

# \$1,500,000 Capitol Street Trading Center Pending

## Truman Silent as GOP Clamors for Stricter Labor Bill

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—President Truman has decided against stating his position on any particular labor legislation before it reaches his desk. It was reported today as the senate republican leadership pressed for a tougher bill and a quick final vote.

The republicans, with considerable democratic help, swamped a move to delay further consideration of the pending measure for 10 days, and Senator Wherry (Neb.), the republican whip, told a reporter sponsors will try for a decision by Thursday.

### IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Spurgeon

Credit Dr. Willard B. Spalding, city superintendent in Portland, with firing a telling "Parthian shot" at the chamber of commerce in that city Monday. Dr. Spalding has resigned to become head of the school of education at the University of Illinois, one of the most important posts in the field of education in this country. In his address Monday he emptied his quiver of arrows at obstructionists to the improvement of Portland's school system. His criticism was that Portland taxpayers have failed to pounce upon enough money to keep up their school plant physically or maintain school standards.

There is truth in his complaint. Portland shows up badly in comparison with other cities of Oregon in its levies for school purposes. On a national table of comparison Portland ranked 77th among 94 major cities in its overall property tax per family.

Dr. Spalding went farther; he put his finger on organizations which have steadfastly opposed increases in property taxes, naming the East Side Taxpayers association, the Oregon Tax federation and the Oregon Business and Tax Research. He commented on the removal to suburban districts of wealthy families who retain property interests in the city and finance organizations working to keep property taxes down.

That, of course is primarily Portland's concern. It may well be that Dr. Spalding's contribution to education in Portland was his farewell blast. What is of general concern is the fact that keeping property taxes down is the sacred cow of Oregon politics.

It is true that there was a time when property was unduly burdened with taxation, in Oregon as well as elsewhere. In the 1930s much property was foreclosed because of tax delinquencies, which is always

(Continued on editorial page)

## Arabs, Jews to Be Given Equal Voice at U. N.

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., May 6.—(AP)—The political committee of the United Nations assembly voted 40 to 0 tonight to hear the Jewish agency for Palestine and the Arab higher committee on equal terms. It is the first time the assembly has heard the deliberations on the Holy Land issue.

The five Arab states, plus France and India, abstained on the committee vote.

The political committee adjourned at 6:25 p. m. E. D. T. until 11 a. m. E. D. T. tomorrow at which time it will begin work on the actual framing of a committee which will investigate Palestine and report back to the general assembly next fall.

## Frequency Modulation To Assist Fire Fighters

PORTLAND, Ore., May 6.—(AP)—Frequency modulation radio equipment will be operating in seven national forests in eastern Oregon this summer, Guy Johnson, north Pacific fire control officer of the forestry service, reported today.

He said the equipment would be installed at forest supervisors' headquarters, ranger stations and lookouts and on mobile tankers and guard cars.

## Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH

Chicago Sun-Specialist



"Gad, what a dream!"

## Sears Roebuck to Occupy Major Section of Project; City Planners Favor Zone Change for Site

A \$1,500,000 retail trading center at and near the northeast corner of Capitol and Center streets in Salem appeared a possibility today for this city's immediate future.

The planning commission in special session Tuesday afternoon gave preliminary approval to the plan, and set 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, May 20, as the time for a public hearing on the proposal for altering the area's zoning status to permit commercial development.

The project was outlined to the planning commission by George H. Grabenhorst, of Grabenhorst Brothers, Salem realtors, who disclosed that a major part of the area would be occupied by a new Sears Roebuck

store and that another group of one- and two-story buildings, constituting "the latest things in retail stores," would house such businesses as a 10-cent to a \$1 store, a drug store, jewelry store, ladies' wear and men's wear. Another building would be occupied by a market. Parking space would be provided for 400 cars.

A drawing submitted to the board by Grabenhorst indicated that stores of the Owl Drug Co. and S. H. Kress and Co. may comprise part of the proposed development, although those firms were not known here to be definitely included.

Grabenhorst, who said that a corporation presently headed by R. T. Tulin, Jr., of Salinas,

Calif., would organize the project, disclosed that options had been obtained on property now occupied by about 30 houses on the six-acre tract extending from Capitol to 12th, and north from Center for two blocks to Union. The Southern Pacific line cuts across the northeast corner of the tract. The one-half block from Union north to the alley is included in the request for zone change.

The options on the 30 houses, it was declared, will be exercised whenever final city council approval is given the application to change zoning in the area.

A petition signed by about 75 persons living within the "affected area" (within 300 feet of

the tract for which a zone change is sought) was presented to the commission. It constituted approval of the plan. City Engineer J. H. Davis said owners of 88.4 per cent of the property within the affected area were on record favoring it.

The drawing of the proposed plan showed that the Sears Roebuck company contemplated a two- or three-story building on the 220-foot frontage on Capitol street between Union and Marion. The 250 feet on Capitol between Marion and Center would be occupied by the miscellaneous stores, and a 100x100 foot market would be on the north-west corner of Center and 12th. parking space would be at the rear of all the stores.

The \$1,500,000 estimate was provided by Grabenhorst, who told the commission that it was not intended that any streets would be vacated.

Asked when it was contemplated that work would start, in event final zoning approval is given, Grabenhorst said the group he represented was "stifled for time" and "anxious to have this done as quickly as possible."

The vote to give the project preliminary approval, on motion of W. W. Rosebraugh, was unanimous, as was the decision to set the public hearing May 20. Notices of the hearing are to be sent to property owners within the affected area today.

Whatever action is taken by the planning commission consequently will be reviewed for final decision by the city council.

All members of the planning commission were present at Tuesday's session — Mayor R. L. Elfrstrom, City Manager J. L. Franzen, City Attorney Chris Kowitz, City Engineer Davis, Rosebraugh, Milton Meyers, Hedda Swart, R. A. Foraker, Robert T. Stanley, Mrs. G. F. Lobdell and Irl McSherry. The latter presided.

Gene A. Vandenberg, Salem manager for Sears Roebuck, said last night he was leaving for Seattle and had no comment on the project at least pending his return at the end of the week.

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## Palestine Prison Ripped by Bomb



ACRE, Palestine, May 6.—Two men look over debris beneath shattered windows of ancient Acre prison, north of Haifa, which was blasted by explosions set off by members of an underground band. Sixteen persons were killed during the attack and more than 150 prisoners were reported still at large. (AP Wirephoto via radio from London to New York to The Statesman)

## Greek-Turk Loan Over House Hurdle; President Rushes to Italy Treaty Aid

### Warns Against Rejection of Pact by Senate

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—President Truman, stepping in to save the Italian peace treaty, declared today that senate rejection of the pact would be "a heavy blow to our country's leadership in world affairs."

The president, Secretary of State George C. Marshall, former Secretary James F. Byrnes and Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.) teamed up against critics who have been saying the treaty is too harsh and would open up a weakened Italy to the threat of communism.

Mr. Truman wrote Marshall that he does not share the view that the treaty's disarmament of Italy conflicts with his policy of bolstering Greece and Turkey against communism.

Marshall read the letter before the senate foreign relations committee at a hearing in which Byrnes testified that rejection of the treaty would bring in Italy "uncertainty which causes discontent, and discontent breeds communism."

## SENATE PASSES ROAD FUND

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—The senate today approved legislation directing the housing expediter to allocate \$10,000,000 to the forest service for construction of access roads.

## DISEASE CLAIMS 27 BABIES

PHILADELPHIA, May 6.—(AP)—Two babies died today at Allentown, Pa., raising to 27 the toll of an outbreak of infant diarrhea.

### Truant Sleeps in Basement While Patrol Drags River

PORTLAND, May 6.—(AP)—Steven Casciato, 7, turned up at school today and his incredulous schoolmates said, "You're dead."

The teacher took one look at him and sent him home. His mother gave him a big bug, then called the harbor patrol and told them they could quit dragging the river.

This all resulted because Steven came home late from school yesterday and was afraid to face his mother, Mrs. Laverne Napoleon. He slept in the basement unaware of the frantic search that was going on for him.

### Horse Race Limits Cited

Harness races authorized under an act of the 1947 legislature cannot be substituted by running races, Attorney General George Neuner held Tuesday for the state racing commission.

The legislature permitted each horse track to hold an extra 20-day harness racing meet in addition to the 20-day running race meets each year. The commission asked the attorney general whether running races could be substituted in case there were not sufficient number of harness race entries.

In another opinion, the attorney general ruled that persons who own land abutting the Willamette, Coos, Coquille and Umpqua rivers who can trace their titles to patentees of other owners prior to 1878, own the land between high and low water mark abutting the rivers. In case the title was acquired from the government after 1878, then they have no claim to land below the high water mark.

### Ramadier Wins Party Support

PARIS, Wednesday, May 7.—(AP)—The national council of the French socialist party decided today by a 2,529 to 2,125 vote that Premier Paul Ramadier's coalition cabinet from which the communists have been ousted should remain in office.

The vote followed a seven-hour discussion climaxed by speeches by Ramadier and former Premier Leon Blum. Both socialist leaders asked that the present government be maintained in power.

### Measure Sent To Floor for 9-Hour Debate

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—The \$400,000,000 Greek-Turkish aid program got over its first hump in the house today, even some of its foes voting to send it to the floor for debate.

A standing vote of 168 to 22 accepted a procedure calling for nine hours of debate and unlimited attempts at amendments. This was no test of the bill's ultimate fate, but if it had been the other way around the effect would have been to bar the bill from immediate consideration.

In a letter, Secretary of State Marshall advised the house that the "greatest urgency" for aiding Greece had been made "even more positive" by the recent Moscow conference of foreign ministers.

His opinion was read to the house by Chairman Eaton (R-N.J.), of the foreign affairs committee, as debate opened on the bill to bulwark the two southeastern European countries against communism.

### In Again, Out Again Boy Back in Again

EUGENE, May 6.—(AP)—Herbert Higgins, 15, who twice has escaped from the Lane county jail, was back in his cell today.

He made the second escape last night by walking out a door that was left unlocked. Springfield police arrested him several hours later.

Earlier Higgins, on parole from the state training school at Woodburn, had been arrested while riding a motor scooter reported stolen. Once in jail he drew a pistol, and was held for a time, five policemen who entered the building. Then he escaped, only to be caught within hours.

### Bill Authorizes Broadcasts to Reds

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—Legislation to pave the way for financing the state department's cultural relations program including the "Voice of America" broadcasts to Russia and elsewhere was introduced today by Rep. Mundt (R-SD).

The house appropriations committee yesterday rejected the department's request for \$31,381,220 to operate the program during the fiscal year starting July 1, giving as its main reason that the program has not been sanctioned by congress.

## Federal Tax Law Probe Set

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—Plans were drawn by the republican members of the house ways and means committee today to open up the entire federal tax structure for revisions, with public hearings to begin May 19.

However, Chairman Knutson (R-Minn.), did not say whether he expects congress to make provisions that would result in a 1948 tax slash above the \$3,800,000,000 annual cut in individual income taxes already approved by the house and now pending in the senate.

Some ways and means members said the committee might confine its work this year to hearings, and gathering on information for legislation to be considered in 1948.

### Veto Might Spur Action

But there were reports about Capitol Hill that if President Truman vetoes the \$3,800,000,000 slash now pending, legislation for general downward revisions of tax laws might be presented to congress quickly.

Mr. Truman has opposed on numerous occasions any slash in federal taxes this year.

### Probe to Be Complete

Republicans said the hearings planned to begin May 19 "will go into all phases" of tax law—presumably including income levies, the community property principle of tax assessment, possible taxation of certain classes of cooperatives, excise levies, and possibly social security.

### Salem Man Found Dead at Home of Estranged Wife

SPOKANE, May 6.—(AP)—Marvin Richard Beal, 31, Salem, Ore., was found dead today at the home of his estranged wife, Detective Charles V. Goff said.

The body was found hanging from an attic brace.

Goff said Beal and his wife separated two months ago but never instituted divorce proceedings. He had moved to Salem but returned to Spokane Monday.

Two notes were found, Goff said.

### First Strawberries from Valley Reach Market

PORTLAND, May 6.—(AP)—The first Willamette valley strawberries of the season reached market today from the Canby region. Carl Schaarschmidt was the grower. He received \$4 a crate.

## Edward Croisan, 92, Salem Pioneer, Dies; Funeral Friday

Edward Marion Croisan, 92-year-old lifelong resident of Marion county, died Tuesday morning in a Salem hospital after a long illness.

Resident of 795 N. Winter st. where he lived in recent years with a sister, Mrs. R. L. (Clare) Farmer, his only surviving relative, Mr. Croisan was the son of Oregon pioneers of 1846, the late Henry and Mary Croisan.

The Ringo mortuary of Woodburn is making arrangements for the funeral, which will be held at 1:30 p. m. Friday in the Clough-Barrick chapel, Salem. Interment will be made in City View cemetery.

Mr. Croisan spent his early days on a farm here and later was educated in Salem public schools. In 1886 he married Ella S. McNary, daughter of A. W. McNary, Polk county pioneer settler of 1845. She preceded him in death in 1932.

He entered the sheriff's office in Marion county in 1884 and four years later was elected sheriff, from which office he retired in 1890 to engage in farming.

He was appointed superintendent of the Oregon state reform school in 1898 which is now the

## NFTW Discards Nationwide Talk; Local Offer Near

PORTLAND, Ore., May 6.—(AP)—Possibly early settlement of the strike of Oregon's Independent United Telephone Workers was reported tonight by C. M. Bixler, president of the Oregon union, who said he had been called to San Francisco for a Thursday meeting with operators.

Bixler said Portland officials of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company had advised him they would "be in position at that time to make an offer" to the workers.

### Union Street Rail Franchise On Council List

Southern Pacific's Union street spur franchise and Richard Martin's zone change at 21st and Mission streets will figure in tonight's city council meeting at city hall, but little development is expected, in timelier matters of the city budget or the bus-taxi parking problem.

A public hearing will be held on the proposed change from residential to business zone of Martin's trailer camp property. An ordinance will be up to renew for one year the franchise for which SP had requested a 20-year renewal. The next city budget is being worked up by City Manager J. L. Franzen for the council, conferees with department heads on recommendations for department budgeting already in progress.

Franzen said Tuesday he will have a balanced budget by the time it is sent to the council, although the balance may require a recommended occupational tax on various business operating in the city, similar to the present license fees collected by the city from public utilities.

### Mac Says U. S. To Defend Nips

TOKYO, Wednesday, May 7.—(AP)—Authoritative Japanese sources said today that General MacArthur assured Emperor Hirohito the United States would guarantee the defense of Japan.

These sources, who cannot be further identified, said MacArthur gave a broad assurance of protection without mentioning the time element or details in yesterday's hour-long conference between the two.

The said Hirohito told the supreme commander the Japanese believed that the United States was not in a position yet to guarantee Japan's protection.

### Mass Picketing To Be Resumed at Salem Exchange

Mass picketing of the Salem telephone exchange will be conducted again today and Thursday, local members of the United Telephone Employees of Oregon decided Tuesday night, according to Don K. Crenshaw, joint chairman of the Salem locals. Meanwhile one more union member and five CIO members here had returned to their jobs.

Group demonstrations in Salem heretofore have been orderly, Crenshaw declared, and "we don't plan on any rough stuff."

He said the UTEO member back at work was in the commercial department. Three others had returned to work recently.

The five toll repeaters here, members of the CIO group, have over the past few days joined members of their union in most Oregon cities outside of Portland in returning to work.

Approximately 125 of the local strikers joined in a meeting Tuesday night. Speaker was Roy Hewitt, Salem attorney. Twenty members from Salem attended a meeting in Corvallis Monday night of locals from Albany, Corvallis, Eugene and Salem.

### C. R. Wagener Rites Thursday

PORTLAND, May 6.—(AP)—Funeral services for Clarence R. Wagener, 66, assistant commissioner of the state industrial accident commission, will be held here Thursday.

Wagener was a candidate for governor on the republican primary ticket in 1938, and a candidate for state senator in 1940. He was defeated each time. Shortly after the turn of the century, he was editor of the Independence, Ore., Enterprise.