

### Council Asks Building Profit Margin Cut

(Story also on page 1.) A city-wide appeal for smaller margins of profit by builders in order to make possible construction of low cost homes for veterans was favored by a city council resolution Wednesday night after the Salem housing authority recommended building of two-bedroom houses at a cost of \$5,000 each.

Proposed plans are similar to a project begun at Yakima, Wash., early in the year and which has already begun to prove its worth, Mayor R. L. Elstrom, who has followed the Yakima program's development, said.

Old business renewed by the council Wednesday was Southern Pacific railroad's request for a 20-year franchise for its Union street spur, which was squelched by an amendment to reduce the franchise to a one-year duration and to make more certain the area to be included.

Alderman Howard Maple's ordinance bill to prohibit smoking at boxing and wrestling matches in Salem army had its first reading.

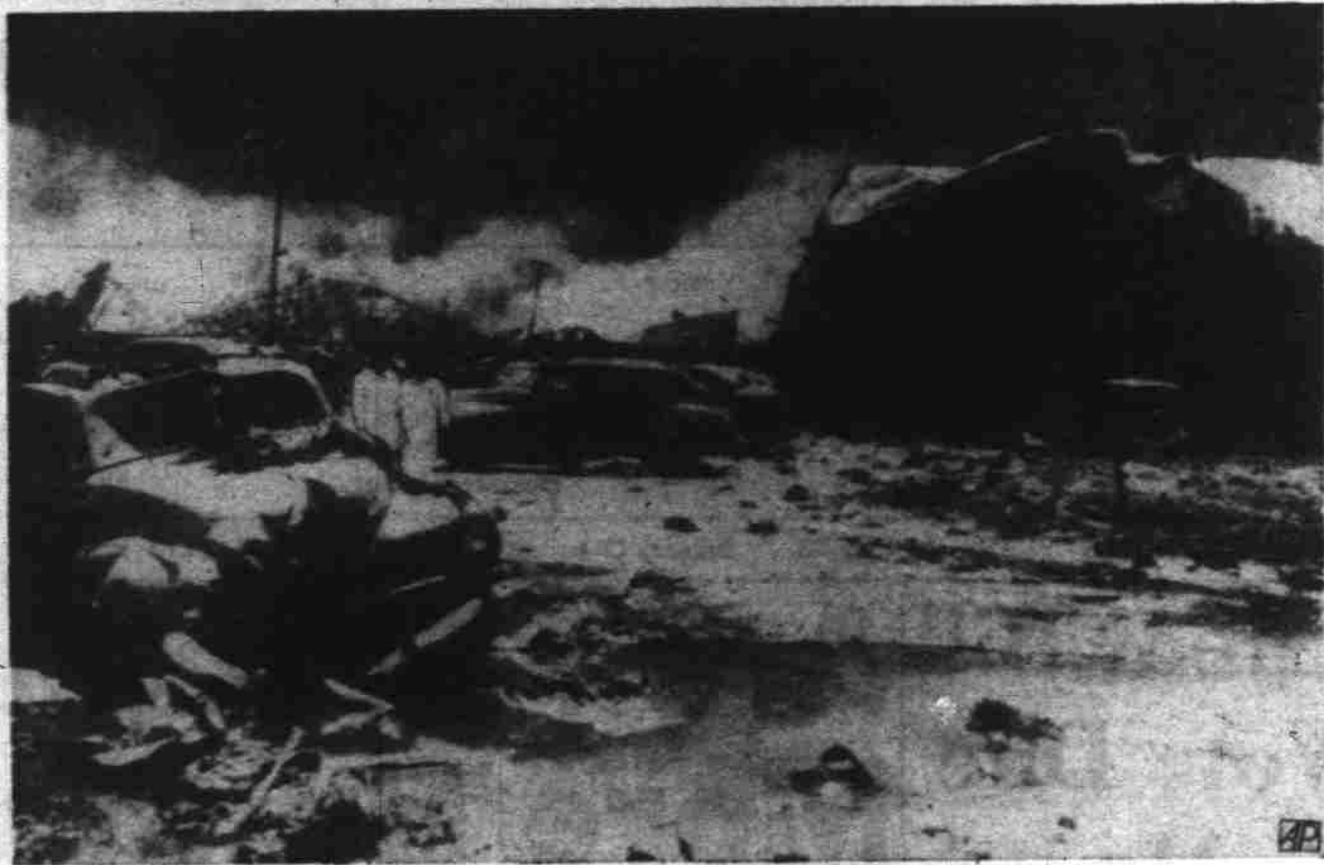
A minor flare-up was caused by Fire Chief W. P. Noble's recent order that permits for all bonfires and other outside fires must be obtained from the fire department.

Fire Chief Robie replied that he intended no inconvenience and that the order, an effort to control open fires, would be in force only during the dry seasons.

O'Hara's questioning of the legality of the fire chief's order brought answer from City Attorney Chris J. Kowitz that an existing ordinance does permit such regulation.

Council action approved paving of 15th street, from Market to Norway street and rejected a petition to pave 22nd street, 338 feet south from Mill street, as only 22 per cent of the area's voters had signed the petition, whereas 65

### In Wake of Texas City Explosion



TEXAS CITY, Tex., April 16—A shipboard explosion in the harbor at Texas City, Texas, today leveled the city. Twisted buildings and wrecked automobiles litter the area. (AP Wirephoto to the Statesman.)

per cent is the minimum requirement. No Remonstrances Two zone changes granted from class I residential to class III business were on Center, at 17th street, to Jess Walling and at 17th and Market streets. Public hearings were held and no remonstrances were made against either location.

A deed to land making possible extension of East Nob Hill street from Ohmart to Waldo streets was accepted by the council from Waldo Ohmart and Quin Blackburn and others.

Public hearing on Richard Young's request to zone a residential block at 21st and Mission streets for business was set for the next council meeting, which will be at 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 7. Young is operator of a trailer camp at the location.

CAPE MAY, N.J., April 17—(AP)—The coast guard reported early today that the tug Great Isaac collided with the ship Dandearante on the fog-shrouded Jersey sea-coast.

A spokesman for the coast guard said that 10 men were believed to have been aboard the tug and that all were picked up by the larger ship, whose bow he reported was damaged. The Great Isaac, an 185-foot vessel, was sinking.

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y., April 16—(AP)—For governor of Trieste the Russians have suggested George Branting, 60-year-old Swedish attorney who came to the United States in 1927 to help the defense in the famous Sacco-Vanzetti case.

The United Nations security council eventually must name a man for the international post and

SWAN ISLAND BID LOST PORTLAND, Ore., April 16—(AP) The Port of Portland's negotiations to lease Swan Island to the Kaiser company were broken off today after the war assets administration declined to act on the port's bid for the island facilities by last midnight.

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### Phone Unions Defy Company

WASHINGTON, April 16—(AP)—The leader of the striking telephone workers said tonight the nationwide tie-up will continue until the Bell system "gives in or until the workers are starved into submission."

Joseph A. Beirne, 36-year-old president of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, an independent union with 39 striking affiliates, made the statement in an ABC broadcast.

Administration officials said privately that seizure would be undertaken only as a last resort.

### Bomb Found in British Office

LONDON, April 16—(AP)—Tight precautions against the long-threatened wave of Palestine terrorism in the heat of London were taken tonight after the discovery of a home-made bomb in a branch of the colonial office and a telephone threat to blow up the war office.

Military and civilian police conducted a busy search for the person—possibly a woman—who left the bomb in the colonial office with the mechanism set to explode at 1 a.m., about time Dov Bela Gruner and three other convicted terrorists were hanged in Palestine.

### Chang New China Premier

NANKING, April 16—(AP)—Gen. Chiang Chun, who served on two committees seeking to end China's civil war and who advocates building up this republic by peaceful industrialization, today became its premier.

He succeeds T. V. Soong, who had taken a strong anti-communist stand and who resigned March 1 under counting criticism that his policies contributed to China's economic crisis early this year.

Chang, governor of Szechwan province and a friend of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek since they were classmates at the Japanese military academy, was reported in line for the post as much as 14 months ago.

### Devers Named to National Board

J. M. Devers, chief counsel for the state highway commission, Wednesday was appointed a member of the new right-of-way committee created by the American Association of State Highway Officials.

Purposes of the committee are to investigate right-of-way acquisitions, recommend needed amendments to present laws dealing with right-of-way problems.

Devers expects to attend a meeting of the committee which will be held in Chicago May 7 to 9.

### Mail Deluges State Tax Office

A half dozen large mail sacks filled with 1947 state income tax returns arrived at the state tax commission Wednesday. The time for filing these returns expired at midnight Tuesday but all returnances bearing postmark prior to that hour will be accepted.

Tax commissioners said several weeks would be required to open this mail, deposit the checks, and tabulate returns. Taxpayers who failed to file returns within the statutory period are subject to penalty and interest.

### 500 Due at Indian School Education Meet

Preparations are under way at Chemawa Indian school for this summer's educational conference which is expected to bring nearly 500 Indian school and reservation leaders to the Chemawa institution.

The conference will open June 16 for Alaskan Indian leaders and June 30 for educators and administrators throughout the United States, according to Myrthus W. Evans, Chemawa superintendent and business manager for the summer conference.

Evans said training work will continue to July 25 for the large group of teachers, medical personnel, law enforcement agents and other Indian institution officials and for outsiders interested in Indian welfare.

Evans conferred Wednesday with Edna A. Gerken supervisor of health education in the U. S. Indian office in Chicago. Miss Gerken will conduct health training courses for teachers and nurses at the conference. Another conference leader will be Dr. Ruth Underhill, anthropologist and Indian authority who is author of "Indians of the Northwest."

This first post-war Indian leaders' training conference will be followed by a similar conference in Santa Fe, N. M., for southwest Indian officials.

### Capt. Hockett Home on Leave

Capt. Verden E. Hockett, former Salem physician now with the U. S. navy, arrived at his home here Wednesday on a few days' leave prior to a new assignment on Saipan, where he will head the navy dispensary.

Capt. and Mrs. Hockett and their family will sail early in May for his new post.

Severely injured several months ago in an auto accident while stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, Hockett has been stationed at Alameda, Calif., naval air station, since leaving Bethesda, Md., naval hospital. He is to report back to Alameda from here.

### Farmers Union Note Denounces Truman's Policies

Copies of a resolution denouncing the "Truman Greek policy and the Truman witch-hunt," adopted by the board of directors, National Farmers Union, have been received in Salem and will be presented to the Marion county chapter of the State Farmers Union at its next meeting, Ronald Jones, state president, announced Wednesday.

The resolution said the "witch-hunt would result in penalizing many people who are guilty of nothing more than a Christian attitude toward other men."

Complaint also was made that approximately \$350,000,000 of the total grant proposed to Turkey would be for military purposes.

### 20-30 Club Plans for District Convention

Club leaders reported to the 20-30 club Wednesday night in Nohlgren's restaurant that plans are in progress for the mid-June district 20-30 convention to be held here in the Marion hotel.

Charles Dunlap, visitor from Huntington Park, Calif., described 20-30 activities in that city.

TWO ESCAPE OSTES Two boys escaped from Oregon state training school Wednesday night are Jay McMullin Dickenson, 17, and Harold Alden Hayes, 15, school officials reported to state police.

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**STATE**  
—Open 6:45 P.M.—  
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Marjorie Reynolds "Meet Me on Edwy."  
**LIBERTY**  
—Open 6:45 P.M.—  
Now! Susan Hayward Paul Lukas "Deadline at Dawn"  
Hester Holshelt "Texas Jamboree"  
**HOLLYWOOD**  
—Opens 6:45 P.M.—  
"Notorious" 7:24-9:30  
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**Notorious**  
CLAUDE RAINS  
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