

House Passes Plan To Apportion School Support Fund, 55-4

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman

The house overrode Multnomah county and eastern Oregon objection Monday to pass 55 to 4 the amended bill (HB 9) providing for the distribution of the annual \$16,000,000 school support fund approved at last November's vote.

The vote came after repeated attempts (defeated 4 to 16) to get the bill re-referred either to the committee on education or the committee on state and federal affairs, and after proponents led by Rep Lyle Thomas of Dallas had declared in effect the bill constituted the best compromise plan that could be devised. The opposition was led by Rep. Giles French of Moro, whose counties (Gilliam, Morrow, Sherman, Wheeler) stood to benefit more through a congressional district.

Rep. French also initiated a bill of his own last week, and demanded futilely that amended house bill 9 be re-studied in the light of his proposal. The bill as passed Monday provides roughly that 20 per cent of the school support fund go for equalization, 70 per cent for grants and aids, and 5 per cent for transportation and administration. The original bill would have given 50 per cent to equalization.

The bill as passed also provided for distribution on the basis of 20 cents per pupil daily attendance and \$500 annually per teacher. The original bill would give 10 cents per pupil and \$450 per teacher.

The measure as approved, Rep. Thomas explained, places the state level of education at 75 cents per pupil — below Washington and far below California — and would "take money from districts most able to pay and place it in districts least able to pay." To share in the apportionment, counties must have a 7-mill revenue (combined county school fund and district school tax) based on "time cash valuation" a school year of at least 180 days, with six or more in average daily attendance, and transportation setup where needed.

Voting against passage were Reps J. E. Bennett of Portland, French, Henry Peterson of Ione and C. L. Llewellyn of Pendleton. Absent was Rep. Burt K. Snyder of Lakeview.

It did manage to pass, 39 to 19, its own measure increasing the state highway commission from three to five members and providing that two of the five shall be from east of the Cascades. It also approved and sent to the senate a bill to continue under the public employees retirement act those teachers who became county school superintendents, assistant superintendents or supervisors. The house defeated a bill increasing fees for guide licenses and barring guides from hunting or fishing while acting as guides.

The senate passed two house bills, one of which sets up a five-man commission through a tax on wheat to find new markets and uses for grain, and three of its own bills including one which would allow school districts to double their maximum indebtedness (to 10 per cent of their valuation) to facilitate school construction. The measure also provides for stabilizing school district evaluation at 60 per cent of cash value.

Present assessed valuation vary from 37 per cent of cash valuation in Polk county to 70 per cent in Jefferson county. Sen. Eugene Marsh of McMinnville told the senate Marion county's assessed valuation is listed at 44 per cent of cash value by the state tax commission.

The senate was asked to grant the board of control authority to negotiate for the Camp White hospital for use as a public health or educational institution in one of three bills introduced in the upper house Monday. The others would put public library employees in counties over 100,000 population under the public employees retirement act and let county courts set the rate of the legislature set salaries for county officials starting Jan. 1, 1947.

Prepared for introduction in the senate today by Sen. Thomas Mahoney of Portland, and sure to provoke controversy, is a measure which would abolish the state fish commission and turn its duties over to the state game commission.

Meanwhile, the state's budgetary prospects were not improved any Monday when the house assessment and taxation committee indicated it felt forced to reject Gov. Earl Snell's plan to transfer \$7,000,000 of surplus corporate excise taxes to the general fund to bring potential expenditures in balance with estimated receipts for the next biennium. The plan might be unconstitutional, the committee was told.

Up for final action in the house today are 16 house bills, including those creating a state agency for the acquisition of surplus property, allowing non-property owners to vote in school elections, and increasing from \$25 to \$250 the fine for hunting with artificial lights.

Eight house and eight senate bills calling for increases in the salaries of county officials starting July 1 come up for final action in the senate today, along with two other senate bills which would standardize business hours of county offices, (making Marion county offices open at 8:30 a.m. instead of 9 a.m. on week days) and eliminate a cents-per-yard royalty now paid by the state educational fund by the state highway commission on gravel taken from navigable streams.

Both the senate and house will resume at 10:30 a.m. today. (Other legis. news page 3)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge said today the Russian radio has acknowledged Soviet conscription of Koreans into the army in their occupation zone and that negotiations to unify Korea now "appear hopeless."

"I feel that I have done all that I can on a local level," the commander of the U. S. occupation forces told a news conference after a report to President Truman. Hodge indicated his negotiations with the Russians in Korea for unification of the two zones looking toward Korean self-government are being abandoned and that anything further will have to be done on a higher level. He declined comment as to whether he would ask Marshall to bring up the matter at Moscow, but said the Koreans would like to have the secretary do so.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Junior, come back into this mud this instant!"

2 Killed, 200 Hurt in Bleacher Collapse

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

NINETY-SIXTH YEAR 12 PAGES Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, February 25, 1947

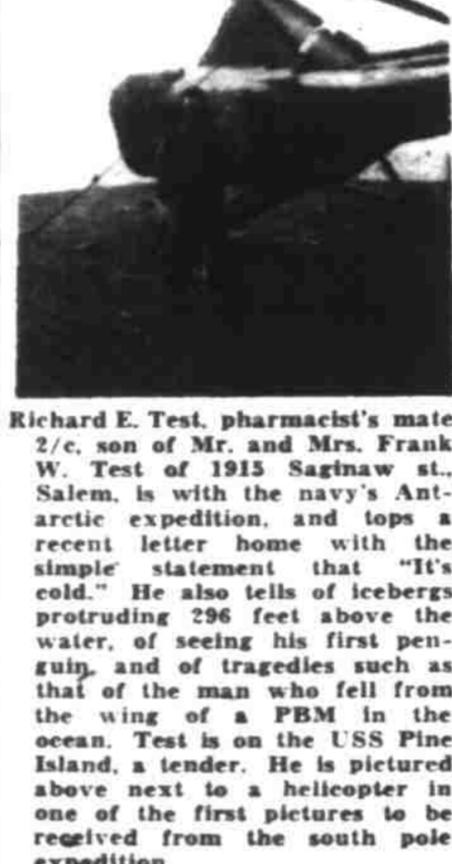
Weather

| | Max. | Min. | Precip. |
|---------------|------|------|---------|
| Salem | 60 | 32 | trace |
| Portland | 51 | 46 | 00 |
| San Francisco | 74 | 46 | 00 |
| Chicago | 31 | 13 | 01 |
| New York | 29 | 17 | 00 |

Willamette river 14 feet. FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary) for Salem: Fair today and tonight with fog in morning lifting shortly before noon. Temperature today, high 60, low 38.

Commodity Prices Zoom to New Highs

'It's Cold' Market Upsurge Spreads



Richard E. Test, pharmacist's mate, with his wife, standing in front of their home.

Market Upsurge Spreads

CHICAGO, Feb. 24 — (AP) — All-time high prices for pork-on-the-hoof today highlighted an upward surge in prices which spread throughout the nation's commodity market and also brought broad advances to other meat animals and grains, cotton, eggs and silver.

At Chicago, hog-butcher capital of the world, a top of \$29.00 a hundred pounds was paid. All wheat contracts sold above \$2.00 a bushel. Winter wheat now in the ground was bringing the highest price on record at Chicago for mid-winter.

Wheat futures closed 4 to 8 1/4 cents a bushel higher, March \$2.36 1/4, and corn 4 1/2 to 5 1/4 cents a bushel higher, March \$1.42 3/4-1/2.

October egg futures at Chicago advanced to a new season high at 43 1/2 cents a dozen. Flax at Minneapolis sold at \$8.00 a bushel, a record high and up 25 cents from Friday. Rye was quoted at a record high of \$3.26 to \$3.27 a bushel at Omaha.

The Associated Press average of 35 weighted cash wholesale commodities hit a record peak for the fourth consecutive day at 173.74.

Russ Jeter, pork market specialist for the agriculture department, said the jump in pork prices may result in pork chops at \$1.00 a pound retail.

All Welcomed But Vandals in Little America

By H. D. Quigg
Representing the combined American Press

ABOARD THE ICE BUNKER BURTON ISLAND, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Little America, chill and deserted but with the stars and stripes still rippling over it in the rose-tinted early morning, has dropped over the horizon and we are putting our way through skimmie northward and homeward.

This powerful ice breaker shoved off last night with 197 men who for five weeks and four days have helped make exploration history in the tent city of Little America.

Twenty-five minutes before midnight we moved through the narrow entrance of the Bay of Whales and out into the fog covering the Ross sea. Behind us, the pointed rows of tents of Little America loomed in silhouette atop the great ice barrier and then slipped out of sight.

It was decided to evacuate the base five days early to avoid thickening ice. Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd placed the following note on a nail for any visitor who might happen along: "This has been a peaceful place. It deserves better than to be vandalized. Otherwise welcome."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Two members of a gang of five men and two women arrested here with \$5,600 in their possession are wanted under federal indictment in North Carolina for a \$23,000 bank robbery, the FBI announced today.

FBI Agent Howard Bobbitt said William N. Sired and D. L. Birchfield were named in the indictment in the Newland, N. C. hold-up of January 30.

Legislative Public Hearings

Insurance association bill (HB 302) Tuesday following afternoon adjournment room 321, statehouse, before house committee on financial institutions.

Water control districts and department of justice — (SB 128, 229) — Tuesday, February 25, 7:30 p.m., room 300, statehouse, before senate judiciary committee.

Pay Bill Passes Committee, Goes to Floor

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — The senate judiciary committee today approved, 9 to 3, a bill to kill the partial pay suits and sent the bill to the floor for possible passage this week.

It would outlaw all existing and future suits, except claims covered by custom in an industry or by contract. The committee is proceeding on the assumption that nearly all pending suits totaling nearly \$6,000,000,000 are outside of the excepted category.

Funds Asked for More Power Development in Northwest

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Support for funds for northwest power development was asked of the house appropriations committee today by Reps. Norman (R-Wash.) and Ellsworth (R-Ore).

Norman, in a statement issued after his appearance before a closed-door session of the committee, said he urged adoption "in full" of the budget of the Bonneville power administration.

He said the requested appropriations for Bonneville will be self-liquidating — a view echoed by Ellsworth in a statement saying the funds "will be paid back to the government with interest and ultimately with a profit."

Ellsworth said that because the existing transmission line from Bonneville to Eugene, Ore., is now used to capacity, it will be necessary to build an additional

County Road Repair Bill Set For \$100,000

Repairs for county road damages caused by alternate freezing and thawing periods during the past winter will cost approximately \$100,000, Marion County Commissioner Roy Rice said Monday.

Both gravel and asphalt roads will require repairs, he said, explaining that poor drainage, allowed because of difficulties in obtaining labor to properly ditch roads, resulted in water settling in the roads. Water seeping through cracks in road pavements often loosened chunks of paving and increased damage occurred when cars knocked parts of the pavement loose.

Limitation of log hauling for several weeks on both gravel and oiled roads partially preserved roads but regular traffic caused considerable damage to the soft gravel roads, Rice said.

Gang Men Held As Bank Robbers

PORTLAND, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Two members of a gang of five men and two women arrested here with \$5,600 in their possession are wanted under federal indictment in North Carolina for a \$23,000 bank robbery, the FBI announced today.

FBI Agent Howard Bobbitt said William N. Sired and D. L. Birchfield were named in the indictment in the Newland, N. C. hold-up of January 30.

Senete Delays Vote on Budget Cut Measure

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — An armistice proposal in the senate's budget fight was shouted down late today and a debate limitation adopted in efforts to reach a vote Wednesday on a \$4,500,000,000 slash in President Truman's estimates for the year starting July 1.

The house has voted a \$6,000,000 reduction in the Truman estimates.

The senate debate brought a suggestion from Senator Langer (R-ND) that President Truman meet with Premier Stalin "and get this matter of fear which each country has for the other out of the road."

Former U. S. Army Worker Seized as Nazi Plot Leader

FRANKFURT, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A former SS captain who worked for the United States army hiring German bands to play for American entertainment was one of the leaders seized in the smashing of a widespread Nazi underground movement, it was revealed today.

U. S. army officers made the disclosure as the British and Americans, continuing an operation launched in a Saturday night snowstorm, made more arrests in the wrecking of an underground plot to restore a German armed might. Authorities said the movement claimed possession of a secret bacteriological weapon.

In the British zone, where the bulk of arrests was made, an intelligence officer said the subversive movement could be regarded as "smashed." He described the raids as "extraordinarily successful" but declined to give the exact number of arrests. Previously the British said "hundreds" were seized.

An official British spokesman in Berlin said tonight the raids resulted in "one or more arrests in almost every town in the British zone." He said the operation, now 80 per cent complete, would end within the next 48 hours.

The German ex-captain seized, an employee in the entertainment branch of the headquarters, commander in Frankfurt, was Werner Roepke. His main job was to hire German bands to play in officers' and enlisted men's clubs.

Roepke had a faultless American accent and got his job with the army because of his excellent command of the English language. He said he had been a radio announcer in Florida in 1935-36, and attended school in Vermont,

'Tex' Rankin, Pioneer of the Air, Dies in Crash



Rescuers work to remove the bodies of J. G. Rankin, veteran sea coast pilot, and two other men, killed when this plane, piloted by Rankin, had engine failure at the takeoff and struck a power line at the airport here Sunday. A fourth man was critically injured. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman)

Two Killed in 5-Car Wreck Near Lebanon

LEBANON, Feb. 24 — John Henry Elliott, 20, of Lebanon and Delores Irene Ross, 18, of Jefferson, died here Sunday night as the result of injuries received in a five-car collision north of Lebanon just beyond the Gore school at 3 o'clock Sunday morning.

Elliott was the son of the Elbert Elliotts of Lebanon and had served 26 months with the 96th division and saw service on Okinawa. He was driving the car in which Delores Ross, Helen Lake, 16, Jefferson, and Warren Lanning, 20, Lebanon, were riding. The Elliott car was demolished.

Miss Lake is expected to recover but Lanning suffered a skull fracture and was still in a critical condition last night. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lanning of Lebanon.

Elmer Nichols, 37, of the Waterloo community near Lebanon, was hospitalized with chest injuries. Also involved in the accident was Delmar "Deb" Fennell who escaped injury. Four of the five cars were damaged sufficiently to be taken to repair shops, officers said.

Police said Elliott, the driver, sideswiped one car and plunged into the path of another on a curve.

60,000 Pupils Get Vacation as Teachers Strike

BUFFALO, N.Y., Feb. 24 — (AP) — Striking teachers demanding an immediate 10.25 annual pay raise today closed all but 19 of Buffalo's schools and gave 60,000 students an unscheduled vacation.

Picketing was light. Most students appeared sympathetic with the teachers and greeted an attempt to open Lafayette high school with chants of "we want to go home." Sessions there were recessed for 24 hours.

Superintendent Robert T. Bapst ordered approximately 500 non-striking teachers to continue classes tomorrow at 20 schools.

City Corporation Counsel Fred C. Maloney, ruled that: "By striking and deliberately absenting themselves from work the teachers have breached their contracts. The striking teachers may be summarily removed without the necessity of a hearing."

The Buffalo situation focussed attention on a state-wide teachers campaign for a salary minimum of \$2400 to \$3600 annually.

Saved Army Fliers Return In Rescue Plane

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Eleven army fliers, including M. Sgt. Lawrence L. Yarborough, Springfield, Ore., marooned for three days after their B-29 crashed above the Arctic Circle, were flying back to the United States tonight in a heavy C-54 transport plane which made a spectacular landing on a Greenland ice cap to rescue them from the freezing wasteland.

At the controls was Lieut. Bobby Joe Cavnar, of Oklahama City, Okla., for whom Maj. Gen. William H. Turner, commanding general of the ATC's Atlantic division has recommended the distinguished flying cross.

Gardens, Lawns Get Going-Over; 'Fair' Forecast

Gardeners and other out-door enthusiasts who have been having a pre-spring heyday apparently had more of their favorite kind of weather coming up today.

The forecast—fair after morning fog, for most of Oregon. Monday's sunshine and 60-degree temperature — after an almost equally balmy Sunday (one degree cooler) left a lot of mid-Willamette valley lawns with their first grass-clip of the year.

Flowering trees and shrubs were showing definite signs of color and many a plant already was in full bloom. In Brookings on the coast, the mercury went to 80 Monday.

Rain? Not immediately predicted but precipitation is considerably below normal and nothing would be surprising.

Escaped Con Still at Large

State police reported last night that William E. Conley, 55-year-old trusty employed in the barns of the penitentiary annex, who has been missing since the 8:30 p.m. check-up Sunday, had not yet been apprehended.

Conley was serving four years for obtaining money by false pretenses in Coos county and was received at the prison in February, 1945. He was reported by officials to be suffering from heart attacks and hernia.

British Ease Coal Rations

LONDON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Britain's industrial midlands resumed limited operation today in the first break of the two-week coal crisis, and Prime Minister Attlee announced in the house of commons that more idle factories would be given the go-ahead next Monday.

Near-record low temperatures served notice, however, that the coal shortage was far from solved and forecasters said the cold wave would continue several more days. Moreton-in-the-Marsh, in southern England, reported a night temperature of two below zero, lowest in the British Isles in 29 years.

Former U. S. Army Worker Seized as Nazi Plot Leader

FRANKFURT, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A former SS captain who worked for the United States army hiring German bands to play for American entertainment was one of the leaders seized in the smashing of a widespread Nazi underground movement, it was revealed today.

U. S. army officers made the disclosure as the British and Americans, continuing an operation launched in a Saturday night snowstorm, made more arrests in the wrecking of an underground plot to restore a German armed might. Authorities said the movement claimed possession of a secret bacteriological weapon.

In the British zone, where the bulk of arrests was made, an intelligence officer said the subversive movement could be regarded as "smashed." He described the raids as "extraordinarily successful" but declined to give the ex-

Three Killed In Crack-up at Klamath Falls

KLAMATH FALLS, Feb. 24 — (AP) — The body of John G. Rankin, 53, who survived more than 20 years of stunt flying only to be killed in a routine flight here, will be sent to Tulare, Calif., tomorrow for funeral services.

Rankin died along with two others in the crash of a single-engine amphibious plane here yesterday. They were Cy Wallan and Jack Elie, flying service operators here, for whom Rankin was demonstrating the plane. A fourth man, Milton Thompson, Klamath Falls, was critically injured.

Rankin was at the controls when the plane took off. Fifty feet up, the engine faltered. Rankin apparently tried to maneuver to a landing in open fields, but the plane snagged a power line and spun to the ground.

A native of Texas, Rankin learned to fly just after his army service in world war I. He soon became one of the most famous stunts. In 1931 he established a record that still stands for successive outside loops. In 1937 he won the international acrobatic championship at St. Louis. On advice of physician he ended his stunting in 1945, when he was 51.

In the war he operated civilian flying training schools in California for the army. The widow, at the Rankin home in Tulare, and two children survive.

British Ease Coal Rations

LONDON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Britain's industrial midlands resumed limited operation today in the first break of the two-week coal crisis, and Prime Minister Attlee announced in the house of commons that more idle factories would be given the go-ahead next Monday.

Near-record low temperatures served notice, however, that the coal shortage was far from solved and forecasters said the cold wave would continue several more days. Moreton-in-the-Marsh, in southern England, reported a night temperature of two below zero, lowest in the British Isles in 29 years.

Former U. S. Army Worker Seized as Nazi Plot Leader

FRANKFURT, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A former SS captain who worked for the United States army hiring German bands to play for American entertainment was one of the leaders seized in the smashing of a widespread Nazi underground movement, it was revealed today.

U. S. army officers made the disclosure as the British and Americans, continuing an operation launched in a Saturday night snowstorm, made more arrests in the wrecking of an underground plot to restore a German armed might. Authorities said the movement claimed possession of a secret bacteriological weapon.

In the British zone, where the bulk of arrests was made, an intelligence officer said the subversive movement could be regarded as "smashed." He described the raids as "extraordinarily successful" but declined to give the ex-

Purdue U. Tragedy Ends Tilt

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Feb. 24 — (AP) — A new bleacher section collapsed tonight in Purdue university fieldhouse, killing at least three students and injuring more than 200.

The receiving office at St. Elizabeth's hospital here reported it had been told five of the injured were dead but only available names of fatalities were Roger Gehbauer, Garrett, Ind., and William J. Feldman, East Chicago, Ind., both students.

St. Elizabeth's said it had 65 injured in beds and had treated between 125 and 150 persons. Others were taken to a local hospital, which had not completed its count, but said it had treated more than 100.

Collapsed as Half Ended The wooden bleacher, 62 rows of seats on the north end of the fieldhouse, came down with a roar just as the first half ended in a Big Nine basketball game between Purdue and Wisconsin.

Purdue led by one point, 24 to 23, and some 4000 students in the stand surged to their feet in an ovation to the home team. The bleacher crashed to the dirt floor on which the Purdue boys are run each spring. None of the injured was believed from the Pacific northwest.

Gordon Graham, sports editor of the Lafayette Journal-Courier, said "hundreds of screaming students and co-eds were spilled out of their seats. The giant bleacher is lying like a straw stack with every row smashed."

Game Called Off The injured were laid on the basketball floor, with members of both teams and student war veterans helping to rescue spectators, entangled in the splintered planks. Doctors, nurses and spectators with first aid training gave emergency treatment while officials urged order over the loud noise. The rest of the crowd leave the gymnasium.

The rest of the game was called off and Kenneth L. (Tug) Wilson, western conference commissioner, said in Chicago that he would have the game called off at Purdue and Wisconsin officials about rescheduling the tilt. The half game was unique in Big Nine history.

Court Hands 8-Year Term To Von Papan

NUERNBERG, German, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A German denazification court today sentenced Franz von Papan to eight years at hard labor for his activities as the sly ace of Adolf Hitler's diplomatic corps.

Von Papan flushed and trembled as he heard the sentence. The term was considered equivalent to life imprisonment, since the 68-year-old Von Papan is suffering from hardening of the arteries, and is not expected to live more than a few years.

In addition to the prison term, the diplomat's personal fortune—including vast, ancient estates in the British and French occupation zones—was confiscated and he was assessed court costs of \$41,300. He will be allowed to retain only \$500.

Von Papan was one of three top-ranking Nazis acquitted last October by the international tribunal which sentenced Hermann Goering and 10 others to death. The others were Hans Fritzsche, radio propagandist sentenced to nine years by a denazification court, and Hjalmar Schacht, financier, still awaiting trial on denazification charges.

British Ease Coal Rations

LONDON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Britain's industrial midlands resumed limited operation today in the first break of the two-week coal crisis, and Prime Minister Attlee announced in the house of commons that more idle factories would be given the go-ahead next Monday.

Near-record low temperatures served notice, however, that the coal shortage was far from solved and forecasters said the cold wave would continue several more days. Moreton-in-the-Marsh, in southern England, reported a night temperature of two below zero, lowest in the British Isles in 29 years.

Former U. S. Army Worker Seized as Nazi Plot Leader

FRANKFURT, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A former SS captain who worked for the United States army hiring German bands to play for American entertainment was one of the leaders seized in the smashing of a widespread Nazi underground movement, it was revealed today.

U. S. army officers made the disclosure as the British and Americans, continuing an operation launched in a Saturday night snowstorm, made more arrests in the wrecking of an underground plot to restore a German armed might. Authorities said the movement claimed possession of a secret bacteriological weapon.

In the British zone, where the bulk of arrests was made, an intelligence officer said the subversive movement could be regarded as "smashed." He described the raids as "extraordinarily successful" but declined to give the ex-

British Ease Coal Rations

LONDON, Feb. 24 — (AP) — Britain's industrial midlands resumed limited operation today in the first break of the two-week coal crisis, and Prime Minister Attlee announced in the house of commons that more idle factories would be given the go-ahead next Monday.

Near-record low temperatures served notice, however, that the coal shortage was far from solved and forecasters said the cold wave would continue several more days. Moreton-in-the-Marsh, in southern England, reported a night temperature of two below zero, lowest in the British Isles in 29 years.

Former U. S. Army Worker Seized as Nazi Plot Leader

FRANKFURT, Feb. 24 — (AP) — A former SS captain who worked for the United States army hiring German bands to play for American entertainment was one of the leaders seized in the smashing of a widespread Nazi underground movement, it was revealed today.

U. S. army officers made the disclosure as the British and Americans, continuing an operation launched in a Saturday night snowstorm, made more arrests in the wrecking of an underground plot to restore a German armed might. Authorities said the movement claimed possession of a secret bacteriological weapon.

In the British zone, where the bulk of arrests was made, an intelligence officer said the subversive movement could be regarded as "smashed." He described the raids as "extraordinarily successful" but declined to give the ex-

QUICKIES



"I've finished the bird seed—soon we'll be selling canaries with a Statesman Want Ad!"