

Sign in Snow Revives Hope for 32 Marines on Missing Plane

New Municipal Gears Start Turning



Salem's new government held sway today under Mayor R. L. Eifstrom, a seven-man council and City Manager J. L. Franzen. The above picture was taken at the year's first council session Thursday. Front row (left to right) are City Attorney Chris Kowitz, Mayor Eifstrom, City Manager Franzen. Rear row: Councilmen Claude Jorgensen, James Nicholson, Daniel J. Fry, R. O. Lewis, Albert Gille, David O'Hara, Municipal Judge W. W. McKinney and City Recorder Alfred Mundi who swore in the new mayor and councilmen last week. The other picture shows Kowitz swearing in McKinney and Franzen immediately after the initial session. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman Staff photographer).

Reported In East Oregon

PROSSER, Wash., Jan. 2 (AP)—A Payette, Idaho, flier, R. Hogue, and two companions reported today sighting the word "aeroplane" and an arrow pointing south written in the snow near LaGrande, in northeastern Oregon, and said the area was so isolated they were certain it was not a prank.

The three told Glen LaMoreaux, a flying service partner, on their arrival here and the information was relayed to the army's McChord field. There a widespread search for a marine transport plane missing with 32 men aboard since December 10 has centered. LaGrande is about 250 air miles from where the San Diego-Seattle-bound marine plane radioed its last position south of Toledo, in western Washington.

No Frank "We didn't see any airplane, but it was too far out for a prank," LaMoreaux quoted Hogue as saying. "It was isolated country." They reported the location fairly definitely. LaMoreaux said he plotted it as about eight miles from LaGrande and nine miles from the LaGrande airport, in a west-southwest direction. They sighted the markings about 11:30 a. m. and arrived here an hour later. They were on private business and left in the afternoon to return to Payette.

New Snow Falls LaGrande fliers, notified of their report, searched the rugged nearby country, in the Blue mountains, without success, however, and a McChord field army plane, flown there in late afternoon, also saw nothing. New snow had fallen within the last 24 hours, the LaGrande airport said. The three said the letters were apparently freshly-made, stomped out in the snow, and about five feet high. The marks did not appear drifted in.

ONTARIO, Ore., Jan. 2 (AP)—Lawrence Limbaugh, private pilot from Payette, Idaho, after landing at the Ontario airport shortly after dark tonight, confirmed the report that he had seen the word "Heokplane" written in the snow in a wooded clearing approximately 10 miles southwest of LaGrande, Ore., at about 2 p. m. today.

Saw Arrow Also Limbaugh, with whom Cirk Hogue of Payette was a passenger, reported he saw the word stamped on the snow covered trail along with an arrow pointing south while he was en route from Ontario to Prosser, Wash. The Payette pilot said he also noted footprints leading to the sign from a snow-covered shed in the clearing. The odd spelling of the word indicated, Limbaugh said, that a Basque sheepherder may have spelled it or that it may have become blurred by snowfall.

Arrow Reported As Indicating Cabin LA GRANDE, Ore., Jan. 2 (AP)—A woman residing in the mountains south of LaGrande who was going to make a large arrow in the snow indicating the direction of her home, was advanced tonight as the possible cause of the arrow and wording in the snow seen in that district this afternoon by W. M. Pierson, CAP chief here. He said that a woman had told friends that she would mark her home with a large arrow in the snow. An explanation of the lettering was not forthcoming, however. The search will be continued Friday, he said.

Billings Firemen Blame Mirage for False Alarm BILLINGS, Jan. 2 (AP)—A mirage caused a false alarm for the Billings fire department today. The woman who turned in the alarm thought the chimney of a neighbor's house was aflame, but it was decided later that she had seen the rays of the setting sun, reflected through chimney vapors.

What to do to solve educational problems created by overcrowded schools in the Salem area is to be decided by the people of the 11 school districts in and around Salem after the problem and the proposed answer — consolidation — are presented fully to them by their individual school boards. More than 60 representatives of the several school districts last night discussed the proposal with Dr. C. L. Huffaker, professor of administration and finance at the University of Oregon, in a special meeting at Bush school. Action for a petition for consolidation is planned after members of the various school boards place the problem and the two alternative answers — consolidation of independent functioning of each separate school district — before the citizenry of all interested districts. Another meeting will be held in about two weeks, after the individual boards have reported

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New Congress Convenes Today, Tax Cut Bill Poised

Filibuster For Bilbo Possible

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (AP)—Filibuster in behalf of Senator Bilbo (D-Miss.) threatened tonight after senators and republicans formally directed their steering committee to try to halt him at the senate's threshold tomorrow.

Senator Maybank (D-SC) told a reporter that he and certain other southern democrats were prepared to "debate a week or longer." He said that if necessary he would read every line of the voluminous record of a senate investigation into Bilbo's election.

There were these other developments in the case of Senator Bilbo, who is accused of intimidating negroes from voting and of violating the law in his dealings with war contractors: 1. Senator Bridges (R-NH) informed newsmen 48 senate republicans attending a conference voted unanimously in favor of a plan to challenge Bilbo at the door.

2. A senate democratic official, who declined to be quoted by name, told a reporter he believed republicans "have the votes" to keep Bilbo from taking his seat and to refer ouster charges against him to the new rules committee, headed by Senator Brooks (R-Ill.). This official said democrats would vote with the republicans to attain this result. However, a filibuster could delay a vote indefinitely. "Without Fair Trial" 3. Senator Hoey (D-NC) declared to reporters that "failure to seat Senator Bilbo would be like sentencing a man without a fair trial."

When the senate convenes tomorrow Leslie L. Biffle, a democrat and its secretary, will be presiding. At that time there would be 30 democrats and 29 republicans as holdovers eligible to vote on a challenge to Bilbo. Resolution Drafted Republicans reportedly have drafted a resolution which would deny Bilbo's right to take his seat immediately and refer to Brooks' committee charges that Bilbo profited from dealings with war contractors and that he violated federal law in preventing negroes from voting.

It was understood this resolution would call for a report from the Brooks committee to the senate not later than January 18, when the ouster arguments would begin in the senate itself.

Montana Man Finds Nugget in Trap Sink HELENA, Mont., Jan. 2 (AP)—While installing a new faucet in the kitchen sink of his home, not far from once-famous Last Chance mining gulch — Jack Longmaid lifted out a filter screen and found three small gold nuggets.

Now, neighbors look for a complete overhauling of plumbing in the Longmaid residence. Huffaker said the increase in population of the northwest would continue for about two more decades, because of the relatively undeveloped resources of the area. In the face of this potentially increased population, many school districts of the area have no high school. This necessitates transportation of their high school students to another school district—usually Salem.

Oehlers Together Again



SILVERTON, Jan. 2—Harry Oehler was happily reunited with his English wife and son, who flew from London to New York. The pair arrived on New Year's day and are pictured here with Oehler in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Oehler in Silvertown. (Statesman photo.) (Story on page 14.)

Parking Meters To Make Debut in Salem Next Week

Installation of parking meters on downtown Salem streets is expected to begin by the latter part of next week. The Michael Arts Bronze Co. informed city officials yesterday by long distance telephone that men and equipment would arrive about January 10 and installation work would begin immediately upon their arrival. The city has 450 parking meters on order from the Michael firm, the result of a contract originally drawn a year ago and subsequently the subject of litigation and vote, both of which recently resulted in a go-ahead signal for parking meters in Salem.

Unemployed Flock to State Job Service

A near-record crowd of approximately 685, largest since 1940, flooded the local Oregon employment service office Thursday seeking jobs and filing claims, while 315 passed through the agency's Silvertown office, William Baillie, manager of the Salem office, revealed last night. Baillie attributed the sudden rush to the fact that many persons "want to start the new year out with a job," and to the fact that many of the applicants were looking for better job prospects than the jobs they are now holding. He added that this time of year has always been a heavy one for the office because of the slack-off in seasonal employment.

School Districts in Salem Area to Be Asked to Decide Consolidation Issue

Huffaker said the increase in population of the northwest would continue for about two more decades, because of the relatively undeveloped resources of the area. In the face of this potentially increased population, many school districts of the area have no high school. This necessitates transportation of their high school students to another school district—usually Salem. "Every tuition student is living evidence of poor school organization," Huffaker said, citing the 900 to 1,000 tuition pupils attending Salem schools. Adequate compensation for financial differences of various districts would be made, it was ascertained in statements by Huffaker and Lester Wilcox of the state department of education. One school district recently asked Salem district 24 to take its entire-school and several have requested the Salem district care for eighth of their seventh and eighth grades. Salem Superintendent Frank Bennett said.

Halleck to Lead GOP In House

By ROGER D. GREENE WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (AP)—The nation's lawmakers rallied tonight for the advent of a new era—the first session of the 80th congress tomorrow—amid predictions that a 20 per cent cut in personal income taxes will be the first bill introduced.

On the eve of the momentous session, Chairman-to-be Knutson (R-Minn.) of the house ways and means committee, announced that legislation proposing the 20 per cent reduction will be brought up for top priority consideration. The measure would cut \$3,500,000,000 from personal income taxes "across the board" in 1947. Voices Confidence Knutson voiced confidence the measure will be passed, despite previous opposition in both Democratic and Republican ranks. He said the bill "will be introduced at high noon" tomorrow. Back in the saddle for the first time since the Hoover regime, the Republicans dissolved their differences and elected a GOP leader in the house. Charles A. Halleck of Indiana, who, in that role, will quarterback the Republican team in the house.

Others Withdraw Halleck's selection was assured when Rep. Everett M. Kirkson of Illinois and Thomas Jenkins of Illinois withdrew from the race. Earlier, Rep. Clarence J. Brown of Ohio had also withdrawn. In the senate, the Democratic minority elected Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky as their floor leader and named Senator Lucas of Illinois as "whip"—the man who rounds up straying party members when their votes are needed at a critical juncture. GOP Selections Republican senators had previously chosen Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan as presiding officer in the GOP-controlled senate, with Senator Wallace White of Maine as Republican floor leader and Senator Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska as GOP whip.

With party harmony already achieved among the Republicans, after weeks of intra-mural squabbling over leadership posts, the Democrats also closed ranks with the unanimous selection of 64-year-old Rep. Sam Rayburn of Texas as his party's floor leader in the house. In that role, Rayburn will spearhead Democratic action in the GOP-controlled house.

The house Republican managers, agreed to support the congressional reorganization law, streamlining the committee structure, as the basis for the house operating procedure during the coming session.

Oregon 40 et 8 Wins Award

Oregon Forty and Eight, world war I veteran group, is winner of the organization's coveted Ferdinand G. Fraser membership award. Ira Fitcher, Salem, Oregon Grand Chief de Gare, was informed last night by Forty and Eight headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind. The award has been presented each year for the past 15 years to the state first reporting a 100 per cent paid-up membership. Fitcher, who headed the campaign among 1200 forty and eights in this state, said that Oregon is the first state west of the Mississippi ever to win the trophy. Last year it went to North Carolina.

QUICKIES



"I bought the store I saw in The Statesman Want Ads—so I'd be entitled to the businessmen's lunch."

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

I see where property owners along the highway in the Oregon City-Milwaukie district are organizing a Property Rights association whose purpose is to combat freeway legislation. A meeting is set for Jennings Lodge the evening of January 10. This instures a renewal of an old fight if new legislation permitting freeways to be established is proposed.

Freeway laws give the highway department authority to lay out highways with restrictions on access. The purpose is to promote both safety and convenience of the roadway. The bill consisted at the last session did not disturb existing property but it was vigorously resisted, nevertheless.

The Clackamas county movement may be regarded as the result of the little fellow, the independent enterpriser who runs a service station, a motel, a way-side store or stand or lunchroom. He sees in the denial of access to principal highways only at selected points an invasion of his hood. Even if there is no threat of his being dispossessed he still is opposed to the legislation. He damns the highway commission even though his business may be the creature of the highway that runs past his door.

Owners of suburban real estate also are opposed to such legislation. (Continued on editorial page)

John Kerrick to Succeed Hammond

John C. Kerrick, employe of the state department since 1929, Thursday was appointed by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., as manager of the state driver's license division.

Kerrick succeeds William H. Hammond, who resigned to become state liquor administrator. Kerrick headed the driver's license division from 1940 to 1942, serving in Hammond's place while the latter was in the army. Kerrick went into the marines in 1942, returning in 1945 as assistant manager under Hammond.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"See, she has too got another leg."

Franzen Appointed, New Administration Takes Over in Salem

By Wendell Webb Managing Editor, The Statesman

Salem's first city manager -- quiet, firm-spoken J. L. Franzen of Oregon City -- was formally in charge of administering the affairs of this municipality today. Official ratification of his appointment was voted by the new city council Thursday at the start of almost day-long activity attendant upon the launching of the new government.

Franzen -- unanimously approved after a motion by Councilman Davy O'Hara and second by Councilman R. O. Lewis -- in turn called a meeting of department heads who were informed that "there will be no change at the present time whatever; you can put your minds at ease."

Also taking office Thursday were City Attorney Chris Kowitz on formal appointment of the new city manager, and William M. McKinney who was unanimously named municipal judge by the city council on motion of Councilman Albert Gille and second by Councilman J. Fry.

City Manager Franzen also appointed Alfred Mundi as city recorder. The office previously was elective. Franzen took no direct action to re-appoint other appointive offices, declaring such step was unnecessary. His first request of the department heads was for a complete inventory of their departments. He previously had informed the council that he wanted an inventory of all city equipment, supplies and property, and said that an immediate audit should be considered, "since in effect (by virtue of the new type of government) we are starting from the year one."

In addition to naming Franzen and McKinney, the council at a 45-minute special session with Mayor R. L. Eifstrom also: (1) Adopted a set of rules, specifying meeting nights as the first and third Wednesdays, setting a quorum at five, abolishing standing committees of the council, prohibiting from voting any councilman with "a direct pecuniary interest" in any matter at hand, and barring re-consideration of any rejected bill for six months unless a quorum desired re-hearing. (2) Approved the city manager's salary as \$7,500 and the part-time municipal judge's as \$2,500. (3) Passed an ordinance bill transferring to the new municipal judge the city court duties heretofore carried out by City Recorder Mundi. (4) Referred to the city manager several applications for licenses, an application for a franchise sought by Oregon Motor Stages, and the program for collection of dog license fees. Franzen, asked by Mayor Eifstrom to address the council, said he wanted to express appreciation for his appointment and that he was "very proud to serve." He will divide his time between Oregon City and Salem for several weeks until such time as the former city obtains a man to replace him. Six councilmen were present at the inaugural session -- James Nicholson, Albert Gille, Claude Jorgensen, R. O. Lewis, David O'Hara and Daniel J. Fry. (Additional details on pages 2 and 9.)

CHINA CITY FALLS TO REDS NANKING, Friday, Jan. 2 (AP)—Dispatches to pro-government newspapers said today that communist troops have captured the western Shantung province railway city of Liaocheng.