

House Votes to Split School Aid Appeals

Plans Laid to Rescue 10 Miners Marooned Since January Above Elkhorn

Plans are underway to reach 10 miners marooned since early January far up on the little north fork of the Santiam river above Elkhorn.

The plight of the men was reported Friday by Jesse J. Trippett, one of the miners, who snowshoed 11 miles to the outside. The men are employed by the Pacific Mining and Smelting company. Trippett hiked 11 miles from the mine camp to the Ken Randall guest ranch at Elkhorn.



By Charles A. Sprague

Recent sessions of the legislature have made a good many changes in laws governing party organizations. Most of them have been at instigation of party leaders, but not all of the changes have worked out well.

The first important change, made about a decade ago, was the reorganization of both sexes as precinct committeemen and on the county and state committees. Another change was to make the chairmen and vice chairmen of the county committees to constitute the state committee. The argument for this was that the county officials had to do most of the party campaign work and should make up the state committee. Still another change was to shift the dates for electing precinct committeemen from the May primaries to the November election and then move the time for organizing the county and state committees from mid-summer after the primaries to a period following the November election. The argument for this was that there was too little time for the party to organize and stage the fall campaign.

Strong opposition to this last change comes from the county clerks. They have to prepare separate party ballots for these precinct offices for the general election. Often no candidates have been filed and they have to print blanks on the ballots for names to be written in. When precinct committeemen are elected in May names or blank spaces go on the regular party ballot. This is much less expensive to the counties.

An easy solution for this would be to hold the party election at the May primaries but delay the reorganization until the first of the (Continued on editorial page)

State Employees Back Plan to 'Fire Loafers'

The Oregon State Employees Association through its executive secretary, Forest V. Stewart, Friday expressed accord with Gov. Douglas McKay's and State Treasurer Walter Pearson's request to "fire the loafers" and raise wages of other employees in the state government.

"The association is founded on the basis of working towards improvement in public service, and is interested in being a part of efficient departments, bureaus and institutions," Stewart said.

Stewart cited the difficult problems in recent years to obtain trained personnel. When these problems are added to a rapidly growing state and increased demands for service, it is remarkable the efficiency achieved, Stewart said.

McKay and Pearson asked the legislative salary committee Thursday to weed out inefficient personnel and boost the salaries of the others substantially.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Your father was a wild, reckless sort, and quite a gambler—why, he even ate diced carrots!"

Spring Planting Is Warm Work

Even February's sun is a little warm when a person is out digging in the ground getting ready for spring planting. Mrs. J. G. Thornton, 876 N. Liberty st., is shown above pausing for a glass of cool, Salem water while getting out in the sun. (Photo by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer).



North Santiam Highway Open To Light Travel

The North Santiam highway, from Santiam Junction to Bend, was open to traffic again today, for the first time since February 10.

A slide at Hogg Rock had been cleared enough to allow one-way traffic, according to the state highway department. Chains are required now, and load limits will be imposed, officials said.

It was hoped that "tight" two-way traffic would be possible at that point this morning. The South Santiam remained blocked by an avalanche at Cougar ridge, 13 miles west of Hogg rock and west of the junction. The department had received no reports as to progress of clearing this slide.

Meanwhile, Hamman Stage lines of Salem sent its Bend-bound bus out Friday, the first on the route. Driver Ben Hauck had to shovel his way westward across the Cascades on February 7. Manager Floyd Hamman said buses had only run to Idanha since then.

The North Santiam road was open to two-way traffic all the way to Santiam Junction, though some spots were narrow. On toward Bend, there was one-way traffic around the half-mile slide and at a few other spots to the east.

Snow was packed and nearly 200 inches deep near the junction. Sunny weather of the past few days has aided road crews somewhat but has also caused daily thawing and freezing of the snow, according to the highway department.

Heavy traffic is already blocked from the Salem side, with a 50 per cent load limit east of Mehama, allowing a gross of not more than 38,000 pounds on any axle. Restrictions will also be imposed on westbound vehicles from Sisters.

FORMULA A LA TRUCK

PORTLAND, Feb. 25-(P)—Tired of preparing baby formula; in this town you can order it, just like a bottle of milk. A new company—Baby's Milk Formula Service Inc.—delivers formulas, made according to each family's prescription, to the door.

Bugs, Diseases Survived Cold Weather, Tree Growers Told

By Lillie L. Madsen Farm Editor, The Statesman Insects as a whole are so well insulated that the cold weather has had practically no damaging effect on them, and the same holds true of diseases. The only accomplishment of the cold weather so far as fruit trees are concerned is that it has weakened them, making them more susceptible to both insects and diseases.

These statements were made Friday afternoon by Sidney Jones, Adin P. Steenland, both of Oregon State college, as they spoke to more than one hundred fruit tree growers at the Salem Chamber of Commerce.

Besides the prevalent cherry fruit flyworm, a new pest, the European spruce sawfly, has been found in cherries in the valley. Professor Jones said. Brown—rot blossom blight was described as the most serious disease.

More plantings of better and earlier varieties are needed in the Willamette valley, Dr. Quentin Zielinski, associate horticulturist at the college, told the fruit growers. Three new varieties recommended by him were Red Haven, ripening between July 7 and 14;

Weather Bureau Waxes Rhetorical over Spring

Spring weather stayed with Oregon for a second day yesterday and jolted even the weather bureau out of its statistical code. The official weather forecast, which never grows more lyrical than "fair-cloudy-rain," called the outlook at Timberline lodge "fair and pleasant." And, unofficially, the forecaster gloated: "The weather is beautiful all over the place."

He didn't mention Helix, which is still covered with nearly a half-foot of mud from a flash flood earlier this week. Road crews were still cleaning up that flooded Eastern Oregon section.

The Willamette river began dropping again Friday after cresting below flood stage Thursday night. The river reading Friday night was 16.7 feet at Salem.

Salem residents basked in their second day of above 60-degree temperatures at 61. The temperature soared to 66 at Medford and Roseburg; 63 at Eugene and Newport; 62 at Portland, 56 at The Dalles, 50 at Grande, Pendleton and Bend.

Navy Plane Sets Mark by Carrying 222 Passengers

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Feb. 25-(P)—A navy flying boat set a passenger-load world's record for airplanes today and then broke it. The transport Caroline Mars took off at 7:10 p. m. for Alameda, Calif., with 222 persons aboard.

This was less than three hours after it arrived from Alameda with 207 aboard—203 navy men being transferred and four crew men. There were 218 transferee passengers and four crew men heading north. The estimated time of arrival at Alameda was 11:02 p. m. Navy public information officers said the aviation year book showed the previous high was 169 persons—carried by a 12-engine German Dornier plane in a flight over Lake Constance, Switzerland, in 1929.

Slips Don't Try Over, Redmond Council Rules REDMOND, Feb. 25-(P)—This town will have parking meters next Monday and the city is going to be tough about it. City councilmen decided against any grace period to allow citizens to get used to the meters. Fines will be levied upon the first mistake.

Table with 4 columns: Location, Max., Min., Precip. Rows include Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, and Willamette river.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to Feb. 26) This Year 34.44 Last Year 32.20 Average 28.94

State \$10 Auto Tax Bill Ready

By Wendell Webb Managing Editor, The Statesman

A move to assure quick aid for distressed districts brought a delay in a final decision on the \$15,000,000 school support measure Friday, but the senate wasted no time in voting 27 to 2 for repeal of the Oregon community property law.

The school and property issues were the major legislative problems of the day. The community property bill now goes to the house. The repeal was approved on the grounds the act no longer was necessary since enactment of similar federal statutes.

Meanwhile, a bill to levy an average annual \$10 property tax on all motor vehicles was ready for introduction by Rep. Earl Hill (r) of Cushman. The tax would produce \$6,000,000 a year, and the money would be given to cities and counties for road construction and maintenance.

Measure Postponed

Action on the school measure was postponed when the house adopted 56 to 4 a motion by Rep. Ben Day (r) of Medford that the Bill be split into two parts—one calling for the additional \$45 per census child (\$15,000,000 a year), which would be referred to the people, and the other providing for \$2,000,000 a year for two years to aid distressed school districts. The latter provision would not be referred for popular vote.

Day, who opposed the combined bill when the house voted 33 to 27 Thursday against adopting an adverse report, said he favored the split because he wanted distressed districts to receive aid immediately and was fearful the combined bill would be defeated at the polls even if it passed the senate and house.

It was known there was considerable opposition before Day's proposal reached the floor. A motion by Rep. J. O. Johnson (r) of Tigard to cut the support amount one-third was defeated.

Bill Boosts Benefits

The senate Friday passed and sent to the governor the house-approved bill boosting industrial pension benefits; lowering from 25 to 21 the age limit at Hillcrest school for girls, and increasing from \$75,000 to \$275,000 the state's participation in the Salem sewer system for its institutions. A bill passed and sent to the house its own bill letting school districts offer college extension courses in high school buildings.

The house, after considerable argument, passed and sent to the senate a bill approving a two-year moratorium on the measure approved last November, barring fish traps and set nets from the Columbia river. It also approved and sent to the senate measures lightening livestock branding laws; increasing poundage fees on commercial fish; allowing cities, counties and school districts to develop joint projects, and asking congress to maintain airports constructed during World War II.

Barring action on committee reports, neither the senate nor the house faced heavy calendars today. The house will meet at 9:30 a. m., the senate a half hour later. (Additional details page 3.)

Phone Firm Moving Offices

Business offices of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company will open in the new quarters at North Winter and Court streets Monday morning, H. V. Collins, district manager, announced Friday.

Remodelling of the State street office space to provide enlarged employe quarters and operating facilities will begin following the week-end move to the new building. The company's plant and traffic departments will also move into the new building at a later date.

Bureau to Clear Able-Bodied Men From Relief Rolls

PORTLAND, Feb. 25-(P)—The state public welfare commission decided today to remove all single able-bodied men from relief rolls by April 1.

Faced by a 17 per cent jump in costs of general assistance, the commission adopted a policy of confining such relief to the neediest group.

Welfare Administrator Loa Howard said that single, able-bodied men should be urged to seek seasonal employment, which should be more generally available by April.

GM Cuts Pay Scale; Uses Cost of Living Adjustment Clause of Union Contract

UAW Members Scan News of Wage Slice



DETROIT, Feb. 25—Production workers scan news of auto price cuts and a wage drop over a cafeteria lunch table at the Cadillac plant today. Workers are not identified. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman).

Dual Rocket Reaches 250 Miles into Sky

WHITE SANDS, N. M., Feb. 25-(P)—A mother-daughter rocket combination soared 250 miles above the earth to a new world record yesterday.

Made up of a Germany V-2 which took off with the smaller American-built WAC corporal in its nose, the 15-ton projectile also reached a record top speed of 5,000 miles per hour.

Actually, it was the WAC corporal which posted both marks. It was launched in the sky from the V-2 and carried on from an unstated height. The WAC corporal was shot by remote control.

These achievements were announced today by Brig. Gen. Philip G. Blackmore, commanding officer at the White Sands proving ground. His disclosure was the first regarding success of two-stage rocket experiments, begun nearly a year earlier.

The 250-mile altitude eclipsed a previous mark of 114 miles attained in the firing of another rebuilt German V-2 here Dec. 17, 1946.

A statement by General Blackmore described this as the greatest height "ever reached by a man-made object," and added: "At the peak of the flight the rocket was for all practical purposes outside the earth's atmosphere."

The new speed mark compared with 5,300 feet a second—or slightly over 3,600 miles an hour—which the 1946 V-W reached in —

Army to Double Alaska Force

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25-(P)—The army announced plans tonight to double its Alaskan force and to maintain its troop strength in the Far East at the same levels of a year ago.

At the same time it said U. S. army forces in Europe will be cut slightly under the deployment schedule for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Under this schedule the army will have 127,000 men in the Far East, 13,200 in Alaska and 92,000 in Europe. All told it will have 258,000 men overseas out of a total of 677,000 allowed under the proposed new budget.

Reduction of Car Prices Accompanies Pay Slice

DETROIT, Feb. 25-(P)—General Motors startled the auto industry today with a price cut tied mainly to a wage reduction for its 273,000 production workers.

The price cuts range from \$10 to \$40 on cars and trucks. They are effective immediately. The wage reduction commencing March 1, is two cents an hour. It is made automatically under the unique GM-CIO United Auto Workers contract that adjusts wages quarterly to the government's cost of living index.

Besides the hourly-rated workers some 68,000 GM salaried employes lose \$10 of the \$40 cost of living allowance they will receive during the next three months.

Shortly before GM's price cut announcement, the UAW-CIO in announcing acceptance of the wage reduction, called for an immediate price cut. It said the index drop indicated "that prices are on the way down."

Carrying out the price reductions, Chevrolet cut all models \$10; Pontiac all models \$15; Oldsmobile \$15 and \$20; Buick \$16 to \$30 and Cadillac \$25 to \$40.

It was the first time since the war that GM has cut prices. It was also the first time in the industry's volume production era that a price cut had been coupled with a wage reduction.

Two years ago, moving contrary to industry trends, Henry Ford II announced a price cut of from \$15 to \$50. He described it as a move to halt inflationary spirals. With six months, however, Ford increased prices. Every car maker since has raised prices three or four times. Only two days ago Chrysler Corp. announced increase ranging from \$16.35 to \$252.

The most recent GM increase came with the introduction of new models over the last several months. They ranged from \$40 to \$370, although the latter figure included standardizing of automatic transmission, which normally costs around \$200.

In announcing the price reductions General Motors President C. E. Wilson said they were resigned to "pass along to consumers the savings resulting from both the downward adjustment of wage and salary payments and the lowered cost of certain material items."

In a statement issued at UAW-CIO headquarters the price cuts were described as "piddling," and "another instance of too little, too late."

"If GM had shown the same modesty in increasing prices as they now show in price reductions," the statement said, "the American people would not still be paying Cadillac prices to buy a Chevrolet."

2 Churchmen Plead Guilty in Bulgaria

By Dimitar Mischev

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Feb. 25-(P)—Two of 15 protestant churchmen charged with treason pleaded guilty at the opening of the trial today and said they had spied for the United States.

The others are to be called to the stand later, one by one. The Rev. Nikola Naumov, a Baptist minister dressed in the black garb of his calling, said he began espionage work for western powers in 1938. He said "I am guilty."

The Rev. Yanko Nikolov Ivanov, a short, bald Methodist pastor, followed him to the stand near the end of the day's session. "I plead guilty," he said. The voices of both were clear and firm.

(A Washington report—from a source that diplomatic officials said they deemed credible—said Ivanov, who has a withered leg, was tortured by being forced to stand under guard without support during pre-trial questioning.)

Danes Warned To Avoid Pact

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, Saturday, Feb. 26-(P)—The Polish legation here warned Denmark last night through the semi-official Danish press agency to keep clear of the proposed North Atlantic defense pact.

The statement, apparently an official demarche (diplomatic declaration of intention) to Denmark, is unusual in that it has not yet been delivered to the Danish ministry of foreign affairs.

It says Poland takes great interest in not having the Baltic sea and its bordering countries become a basis for "imperialistic" plans endangering the peaceful cooperation of Baltic states.

Portland Newspaper Employes Ask Court Injunction End Strike

PORTLAND, Feb. 25-(P)—Eight employes of the Oregonian asked circuit court today to end the AFL pressmen's strike which has halted publication of both daily newspapers here.

The group—all but one of whom work in the classified advertising department—filed suit against the AFL web pressmen, asking an injunction to end the strike.

They also asked the court to compensate them and other employes for damages sustained between February 19 and the end of the strike.

It was on February 19 that the two newspapers laid off their staffs. The pressmen had walked out the day before.

The strike came after pressmen and management failed to agree on either contract terms or arbitration methods. The Portland labor-management committee met with both sides today, in the hope of finding common ground to resume negotiations.

"Enough Calls to Start a Store"

Use of a two-line Statesman want-ad brought results like spring showers to a Statesman advertiser. Here was her ad:

WILL PAY CASH for good used piano. Ph. 2-7742.

The first day it appeared she called up. "Take it out. I've had enough calls to start a second hand store."

If you have something to sell . . . If you want to buy something like spring showers to a Statesman advertiser. Here was her ad: Dial 2-2441 and ask for "Classified."

Use . . . and shop Statesman Classified