

## Rep. Thomas Urges Tax Laws Simplified, Surplus Fund Freed

Oregon's 1949 legislature must simplify tax laws and free the \$50,000,000 surplus income and excise tax fund if the state's mounting budget deficit is to be overcome, State Rep. Lyle Thomas said Saturday.

The Dallas representative and Farmers union official executive leveled criticism at Oregon's tax structure in a speech at the annual Statesman correspondents' Christmas party at the Senator hotel.

Thomas said the lawmakers must eliminate the property tax as the base of the state tax system and divert income and excise tax surpluses, liquor funds and highway money to the general fund.

He described the present tax system as "a series of obstacles that tie us down."

"Simplify Tax Laws"

"Our need is to simplify tax laws and make them conform to a business-like system," Thomas stated.

He advocated a system under which people would be taxed for their ability to pay, and declared the sales tax was "a most flagrant violation of this theory" because every person, rich or poor, must pay regardless of their incomes.

## Legion Post to Hear Kirkwood

James W. Kirkwood, professor of speech at Willamette university, will be guest speaker at the regular meeting of the American Legion post 136 Monday night at 7:30 in the Legion hall.

Kirkwood will speak on the topic "Private Worlds," describing an entirely different approach to the problem of straight thinking and maintaining good mental attitudes.

Howard Kaffin is in charge of the program. All members are requested to attend.

## Tremors Common In Palm Springs

PALM SPRINGS, Calif., Dec. 11 (AP)—The folks in this desert winter resort town were getting almost bored with earthquakes today.

"What, another earthquake? My, my," they said when a "good sized" tremor jarred the area at 9:12:46 a.m. today.

Palm Springs had another quake yesterday and several lesser tremors earlier in the week. But these were just aftershocks from the big one a week ago which electrified all southern California, causing some minor damage.




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## Uranium Ore Helps Revive Ghost Towns

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Ghost towns of the gold mine era are coming back to life again but the man with the sluicing pan is giving way to a guy with a Geiger counter.

One hundred years after the miners of '49 struck it rich in the gold fields of California, a new rush is on for uranium, the stuff that kindles atomic fires.

The rush is not confined to America. It's world wide, the national Geographic Society said today.

The hunt for the ore is "radio-activating" old ghost towns of once abandoned mining settlements, opening up undeveloped lands and creating new settlements, the Society reported.

The outstanding sources for uranium are still the Belgian Congo and the Great Bear Lake region of Canada but mention is also being given to Czechoslovakia and other areas of Europe.

During the past year uranium rushes also have been boosted, the Society said, by discoveries in Alaska, other areas of Canada, South Africa, and in Latin America.

## Millmen Given Jobless Pay

NORTH BEND, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—Lumber and logging workers idled for 10 weeks when waterfront union pickets blocked entrance to the Irwin-Lyons lumber mill here have been awarded unemployment compensation.

Aubrey Tussing, chief referee of the Oregon unemployment compensation commission, upheld the arguments of the 400 AFL mill workers and CIO logging crewmen that they were unable to enter the mill property. Claims total an estimated \$50,000.

The mill workers argued they were threatened with bodily harm by CIO longshoremen and mariners union pickets. The picketing resulted from a jurisdictional dispute.

## Donald Emerson Elected by Group

Donald A. Emerson, Salem, assistant state superintendent of education, was elected president of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools at a convention in Spokane Saturday.

Emerson will fill the unexpired term of P. L. Stetson, who resigned and accepted an appointment as executive secretary of the association.

## Greek Guerrillas Regain Stronghold

LONDON, Dec. 11 (AP)—The communist guerrillas of Greece claimed tonight they have re-occupied most of the northern Grammos mountain hideouts from which the Greek army drove them in long, hard fighting last summer.

**Too Late to Classify**

LOST, woman's tooled leather billfold in Woolworth's Saturday afternoon. Finder may keep money as reward for returning billfold and valuable papers. Phone 2-8629. Name INEZ is engraved on inside of billfold.

## Spy Documents Touch on China, Italy Secrets

(Story also on page 1)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Twelve of the many U. S. confidential state department papers uncovered by the house American activities committee containing international dynamite were made public today.

The papers received 10 years ago by an admitted communist agent were released to the press by the committee with state department approval.

Among the documents are typewritten copies of 21 diplomatic messages signed by such pre-war figures in American diplomacy as former ambassador to France William C. Bullitt, former ambassador to Japan Joseph C. Grew, and former ambassador to Poland Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, jr.

**Potential Value Great**

Their potential value to other governments at the time they purportedly "leaked" from the state department is evident from a cursory examination.

Britain's naval plans in 1938, for example, were of vital concern to Adolf Hitler in his then unspoken plans for conquest of Europe.

Yet one of the documents, a memorandum which committee records say is in the handwriting of Alger Hiss, former state department official, spoke of Britain's battleship building plans in that critical year 18 months before World War II broke out with Hitler's invasion of Europe.

A long message signed "Grew," dispatched from Tokyo at noon, Feb. 12, 1938, and marked "strictly confidential," told then Secretary of State Cordell Hull of Japan's rising temper against the British in China.

**Been of Great Value**

Such information—that a British official contemplated the idea of ending British support to China's Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek—obviously would have been of great value to the Japanese at that time.

Among documents relating to pre-war Europe, several related to Hitler's secret plans to seize Austria and of Germany's hope to negotiate a trade agreement with the United States a year before he plunged Europe into war.

A cable from U. S. Consul General John C. Wiley in Vienna, marked "Rush" and sent to Secretary Hull on Feb. 15, 1938, told of a dinner he attended with Austrian Chancellor Kurt von Schuschnigg and other top diplomats shortly before Hitler imposed his "anschluss" on Austria.

**Most Horrible Day**

Wiley noted that the dinner atmosphere was "most oppressive," and continued:

"To French minister, Schuschnigg described visit to Berchtesgaden as the most horrible day of his life. He says Hitler undoubtedly a madman with a mission and in complete control of Germany."

"Hitler openly told him of his desire to annex Austria and declared that he could march into Austria with much greater ease and infinitely less danger than he incurred in remilitarization of the Rhineland."

"The French minister... states that this was the most critical moment since July, 1934. It is not the end. It is the moment before the end. In his opinion Austria can only be saved by immediate reconciliation of France and England with Italy and energetic joint act."

On March 29, Ambassador Bid-

## U.S., Romania Trade Insults Over Envoys

By John M. Hightower

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Romania is throwing two American and two British diplomats out of the country, and the United States is retaliating by similar orders for two Romanian envoys assigned to Washington.

The Romanian communist government said the four it is tossing out conspired with "spies and saboteurs." The U. S. called this ridiculous. Britain delayed a decision on whether to demand the recall of Romanian diplomats from London.

This latest flareup in the cold war was revealed both here and in Bucharest, where the major action centered. It involved an exchange of diplomatic insults in polite terms which, however, scarcely served to conceal the bitterness underlying such incidents as this.

The four Anglo-American diplomats had been named in connection with trials in Romania of alleged plotters, spies and saboteurs against the communist government. In the latest of these trials, the government alleged that one of the defendants had confessed that the Americans and British promised they would parachute arms and troops into Romania for anti-government forces in event of conflict.

The state department denied all

## Red Filibuster Blocks U. N. Adjournment

PARIS, Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—A Soviet filibuster on the Korean question disrupted today a United Nations plan to adjourn its Paris meeting this morning.

The 58-nation assembly was recessed at 2 a.m. until 3 p.m. (9 a.m. EST) this afternoon. Delegates gave up their effort to complete work on the Korean case when Russia, Czechoslovakia and Poland got on the speaker's list with long addresses obviously ready.

The Russian bloc is fighting a majority plan which would continue the U. N. Korean commission for another year and recommend approval for the government of the republic of Korea. Russia has boycotted the commission since it was created.

## Java Peace Talks Broken

THE HAGUE, Dec. 11 (AP)—A decision to break off deadlocked Dutch-Indonesian peace talks was announced today by the Netherlands government.

The announcement said further negotiations with the Indonesian republic would only delay a final solution of the Indonesian problem.

Instead, the government said, Dutch authorities were going ahead with the establishment of an interim government to rule temporarily over all areas of Indonesia except those controlled by the republic.

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