

Solons Agree on 12-Month Aid Plan to Cost \$5,300,000,000

Thieves Decapitate 21 Parking Meters

Similar Robberies Noted over Valley

City police Friday night patrolled the streets searching for an organized band of thieves who stole 21 parking meters in downtown Salem Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Following a pattern familiar in five other Oregon cities, the thieves used a pipe cutter to sever 11 meter heads from their posts Wednesday night and 10 on Thursday night. The thefts occurred in the 100 block on South Church street and in the 400 block on North High street within two blocks of police headquarters.

The sum of money contained in the meters was still undetermined Friday, but police said the meters are valued at about \$1,200. Similar thefts have been committed recently in Portland,

Oregon City, Albany, Sweet Home and Lebanon.

Six meters were taken at Albany, six at Portland and more than a dozen each at Oregon City, Sweet Home and Lebanon. In Salem the thieves cut the meters off about 28 inches above the base, while in other cities they severed the posts close to the base. In Portland the meters were taken from directly in front of the police station.

Police in all affected cities have been unable to explain the reason for the thefts. Theories ranged all the way from an angered motorist to a change in the timetable rather than a net reduction.

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The committee wrote in its bill a section designed to keep exports to Europe from causing shortages in this country.

Vandenberg said he hopes for a committee vote on the bill as a whole next Tuesday, after a few details have been worked out. If all goes well, he said, it should be ready for senate debate March 1.

Its fate there is uncertain. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) and other leading republicans have called for large outright cuts. Taft suggested a \$2,000,000,000 slash.

Timetable Cut, Not Fund, Says Vandenberg

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—The senate foreign relations committee agreed late today on a four-year European recovery program with the U. S. putting up \$5,300,000,000 for the first 12 months.

President Truman had asked \$6,800,000,000 for the first 15 months.

Chairman Vandenberg (R-Mich) said the cut—which averages \$11,666,666 a month—was "a change in the timetable" rather than a net reduction.

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

Those interested in the economic foundations of the state will find dependable statistical data in a recent OSC bulletin, "Oregon's Meat Animals and Wool". The importance of these "crops" is revealed in its first sentence: "More money is received by farmers from the sale of meat animals and wool than from any other 12 groups of Oregon's farm products." The total cash receipts from the farm animal source was over \$68,000,000 in 1946. Sales for meat bring in the most money, with dairy products in second place.

One conspicuous fact is the decline in numbers of sheep and hogs and the moderate increase in number of cattle. The number of milch cows has shown a slight decline in the last dozen years. In the case of sheep and lambs the decrease has been steady since 1931 when a total of 2,679,000 head were reported to 1947 when the numbers were only 803,000. Restrictions on grazing in the range country of eastern Oregon, the lack of competent labor in war years and the greater relative profit in beef cattle account for the decrease.

In the case of hogs the numbers rose from 178,000 in 1935 to 359,000 in 1944. Then the high feed costs led to disposal of stock so there were only 181,000 reported as of Jan. 1, 1947. The year 1944 was the peak year for cattle also, the total being 1,194,000 head, with 284,000 of them milch cows. The total in 1947 was 1,067,000, with 251,000 milch cows. The decrease may indicate culling in the case of dairy cows and some lightening of risk in the case of beef cattle.

One interesting statistical fact is that 1903 marked the peak in the number of animal units (beef cattle plus sheep at the ratio of five sheep equal one animal unit)—1,238,000. Last year the (Continued on editorial page)

2 Tornadoes Leave 5 Dead In Mississippi

By the Associated Press

Two tornadoes ripped into Mississippi 35 miles apart yesterday, leaving five dead in a southland already suffering from flooding rivers and continuing rain.

All the known dead were victims of a twister that tore a jagged line near Newton, Miss. Another tornado hit 10 miles south of Monticello, some 75 miles southwest of Newton.

At least 24 were injured and 30 homes were destroyed in Mississippi.

Rain and snow-flushed mountain streams threatened scores of eastern Kentucky communities with flood waters and caused evacuation of hundreds of bottom-land dwellers. The entire community of Oneida (pop. 500) was ordered abandoned as flood waters from three creeks hit.

English Hop Cuttings Here

PORTLAND, Feb. 13 (AP)—An airplane landed here today with 40,000 English hop cuttings in the Pacific northwest's fight against downy mildew in the hop fields.

The cuttings, taken from 15 English hybrid hops, were trucked at once to Independence, Ore., where planting started. The operation is expected to be completed by sundown tomorrow on the E. Clemens Horst ranch.

The Horst company hopes to find varieties that will resist or be immune to down mildew, a fungus that reduced Oregon's crop one-third last year, causing an estimated \$6,000,000 loss in the Willamette valley alone.

Paul T. Rowell, Salem manager of the U. S. Hop Growers association, said the alternative to finding immune varieties is a costly and continuous dusting program.

Marshall Terms European Union 'Our Great Hope'

DES MOINES, Feb. 13 (AP)—Secretary of State Marshall tonight described the formation of a western European union as "our great hope."

A "stable and healthy western Europe," Marshall said, would make Soviet leaders "much more inclined" to reach a settlement of problems that now divide Russia and the west.

Marshall's remarks were contained in an address prepared for the National Farm Institute.

He unreservedly endorsed the western European union proposals of British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin.

Taft Claims Title Of 'True Liberal'

OMAHA, Feb. 13 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) tonight claimed the title of "true liberal," a term he said New Dealers have no right to "appropriate."

The Ohio candidate for the GOP presidential nomination told Nebraska republicans:

"You and I may not think of ourselves as heroes. But if we remain firm in our purposes it is possible that the future will consider all of us heroes. We have still kept liberty alive in America."

Tea Towels Latest Chain Letter Goal

The tea towel post card chain is the latest in the chain letter racket, Albert Gragg, Salem postmaster, has announced. Details of course are easily obtained from the post card and the object is to eventually get 12 or perhaps 36 tea towels, Gragg said. All such post cards will, when discovered, be turned over to the proper authorities, the postmaster said.

Waitress Said 'Improved'; Charge Filed

(Pictures on page 5)

Mrs. Betty Voeks, 21, Salem waitress critically wounded in a downtown hotel Thursday night was reported "slightly improved" by her physician at Salem General hospital early this morning. Her fiancée was arraigned in Marion county district court Friday on a charge of pointing a firearm at another in connection with the shooting.

Mrs. Voeks was listed in "critical" condition most of Friday but began to show improvement after returning from surgery about 9 p. m., it was reported. Police said a .45 calibre bullet pierced both lungs and left shoulder before striking a wall.

Britz, a local construction worker who arrived here from Texas a few months ago, told police Mrs. Voeks was struck by a bullet from a gun which discharged while he was cleaning it about 8 p. m. Thursday.

A rancher near Larch mountain, 30 miles east of here, said he saw smoke from a remote area on the Oregon side of the gorge after search planes flew over the region.

Railroad workers near Bonneville dam added that they saw a plane answering the description of the missing craft last Saturday. It barely missed the Bridge of the Gods, then turned toward the Oregon hills and disappeared in a snow flurry, they said.

Holiday has been missing since Saturday on a flight from his job at Richland, Wash., to his home at Oregon City.

Plane Missing; Smoke Seen

PORTLAND, Feb. 13 (AP)—A report of smoke rising from Columbia Gorge hills today spurred the search for the missing pilot, Billy Guy Holliday, 22.

A rancher near Larch mountain, 30 miles east of here, said he saw smoke from a remote area on the Oregon side of the gorge after search planes flew over the region.

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2,750 Oculists Named in Suit

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 (AP)—The government has named some 2,750 oculists in its price-fixing suits against two large optical firms.

The suits contend the oculists and the firm conspired to fix prices on eye glasses and contact lenses. The Sherman anti-trust act, the Sherman originally filed July 23, 1946, say rebates were made by the companies to the eye doctors. They say the rebates amounted to about one-half the total price paid by the doctors' patients.

Rome Bomb Plot Fails

ROME, Feb. 13 (AP)—An attempt to bomb the Rome headquarters of the communist-led Italian partisan association failed tonight. A night watchman discovered the bomb and tossed it into the street where it exploded.

35-CENT RAISE SOUGHT

DETROIT, Feb. 13 (AP)—The CIO United Auto Workers came up today with pay demands against Chrysler Corp. exceeding 35 cents an hour.

Market Slows Downward Dash

Mothers, 9 Children Die in Fire

Family Refuses To Jump

UTICA, N. Y., Feb. 13 (AP)—Eleven members of one family, including two mothers and nine children, were burned to death today after a 13-year-old girl vainly pleaded that they follow her second-floor leap from their burning home.

The unexplained, early-morning fire swept the two-story frame dwelling and the walls collapsed. Fourteen scantily-clad occupants escaped. Three were hospitalized with burns.

Young Mary Hoage said she had jumped into a snowbank from a second-floor porch, after failing to convince her step-mother, Mrs. Ruth Hoage, 24, and the others to do the same.

"I pleaded for them to follow me and throw the babies down, but they said they would wait for the firemen to rescue them," she related.

Ten bodies, most of them charred beyond recognition, were recovered from the three-foot-deep rubble. One mother clutched a baby.

The dead as listed by Capt. Eugene McNally of the fire prevention bureau:

Mrs. Ruth Hoage, second wife of Richard Hoage, sr.; Mrs. Shirley Hoage, 29, wife of Richard Hoage, jr.; Virginia, 19; Dana, 3; Marie, 8 months; Catherine, 2; Geraldine, 10; Audrey, 5; Charity, 7; Michael, 11 months, and Lee, 5 weeks.

Leap Year Spurs Feminine Valentine Charm



Valentine's day and Leap Year make a delightfully dangerous combination as the above picture illustrates (story on page 4), for today it is a woman's prerogative to tantalize any eligible bachelor. The shy guy here is Bob Kimmel, 10 Abrams ave., and the modest maiden preferring candy is Jean M. Foster, 1488 State st. Good sports, these, because actually they've never seen each other before! (Photo by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Butter at Head of Day's Dip

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 (AP)—Still falling market prices pushed most major cost of living commodities lower today, but the headlong plunge of prices tended to level off in some lines.

Butter spearheaded the day's dip parade, breaking as much as 6 1/2 cents a pound in the wholesale markets and selling lower in retail stores in several cities.

More grocery stores clipped meat prices during the day. Rye, soybeans, and some corn contracts for future delivery crashed the daily permissible limits on North American exchanges.

A series of buying and selling waves kept the grain market in a turmoil, with prices skittering. At the end, however, all prices were coming down.

Although many commodities made their strongest showing of the week, the most that could be said for the recovery effort was that it tended to check the precipitate slump. Wheat prices closed both higher and lower in Chicago.

The New York stock exchange made little important headway in its post-holiday session. Individual rail and industrial stocks made recoveries but many market leaders suffered from neglect. The overall average was up for the first time in a week.

Stocks moved somewhat higher at London, Singapore and Tokyo.

Mill prices of bakery flour came down another five cents at Minneapolis but home usa flour remained unchanged.

Salem Butter Drop Assured

Salem dairymen Friday night were expecting a butter price drop of as much as 3 cents for today, but awaited word of marketing conditions in Portland before posting their prices.

Local butter prices in most stores Friday were 2 to 3 cents cheaper tomorrow. Some stores sold butter today at 89 cents.

'Synthetic' Gold Tends to Vanish

BERKELEY, Calif., Feb. 13 (AP)—Vanishing gold has been produced on the campus of the University of California.

It's not yet the old dream of the alchemists, but a matter of academic interest.

Dr. Geoffrey Wilkinson of the California radiation laboratory tells about it in "physical review."

In a short time the cyclotron golds breaks down into other less valuable elements as its radioactive energies are dissipated.

To produce gold, the Berkeley scientists bombarded iridium and platinum with particles of heavy hydrogen, or helium with a stream of neutrons. Energies from 18,000-30,000,000 electron volts are used.

Rockefeller Weds Former Actress

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 14 (AP)—Tall and handsome Winthrop Rockefeller, heir to oil millions and one of America's most eligible young bachelors, took Barbara Sears, former actress and daughter of Lithuanian immigrants as his bride at 12:14 p. m. today.

Earlier in the evening, some 50 of Palm Beach's most noted winter residents, including the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Woolworth Donahue, Mr. Hudson Vandenberg and Mrs. Gloria Baker Kelly, attended a reception in the Guest home.

MONEY TURNED TO FOOD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—The \$18,000,000 congress voted for additional aid to China will provide 18,000 long tons of wheat and 47,752 tons of rice, the state department announced today.

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	55	31	
Portland	48	25	60
San Francisco	58	34	60
Chicago	35	24	18
New York	38	27	60
Washington	37	27	60

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy today and tonight with intermittent light rain. Highest temperature today 45, low tonight 23.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (since Sept. 1)

This Year	Last Year	Average
28.12	24.92	25.10

Woman Defies Withhold Tax

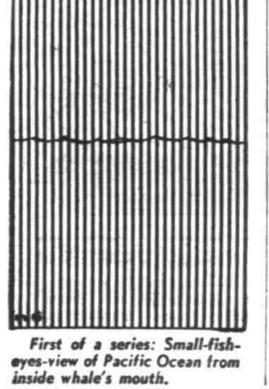
LOS ANGELES, Feb. 13 (AP)—In defiant terms, Miss Vivien Kellems, Westport, Conn., industrialist, declared today she will no longer withhold federal income taxes from her employes unless she is paid for it.

Miss Kellems, cable grip manufacturer, spoke of the withholding tax law as an infringement on the rights of the public and in violation of the constitution.

"I am not a tax collector and if an American citizen can be fined and thrown into prison for not collecting taxes from his workers, then let's know about it now."

"Let's see what the court has to say about this law — it's the first one passed in violation of the constitution."

Animal Crackers



First of a series: Small-fishes-view of Pacific Ocean from inside whale's mouth.