

Portland Papers Halted by Strike

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 11—(AP)—This city's two daily newspapers ceased publication today when the AFL web pressmen struck. Both the Oregonian and the Journal kept their editorial and composing rooms running as usual. But the presses were unable to roll. The pressmen, who postponed a strike last week, walked out at 11:30 a. m. when the Journal's first edition was being printed. They held a 3 1/2-hour meeting in the Labor Temple, and emerged to announce they would not return to work. "Negotiations with the publishers have completely bogged down, and the union unanimously voted not to work until a contract has been composed by both parties," said K. L. Buxton, member of the union's scale committee. Spokesmen for management said the walkout came as a surprise. A statement said, "The publishers twice formally offered to arbitrate all issues in dispute, but both offers were rejected." The pressmen's contract expired January 31, and the two factions have been unable to agree on new contract terms. The union asked a weekly pay increase of \$22.50 for day shifts and \$26.50 for night shifts, which would put the weekly scale at \$110 and \$115. It also wants the day shift to be cut from 7 1/2 to 7 hours, the night shift from 7 to 6, three weeks vacation, and a publisher-financed pension plan.

Legislature Handed 50 New Bills Before Holiday

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman
The senate and house received 50 new bills Friday, completed action on all the comparatively minor measures up for passage, and then gave themselves what possibly will be their last week-end holiday of the 45th legislative session. The tax program—key problem for 1949—still was in the confines of committee rooms. Monday will be the 36th day of the session. Legislative pay stops after the 50th.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague
When pictures of a purported design for the Marion county courthouse were published ten days ago they drew a chorus of criticism. "A monument," it was exclaimed. Later the architect, Pietro Belluschi, quite mortified that the pictures had been printed, explained that the drawings were merely illustrations of how the building mass would appear if the tentative floor plans were adopted. The complete exterior elevation will not be done until the last. Most of the effort of county officials and the architect has gone into designing the building interior, and very definitely the planning is not that of a monument, but of an efficient arrangement of departments and intelligent distribution of space. Of course a public building of the character of a courthouse should be imposing to the view. It should appeal to the public's sense of proportion and of beauty, though we must realize that styles in architecture change. A primary consideration is not just how the building looks from the outside but how well it "works" on the inside. To be considered is not merely the convenience of those who work in the courthouse, but how smoothly the public patronizing the offices will (Continued on editorial page)

Truman's Tax Plan Delayed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—(AP)—Congress put President Truman's \$4,000,000,000 tax plan on the shelf today. But a democratic leader said this was no "brush-off" and that it will be considered at the "proper time." Despite administration demands for immediate action on the big tax increase, the house ways and means committee voted to give priority to Mr. Truman's proposals for a multi-billion dollar expansion of the social security program. Chairman Doughton (D-NC) said his group will open hearings February 28 on the administration plan to add 20,000,000 persons to the social security rolls and to boost the old age and insurance benefits by at least 50 per cent.

TAX REFUND GRANTED

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11—(AP)—The U. S. circuit court of appeal ruled today that the estate of C. Benjamin Spender, Oregon Packing company owner, is entitled to a tax refund of \$78,659 on 1943-44 business losses.

Animal Crackers



"Abe Lincoln freed the South from slavery—hah!"

Bonneville Plea Includes Fund for Salem Substations

Additions to Salem substations costing \$131,000 are included in the \$8,072,000 in additional funds Bonneville power administration is requesting this year. Administrator Paul J. Raver said construction costs which have risen 20 per cent above estimates are the reasons for the request for added appropriations. "Increased funds are primarily necessary to prevent delays in completing critical transmission facilities to bring new Grande Coulee power into coastal load centers of Washington and Oregon," Raver said.

Bill to Permit Merger Voted

Legislative action to permit Salem and West Salem to merge was more than half completed today. The house, which already had passed four of the series of five permissive measures, Friday approved and sent to the senate the fifth and "key" bill which provides that cities shall be considered to have common river boundaries if they are separated by no more than 1,500 feet, "along, across or over" a slough or river. Final approval of the bill would eliminate Minto's island as a legal obstacle to merger.

Haylift Airplane Stands Still in Wind

OMAHA, Feb. 11—(AP)—When it blows in Wyoming, it really blows. Blizzard relief officials here told today of a haylift plane at Casper, Wyo., which virtually stood still in the air to drop its cargo. "Flying at an air speed of 95 miles per hour, the plane bucked headwinds ranging from 90 to 105 miles per hour, and was able to drop 28 bales of hay, one after the other, on the virtually the same spot.

Ex-Florence Police Chief Forfeits \$100 in Bail

FLORENCE, Feb. 11—(AP)—A. R. White, the erstwhile Florence police chief who was charged with disorderly conduct and then fired, has forfeited his \$100 bail. White failed to appear in court for trial on the disorderly conduct complaint yesterday. He has not been in town since the fight which led to the complaint.

Looking for a House?

You'll find excellent buying opportunities in the Statesman Classified columns. Look at the offerings, check their locations, prices, building styles. Talk with owners or agents and cruise around this week end. Perhaps you'll find the "house of your dreams" just ready for you. Shop the Classified To place an ad in the Statesman call 2-2441 and ask for "Classified."

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Colder Weather Eases Flood Threat in Valley

This Quagmire Once Was Road



What once was a good, solid gravel road in Marion county is now only a quagmire with holes 20 inches deep. The intersection is of the Chemawa-Claxier roads. The same condition exists throughout the Willamette valley as a result of the long freeze. (Statesman photo). (Additional photos on page 5).

County to Ease Month-old Load Limit on Roads

By Conrad G. Fraage
Staff Writer, The Statesman
Although Marion county roads have experienced their worst winter in the past 50 years, the ban on heavy traffic is expected to be partially lifted Monday. The court order has been in effect for about one month. It prohibits traffic heavier than passenger cars from operating on any road in Marion county. The order was issued in an effort to prevent further damage to roads breaking up in the thawing periods. "We have not decided yet which roads to open to traffic," said Marion County Commissioner Roy Rice. "Probably the court will permit necessary travel on a number of selected roads rather than open many roads to all traffic."

Hit-Run Driver in Albany Strikes Car, Truck, House

ALBANY, Feb. 11—(AP)—Striking a car, truck and a house didn't slow down a hit-run driver here tonight. He left scattered wreckage along the route, drove down the railroad tracks for a block and kept right on going. Albany police said the hit-run car struck a car and truck in front of 730 E. 1st street, damaging both vehicles. It proceeded on and knocked down the outside stairs of the Wilbur Wittey residence next door. The whole house was shaken by the crash. Both sides of the hit-run car were damaged, police said. A front fender and two hub caps from the car were scattered along the route of destruction.

Russians to State Claims To Antarctic

By Eddy Gilmore
MOSCOW, Feb. 11—(AP)—Soviet Russia probably will make an official declaration shortly of what she considers her rights and interests in the Antarctic, icy storehouse of potential mineral wealth. The all-union geographic society has asked for such a declaration to foreign powers interested in the Antarctic and the request was given major attention in the Soviet press today. The official Soviet news agency Tass distributed it. Newspapers reported a possibility the region holds uranium, which is used in making atomic bombs. The United States, Britain and France, the western members of the Big Four, are among the powers interested in the Antarctic. Others are Norway (which is studying the idea of joining the projected North Atlantic alliance), Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Chile. Soviet Antarctic claims are based on discoveries by Russian explorers dating back 130 years. The point is made here that the Russian explorer Fadaei (Fabian) Bellingshausen and Lt. Michael Lazarev, sent out by Alexander I in 1819, disproved a number of theories of other Antarctic explorers such as British Captain James Cook, who set out in 1772 on a two-year expedition.

Woman Drives on 'Impassable' Roads, Asks Aid for Cattle

VALE, Feb. 11—(AP)—A woman who refused to give up drove 60 miles through "impassable" snow-bound country which had stalled trucks and bulldozers today in an army surplus weapons carried to ask help in feeding isolated livestock. Mrs. C. N. Tiffin and two ranch hands reached Harper by zig-zagging from snowdrifted roads into fields of sagebrush. They passed a stalled bulldozer and county truck before reaching the town. At one point she and the hands signaled a plane to appeal for gas. But before the plane returned, she managed to siphon gas from a stalled truck.

South Salem Club Opposes Traffic Plan

Definite opposition to the proposal for one-way streets in Salem was voiced at a meeting of the South Salem Progress club Friday night. Clayton Jones, chairman of the board, said that particularly as called at the session was the state engineer's proposal to make South Commercial and South Liberty streets one-way. Jones declared downtown Salem would "die" eventually if that plan were adopted "because within 10 years the one-way streets would be inefficient and the route through town would have to be moved east of the capitol." He said that an 80-foot right-of-way for a four-lane highway on South Commercial could be obtained from Superior street to downtown Salem for \$200,000 (the state estimate was \$1,000,000) "because many property owners would donate some of their land for the improvement to keep this end of the town alive." (It is from Superior street north that the one-way plan was suggested.) Jones said it was stressed at the meeting too, that all such highway improvements came out of gasoline and motor-vehicle taxes—not a property levy.

Plan Tells 'How to Pay Taxes Without Money'

PORTLAND, Feb. 11—(AP)—A Portland carpenter filed an initiative petition in Salem today for a system he contended would enable people to pay taxes without spending any money. Raymond J. Beach, Portland, said his credit-creating scheme had been a hobby of his since depression years. He said he published a book last year—"Painless Taxation Coming Up"—about it. Beach described his plan this way: John Jones gets his property tax bill from the sheriff. Jones goes to an organization which would be called "citizens credit service association" and presents the bill. The association issues a certificate, covering the tax, sends it to the sheriff. The sheriff deposits the certificate in the bank, and the bank is supposed to consider it actual money and credit it to the county's account. Beach said his initiative would instruct the legislature to authorize such a system. The petition describes itself as providing for a constitutional amendment "to implement setup of two new legal institutions, empowered to issue monetary credit and legalized dollars of negotiable character upon deposit of approved evidences of value delivered, supplemented by citizen request and authorization."

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Sub-Zero Winds Hit Midwest

Snow flurries and ice replaced Salem's brief rain and thaw Friday. And more snow and colder temperatures were on the way weathermen predicted. The returning cold ended any threat of a major flood for the time being, but the combination of flood damage and ensuing freeze left some rural Oregon families isolated behind impassable roads. Slides caused by the heavy rain Wednesday and Thursday kept two major highways—the Santiam and Columbia River routes—closed Friday. Highways over Columbia for an eight or nine week period, was named today as expected for Saturday and Sunday mornings. Salem was expected to have a low of 26 degrees this morning. A colder 22-degree low was forecast for early Sunday. Widely scattered snow showers were also expected in the area.

Planes Dispatched

Two national guard planes were dispatched to Ontario to fly hay and cottonseed cake to isolated stock southwest of Ontario. Hundreds of thousands of stock were in dire straits in southern Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota as the west's record winter continued.

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Ike Recalled to Service to Head Joint Chiefs of Staff

Ike Confers With Forrestal



WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower (right) president of Columbia university and former chief of U. S. army general staff, talks with Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal at the Pentagon Bldg., Washington. Eisenhower, who is on leave from Columbia for an eight or nine week period, was named today as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman).

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Eisenhower to Tackle Task of Service 'Feud'

By Roger D. Greene
WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—(AP)—President Truman disclosed today that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has been recalled to the nation's service as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.

The White House gave no inkling of any new critical turn in world events in connection with the appointment. Mr. Truman's announcement said Gen. Eisenhower had been assigned "temporarily" to his new role and it was planned that it would be of "relatively" short duration.

Chiefs of Staff

The joint chiefs of staff are the chiefs of staff of the army, navy, air force and the chief of staff to the president. Officials said one of Eisenhower's chief tasks will undoubtedly center in ending the old "feud" among the army, navy and air force. Eisenhower undoubtedly will also deal with the military aid program for the western European nations in bulwarking their defenses against communism. The White House announcement was made through Eben A. Ayers, assistant presidential press secretary.

Given Temporary Leave

Columbia university announced on Monday night that it had given Eisenhower temporary leave to help the national military establishment for a period of several weeks. A reporter asked Ayers if any "worsening of the international situation" had prompted Eisenhower's return. Ayers replied: Not to his knowledge. With five stars, Gen. Eisenhower will outrank the three four-star staff chiefs, Army General Omar Bradley, Air General Hoyt Vandenberg and Navy Admiral Louis E. Denfeld.

Newsman Says Norway Casts Lot with West

(Editor's note: Daniel de Luce, former war correspondent and veteran overseas reporter for the Associated Press, is making a tour of Scandinavia. Personally familiar with the foreign scene from the Balkans, the Red Sea, he tells in the following dispatch his position in the East-West cold war.)

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THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	42	29	.03
Portland	38	26	.08
San Francisco	51	38	.48
Chicago	41	14	.00
New York	35	20	.00

Willamette river 11.3 feet
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy today; tonight and tomorrow with a few widely scattered snow flurries today. High today near 42. Low tonight near 22.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

Year	Last Year	Average
This Year	26.47	24.72