

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Souquet

A hearing on SB 6 (fair employment practices) will be held at the capitol tonight. The bill seeks to implement a public policy which is defined as follows:

"It hereby is declared to be the public policy of this state to foster the employment of all persons in accordance with their fullest capacities, regardless of their race, color, creed, national origin or ancestry, and to safeguard their right to obtain and hold employment without such discrimination."

No one who accepts the Christian philosophy of the brotherhood of man or the conception of a free democratic society will defend discrimination based on the accident of color or race or in the ordinary pursuits of life on his choice of creed. Yet between practice and performance there is a wide gulf. The negro race particularly suffers from job discrimination. Condemned generally to menial tasks (porters, waiters, janitors, domestic servants) negroes find it hard to rise above this level of employment. Some get a good education, may learn a profession, but usually the only outlet they find is in serving their own race. The door to employment or calls from the white race is shut. Many Jews feel that they are discriminated against, and Indians, Mexicans and immigrant groups.

The method invoked to end discrimination resembles that

(Continued on Editorial page)

Nanking Battle Near as Reds Reach Yangtze

NANKING, Tuesday, Jan. 25-(AP) Usually informed diplomatic sources said today there "is every appearance" that the Chinese government has decided to abandon Nanking and move its ministries to Canton.

Red patrols already are on the north bank of the Yangtze. In the few instances that responsible Chinese officials could be located, they denied that a formal order to transfer the government had yet been issued—but they declined to say this for direct attribution.

Earlier, rumors swept the city that a definite order closed government offices today but these could not be confirmed.

The city was aware there is nothing to stop the Reds. Nanking is on the south bank of the Yangtze, across from Pukow — the main Red base — to the north. Nationalist efforts to seek acceptable surrender terms were complicated yesterday by the withdrawal southward of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's "personal" troops from the Nanking-Shanghai area.

Reliable sources reported a short time later that Li Tsung-Jen had ordered 80,000 troops personally loyal to him to hurry to the capital from the Hankow area, to the west.

PEIPING, Tuesday, Jan. 25-(AP) A special representative of China's acting president, Li Tsung-Jen said today Li had approved the Peiping surrender settlement and thought it could be well used as a model for bringing peace to other areas.

Peiping surrendered to the communists Saturday under a local agreement permitting face-saving on both sides.

North Lights On View Here

Clear, cold skies gave some Salem residents a view of the aurora borealis or "northern lights" Monday night and early risers today were promised a good display.

Several persons reported the glow in the northwest Monday evening, thinking it was a large fire. The Salem weather bureau reported the light reflected from the aurora zone was visible for about four hours during the evening.

Dr. J. Hugh Pruett, astronomer at University of Oregon observatory in Eugene, was optimistic over chances for a good display before dawn today.

The lights were visible as far south as northern California and east to Fargo, N. D.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Would you mind leaving? I've got a reputation at stake."

Auto Tag Approved By House

By Wendell Webb

Managing Editor, The Statesman
A new plan of licensing passenger automobiles, designed to save the state an estimated \$300,000 a year, was over its first legislative hurdle today.

The house, with only one dissenting vote, Monday passed and sent to the senate Secretary of State Earl Newbry's program to issue permanent license plates to owners, rather than to cars, and to stagger renewal dates by months throughout the year. It was estimated, \$1,500,000 could be saved in five years.

The house also passed measures letting school districts continue to incur indebtedness up to 10 per cent (instead of 5 per cent) of their assessed valuation, and calling for an interim committee to study the feasibility of providing low-cost housing for veterans of World Wars I and II and the Spanish-American war.

The senate passed its first bills of the session Monday. They included those permitting, but not requiring, licenses for practical nurses, and increasing from \$3,000 to \$5,000 the lien and liability exemption against homesteads.

New bills were entered both in the house and senate, but Speaker Frank Van Dyke — observing that fewer bills had been introduced thus far than at the comparable time two years ago — warned that after the first 25 days all bills must have the consent of the rules committee to introduction "and the committee will be tough." The 25 days are up February 3.

Fay Bill Report Due
Introduced in the house Monday were measures to continue the \$20 monthly pay increase to state employees (an earlier bill did not include all of them), and to relieve employers of the necessity of reporting state tax data on employees earning less than \$100 a year.

Rep. Henry Semon of the house ways and means committee said his committee would have a formal report on both pay bills today, and there was every indication it would be favorable.

Among new bills in the senate was one by Sen. Richard Neuberger of Portland asking that all state lands be sold only to the highest bidder. Heretofore, only timber has thus been handled. The board of control recently had considerable argument over the sale of Besant's creek land on other than a bid basis.

Deschutes Bill Expected
All set to provide new fireworks, it appeared Monday, was the fish commission's bill seeking to prevent building of power dams on the Deschutes river. Introduction was today.

Meanwhile, committees were reporting considerable progress — one way or another. There were unofficial reports that measures providing for a lieutenant governor and for lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 were having a rough time. No formal reports on them have been issued.

Both houses will have several of their own bills up for final action today. Four forest measures will be voted on in the senate, and six measures will face the house. The senate is doubling the education aid for veterans and levying a personal property tax on vehicles not used solely for transportation (such as cement mixers). The house and senate will resume at 10 a. m. today.

(Additional details pages 3-4)

France Okehs Jewish State

LONDON, Jan. 24-(AP)—Israel tonight won a major victory in her battle for world recognition as a new nation.

The logjam of diplomatic opposition began to crumble when France recognized the young Jewish state and the British cabinet decided to take similar action within the next few days. Australia and New Zealand are expected to go along with Britain.

The sudden flood of expected recognitions would remove most obstacles from Israel's application for membership in the United Nations.

Twenty-three nations, including the United States and Russia, now have recognized Israel.

Broader Controls Over Rent Sought As Deadline Near

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24-(AP)—An administrator bill calling for broader and tougher federal controls over rents for another two years was handed congress today, and leaders put a hurry-up tag on it.

The present law is scheduled to expire March 31. The new bill was introduced by Senator Frank D-SC and Rep. Spence D-Ky.

It would continue controls through March 31, 1951, and would give the housing expediter—now T. E. Woods — powers he does not now have.

These would include authority to rent ceilings on previously decontrolled areas, on apartment hotels, on quarters which have been covered by so-called voluntary leases, and on some quarters newly converted to housing purposes.

Local Mercury Dips; New Low Forecast

The Oregon Statesman

98th Year 12 PAGES The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, January 25, 1949 Price 5c No. 271

City Bus Line Sets Terminal

City Transit Lines will establish a downtown Commercial street terminal with waiting room facilities as a result of city council action Monday night.

Although a subject for discussion for more than two years, the bus line came as a surprise in the council's final consideration of a change designed to improve downtown bus loading and unloading facilities.

The waiting room will be adjacent to the new Quisenberry pharmacy at Commercial and Court streets and will include public rest rooms for which the city agreed to move in plumbing from the basement of the building which housed a wartime USO center.

Principal bus parking area will be moved north from the present spot at State and Commercial streets, and now will include 170 feet on the east side of the street, from Court street to the middle of the block. On the other side of Commercial at Court the bus lines will have an 80-foot space. Five other downtown loading zones are designated, each a 50-foot zone; at intersections of Chemeketa and Liberty, Chemeketa and High, Court and Liberty, State and High and Liberty and State streets.

The move on Commercial street was first proposed when Salem Hardware protested the waiting crowds in front of its store near the State street intersection. Virtually all other merchants in that area submitted a petition favoring bus lines in the street around the corner from present location, but this proposal was lost.

Firemen Hours Cut on July 1; Franchise Let

Working hours for city firemen will be shortened to 63 per week on July 1 when approved by the city council. The new schedule will be financed by a tax levied on additional firemen. It was decided Monday night by the city council.

Fire Chief W. P. Robie stated in a letter that most of the firemen agreed in a meeting that they will continue to work 64-hour shifts until then on the understanding they later will receive time-off credit for the time worked over the new 63-hour limit between January 1 and July 1.

This compromise settled on issue prompted by Salem voters' approval of the new hour schedule, effective January 1, and the new tax, effective July 1.

City Manager J. L. Franzen added to the proposal which the council finally adopted the addition of two more new firemen in July — making 19 new men — to facilitate the "repayment" of time to present firemen who will accrue an extra 23 days of leave each.

Franzen said salary for the two additional men could be financed through the tax, and the men would be needed in another year, anyway, as the fire department expands.

In other major action last night the council passed into law the enabling bill which enfranchises Salem Electric, a cooperative distributing Bonneville electric power, as prescribed by Salem voters in the November general election.

But aldermen reduced from 20 to 5 years the term of the franchise which Salem Electric drafted.

In another "power" bill, the council passed into law the provision that license fee for all electric utilities will be 3 per cent of their gross revenue. They amended the bill before passage to insert a PGE — requested clause to exempt non-collectible accounts and make other minor changes.

Cub Lessons Get Practice

MT. ANGEL, Jan. 24—Donald Schmidt, 9-year-old Cub scout, was given credit here today for having saved his 5-year-old brother, David, from serious burns when the younger boy's clothing caught fire from trash burning in the yard.

Donald ordered David to roll on the ground and the flames were extinguished. The boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. George Schmidt. Mrs. Schmidt asked Donald how he knew what to do for David, and he informed her "I learned that in my cub scout meeting." David suffered only one burn on his leg and it was not serious.

Navy Airport Lease Approved

Council Actions Many; Advisors Urged for Field

By Robert E. Gangware
City Editor, The Statesman

Salem city council Monday night agreed to meet the navy's terms for leasing facilities at Salem airport for a naval air reserve training program, over the strenuous protests of Salem Air service.

This was one of four highly controversial matters the council tackled and apparently disposed of in a 3 1/2-hour session at city hall which drew the first overflow crowd of nearly 200 to the new city council chambers.

In other decisions, the council put into effect a franchise for Salem Electric, approved a city bus lines plan to establish a waiting room terminal on Commercial street and settled firemen's hours by agreeing to leave time credits for work over the new 63-hour week limit set by voters until a new tax levied can finance additional firemen July 1. (See stories in column 3.)

Navy Terms Agreed
The navy's offer is for a one-year lease, at \$2,000 annual rent, for the following facilities on the east side of the Salem airport: Hangar and apron, two 25,000-gallon gas tanks, a 20 by 100-foot building behind the hangar and the building now occupied by United Air Lines (but latter is not to be vacated immediately).

The council agreed to accept this offer contingent upon the navy's agreement to paint, repair and install a heating system in the hangar and to otherwise keep the facilities up to navy standard.

Opposition came principally from John Hughes, operator of Salem Air service which with its 14 planes now is established in the hangar behind the hangar for the navy, but about 16 other citizens had their say during the 1 1/2-hour public hearing last night.

Pay, Conditions Criticized
Hughes criticized the navy's statement that it could afford to pay only \$2,000 annual rental for these facilities for an estimated 3,600 annually, including licenses and taxes. He suggested that the army-developed west side of the field is deteriorating more rapidly than the earlier-developed east side, and that the navy might better be placed on the west side for that reason.

Hughes maintained the move would force him out of business as he could not continue operations with the reduced accommodations he would be offered on the west side of the field—identified by the city manager as a 20 by 100-foot building and space in the hangar.

Hughes and his attorney, Asa Lewelling, also questioned whether the navy proposition indicated that the government can effectively control interstate power, flood control and irrigation.

Many republican legislators, like McKay, were vigorously opposed to any additional federal control for the northwest.

(Additional details on page 2.)

Seven Killed In Air Crash

BERLIN, Tuesday, Jan. 25-(AP) At least seven persons were killed and 16 injured last night when a British airlift Dakota transport plane evacuating children from Russian — blockaded Berlin crashed in the Soviet zone of Germany, an air forces liaison officer said today.

The plane was flying from the RAF Gatow airport here to Luebeck, in the British occupation zone, carrying 22 passengers and a crew of three. Of the 22 passengers, 17 were children.

JAPS ELECT CONSERVATIVE

TOKYO, Jan. 24-(AP)—Conservatives won an overwhelming victory in Sunday's Diet election, while the communists increased their representation from an insignificant four to 35 seats, complete unofficial returns showed.

WASHER
Salem Max. Min. Precip.
Portland 34 12 .00
San Francisco 46 35 .00
Chicago 49 36 trace
New York 47 36 23
WILMNET river 8 of a foot.
FORECAST from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem: "Continued fair and colder today and tonight. Low tonight near 12. High today near 24."

No Rain, but Still 'Fine Weather for Ducks'



Salem's bright January sun looks fine for bathing, but the ice along the shore belies the fact even though Mill creek ducks swim along placidly enough in the picture above. Taken from the North Cottage street bridge Monday morning the picture illustrates Oregon's variance of weather. (Statesman photo.)

Columbia Valley Plan Ordered; Fight Ready

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24-(AP)—President Truman signalled full speed ahead today on a vast proposal to develop electric power and other resources in the Pacific northwest.

He ordered five government agencies to draft legislation for a Columbia valley authority, which would have charge of the undertaking.

When a bill is ready, Mr. Truman will send it to Capitol Hill backed up by a special message.

Several weeks may be required. He directed the departments of interior, army, agriculture, and commerce, the budget bureau and the economic advisory council to go to work on the plan.

Already army engineers, after a five-year study, have recommended a plan of control for the great stream to produce power, control floods, facilitate navigation and irrigation. The Columbia runs between Oregon and Washington, emptying into the Pacific. It heads up in Idaho, Montana and Canada.

Mr. Truman's letter to the department heads made no mention of the nation's first big "authority" on the Tennessee river. But he told them to draw on lessons of the past.

He long ago endorsed a proposal for a Missouri Valley authority. Gov. Douglas McKay said he is strongly opposed to the CVA plan.

"What's the matter with the way we're doing it now?" McKay commented. "That's the American system. We don't need to delegate authority to a board or commission to regulate the economy of northwestern states."

In interviews Monday the democrats agreed almost unanimously that only the government can effectively control interstate power, flood control and irrigation.

Many republican legislators, like McKay, were vigorously opposed to any additional federal control for the northwest.

(Additional details on page 2.)

Shortage Of Fuel Worsens

By Thomas G. Wright
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Temperatures started into a sharp dive at Salem Monday night and the weatherman indicated that a low of 10 degrees or lower would be reached Tuesday morning before they hit the bottom.

If forecasts bear up it will mark the coldest reading for Salem for the season and send residents scurrying for fast depleting supplies of sawdust and wood fuel.

Monday morning's low was 13, and daytime temperatures barely climbed above the freezing mark at 1:30 p. m. when 33.6 was recorded. Continued cold was forecast for Wednesday morning with a low of 12 degrees expected. The 25-day freezing spell is a near record. (Details on page 2.)

There are shortages of sawdust, wood, and sawdust by-product fuels were worsening in the Salem area. Only one firm, West Salem Fuel company, has kept trucks rolling all through the cold weather, but reported Monday that supplies were running low.

Freeze Halts Mills
Most firms were reporting near depletion of green and dry wood supplies. Continued closures of milling operations in the area have cut off any possibility of new fuel sources until a general thaw. Press-Loags, a by-product of sawdust, were being rationed to customers at 25 each because of the lack of raw materials.

One Salem area citizen volunteered some assistance for sawdust consumers. Fifty units, purchased last year at a loose soil in his orchard south of Salem, are offered to persons with hauling facilities. Information may be acquired by calling 3-5329.

The long cold spell was causing some damage to berry canes, the county agent reported Monday. Some splits in cane berry plants have been noted and isolated cases of ice-split fruit were reported. Though an accurate estimate of damage is difficult at this time, it is expected to be light.

Falls Frozen Beauty
While cold weather was causing unemployment, frigid houses and whittling northern power supplies, it was adding a note of beauty too. Hundreds of week end motorists visited Silver Falls state park, where snow and freezing temperatures have turned the falls into a virtual winter wonderland. A fantasy in ice has been produced by frozen spray from the falls which has coated surrounding trees and bushes. Some icicles were 25 feet long.

Persons planning to make the scenic tour of the park are warned that parts of the Silver Falls loop highway are covered with packed snow. Sanding operations, however, make chains unnecessary.

Rivers Go Lower
The Willamette river, its tributaries slowed by the freeze, was down to an unusual winter low of minus 8 feet at the lowest power stream levels forecast ahead for the northwest's overtaxed power system.

Fred G. Starrett, Salem manager of Portland General Electric company, said Monday that the power shortage is worse in some respects than at any time in the past. He renewed appeals to businessmen and householders to take every possible measure to conserve electrical energy.

Hammond Will Resign Post

PORTLAND, Jan. 24-(AP)—William H. Hammond, state liquor administrator for the last two years, said today he would resign within 60 days.

Hammond said he had written his decision to Carl W. Hogg, Salem, new chairman of the state liquor commission. He said the resignation could take effect at your convenience, but in any event, not later than 60 days from this date.

He added that the new commission "should be given a completely free hand in the selection for this position."

Hammond, appointed by the late Gov. Earl Snell on Jan. 1, 1947, said he was considering several openings in private business.

LABOR ACTION SET

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24-(AP)—Democrats rammed through the senate labor committee, 8 to 5, today a resolution calling for repeal of the Taft-Hartley act — and opening the way for a ramping of the old Wagner act at the same time.

'Haylift' Begun To Feed Cattle Now Marooned

By the Associated Press
A new airlift and \$100,000 in emergency funds were thrown Monday into the battle for relief of snowbound humans and cattle in the nation's hard-hit range-lands. (Pictures on pages 2 and 9.)

President Truman made immediately available \$100,000 in emergency funds even as 17 air force C-52 "flying boxcars" began "operation haylift" to feed more than 2,000,000 snow-bound sheep and cattle. Each plane carries five tons of hay.

Fifty thousand dollars was allocated to the bureau of Indian affairs for use in relieving the hardship of thousands of Indians on western reservations. The other \$50,000 was turned over to the land management bureau of the interior department to help supply feed for the livestock.

Tons of hay for starving livestock were brought into Ely, Nev., by the air force. Most roads out of the snowbound area were still buried under snow and all available equipment and manpower was thrown into the battle to get fodder to the livestock.

The air force has resumed a similar air lift started in the Nebraska-South Dakota region after the January 2 blizzard.

Temperatures in Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska plummeted Monday. The cold wave from Canada brought 40 below zero to Bozeman, Mont., and Casper, Wyo.; Scottsbluff, Neb., had 14 below; Rapid City, S. D., -19.

No relief was forecast until Tuesday.

Among places snow-locked and in need of food and fuel Fifth army headquarters listed O'Neill, Neb., and Philip and Martin, S. D.

Several other communities remained cut off by snow in the North Platte and Grand Island areas of Nebraska.

Secretary of Agriculture Brannan outlined it to the committee at a closed session, and Thomas told reporters afterward that he would introduce legislation to back it up.

As announced by Thomas, Brannan's plan calls for serving notice on wheat and cotton farmers that the 1949 crops they plant will not be considered part of their average production in figuring any future acreage allotments.

Avoidance of Crop Surplus Brannan Plan

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24-(AP)—An administration plan to hold down this year's wheat and cotton crops was disclosed today by Chairman Elmer Thomas (D-Okla.) of the senate agriculture committee.

Secretary of Agriculture Brannan outlined it to the committee at a closed session, and Thomas told reporters afterward that he would introduce legislation to back it up.

As announced by Thomas, Brannan's plan calls for serving notice on wheat and cotton farmers that the 1949 crops they plant will not be considered part of their average production in figuring any future acreage allotments.

Thomas said the purpose is to "discourage large plantings of wheat and cotton."

Jobless Filings Highest Since Prewar

More jobless persons filed for unemployment compensation benefits at the Salem office last week than in any single week the state unemployment compensation commission reported Monday.

The total came to 5,670, shattering the previous record of 4,898 of three weeks ago. Of the claims filed last week 1,881 were those of unemployed veterans and 3,789 of jobless civilians. Only 2,927 claims were filed at this time last year in the Salem area.

The large number of jobless was laid mostly to the current continued freezing weather which has shut down nearly all lumber and log operations in this area. A poor

farm harvest last fall and in-migration to the Willamette valley from out of state also are contributing factors, a commission spokesman said.

W. H. Baillie, manager of the Salem office, revealed Monday his office and branches in Marion and Polk counties conducted 133,304 interviews in 1948. The total is believed to be a record for the local office.

A total of \$109,313 in benefits has been paid out so far this month in the Polk-Marion area. This is higher than the total for any month in 1948 except December's \$112,865.

The unemployment commission expects January's payments to total about \$140,000 — which will be another all-time high since the war's beginning.

Last week's record filing only 257 were claims for benefits on out-of-state earnings. The rest were from residents of Marion or Polk counties for the past 12 months or longer, the commission reported.

Under a new program, initiated this week, claimants at the Salem office will file claims once each week instead of every other week. The office went on the bi-weekly schedule last September after UCC appropriations had been cut and office personnel released.

Other Willamette valley offices will go on the weekly claim schedule early in February, it was reported.