

Fog Veils Rescue of 49 from Sinking Ship Off Astoria

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

A letter came recently from the publisher of Collier's, William L. Chenery, asking me to give the names of three senators and three representatives in the congress who had rendered the country the "most distinguished service" in 1946. Many editors and publicists were similarly invited to make selections. When the poll is completed the magazine will announce the results and appropriate \$10,000 to such welfare endeavor as the persons chosen recommend.

I am going to report here my nominations, and then await with interest the announcement of the final score. Of course, without waiting for the results, I can decide for myself whether my nominations are very good or not.

For the list from the senate I chose:

Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan for his effective leadership in the senate and in the councils of the United Nations, and at parleys for the peace in behalf of a sound peace and a durable world order.

Brien McMahon of Connecticut for his work as head of the committee handling legislation to control atomic energy. Due largely to his efforts the dangers of military control embodied in the house bill were overcome.

Wayne L. Morse of Oregon, for his great victory in obtaining the adherence of the United Nations to the new International Court of Justice and for his efforts to remove discrimination on grounds of race and against filibustering.

In the case of the house of representatives it was difficult for

Takes Office



Walter C. Winslow, Salem attorney appointed to the supreme court during the absence of Justice James T. Brand, now enroute to Germany as a war crime judge, who will take his oath of office at 2 p.m. today from Chief Justice George Rossman with all members of the court in attendance.

Pro-Communist Bloc Captures Pole Election

WARSAW, Jan. 20 (AP)—Landslide votes in cities and heavily populated industrial areas gave a mounting majority tonight to the pro-communist government bloc parties, apparently assuring them of 80 per cent of the seats in Poland's new parliament.

More than 100,000 volunteer militiamen stood guard as election boards continued canvassing the ballots from yesterday's voting—Poland's first parliamentary election since 1935. A near-maximum vote of 12,000,000 was indicated.

Unofficial results indicated that the bloc had captured about 355 of the 444 parliamentary seats. Most of the remaining seats were won by vice premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk's Polish peasant (PSL) party, the labor party, and the new liberation party.

A spokesman for the government said it also was significant that in the 10 districts where the Polish peasant party called for a boycott, the vote was very heavy. Mikolajczyk, however, said the boycott was effective, and that the only peasants who voted were those forced to do so by security police and militia.

Mikolajczyk accused the government of arresting his candidates, intimidating his followers, striking the names of his candidates from election lists, and packing the polls with pro-government election officials.

Time Bomb Probed for Sea Tragedy

ATHENS, Jan. 20 (AP)—The possibility that a time bomb sank the Greek steamer Chimarris, sending an estimated 392 panic-stricken persons to their death yesterday in the frigid waters of the Gulf of Petalon, was being investigated tonight by officials of the merchant marine ministry.

The original announcement of the sinking, the worst maritime disaster in modern Greek history, said the 1,800-ton former German vessel hit a mine. The ministry did not rule out a floating or a magnetic mine as a cause, but said it also was inquiring into whether a passenger might have been carrying explosives.

The ministry said 550 passengers and a crew of 87 were aboard the vessel when it left Salonika on Saturday. Of these 229 were saved.

A search was continuing for additional bodies. Divers were being sent to the scene in an attempt to inspect the wreckage and ascertain the cause of the explosion.

Parole Board Recommends 5-Point Legislative Program

A five-point legislative program including establishment of an intermediate correctional institute was recommended Monday in the biennial report of the state board of parole and probation.

The report states that such an Oregon institution is necessary to fill the gap between the boys' training school and the state penitentiary. It suggested an age limit of 24 for the intermediary prison and the provision there for full educational and vocational training.

The board's four other recommendations to the 44th legislature: Maximum sentencing to be mandatory to Oregon criminal courts to provide uniformity of prison sentences but not to interfere with probation nor suspension of sentences.

Repeal of bench parole law of 1905 which already has been overlapped by the 1931 probation act modernizing and enlarging court powers regarding probation and suspension.

Increase of staff by three district parole officers and two clerks.

The Oregon Statesman

NINETY-SIXTH YEAR 12 PAGES Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, January 21, 1947 Price 5c No. 255

Schools Merger Rejected

Monmouth downed the proposed school district merger with Independence last night by voting 261 against the proposal to 140 for it. Independence, however, favored the merger 150 to 13. Highland and Parker districts also voted in favor of the unification, and will be consolidated with the Independence district. The adjoining Monmouth district, Mistletoe, would be left out of the consolidation, however.

Monmouth's 401 ballots cast represented the largest turnout since pre-war days.

The consolidation was complicated by the fact that Monmouth and Independence elementary schools are state-owned training schools for the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth. Monmouth has 295 pupils enrolled, Independence 375. The plan was to have sent all senior high school students to Independence and all junior high students to Monmouth.

Objections Voiced An objection voiced was the claim that it would cost more to buy buses to transport pupils the short distance between the two towns than to construct additional buildings. Monmouth owns its own buses. Independence hires buses to transport its pupils and additional buses would be needed under the plan proposed. Another contention was that when many employed in Dallas, Salem or West Salem are able to live where they work, it will reduce the population of the area which has increased in the last few years in both towns.

Total Votes Include Total votes in the five districts affected by last night's election included Highland, 21 yes, none no; Parker, 9 yes, no, and Mistletoe, unreported. Because of the close vote in the Parker district, a revote may be taken within ten days if a protest is lodged, officials there said.

Nations Urged To Help Others In A-Research

LONDON, Jan. 20 (AP)—The United States, Britain and Canada, the "know how" nations, were urged today by the British Atomic Scientists association to aid other countries in setting up non-military atomic research plants as a step in achieving world control of atomic energy.

A 2400-word report issued by the council for the association, made up of 150 of Britain's leading atomic scientists, suggested a world accounting of fissile materials as a means of reconciling differences between Russia and the United States over control of the atom bomb.

Commenting on the Soviet proposal to require destruction within a limited time of existing stocks of bombs as against the U. S. plan to postpone such action until international safeguards are established, the council said:

"On this question it is easy to understand the reasons for either point of view, but we think it would be reasonable to ask at least for a declaration by all countries of the amounts of fissile materials in their possession and of the production rates in existing or projected plants.

Butterfat prices skidded Monday in Salem, dropping 6 cents a pound for all grades, reflecting a 3 to 4 cent reduction in retail butter prices.

In Portland, grade A butter was offered at 68 cents at some outlets, but dealers said demand was not heavy and one industry spokesman said lower prices would be needed to get housewives "back to the butter habit."

Butterfat prices in Salem reduced Monday to 71 cents for premium grade, 70 cents for first grade and 66 cents for second grade.

WAA OKES DAM BUTS PORTLAND, Jan. 20 (AP)—The war assets administration today approved use of 24 buildings and some huts by the corps of engineers as a project town for workers at the McNary dam site.

EUGENE MAN DIES IN CRASH EUGENE, Jan. 20 (AP)—A light plane crash in early morning yesterday claimed the life of Carlton Markham Campbell, 34, student pilot and assistant manager of the Eugene airport.

14,200 VETS NEED HOMES PORTLAND, Jan. 20 (AP)—At least 14,200 veterans in the Portland area still need homes, Robert A. Elliott, chairman of the American Legion state housing committee, said today.

Weather Max. Min. Precip. Salem 52 34 13 Portland 50 33 21 San Francisco 52 38 13 Chicago 50 34 02 New York 46 34 96 Willamette river: 4 feet. FORECAST from U. S. weather bureau: Light rain today and tonight with intermittent light rain. Moderate to strong winds prevalent throughout the day. Highest temperature 55, low 34.

14 Nurses, Patients Injured, 1 Killed As Hospital Plane Explodes, Burns Passengers, Wreckage Scatter Like Chaff as Transport Hits

OAKLAND, Calif., Jan. 20 (AP)—A four-engine navy hospital plane crashed and burned while making a radar-controlled landing at fog-shrouded Oakland airport today, killing a Wave medical corpsman and injuring the 20 other passengers and crew. Passengers and wreckage were scattered like chaff over the runway when the big plane struck an embankment at the southeast edge of the airport, exploded and burned.

The plane, flown by the naval air transport service (NATS), was en route east on a regularly scheduled flight from Moffett Field, Calif., near Sonoma, only about 40 miles south of Oakland. In addition to its crew of seven, it carried 14 patients and 20 other passengers and crew.

Four women, two Wave corpsmen and two navy nurses, were among the occupants.

Making what the navy described as a normal radar, ground controlled approach to the fog obscured airport, the planes back was broken by the impact of the landing. Ensuing explosions shook it for nearly an hour as gasoline-fed fire swept the wreckage.

The injured were picked up from the runway and rushed to the navy Oak Knoll hospital after emergency treatment. The plane was landing at Oakland to pick up additional passengers for the flight east.

It roared in over the field area under radar control and an eye-witness said it appeared to be making the approach too low, with the pilot correcting a low right wing by slipping to the left. It struck the levee at the southeast edge of the field and exploded.

Visibility was virtually zero as the plane came in under control of the radar approach unit. It touched about 150 feet short of the runway in the mud flats, and ran evenly for about 50 feet before crashing into the four-foot rock dike at the edge of the field.

The undercarriage was sheared off and the plane skidded an estimated 1000 feet, disintegrating as it slewed about, before it came to rest in flames. Passengers and wreckage were scattered in its wake.

The navy said its planes had made more than 65,000 "ground-control-approach" radar landings with the pilot correcting a low right wing by slipping to the left.

Volstead, Sponsor Of Prohibition Act, Dies in Minnesota GRANITE FALLS, Minn., Jan. 20 (AP)—Andrew J. Volstead, former Minnesota congressman and father of the Volstead prohibition act, died today. He was 87 years old.

Volstead, a lifelong dry, and in poor health for years, had lived the life of a country lawyer. He appealed from his conviction that he had the fight against establishment of a municipal liquor store in 1942 went unheeded.

Volstead was elected to congress on the republican ticket in 1903. He sponsored measures to repeal board powers granted the president during World War I, fathered the farmers cooperative act, in addition to the prohibition act. He was defeated in 1922.

All during his life he declined to accept board powers granted the president during World War I, fathered the farmers cooperative act, in addition to the prohibition act. He was defeated in 1922.

Gasperi Quits Position as Italy Premier ROME, Jan. 20 (AP)—Premier Alcide De Gasperi, bringing to a head a governmental crisis which developed during his recent visit to the United States, submitted his resignation tonight. He was expected, however, to form a new government — perhaps one in which the leftists would have less voice.

Almost simultaneously, the Italian political situation was further complicated with the announcement by the foreign minister that Italy had filed a strong protest with the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France against terms of the proposed Italian peace treaty. The pact will be signed at Paris February 10.

De Gasperi's resignation was handed to President Enrico De Nicola, who said in a communique that consultations had begun to form the new government. The first person the president is scheduled to see is De Gasperi himself.

In his resignation today, the premier elected to precipitate a crisis which developed when the Italian socialist party broke apart over the question of collaboration with the communist party.

Tax Bills Entered In House

Major tax bills growing out of recommendations of the interim commission were dropped in the house hopper Monday, along with proposals to increase benefits under workmen's compensation, tighten laws on hunting and fishing, and lower the compulsory school age.

It was the busiest day for new introductions since the start of the 44th biennial session January 13. Nearly all came in the house, however, the senate getting only four bills during the session.

The tax bills, introduced by Rep. Giles French and Sens. Earl Newby and Eugene Marsh, followed closely the pattern disclosed in The Statesman last Saturday. It was estimated the bills would add \$18,500,000 added revenue per biennial offset provision of the state income and corporate excise tax; lower state income tax exemptions from \$1500 to \$1000 for married persons and \$750 to \$500 for single persons.

making farm crops and public utilities subject to corporate excise tax; reduce the corporate excise tax from 8 to 6 per cent; place a 10 per cent sales tax on the retail price of liquor; transfer liquor revenues to the general fund; repeal the personal property tax except as it might apply in the valuation of corporations; provide for the assessment of forest properties; create a tax research division, and make assessors instead of sheriffs responsible for tax collections.

Another measure proposed that cities, counties and other tax districts be empowered to vote a new tax base subject to the 6 per cent limitation.

The latter proposal (HJR 5) would be subject to a referendum as a constitutional amendment. Sponsors said it was proposed to implement a recommendation of the governor's tax study commission so that rapidly-growing areas which need more revenue would be subject to a referendum instead of having a base limited to the previous three years.

Another joint resolution (HJR-4) would seek voter approval of a common-law states' tax parity association. A memorial (HJM 3) also was introduced proposing that all 40 common-law states petition congress to place taxpayers of these states on parity with those of community-property states. Another memorial (HJM-4) would ask congress not to boost immigration quotas.

Ten workmen's compensation bills introduced by Rep. Marley Wilson would increase disability benefits up to nearly 100 per cent, provided for a "free choice" of hospital care, and boost the industrial accident fund to \$25 million. The fish and game bills, introduced by the house game committee, seek an increase in fishing and hunting license fees for non-residents, prohibit borrowing of hunting and fishing licenses, and boost the game fund to \$25 million. The fish and game bills, introduced by the house game committee, seek an increase in fishing and hunting license fees for non-residents, prohibit borrowing of hunting and fishing licenses, and boost the game fund to \$25 million.

Other bills introduced in the house Monday would lower the compulsory school age from 18 to 16 (in effect repealing legislative action of two years ago) and provide for a licensing system to prevent the indiscriminate cutting of Christmas trees. (Complete bill digest page 3).

Wind, Rains Forecast Here

Moderate to strong winds with intermittent light rain was predicted for Salem today by the McNary field weather bureau, which also forecast the highest temperature of the new year at 55 degrees.

Over Oregon, too, warmer temperatures were predicted, with rain west of the Cascades and snow over the Cascades and northwestern parts of the state.

Turbulent weather and warm temperatures affected the eastern half of the country as a new cold wave blew down from Canada into the north central states Monday. New York City experienced its warmest January 20 in 57 years of record, the temperature rising to 57.1 degrees. Monday's weather in the Rockies brought some snow flurries and temperatures generally below freezing and most of the winter's snow, as deep as 91 inches at Mullan Pass on the Montana border, according to Associated Press.

Democrats Cry 'Gag Rule' as GOP Cuts at Taxes, Budgets

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—A democratic cry of "gag rule" mingled with renewed republican demands for budget size tax cutting and a spending ceiling before the congressional committee organized to review President Truman's \$37,500,000,000 budget and put its own ceiling on spending.

Temper flared as the 102-member senate-house budget committee, created by the new reorganizing act, held its first meeting behind closed doors and named a 20-man subcommittee to do the actual work—12 republicans and eight democrats.

Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) emerged from the executive session today to announce that "a gag rule has been adopted at the beginning of this congress. The committee has voted to give carte blanche authority to a 20-man subcommittee, with members of the full committee denied an opportunity to voice their views. The subcommittee will not even tell the whole committee when it is meeting."

Rep. Dirksen (-Ill) of the sub-

Byrnes Signs Peace Treaties As Last Job

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—Secretary of State Byrnes signed the peace treaties with Italy, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria as his last official act today but kept his office an extra day when bad flying weather delayed Gen. George C. Marshall.

Marshall, flying from the west coast by the weather. He and his party transferred to a train which will bring them here tomorrow morning.

The swearing-in ceremony, scheduled at the White House at 11 a.m., was put off until tomorrow. Chief Justice Vinson will administer the oath in the presence of President Truman, congressmen and others.

Byrnes' signature of the four peace treaties which he negotiated during 16 difficult months was only a formality. Another ceremony will be held in Paris on February 10, when all the allies will sign the treaties.

Senators Vandenberg (R-Mich) and Connally (D-Tex) of the foreign relations committee, who aided Byrnes in the negotiations, were at his side for the two-minute ceremony.

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Try Made To Beach Freighter

ASTORIA, Ore., Jan. 20 (AP)—The coast guard announced tonight all crew members of the Drexel Victory, sinking off shore here, had been removed and there were no reports any men were missing.

Thirty of the Drexel's crew are aboard the cutter Triumph and the coast guard said it presumes the 19 others are aboard the Columbia river pilot's schooner, Columbia and the freighter Joseph Gale which also aided in the rescue.

The distressed ship, its decks awash and sinking by the stern, is drifting north into shipping channels and the coast guard cutter Onondaga is attempting to put a line aboard her to tow the ship into shallow water and aground. Rescue operations were hampered by a dense fog.

Both the Columbia and the Triumph were standing by the Onondaga temporarily, but were expected to return here about 11 p.m. (PST) and put the rescued men ashore.

The ship radioed it was in distress late this afternoon after clearing Astoria at 1:30 p.m. (PST) and began sinking when a few miles off the Columbia river bar.

Radiocoast Guard The 10,500-ton ship is registered to the Oliver J. Olson company and is skippered by Capt. C. Rommel Dahl (address unknown) who radioed to the coast guard that holds were flooding.

The Port Adams coast guard station and the Victory ship, out-bound for Yokohama with a cargo of relief grain loaded at Portland, ran aground on Peacock Spit and was damaged under the waterline.

Two lumber barges being towed to Honolulu in the inauguration of trans-oceanic barge service by the Portland-based large company were abandoned on the spit Saturday where they ran aground during rough seas.

Ship officers of the Drexel Victory and a partial list of crewmen reported by the Portland port authorities include: Captain, Canute H. Peterson, master, San Mateo; Francis G. Harmon, Seattle, chief mate; Donald C. Lind, Redondo Beach, Calif., second mate; Martin E. Johnson, Portland, third mate; John C. Byrn, Everett, Wash., junior third officer.

Crew members: Lee W. Steele, Selah, Wash.; Chris H. Neessen, Everett, Wash.; Archie W. Crawford, Tacoma, Wash.; Paul F. Clarke, Jr., Stayton, Ore.; James F. Masterson, Astoria, Ore.; Warren R. Enger, Tacoma; and Elmer A. Minor, Jasper, Alaska.

Taft Supports Extension of Rent Controls

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) today supported the extension of rent control beyond June 30 "in form" and renewed his backing for a federal public housing program.

The republican legislator said, however, that he believes there should be an "adjustment" to remedy "injustices." He declared that many owners have been caught by rent ceilings frozen "at a level where they do not get a fair return."

Senator Taft said the Wagner-Ellender-Taft long-range housing bill, of which he was a co-sponsor in the last congress, will be re-introduced with his support. It passed the senate in the last session but never emerged from committee in the house.

Southern Farmers To Migrate West, Newsman Avers

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 20 (AP)—Mechanization of the south's farms will drive 10 million southerners to the west coast in the next decade, Jonathan Daniels, news editor of the Raleigh, N. C., News-Observer, predicted here today.

"The problems we have will all be solved by yours," the former press secretary to the late President Roosevelt declared. He added the west would "get a lot of good people, both white and negro, and a lot of poor, ignorant, sick and criminal people" during the migration.

He said the trend was westward because industry is expanding here and wages were high while school law, adopted by the Congress absorbing great masses of new workers.

School Official to Explain School Law LINCOLN, Jan. 20 — Josiah Wills, Polk county school superintendent, will explain the rural school law, adopted by the Congress last November, at the Community club meeting Friday, January 24, at 8 p.m. "The Lamp Went Out" will be presented by local talent as a program feature.

Reds Approve U. S. Arms Bid

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Jan. 20 (AP)—Overriding Russian and Polish opposition, the United Nations security council today approved an American request to put off consideration of world-wide arms reduction for two weeks.

The 9 to 2 vote on the arms motion came after the Soviet Union lost a fight to keep British charges against Albanian officers on the council's agenda. The ballot there was 10 to 0 with Soviet Delegate Andrei A. Gromyko abstaining.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Please! Your tentacles are cold!"