

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

United States currency is regarded as the most "solid" currency in the world though it is no longer convertible into gold.

This fact was brought to public attention in a news story from Manila a few days ago, which told that the finance secretary of the island government was stopping a prospective flight of flying boats due to carry 377,000 ounces of gold from the Philippines to Macao, a Portuguese-governed island near Canton, China.

The price in Macao was said to be \$51 an ounce, the buyers of the gold being merchants from China where trade in gold is prohibited.

Macao is but one of the active grey or black markets in gold. In India quotations have run to \$62 an ounce, in Palestine to \$86 and in Egypt to \$68. In the Philippines the domestic market for gold has been running to \$45.50 an ounce.

Most countries control the price of gold in terms of their own currency and require it to be sold to their own governments. They forbid export or import trading in gold.

Demos Refuse To Step Down; Rap Wallace

PORTLAND, Aug. 9-(AP)-Democratic state central committee officers refused flatly today to step down from their posts, and the former chairman rejected the demand of Democratic National Committeeman Lew Wallace to call a new election.

Byron G. Carney, Milwaukie, elected chairman at a meeting Wallace contended was invalid, lashed back today by calling Wallace a "republican."

Porch Collapses As Pigeon Alights

OLIVET, Mich., Aug. 9-(AP)-A pigeon, unaware of its own strength, landed on a porch at Mather hall, the Olivet college science building. The porch collapsed.

Film Export Ban Stuns Hollywood; Economies Due

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 9-(AP)-Movie land was stunned, and wary, today over losing the British market for its productions.

Animal Crackers



NINETY-SEVENTH YEAR

18 PAGES

The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Ore., Sunday, August 10, 1947

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# Odom on Last Leg of Flight; Record in Sight

## Earthquake Shakes Several States in Midwest

### Hughes to Leave U.S. If Cargo Plane Flops

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9-(AP)-Howard Hughes told senate investigators today he began spending for entertainment when he got confidential word that army officers considered him a "stuck up" rich man who wouldn't "kow tow."

Also, the magazine designer, manufacturer and flier solemnly testified that he would leave the country for good if his giant, much-criticized cargo plane fails to fly.

"I put the sweat of my life into this thing," Hughes told a war investigating subcommittee. "My reputation is rolled up in it."

### 1,000 Masons At Ceremony

Approximately 1000 Masons attended an "under-the-stars" ceremony atop Bald mountain in the Eola hills Saturday night.

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### Damages In Area Negligible

By the Associated Press  
Several states were shaken briefly Saturday night by a small earthquake which a Chicago seismologist said was "bigger than ever experienced before in the midwest area."

### Parade, Game On Mt. Angel Fete Finale

MT. ANGEL—A children's parade at 1 o'clock and a baseball game between the Mt. Angel nine of the Willamette Valley baseball league and the Valsetz team, of the Oregon State league and flouting in the state semi-pro tournament, will wind up the Mt. Angel Flax Festival Sunday afternoon.

### Stevenson's Bail Raised

Fremont Russell Stevenson, charged with assault with intent to kill in connection with Thursday night's shooting of John Snyder, took bail Monday at 10 a. m. to enter his plea, when he appeared in Marion county district court Saturday.

### Saalfeld to Head Service Officers

PORTLAND, Aug. 9-(AP)-Election of H. C. Saalfeld, Salem, as chairman of the county service officers' association, a new organization to coordinate aid to veterans, was announced today.

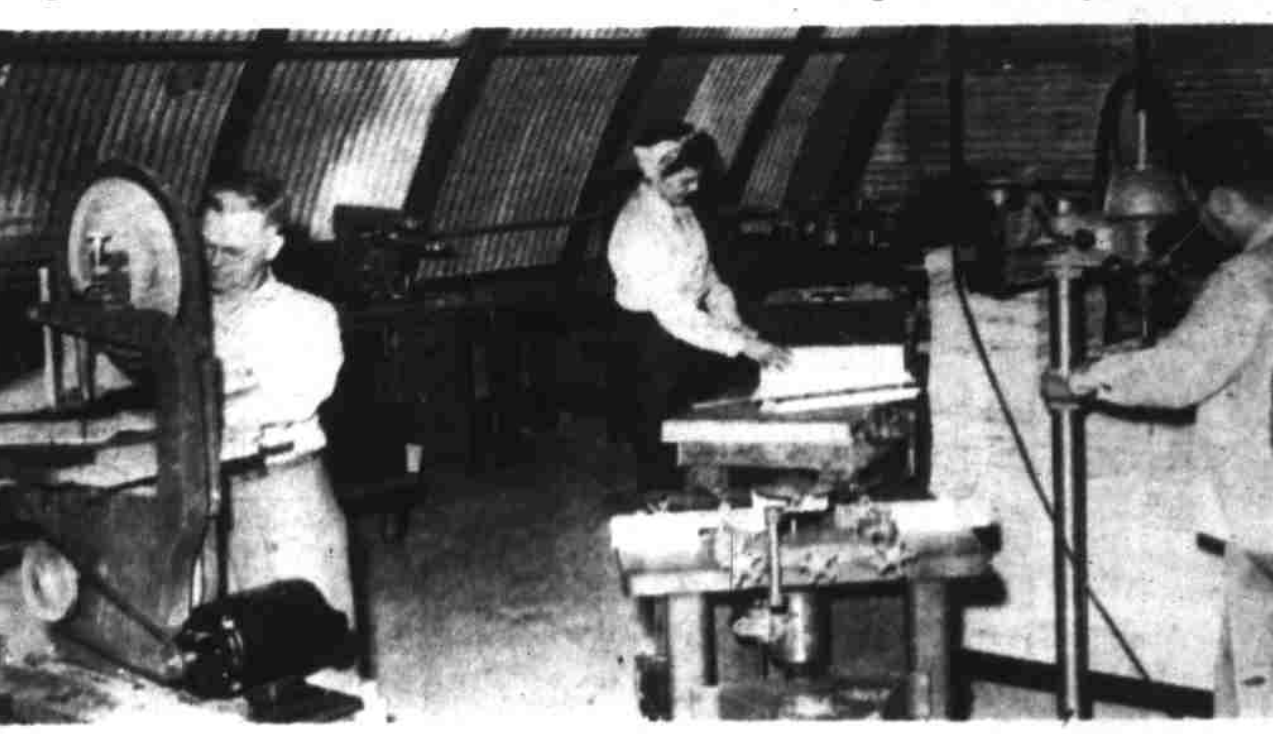
### France to Air Germany Views to U. S., British

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9-(AP)-The United States agreed today to an early American-British meeting with France to receive and study French views on the Anglo-American plan for increasing in Germany production in western Germany.

### Corn Prices Hit Fabulous Levels As Sun Parches Midwest Fields

CHICAGO, Aug. 9-(AP)-A sizzling sun beating down on parched mid-western corn fields today caused apprehension over the crop outlook and sent prices soaring to new historical peaks.

### Quonset Hut Houses Salem Toymaking Firm



Another Salem industry just getting started is Ballantyne and Heitz Co., makers of Bal-Toys. Shown in top photo at work in their quonset hut factory at 2736 N. River rd., are left to right, Don Ballantyne at the band saw, Mrs. Kenneth Seelye assembling magazine racks, and Charles Heitz at the reuter. Partners in designing, producing and selling, Don Ballantyne, left, and Charles Heitz, right, are veterans who are working to realize wartime dreams of their own business. They are discussing the kid-appeal of this rubber-band pistol which they plan to make and market in kit form. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.) (Story on page 4.)



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### Eastern Oregon to Get Crop Insurance

PORTLAND, Aug. 9-(AP)-Only five Oregon counties - Morrow, Umatilla, Sherman, Gilliam, and Union - will be included in the wheat crop insurance program next year.

### Frozen Food Bank Mortgage Foreclosed

Sale of the unfinished building of the Salem Frozen Food bank, and its land, in the 500 block of South Commercial street, was made by Marion county sheriff Saturday morning to Oregon Mutual Savings bank of Portland, in execution of judgment on mortgage foreclosure. Sale price was \$54,682.72, the full amount of judgment and costs.

### Cloudburst Halts Santa Fe Trains

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., Aug. 9-(AP)-A terrific desert cloudburst struck the Needles, Calif., area today, sending embankments cascading over the Santa Fe's main line and washing out sections of transcontinental highway No. 66.

### Indonesian Advise U. N. Of 'Mop-Up' Operation

BATAVIA, Java, Aug. 9-(AP)-The Indonesian republic advised the U. N. security council today that the republican troops were "compelled to undertake mopping up and preventative operations" because the Dutch were "continuing military operations with the aim of extending their territory."

Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Precip. and rows for Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, and Willamette river.

### 72 Hours Estimated Trip Time

SEATTLE, Aug. 10-(AP)-Globe - Girdling William Odom took off from Elmendorf field at Anchorage, Alaska at 12:47 a. m. Monday, Pacific standard time, for Chicago on the last leg of his around - the - world flight, Northwest Airlines was informed by its Anchorage headquarters. He was headed non-stop for the field from which his record-seeking flight started.

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Aug. 9 Pilot William Odom landed here tonight after a non-stop flight of approximately 3,500 miles from Tokyo in slightly more than 11 hours.

His Bombshell came down at 11:33 p. m. Pacific Standard Time (2:33 a. m. Eastern Standard Time).

The elapsed time for the Tokyo-Anchorage flight was 11 hours 17 minutes, an average speed of better than 300 miles an hour.

It brought his total elapsed time to 61 hours, 30 minutes for an estimated 16,500 miles.

Odom, heading into the home stretch in his dash for a new record, said he would take off as soon as his plane could be refueled and prepared for the takeoff.

A lunch was prepared for him, as ordered ahead by radio, and placed in the plane. He didn't want to take time to eat it on the field.

A large crowd was at Elmendorf field to see him swoop in and swing back onto the runway.

Odom jumped immediately from the plane to aid the ground crew in recharging the plane, then went to operations headquarters to check on weather reports.

He appeared in good physical shape but said "I'm awfully tired."

He said he had had to fly by manual control all the way from India after his automatic pilot was broken in India.

"I'll be in Chicago between 11 and 12 Sunday, Chicago time," he predicted, which would give him a total elapsed time on the trip between 71 and 72 hours. This compares to the time of 78 hours and 55 minutes he set in the same plane recently on a round-the-world jaunt with his sponsor, Milton Reynolds.

"The trip over the Pacific was very monotonous," he added. "I thought I'd never get here."

20-Mile Tall Wind  
Odom said he had a tall wind of about 20 miles an hour boosting him along the route from Tokyo.

The lunch that was fixed at his advance order included a pot of weak tea "with plenty of sugar," turkey and ham sandwiches "without crusts, three oranges and three apples."

Odom, 27, saved time by short ground stops and by flying direct from Calcutta to Tokyo, skipping the Shanghai stop of the previous flight.

He appeared more tense and nervous than tired, but said, "I'm getting pretty sleepy."

He started taking stay-awake drugs on the Pacific hop. He does not smoke.

### Surplus Sale Red Tape Cut

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9-(AP)-The red tape surrounding sale of war surpluses to veterans starting their own businesses or getting established professionally was slashed today.

First sale certification restrictions, under which a veteran's right to buy had to be established first before he could get any surplus equipment, were abolished by the war assets administration.

Veterans anxious to buy surplus goods henceforth will need only two documents, WAA said, a discharge certificate, and a simple statement insuring integrity.

### 17 DIE IN TRAIN WRECK

DONCASTER, England, Aug. 9-(AP)-Two London and Northeastern railway trains, crowded with weekend holiday seekers, crashed outside Doncaster station today and company officials said 17 persons were killed and nearly 50 injured.

Our Senators  
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