

Senate Votes Measure to Cancel Portal Pay Suits

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	53	42	11
Portland	53	42	11
San Francisco	58	49	11
Chicago	58	42	14
New York	54	38	—
Willamette river 2 feet			

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Mostly cloudy today and tonight with a few light showers. Highest temperature today 58. Lowest tonight 42.

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

In the bulletin of the U. S. weather bureau giving water supply forecasts for the Columbia river system as of January 1, 1947, I noticed this comment: "The analysis of basin data, preliminary to the development of the procedures, indicates that there is now, in general, less runoff per inch of measured precipitation than in earlier years." That comment is interesting because people have wondered about the effect of timber cutting on floods and runoff of water. So I wrote to the bureau for further information and have received a reply from Merrill Bernard, chief hydrologist. He states that the conclusion mentioned is based on study of the data from 130 river gauging stations in the west. "Almost without exception," he writes, "this time trend has been noted. While no studies have been made of the Willamette river basin the bureau people believe the same time trend appears here. In his letter Mr. Bernard discusses the matter further, as follows: "A large number of factors combine in a rather complex manner to establish the relation between rainfall and runoff. The particular method we use, applied to large natural river basins, does not provide any opportunity for us to explain the exact cause of the time trend. Undoubtedly several factors are responsible. A partial list of these factors might include such items as (1) changes in the methods of measuring streamflow and precipitation; (2) increased consumptive use of water for irrigation; (3) increased evaporation loss from reservoirs constructed during recent years." (Continued on Editorial Page)

Plan for New Penitentiary Site Opposed

Moving of the state penitentiary within the near future appeared an improbability today, following action of the joint legislative ways and means committee in recommending against passage of a bill which sought a \$250,000 appropriation for purchase of a new site. Sen. Howard Belton told the committee the state board of control was agreed that because of the shortage of state funds any program for a new penitentiary should be deferred. In event the legislature upholds the adverse committee report, the board of control will proceed with improvements at the existing prison, including two new cell blocks and extension of the penitentiary walls.

Rebel Planes Drop Shells

ASUNCION, Paraguay, March 21—(AP)—Planes flown by members of Paraguay's insurgent military force bombed the government base at San Pedro, 95 miles north of Asuncion, today but caused no casualties or damage, the government announced tonight. Instead of aerial bombs, the announcement said, the rebel planes dropped large artillery shells and failed to make a hit on any installation of importance. The "ineffective" bombing raid, which gave the government its first knowledge that the revolutionists had acquired planes, indicated the insurgents lacked adequate munitions.

Animal Crackers



By WARREN GOODRICH
"Are you hinting that we may soon hear the patter of little feet?"

Cut in Public Welfare Proposed

Program Ready for Assembly

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman
A pared-down public welfare program, interpreted in some quarters to mean a possible 10 per cent reduction in the present \$44 average old-age pension, was ready today for submission to the 44th legislature. A sub-committee of the joint ways and means group late Friday decided on a \$43,000,000 welfare plan for the next biennium, in contrast to present expenditures which are at the rate of \$51,000,000, and recommended a mandatory levy up to 4 1/2 mills if counties need it to pay their share. Money Voted Multnomah The sub-committee also took cognizance of the threatened loss of federal funds—amounting to a Multnomah court decision that counties, under present law, do not have to raise whatever the state public welfare commission decides by voting to recommend giving Multnomah county \$243,000 for public assistance in May and June. Meanwhile if the 44th legislature is to adjourn by a week from today, as many lawmakers believe possible, it was generally agreed last night that it will have to make a lot more use of its time than it did today. The house yesterday geared and hauled trying to revive defeated bills or kill those already passed. It finally approved 41 to 13 a bill setting June 24 as the date for a special election on the sales tax, after beating down futile attempts to have the election open to other measures, too. Rep. Robert G. Roseburg charged there was "a deliberate plan afoot to delay this bill." The senate, in the meantime, again delayed action on the house-approved fireworks bill, re-referring it to committee for minor amendments. Commercial Fishing Barred In the brief interims between wrangling, the house passed its own bills boosting the state's take from parking meter betting and adding a tax on wine. It also passed senate bills giving the parole board more latitude in equalizing terms spent in prison, prohibiting commercial fishing in the Willamette river, creating a livestock auction board and giving southern Oregon an extra circuit judge. The senate passed a house measure prohibiting sale of honor- orable discharge emblems to persons not entitled to them, and rescinded its defeat of the bill letting the fish commission, instead of the legislature, control commercial fishing. It returned the latter bill to committee. Meanwhile, the joint ways and means committee voted 6 to 5 to ask the house committee on assessment and taxation to bring in a bill levying a 30 per cent tax on slot machines, punchboards and pinball games, estimated to yield \$4,000,000 a biennium. The committee voted to kill measures for setting cities and counties operate boys' camps and allowing the state to acquire 1000 acres for a new prison. It approved a bill to allow the state liquor commission to conduct clinics for alcoholics. Today Equals Record Today brings the current session to the record set in 1945-46 days. Among introductions Friday was a senate joint memorial asking the federal government to investigate price increases of California oil companies and a resolution felicitating the Oregon State basketball team at the national tournament at Kansas City. The latter resolution was adopted by both houses. Court Bill in House Docketed for house action today are its own bills calling for district courts, instead of justices, in Marion, Lane and Clackamas counties; raising income tax exemptions in event the sales tax passes; and transferring probate and juvenile matters from county to circuit courts. The house also will act on a senate bill doubling the \$3000 real estate loan limit to veterans. Today's senate calendar is topped by the house-approved bill to tax cigars 2 cents a package for the next biennium, to raise \$4,000,000. Also up in the senate are house-approved measures to increase the cities' share of highway funds and authorize a \$2,500,000 state building in Portland. The house will resume at 10 a. m. today, the senate a half hour later. (Legis. actions on page 12)

Sugar Ration Law Extension Passed; Rent Bill Readied

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—The house voted 286 to 54 today for legislation extending rationing and price control of sugar until October 31, 1947, and sent the measure to the senate. Simultaneously, a senate banking subcommittee voted unanimously in favor of a bill continuing rent controls through Feb. 29, 1948, without a general increase in rent ceilings.

Marshall Asks Self Rule Start For Germany

MOSCOW, March 21—(AP)—Secretary of State Marshall asked the council of foreign ministers today to establish immediately a provisional government as the first step toward creating a federalized Germany. Marshall's request was included in a proposed three-point plan of procedure for setting up a German government which he said should be started "at once so there will be properly constituted German authorities" to carry out the terms of the peace settlement being drafted here. British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin insisted he submitted a similar proposal but in much greater detail, and warned Russia that Britain would not stand for any "one party" system in Germany. Although not mentioning communism by name, Bevin declared that the British "do not believe Germany should merely change from the Nazi party to another party, nor Nazi ideology to some other ideology." The inference was clear, since the Russians in the eastern zone of Germany insisted he created a one-party system called the social unity party by a forced merger of the communists and socialists. Bevin's stand took special significance in view of French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault's criticism in a recent interview had criticized the French stand for a federalized and decentralized Germany and urged a strong central administration.

Floods Take Food Crops

LONDON, March 21—(AP)—Crippling losses of food crops in the flooded lowlands of Britain were reported tonight as conditions grew worse in scattered parts of the stricken areas. Waters which trapped people in their homes in the worst floods in years were receding in some areas but rising water levels were reported in the lower reaches of the river Trent in Lincolnshire, the Severn at Worcester and the river Ouse in Yorkshire. The town of Crowland, Lincolnshire, was in danger of becoming an island as a 40-yard breach in a dyke released a torrent which engulfed thousands of acres of rich agricultural land, drowned cattle and marooned isolated farmers.

Salem Business Firms to Build

Three building applications were filed by Salem persons Friday with the civilian production administration in Portland. Keith Brown Building Supply company filed for a \$5600 boiler house to be located at their mill on Front street as part of Brown's expansion plans. Robert Fromm, route 7, box 403, filed for an addition to cost \$6300; and J. C. Stone and George A. Stone applied for permission to erect a \$5000 piano store on Fairgrounds road.

City, County Talk Street Extension

County Engineer Hedda Swart and City Engineer J. H. Davis conferred Friday on proposed surveys to ascertain the approximate cost of an extension of Broadway street to North River road, as a co-operative county and city project. Swart stressed the importance of the extension in view of the possible future construction of the Division street bridge, as yet only a "paper" project.

SALEM COMPANY LICENSED
PORTLAND, March 21—(AP)—The state liquor control commission granted wholesale beer and molasses wine license to the Chappell-Marshall company, Salem, today.

Steel for Red Zone Withheld

BERLIN, March 21—(AP)—The American and British suspended indefinitely today iron and steel shipments into the Soviet zone of Germany on the grounds the Russians had failed to live up to a \$21,000,000 trade agreement with the merged British-American zone. A formal letter to the German economic executive committee for administration at Minden, the American and British authorities ordered an embargo on export of pig iron and steel products to the Soviet zone. Standard products include the bulk of shipments such as rails, slabs and H-bars. Non-standard items unaffected would include those prepared to particular specifications for use in the Soviet zone. The Soviet zone had become progressively delinquent in its promised deliveries during January and February, although the U.S. and British zones had shipped their agreed commitments of steel, a joint U.S.-British announcement said.

Cordon Talks to State Assembly

Sen. Guy Cordon paid a fleeting visit to the legislature Friday and left a wry compliment before he departed for Eugene to fulfill a speaking engagement. "I want to congratulate this legislature," he said in a short talk to the senate, "on being on an absolute par with the federal congress at this moment." He stopped the swelling of senatorial chests, however, by adding with a smile: "Up to this point neither one of you has done anything."

U. S. Permitted To Duplicate Seized Cargo

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—The Netherlands government has agreed to let the American merchant ship Martin Behrman sail from Batavia with a duplicate of the cargo she previously was forced to unload, the state department said tonight. The settlement also provides "fair compensation" to the Isbrandtsen Company, the ship's operators, and reimbursement for the delay. The Martin Behrman's cargo of sugar and other commodities from Indonesian-held territory in Java was seized by Netherlands authorities. The ship was taken under naval escort from Cherbon, Java, to Batavia and the cargo unloaded there. The cargo included rubber, cinchona (from which quinine is derived) and sisal. The Dutch contended that the cargo comprised property "looted" from Dutch estates now in the hands of the Indonesian republic. A dispatch from Batavia said the company would claim \$10,000,000 from The Netherlands for damages.

Board Authorizes Airlines to Hike Fares 10 Per Cent

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—A 10 per cent increase in airplane fares probably becoming effective April 1 was approved today by the civil aeronautics board. The fare increase was sought in an agreement by 16 airlines to be effective for 90 days—the first joint action of the domestic air carriers in raising fares after the 90-day period, individual lines will be free to adjust fares as they see fit. The present average rate is 4.6 cents a mile. The new rate will be just over five cents a mile.

Jack Bartlett to Talk At Tourist Host School

PENDLETON, March 21—(AP)—W. M. (Jack) Bartlett, Salem, of the state labor development commission, will be speaker at the opening session of a tourist host school here March 24. The school is under Pendleton chamber of commerce sponsorship for businessmen and employees.

Budgeters Deny Conciliator Pay

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—The house appropriations committee voted today to take Edgar L. Warren, a high labor department official, off the government payroll on the grounds that he had belonged to "communist-inspired" organizations. Five of Warren's ex-associates from the labor development commission replied that "he is a loyal and devoted citizen." The vehicle for the proposed ouster is a \$1,685,586,780 bill to finance the labor department and the federal security agency for the year beginning July 1. In submitting it, the committee wrote in a provision to deny any funds to the office of the director of the conciliation service, which is Warren's job. The provision likewise affects the offices of some 100 other executives and employees of the service. The conciliation service is the

Acheson to Open Secret File



WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—With the "secret" book of Greek and Turkish emergency background documents spread before him, Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson finds an answer to a question, as he testifies before the house foreign affairs committee in Washington. A state department aide, Hubert Havlik (right), chief of division of investment and economic development, assists him. Acheson agreed today to strip the "secret" label off background documents given to committee members to use on Mediterranean policy. Several of the legislators here insisted the documents should be published. Mechanical difficulties at the state department in making copies, however, delayed the publication until tomorrow. (AP Wirephoto)

Council Rejects Parking Meter Sale Proposal

Salem's city council, meeting in special session yesterday in city hall, turned down a parking committee report proposing purchase of parking meters from the Duncan Meter company of Chicago after inspecting meters of three firms. Instead, Mayor R. L. Elfstrom instructed City Manager J. L. Franzen to renegotiate with Michael Arts Bronze company, Covington, Ky., whose contract with the city was ordered terminated at the regular council meeting Wednesday following delay in arrival of 1175 parking meters long on order and due in January. Elfstrom expressed the hope that new arrangements with the Covington firm might effect delivery of the city's meter order. He called the council into special session again Monday night to again consider the long-pending matter of installing parking meters on downtown Salem streets. Alderman Albert H. Gille's parking meter committee had met Thursday night with representatives of three parking meter companies to consider their products offered to the city after the Michael contract was questioned for non-delivery. Companies, besides the Duncan firm are the Magee-Hale Park-O-Meter company, Oklahoma City, and M. H. Rhoades company, Newark, N. J. Magee and Duncan salesmen were heard by the council last night. The Duncan representative claimed that his company served one-third of all the parking meter business in the United States, that the meters need not be wound and are "foolproof to the customer and to the city" since a red flag jumps up when the meter is jammed or when the parking limit time is used up. These meters would cost the city \$30,000 over the cost of the contract cancelled Wednesday. The Magee-Hale representative stated that his meter was of the automatic type, that it would be removable work which may be replaced upon ineffectiveness, and will cost the city less than the other meters. This is the type of meter that is used in Oregon City, the representative said.

Phone Strike Power Given

PORTLAND, Ore., March 21—(AP)—The United Telephone Workers of Oregon announced today their 4,000 members have voted 5 to 1 to authorize a strike should the negotiating committee find it necessary. The mail balloting ended last night, and votes were tallied today. C. M. Bixler, president of the Oregon union, will join other Pacific coast unions in resumption of negotiations with the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company at San Francisco Monday. The senate will not vote on it before Tuesday.

Blossom Day Set Early This Year

Blossom day will be Sunday, March 30, this year, W. C. Dyer, King Bing of Salem Cherries, said Friday. Unseasonal warm weather has advanced by several weeks the traditional date of the annual countryside pilgrimage of blossom-loving autoists, Dyer explained. Routes have been mapped and full plans will be given next week, Dyer indicated.

Yalta, Potsdam Texts to Appear

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—The state department announced today that the full texts of the Yalta and Potsdam agreements will be published within the next few days. Earlier Rep. Mundt (R-S. D.) had told newsmen he had been assured by Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson that the texts not only of the Yalta and Potsdam agreements, but also that reached at Tehran would be made public tomorrow.

Veto by President Expected

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—The senate, over-riding Democratic protests, today approved legislation stamping "null and void" virtually all portal pay suits, present and future. A prediction that President Truman will veto the bill was made to the senate by Sen. Lucas (D-Ill.). Today's vote was 64 to 24, which was one-sided enough to override a presidential veto if the proposition is not changed. It takes a two-thirds majority to set aside a veto.

\$6 Billion Involved in Suits
The measure outlawing suits for nearly \$6,000,000,000 filed in the wake of a supreme court decision that portal activities, such as walking to the work bench and changing into work clothes, are compensable unless trivial. The bill now goes back to the house which already passed a similar measure. The two versions probably will go to a conference committee for settlement of differences. Senate Republican leaders pushed the portal bill through after defeating a Democratic substitute which would have exempted future claims from the sweeping ban. This proposal was defeated, 63 to 35, on a roll call vote.

Amendment Defeated
Then the Republicans beat down an amendment, 50 to 29, which would have eliminated provisions voiding portal claims under the Walsh-Healy and Bacon-Davis acts which establish labor standards for firms working on government contracts. The amendment was offered by Sens. Holland (D-Ia.) and Tydings (D-Md.). Nearly all pending portal suits have been filed under a third minimum wage statute—the wage-hour act. Sen. Morse (R-Ore.) voted in favor of the bill outlawing portal pay suits. Sen. Cordon (R-Ore.) did not vote but announced he was in favor of the bill.

School Funds Apportionment Bill Endorsed

The senate education committee passed last night a distribution of the \$14,900,000 basic school fund in substantially the same version as was adopted by the house. The senate committee had been debating between this and a different type of apportionment, favored by some eastern Oregon legislators and Portland school district. The committee voted 4 to 1 in favor of a measure that would distribute 75 per cent of the fund in grants and aids, 20 per cent on basis of equalization, 5 per cent on administration and transportation. Sens. Paul Patterson, Hillsboro, Howard Beaton, Canby, Lee Patterson, Portland, and Dean H. Walker, Independence, voted for the measure. Sen. Ernest R. Faldut, Spreckelsville, opposing congressional district distribution plan, did not concur. The senate will not vote on it before Tuesday.

23 of 27 Customs Men In Portland Cut by Bill

PORTLAND, March 21—(AP)—Twenty-three of the 27 U. S. customs port patrol officers here were given dismissal notice today because of congressional cuts in appropriations. Mrs. Nan Honeycomb, collector of customs, said the staff's shrinking from 27 to four would mean less check on smuggling.

Sales Tax!

A new sales tax plan has been approved by the house. If it passes the senate this week, amended or otherwise, you'll be entitled to vote on it, probably June 24. What it now provides, who it affects, what it exempts and how it would be used will be detailed in an impartial, factual, informative story in THE SUNDAY STATESMAN tomorrow. Your Home Newspaper