

Merger Arguments Get Airing At Town Hall Forum Program

By Marguerite Gleason
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Before the proposed merger of Salem and West Salem comes to a vote there will be much "heat" and must be more "light," it was predicted by Joy Hills, moderator for the town hall forum program Thursday night, in Waller hall on Willamette university campus.

The "heat" in question, it was indicated is that derived from cheap electric power provided to West Salem industry by Salem Electric Co., a cooperative. West Salem residents voiced concern over the possibility of losing Salem Electric power if the merger is affected.

Speaking against the merger was Victor Utterback of West Salem and he was joined by Roy Hewitt, Salem attorney, during the question period. Speaking for the merger were Walter Musgrave, mayor of West Salem, E. Burr Miller, former president of the Salem Chamber of Commerce.

Merger Background
Chris Kowitz, Salem city attorney, presented background of city mergers in the state and told of the special law enacted under which it is proposed to accomplish merger of West Salem and Salem.

It was brought out during the discussion on electric power that while West Salem has granted Salem Electric Co. a franchise and recently gave it a new one for 20 years, its city council denied a franchise to Portland General Electric Co. and West Salem citizens voted such a franchise down by a majority of 12 votes at the election in November 1946.

Questions regarding Salem city council's refusal to grant Salem Electric a franchise brought out the information that the people of Salem had turned down a pro-

6 Children Burn In St. Louis Fire

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 5 (AP)—Six children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hoff were burned to death late tonight when their four-room home was destroyed by fire in suburban Maplewood. The parents escaped with severe burns after a futile attempt to rescue the children. Cause of the fire was undetermined.

The children were Nancy Lee, 10; Donald, 8; Mary Ann, 7; Georgia, 6; Barbara, 2; and Gene, 11 months.

Ex-Wife Calls Harry Bridges 'Communist'

SEATTLE, Feb. 5 (AP)—Surprise testimony by Harry Bridges' former wife that the longshoremen's union leader was a member of the communist party and had threatened her against disclosing it concluded late today the first public hearing of the state legislature's un-American activities committee.

Mrs. Agnes Bridges testified that her former husband had a communist party membership book which he concealed under the bathroom linoleum or in a slit cut above a door in the Bridges' San Francisco residence, prior to a sudden 1935 transfer to a friend's home.

Bridges repeatedly has denied communist party membership and won a 1945 court victory against attempts to deport him.

In San Francisco Bridges issued a mimeographed statement charging his divorced wife's testimony was incompetent and changed. He included major capital improvements, substantial increase in space, services, furniture, furnishings or equipment, special relationship between landlord and the tenant occupying the accommodations or the freeze date, substantial increase in occupancy, peculiar circumstances or inequitable rent, substantial hardship caused by increased taxes or operating costs.

Rent raise applications are processed by the local rent board. Previously increases granted became effective with the office's order establishing the increase, rather than at the date the landlord applied.

Solons Urge Revisions of Rent Control

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—A senate subcommittee today recommended a far-reaching revision of the rent control law, with no limit on the size of rent increases where landlord and tenant agree on a long-term lease.

It would run until April 30, 1949, which is 14 months beyond the expiration date of present controls at the end of this month. Senators Cain (R-Wash.), chairman of the subcommittee, was reluctant to discuss the bill before it goes to the full committee. He said, however, that it calls for:

- 1. "Improved administration" with more accent on local powers over rent increases and decontrol.
- 2. Elimination of existing controls over construction of such things as amusement parks and theaters.
- 3. Continued administration of the program by the federal housing expediter.

Rent Raises Retroactive

Landlords who are permitted to raise their rental charges by the Salem area rent office will find the adjustment retroactive to the date of landlord's application, under a rent control administrative change announced this week by the housing expediter.

Officials of the local rent office said the reasons which may qualify a landlord for an increase in his rents have changed. They include major capital improvements, substantial increase in space, services, furniture, furnishings or equipment, special relationship between landlord and the tenant occupying the accommodations or the freeze date, substantial increase in occupancy, peculiar circumstances or inequitable rent, substantial hardship caused by increased taxes or operating costs.

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Pets Burn in Basement Fire

A pet dog and cat were burned to death in a basement fire which also destroyed clothing and other personal belongings at the home of A. G. Lindstrand, 1180 N. 15th st., Thursday morning, city firemen reported.

Firemen said they fought the smoldering fire with water and chemicals for 20 minutes before they had it under control. The Lindstrands were absent from their home at the time and a neighbor turned in the alarm at 10:25 o'clock, the fire fighters reported.

No estimate of the loss was given, but the fire crew said that considerable flame damage to the basement walls and structure and smoke damage to the upper part of the house resulted. The blaze is believed to have started from the furnace pipe.

Firemen also extinguished a chimney fire at 2490 S. Church st., Thursday afternoon, before damage resulted.

Truman Wary of Nomination Bid

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—President Truman balked today at coming right out and saying that he will be in the 1948 presidential race.

He laughingly promised, however, to support the democratic nominee. By his stand, Mr. Truman followed the Franklin D. Roosevelt tradition of keeping publicly still at this time in a campaign year—although no other man is being talked of for the democratic nomination.

MUKDEN DOOM NEAR
PEIPING, Feb. 5 (AP)—Communist troops were sealing off Mukden from even its highway supply lines today and were fighting within 10 miles of the Manchurian city, press dispatches said.

SALEM'S FAMOUS CHINESE FOOD AND DINNERS "99" Cafe (Orders to Take Out)

ARGENTINE NAVY TO MOVE
BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 5 (AP)—It was reported unofficially today that an Argentine naval force would leave next week for maneuvers in the Antarctic.

RAISE FOR LONGSHOREMEN
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The spokesman declined to name the other countries and said plans for the discussions were elastic. He said no approach concerning discussions had yet been made through diplomatic channels to the Scandinavian countries—Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

Meanwhile, a conference at The Hague, The Netherlands, was reported to have moved to establish a small "working party" to draft a permanent European organization for the 16 nations participating in the Marshall plan for European recovery.

Contest Due for Lake-Deschutes Legislative Post

LAKEVIEW, Feb. 5 (AP)—Two candidates for state representative from Lake-Deschutes counties came on the scene today. W. P. Vernon, Lake county rancher, said he would seek the democratic nomination. James F. Short, Redmond seed grower and cattleman, said he would run for the republican nomination.

The district has been represented for five terms by Burt K. Snyder, a republican, who announced he would not run again for the post.

Gas Company Asks Authority To Lay Pipes

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—The power commission said today the Northwest Natural Gas company has applied for authority to lay a \$41,931,000 natural gas transmission line from the Canadian border near Kingsgate, B.C., through Idaho, Washington and Oregon to the Canadian border near Vancouver, B.C.

The company said it would get its gas from fields in Alberta province. Facilities to transport the gas to the border, costing an estimated \$36,568,000, would be built either directly by Northwest Natural or indirectly through a subsidiary.

The project would provide for gas requirements of distributing companies in Vancouver and Trail, B.C., in Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma and Walla Walla, Washington and in Portland, Oregon.

Ike Scoffs at Russian War

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower declared today that no great nation, including Russia, would "deliberately provoke a war at this time."

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The five-star general gave an informal valedictory speech to the National Press club, then submitted to questioning. He is going on terminal leave as army chief of staff Saturday to take up the presidency of Columbia university in June.

GOP to Clamp Spending Lid

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Senator Bridges (R-N. H.) announced the decision of a senate-house budget subcommittee to set a \$37,200,000,000 ceiling on spending in the fiscal year beginning July 1. He called it a target figure.

Bridges said such a figure, if achieved, would mean far more than a \$2,500,000,000 cut in President Truman's \$39,700,000,000 budget for the year.

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\$510 Million Aid for China Next Request

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—The Marshall plan for European recovery approached the decisive law-making stage today as the administration got ready to ask congress for \$510,000,000 in aid to China.

The senate foreign relations committee wound up public hearings on the aid-Europe program. Chairman Vandenberg (R-Mich) called a meeting next Monday to begin drafting a bill which will authorize billions in U. S. assistance to 16 free countries and western Germany.

Government officials disclosed at the same time that the Chinese aid program was approved yesterday by the national advisory council, top financial authority, despite strong objections by some members.

These officials said the program—calling for civilian aid only in the form of food, raw materials and machinery—was almost ready for submission to congress by President Truman within a week or 10 days. If approved, it would start April 1.

Council members who opposed it, officials said, argued that military aid also could be sent to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces in their war against Chinese communists.

Northeast in Path of Snow, Rain Storm

CHICAGO, Feb. 5 (AP)—A wet and icy cover of snow, rain and a combination of the two started a slow move from Texas today, with the midwest and the northeast in its path.

The snow and rain mingled to form sleet in some sections as it reached out today to touch southern Illinois and Indiana.

It will spread out tonight and tomorrow to cover most of Illinois, Iowa and Indiana and parts of Missouri and Kentucky. Ohio and parts of Pennsylvania will get a taste tomorrow night. The east will be affected by Saturday.

The precipitation will take the form of snow north of the Ohio river, and rain south of it. A combination of the two elements is expected to create hazardous driving conditions in the river area.

The snow will come in the wake of a fall which today covered the northeastern area with up to 10 inches. Transportation was disrupted. Schools were closed.

Meanwhile, with the exception of gulf areas, most of the country had below normal temperatures today. The coldest section was the Red River valley, where some areas of Minnesota and North Dakota experienced sub-zero weather.

Navy Gives Oil To New York

NEW YORK, Feb. 5 (AP)—The U. S. Navy brightened the fuel picture in oil-hungry New York state today with an emergency allotment of 12,600,000 gallons from its reserve stocks.

At the same time, Eugene Holman, president of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, declared he believed the oil industry had the shortage in the eastern states pretty well under control for the rest of the winter.

Enough tankers will be available after February 15 to move stored supplies from Gulf of Mexico ports, Holman said.

Municipal authorities and oil industry executives have forecast that the next two or three weeks will be the most critical in the winter-long emergency here.

Europe Union Discussion Set

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HOLLYWOOD OPENS 6:45 P. M.

THREE DOZEN STARS
THE VARIETY GIRL
Presented by Hollywood's Famous Musical Artists

ALSO
"Tarzan and Hutter"
With Johnny Weissmuller Brenda Joyce

WARNING!!
We'll Be In Salem Soon!
(Signed)
Frank Frankenstein
Drac' Frankula

Letter Shows Scolding Side Of Abe Lincoln

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Feb. 5 (AP)—President Abraham Lincoln, generally regarded as a mild-mannered, even - dispositioned man, had his caustic side, a hitherto secret letter found hidden in a safety deposit box in a bank in nearby Tully, and made public today, indicates.

In the document, an acid scolding note written in the hand of the civil war president to U.S. Senator Samuel Clark Pomeroy of Ohio, he chides Senator Pomeroy's "mood" as "tormenting my life out of me, and nothing else."

Existence of the letter, kept secret for many years by the late Mrs. John B. Cummings of Tully, a great grandniece of Senator Pomeroy, was disclosed when her safety deposit box was opened by her attorney, Cleveland J. Ken-

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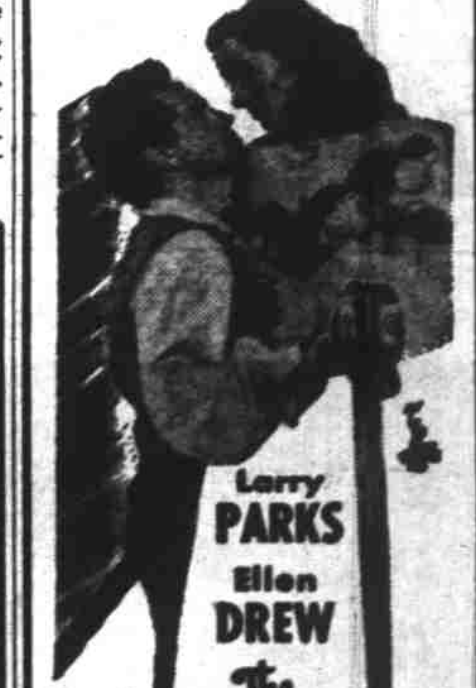
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yon. Mrs. Cummings died Jan. 9. Written on engraved stationery of the "Executive Mansion, Washington," and dated May 12, 1864, the letter reads:

"Hon Senator Pomeroy
"Sir—
"I did not doubt yesterday that you denied to see me about the appointment of Anenor in Kansas. I wish you and Lane would make a sincere effort to get out of the mood you are in. It does neither of you any good—it gives you the means of tormenting my life out of me and nothing else.
"Yours,
"A. Lincoln."

GRAND

Cont. from 1 p.m.
Now! Adventure Call!



Larry PARKS
Ellen DREW
The SWORDSMAN

IN TECHNICOLOR!
Co-Hit! Mystery with a Downbeat!

Heartaches
The RYAN and MORRIS
AIRMAIL FOX NEWS!

STATE

Mat. Daily from 1 p.m.
Now Showing!

THE STORY OF A HORSE WITH A GREAT FIGHTING HEART!

BLACK GOLD

Anthony Quinn
Katherine DeMille
Elyse Knox

Co-Hit! Dynamic Star of "CROSSFIRE!"

Robert MITCHUM
DIN HUNTER
DEAN JAGGER

Betrayed
LATE WORLD NEWS!

Karloon
Karnival!

Saturday!
1 Hour of Cartoons
Plus Our Regular Show!

LIBERTY

Opens 5:45 p.m.
NOW! THRILLS!

"Angel and the Badman"

Gail RUSSELL
John WAYNE

Co-Feature!
Ted Donaldson
and "Ace"
"Son of Rusty"

Chapter Five
"Jungle Raiders"

Cartoon - News!

DANCE SATURDAY
Dallas Armory
Glenn Woodry's Orch.

Plane Lost Over Lower Rockies
COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Feb. 5 (AP)—A twin-engine air force plane with two men aboard was missing tonight on a flight from Tonopah, Nev., to Wendover, Utah, and a search will be started as soon as weather in the area clears, 15th air force headquarters announced.

Last Minute SPECIALS!

You'll Find ALL the LOW PRICES at SAFEWAY

It is our policy to meet the lowest price of every competitor, item by item, day by day. Note these specially reduced bargains at your Salfway Store. Why shop all over town for bargains when you can get them ALL at your Salfway Store?

CIGARETTES All Popular Brands Carton	1.33
BUY BY THE CARTON AND SAVE	
EGGS Grade A Large doz.	49c
BUTTER Meadow Wood, Grade A Lb.	79c

MEAT SECTION

SAFEWAY GUARANTEED QUALITY MEATS

OYSTERS Fresh Daily Pint	45c
PICNICS Short shank, meaty, Medium weights Lb.	49c
LINK SAUSAGE Fresh pork Lb.	59c
T-BONE STEAKS Full Tenderloin Lb.	65c

FLOUR Popular Brands, 25 lb. sack	2.13
50-lb. sack	\$4.25
Harvest Blossom 25 lb. sack	2.03
50-lb. sack	\$4.05
SUGAR Beet or Cane, 100 lb. sack	8.49

COFFEE

Edwards 1-lb. can	43c	Nob Hill 1-lb. bag	38c	Airway 1-lb. bag	36c
		2-lb. bag	75c	3-lb. bag	\$1.07

Gerber's Baby Food All varieties, Can **4 for 25c**

Potatoes Ore.-Wash. U. S. No. 2's, 50 lb. sack **1.98**

EFFECTIVE IN SALEM CITY STORES ONLY
Many prices in this advertisement have been cut so sharply it is almost certain that the demand for some of these items will exceed the supply. We will do our best to keep the stores supplied but we may run short. We reserve the right to limit—No sales to dealers.

SAFEWAY

Fun at NORMANDY MANOR 2-FLOOR SHOWS-2

11:00 P. M. — 1:00 A. M.
Every Saturday Night

- Eddie Shea — M. C.
- For fourth consecutive week
- Doreen & Laverne
- Sophisticated dance stylists
- Dale Hagen—
- Singer of sweet ballads

No Raise in Prices — No Cover Charge
Dance to the Music of
Ed Lahn Piano
Andy Anderson Saxophone
Elvie Thomas Drums
PHONE 5585

EL SINORE

Now! Show Starts 7:00 P. M.

THE PERFECT PAIR IN THE PERFECT PICTURE!

James STEWART
Jane WYMAN

Robert Riskin's

Magic Town

EXTRA ADDED MARCH OF TIME "End of An Empire" - Also - Color Cartoon "Rhapsody in Rivets"

Bigger Shows at Lower Prices!

CAPITOL

RIGHT NOW! 2 SUPER HITS!

ALL CLUES LEAD TO THE UNSUSPECTED

starring JOAN CAULFIELD CLAUDE RAINS Laugh-Loaded Co-Hit!

It's a Panic! RED Skelton MERTON OF THE MOVIES

BUGS BUNNY

KIDDIE SHOW

SATURDAY MORNING 9:30 A. M. LAUREL & HARDY in "DANCING MASTERS"

Special Cartoons STUNTS - PRIZES

FREE! FREE! PARIS BUBBLE GUM To All Kids Tomorrow!

WARREN'S CAPITOL