

Over 1,000 Die in Ship Quake, Wave

150-Mile Area in Southern Japan Isolated

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Then within 15 minutes, eye-witness accounts said, the sea rose in fury and lashed the shores of Shikoku and south Honshu with a seven-foot tidal wave that hit at least five cities, including Osaka, Japan's second largest.

There were no reports of casualties among British and American occupation forces, although the British were in the heart of the quake zone and their headquarters at Kure was damaged.

The estimate of casualties came from the U. S. army in Tokyo, which felt the shock as did Fukuoka and a broad stretch of Japan's western coast more than 500 miles away from the capital.

As the reports flowed in it became evident that Japan had suffered its worst seismic disaster since the devastation of Tokyo in 1923.

The full shock was felt on the eastern shores of Shikoku, southern Japanese island, where the army said a swiftly-following tidal wave "wiped out 200 families" and washed away 250 houses in the area of Kochi, capital of the province of the same name.

The same wave, lashing at the town of Takaoka, 10 miles southwest of Kochi, killed 90 other persons, seriously injured 126 and destroyed 28 homes besides damaging 461 others, the army said.

And this was only one small sector of a belt of destruction stretching for 150 miles along southern Honshu, the main home island north of the main island, Shikoku.

Police reported that 14 persons were killed in the collapse of their homes at Osaka, Japan's second largest city 250 miles west of Tokyo.

Other officers elected were first vice president, James Walton of Walton-Brown Electric, replacing Douglas McKay; second vice president, Floyd Shepard, manager of the Salem Brewing association, replacing Reynolds Allen; treasurer, Guy N. Hickok, manager of Salem Branch of First National Bank of Portland, replacing Len Smith, and Lester Barr, re-elected.

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Deputy Coroner Walter Kropp said he believed the flames started from an overheated oil stove in the living room. Damage was confined largely to the one room by neighbors, who fought the blaze until the Sweet Home fire department arrived.

Mrs. Weed's body was found near a door leading to the kitchen. She was alone in the house, which is owned by her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Robinett. Two other daughters and two sons survive.

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In addition, every one of the prize winners (daily and grand) will receive a certificate entitling him or her to an 8 x 10 brownstone photograph (Bishop-Moderne).

All prizes are being made available at The Statesman office, with the exception that certificates instead of actual merchandise will be issued for the photographs, gasoline-oil, the permanent wave and ice cream.

Weather—Max. Min. Precip. Portland 41 32 —. San Francisco 50 39 —. Chicago 38 24 —. New York 40 28 76.

Willamette river 10 feet. FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Continued cloudiness with occasional light rains today and tonight. Highest today 48, lowest 38.

Today's Winners
12-392 332-395
47-378 144-565
262-258 39-825
256-540 212-012
212-737 332-528

The Oregon Statesman

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U. N. Commission Approves A-Plan, Reds Silent

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles Spangue
Today writing and editing are much less meticulous than formerly. Newspaper habits are more slovenly than magazine or book practices. The comma for instance is used far less frequently than the rules of punctuation command, and the apostrophe has to struggle to hold a place.

The fewer characters used the better is the composition, and the more words that may be employed in a given space. Both economies are important in newspaper production. Hence the more informal style of newspaper composition—less attention is paid to the rules of the road, punctuation.

There still is a place for the comma, however. For example in the current issue of LIFE magazine appears an interesting article on 18th century London, which accompanies some beautiful reproductions of works of the artist Hogarth. I quote:

"It was a foul-mouthed, coarse and hard-living age, and by no means all of London was picturesque. Ditches, filled with offal and dead dogs ran down the middle of the streets, and housewives poured their slops out of upstairs windows."

This sounds as though "dead dogs" ran down the middle of the streets, something admittedly very unusual. The older style would probably have employed commas to the sentence would read:

"Ditches, filled with offal and dead dogs, ran down the middle of the street."

This punctuation makes the meaning quite clear, but it calls for two more commas. They are not absolutely necessary for an analysis of the sentence shows that "ditches" not "dogs" is the subject of the predicate "ran," but the modern practice of deleting commas forces the reader to reread more sentences in order to get the correct meaning.

Punctuation marks are the foxes, the little foxes, the lack of which often spoils the sentences, but in this fast-moving age there is little prospect of return to the strict rules of the old books of rhetoric or manuals of style.

Talmadge Takes Turn for Worse—ATLANTA, Dec. 20—(AP)—Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge has taken a "very definite" turn for the worse within the last few hours, his physician said tonight, after an unusual 11 p. m. visit.

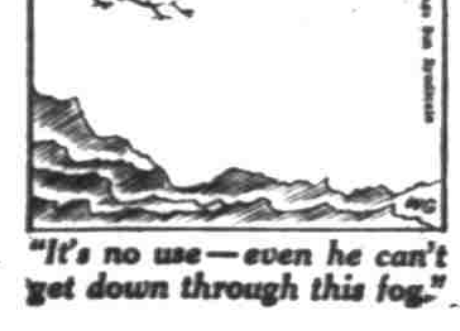
"The governor is now comatose," said Dr. Edgar J. Paulin, "and this condition is not due to his medicine."

The doctor termed the governor-elect "critically ill," using for the first time that phrase. Herebefore the physician has called Talmadge's illness "very serious."

Troller Sinks as Waves Batter Astoria Docks—ASTORIA, Dec. 20—(AP)—A 28-foot troller sank, another troller was damaged, and the 12th street dock here was undermined by battering waves and a 30-mile-an-hour east wind today.

Ground swells pounded the troller against the wharf until it sank. The owner removed the other troller after it was damaged.

Animal Crackers—By WARREN GOODRICH



Television Audience Partially Hypnotized in Britain

By Ed Creagh
LONDON, Dec. 20—(AP)—The British Broadcasting corporation—always willing to try anything at least once, especially behind closed doors—experimented with hypnotism by television, counted the victims and decided today never to do it again.

The trouble was, it worked, BBC reported.

One member of the cheerful dozen of the BBC staff who assembled to see if they could be put to sleep by television—over a private wire—suddenly snored and dented his chest with his chin.

Another yawned and went into the same sort of trance. A third looked hard at the television screen, but before anyone could prop him up, he sank limply into dreamland. So did two others.

"My goodness," said an official, "if you can hypnotize people by television, think what would happen if everybody had a television set — as everybody will shortly—and a Hitler sort of fellow started working on them all!"

Far from BBC's palatial offices, the slight, serious young man who had done the historic hypnotizing—Peter Casson, 24, an ex-navy enlisted man—took a scornful view of such timidity.

"I personally think that the BBC is perhaps being too conservative in deciding not to put me on the air," said the six-foot-one member. "When I got before the television cameras, I fixed the attention of my audience by talking to them, and there was a touseup of my face. It was mainly the sound, helped by viewing my face, which did it."

Two of the BBC hands who fell so sound asleep that Casson had to wake them up personally said they thought he underestimated his powers.

\$705,000 Bonus Given To Employees of Pottery

SCIO, O., Dec. 20—(AP)—L. P. Reese, who was on poor relief 14 years ago, tonight distributed \$705,000 to the 827 employees of his Scio-Ohio pottery—a surprise Christmas bonus which set a record, even in this dish-making village of 1400 persons.

In addition, the 53-year-old owner of the pottery announced a 20-cents-an-hour increase in wages with a \$1 an hour minimum scale for unskilled workers.

Then because he was a World War I machine gunner, he presented to the local American Legion a new home for which it had been trying to raise money. He also gave away the bride at the public wedding of two employees, Miss Elizabeth L. Tackett and John J. Campbell, Jr., a Pacific war veteran.

A carryover from the war when pay increases were restricted, the gifts which were disclosed at an annual Christmas party, averaged \$840 for each worker. New employees received \$10, but each of the 88 men and women who have been with him 10 or more years received \$3500.

Called by Nicknames—In the high school auditorium, gay with Christmas decorations, Reese handed each of the 10-year employees a \$3500 check, calling many by nicknames and telling stories about them.

A glance at the checks dazed the recipients. Jaws dropped, hands were held to heads. Shakingly the employees walked off the stage and some ran back to shake Reese's hand.

Reese's Cashier William Hughes, also state representative, commented: "This will play the dickens with the notes at our bank."

Relief Clients—Reese, penniless, came with seven other relief clients during the depression to live in an abandoned pottery building. For four months they lived in that barnlike structure as they worked on Reese's ideas for mass production of dishes.

At his first Christmas party in 1933 Reese gave each of the plant's 23 employees a 39-cent box of chocolates.

Open Windows in Traffic Essential to Qualify For Awards in Courtesy Driving Campaign

If a driver has his left-hand window closed in travelling through Salem's downtown area, he (or she) doesn't have a chance at prizes in The Oregon Statesman-Warner Brothers Courtesy Driving campaign.

Observers, who pick out license numbers of courtesy drivers for the campaign's judging, stressed that fact during the chilly weather Friday—and also commented that far more women than men had their windows open for ready signalling.

Planner Brown New Head of C. of C.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—Gen. Jacob L. Devers, army ground forces chief, who tonight released a plan for reorganizing U. S. infantry divisions with added speed and fire power to cope with the atomic age.

The Soviet delegate made it clear that his silence was not to be construed as an abstention from the discussion, which he was refusing to engage in any discussion on the substance of the American plan.

The ballot came after the 12-nation commission turned back Russian demands for a week's delay and rejected a Polish move to toss the American plan directly into the hands of a committee without comment.

Today's action paved the way for the committee to draft a final atomic report for submission to the parent security council by December 21, to enter private Gromyko will have the right to veto any part or all of the plan.

Atomic Age Army to Make Debut Soon

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—The army disclosed tonight plans for making its infantry divisions "unparalleled fighting machines" with lightning mobility and more than three times the gunfire of existing units.

At the same time, it announced a corresponding strengthening of the other major ground combat component, the armored division.

The reorganization, which Gen. Jacob L. Devers, army ground force chief said in a statement "takes into account lessons learned in World War II and which looks forward to the atomic age," will do this to the infantry divisions:

Provide a wartime strength of 17,000 and 18,000 men, an increase in manpower of about 20 per cent, produce a 200 per cent increase in the number of weapons of various categories with a 250 per cent increase in firepower due to improved automatic and other characteristics.

Instead of merely attaching elements such as armor only when needed in the field, (as was done in World War II) provide the infantry with an organic tank battalion and anti-aircraft battalion. The division will have six companies of M-26 tanks mounting 90 millimeter guns. Division artillery will include fifty-four 105 howitzers and eighteen 155 howitzers. The division's armament will include more of the valuable recoilless guns, forty-two 75 millimeter and eighty-one 57 millimeter recoilless rifles.

(Additional details on page 2)

CHRISTMAS TO CAPETOWN—CAPETOWN, Dec. 20—(AP)—Christmas came to South Africa today. The American ship African Dawn docked with 560,000 pairs of nylons.

Board to Form New Draft Law—WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—President Truman's new advisory committee set to work today on a broad universal training program designed to stress physical and spiritual as well as military education.

"Any adequate program must recognize the fact that the nation's security depends not only on its military strength but also the physical, spiritual, religious and moral fiber of its young men," said Dr. Karl T. Compton, the chairman. The president in an impromptu talk to the commission members, said they "are not to be rushed" but Dr. Compton said they expect to make their recommendations by the end of March.

Capt. Zumwalt Resigns From State Police Job—Capt. Chester Zumwalt, headquarters man and auditor for the state police, has resigned effective January 1, to enter private business, and will be succeeded as state police auditor by George W. King, previously supervisor for the Office of Price Administration, State Police Superintendent H. G. Mason said Friday.

M. E. Branch, Oregon Motor Club, Salem (3 pairs nylons). Mrs. Francis W. Smith, route 1, box 17, Salem (3 pairs nylons). Lloyd and Doyle Baughman, route 1, Albany (album of records).

Albert Brant, 510 Beck, Salem (flashlight). Nan Peterson, 1935 Virginia, Salem (flashlight). Luella Newton, Roy's Court apartments, Salem (two theater tickets).

All winners also receive certificates good for an 8x10 brownstone photograph. Today's winners of the 10 awards—donated by Salem merchants to aid in reducing accidents and making driving more pleasurable—are as follows (time, location, weather, traffic conditions and other factors also are considered in the judging by the secretary of state's office):



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Keith Brown, Salem building supply manufacturer since 1928, is the new head of the Salem Chamber of Commerce replacing E. Burr Miller, retiring president.

Brown, president of the Keith Brown Lumber yard and of the Keith Brown Building Supply, was elected chamber president for 1947 at a meeting of the newly-elected board of directors Friday noon at the Golden Pheasant.

Other officers elected were first vice president, James Walton of Walton-Brown Electric, replacing Douglas McKay; second vice president, Floyd Shepard, manager of the Salem Brewing association, replacing Reynolds Allen; treasurer, Guy N. Hickok, manager of Salem Branch of First National Bank of Portland, replacing Len Smith, and Lester Barr, re-elected.

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1,000 Homes Inundated in Kochi Area

The U. S. army estimated that 1000 homes were under water in the Kochi area. It was difficult to determine whether the quake or the tidal wave caused the most damage.

Kyodo News Agency said, however, that water was five feet deep in parts of Kainan, a city south of Osaka on the Wakayama peninsula east of Shikoku, which also was hard hit.

Water was even deeper farther south in the town of Yura, Kyodo said, with the water up to the second floors of buildings. Water was three feet deep in parts of the town of Awaji, which stands at the eastern end of the inland sea and which was in the path of the tidal wave as it surged up Kii strait from the quake epicenter.

Kyodo said heavy damage was expected there, because the water would rush in from the open sea through narrowing Kii strait as though it were the neck of a funnel. Far higher waves consequently were feared.

Kyodo in its first account said thousands of persons were "killed, injured or drowned" but these figures were discounted, although the scope of the disaster was broadening with every new report pouring into army headquarters.

The disaster of Dec. 1923 cost the lives of 143,000 Japanese.

Quake Reportedly Overturns Train

The newspaper Asahi carried an unconfirmed report that a train was overturned by the quake near Okayama, which is midway between Osaka and Kure, on the Inland sea 170 miles to the west.

The quake was timed at 4:20 a. m. (11:20 a. m. PST) and shortly thereafter the tidal wave began rolling up the Wakayama peninsula and along Shikoku's eastern shores.

Communications were broken briefly with the 24th division headquarters at Osaka and British occupation headquarters at Kure, but later were restored.

One allied train was delayed because of a blocked tunnel near Okayama, but service was resumed after two and one-half hours.

Among the first reports filtering in here said at least 150 fishing boats were lost.

(An earthquake had been recorded on various seismographs in the United States, in London and in Honolulu, as "a great earthquake" or of "terrific intensity" but this was the first announcement of an exact location.)

Salem Police to Wear White Shirts

"Officers will wear white shirts and dark ties in the future," reads part of an order issued to Salem police officers by Chief Frank A. Mintz. All the uniformed policemen are directed to purchase white shirts instead of the usual blue.

Present city police uniforms consist of blue shirts, trousers, and a blue blouse with Sam Browne belt or a dark jacket.

Bilbo to Take Yule Holiday

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—Senator Theodore G. Bilbo (D-Miss.) made plans today to spend Christmas in his "dream house" in Mississippi while attorneys for the senate war investigating committee dug through his personal office files here.

The investigation of Bilbo's transactions with war contractors and others still was held open by Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) told a reporter it may be necessary to forego additional public hearings before completion of a report.

The Koreans, estimated by police to number 15,000 and by the Koreans themselves to tal 50,000, marched on the residence to present a resolution accusing the government of "illegal discrimination" against Korean residents of Japan.

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