzen—it might be added that for two years during the war he was loaned part-time to be city manager of Vanport, a city of 40,000.

"But there wasn't time to carry on Oregon City's business at night, what with being in Vanport all day, so I got back here on the full-time job as soon as I could."

## Deal Holds Santiam Pines for Tourists

BEND, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Virgin timber stands along the McKenzie and Santiam highway have been acquired by the U.S. forest service in exchange for 100,000,000 board feet of timber on forest lands.

The transaction, intended to preserve the roadside pine as a travel attraction, was made between the forest service and Brooks-Scanlon, Inc., lumber company. It was the largest such exchange ever made in Oregon.

## West Salem Census 2,005

The population of West Salem increased from 1490 at the time of the 1940 federal census, to 2005 Saturday, when the state census was completed, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., reported. The increase was 34 per cent.

The state census of Bay City in Tillamook county was 538, an increase of 159 per cent over the 1940 federal census. Aurora had a count of 243 and Vernonia with 1420 show only a slight gain over the federal census.

Each census was taken at the request of city officials. West Salem is the 58th city in Oregon in which the secretary of state has conducted a state census.

## Henagin Jury Deadlocked

OREGON CITY, Ore., Dec. 7.—(AP)—The jury in the first degree murder trial of Mrs. Luella Henagin was retired for the night at 10:35 p.m. after reporting to the court that the jury had been deadlocked after 12 ballots.

Jury foreman Carl Joehne blurted out before Judge Latourrette could silence him that the jury stood eight to four in its seven hours and 25 minutes of deliberations and also asked the court to define the penalties for second degree murder and manslaughter.

## 11 DIES IN ARGENTINE FIRE

CORDOBA, Argentina, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Eleven persons were killed and 15 injured today, police reported, when a bus caught fire after crashing into a trailer truck on a highway near here.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Twice within the year the country has been swung close to the edge of economic disaster, to be pulled back in the nick of time by the retreat of labor leaders. Last May it was the railroad strike; this time the coal strike. In both cases the stoppages were ordered when the government was in possession of the facilities. In the latter instance the return-to-work order did not come until after the court had adjudged the union and its chief guilty of contempt of court and assessed a heavy fine. In each instance the people wake up as though from a bad dream in which a driver sets the carriage to the edge of the precipice, the rescue coming only with the awakening. The people are getting weary of this cold-sweat experience. This time indeed it was no dream, but reality.

Aside from the snarl at the administration in referring to its "yellow-dog injunction," the letter of John L. Lewis ordering miners back to work was logical and in good temper. The first reason he advances is to permit the supreme court to function in an atmosphere not electric with the "hysteria and frenzy of an economic crisis," but Lewis admits also that "public necessity requires the quantitative production of coal." While the order is only an armistice with a terminal date set for March 31st next, Lewis announces the readiness of his committee to negotiate with whoever has authority to negotiate respecting wages and working conditions.

This means first rapid return to normal through restored coal.

## Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH

