

Sports Editor Al Lightner tells all about the Salem Senators in The Statesman's new 16-page comic-feature section Sunday.



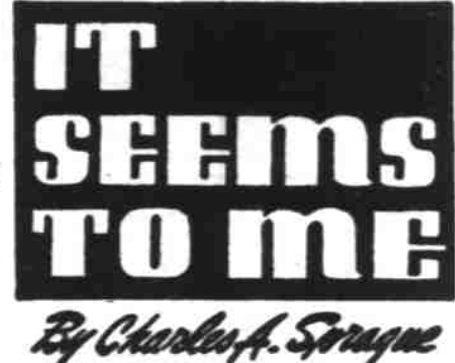
Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Precip. and locations like Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago.

Reds Cross Yangtze; Death Toll 27 on British Ships

Cherryland Fete Court Selection Tonight

Soviet Offer to End Blockade Rumored

By Thomas A. Reedy. BERLIN, April 20-(AP)—A high German official declared today Soviet Russia is ready to propose a German settlement, including lifting of the Berlin blockade...



A Woodburn subscriber sends in two clippings about the Portland General Electric company. One reports that gross income for 1948 exceeded that of 1947 by 12.6 per cent...

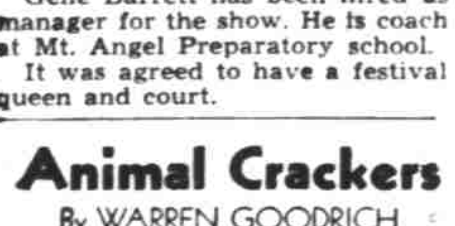
The hearing on the proposed increased rates is now being held by Commissioner George H. Flagg in Portland. The company is presenting its case...

The theory of rate regulation is that the company is entitled to a "fair return" on its investment. What that investment rate base is, often is the subject of bitter controversy...

Flax Festival Dates Revised

MT. ANGEL, April 20-(Special) Dates for the 1949 Oregon Flax festival, sponsored by Mt. Angel Business Men's club, have been changed from the first week end in August to July 29-31...

Animal Crackers



Of course as time goes on you can add more bunks. Animal Crackers by Warren Goodrich.

16 Girls To Vie in Judging

Salem Cherryland festival's court of five princesses will be chosen tonight at ceremonies in Salem high school auditorium. Sixteen senior girls from as many high schools throughout Marion and Polk counties will appear during the public program for judging...

Diplomat



WASHINGTON, April 20—Vice Admiral Alan G. Kirk, 60, retired naval officer, was nominated today by President Truman as ambassador to Russia.

Adm. Alan Kirk Nominated as Envoy to Soviet

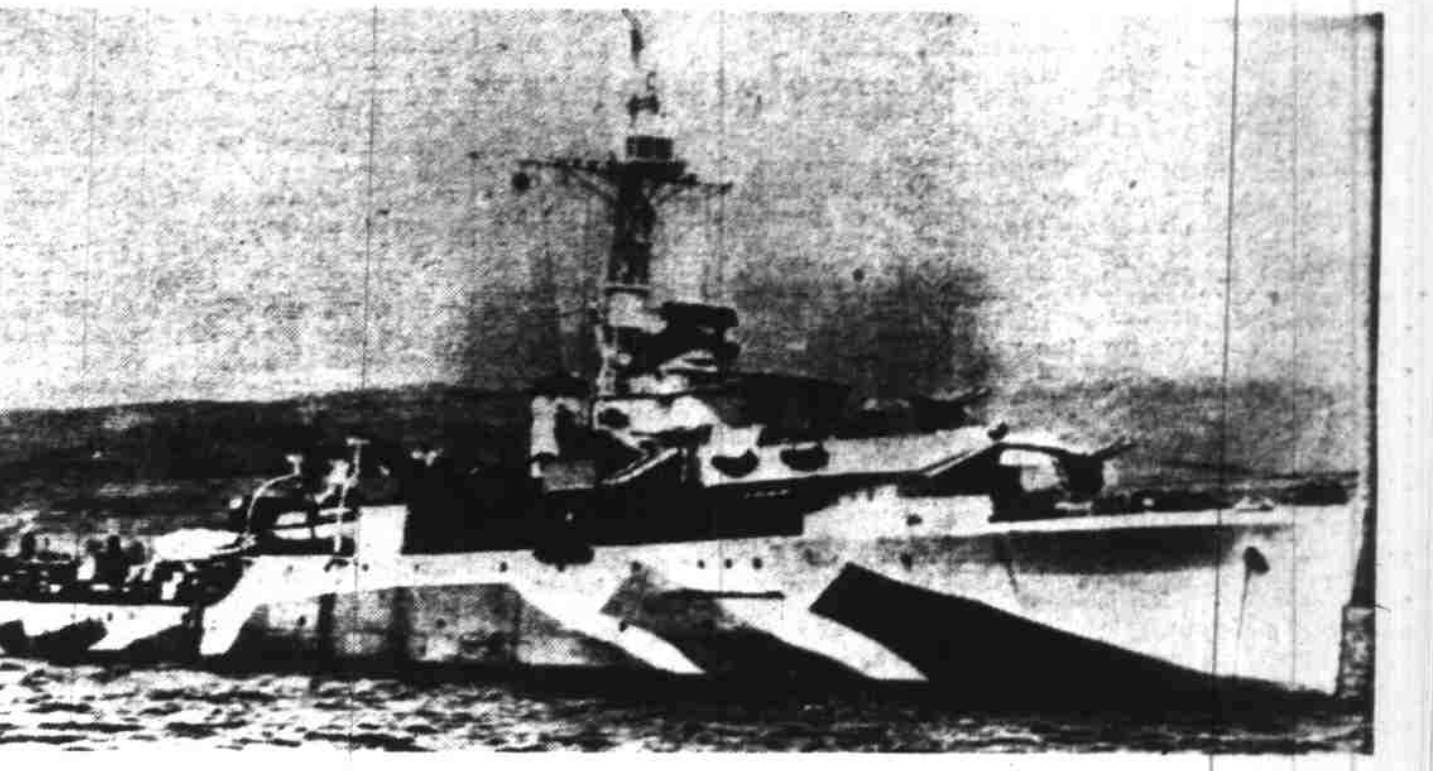
By Francis J. Kelly. WASHINGTON, April 20-(AP)—Vice Admiral Alan G. Kirk, poker-faced sailor-diplomat, was named ambassador to Russia today as the United States held the door open for any real peace move by Moscow.

Job Rolls, Earnings Decline

WASHINGTON, April 20-(AP)—The nation's economic barometer continued today to show falling tendencies as government reports noted drops last month in factory employment as well as in workers' earnings.

At the same time a federal economist warned that the country faces an eventual depression unless businessmen change present plans for cutting down on industrial expansion.

But in the face of this, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder maintained "We don't have the elements that brought on depression and depression crises in the past." These were highlight developments on the economic front:



Shelled by Reds SHANGHAI, April 20—The British naval sloop Amethyst (above) was shelled and grounded by Chinese guns as it moved through the Yangtze river between Nanking and Shanghai today. (AP Wirephoto via radio from London to The Statesman).

China Reds Drive on 400-Mile Front; 3rd Ship Said Under Fire

NANKING, Thursday, April 21 (AP)—The communists crossed the Yangtze today. A spokesman for the Nationalist government's defense ministry said the Reds surged across the great river at Tikang about 80 miles southwest of Nanking, the capital.

Congressman Dies In Crash of Jet Plane

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., April 20-(AP)—Rep. Robert Lewis Coffey, Jr., of Pennsylvania, decorated wartime fighter pilot, was killed instantly at 4:30 p. m. today when his jet fighter crashed here.

By Fred Hampson SHANGHAI, Thursday, April 21-(AP)—Foreign naval sources said a third British warship was shelled today on the Yangtze by communist artillery.

First radio reports said the sloop Black Swan had been damaged and that she had suffered 18 or more casualties. Later, however, British naval sources here said they had not been informed of either damage or casualties aboard the ship.

Special Tax Election Slated At Silverton

SILVERTON, April 20-(Special)—Lloyd Larsen, chairman of the Silverton district school board, said Wednesday it will be necessary to ask voters for a special tax levy of \$34,275.84, in excess of the 6 per cent limitation, in order to balance the budget for 1949-50.

Phone Company to Seek \$395 Million To Aid Expansion

NEW YORK, April 20-(AP)—American Telephone & Telegraph Co. stockholders today authorized directors to raise \$395,000,000 in new capital to finance further expansion of the Bell system.

Statesman Sets Pace

The Oregon Statesman, keeping well abreast of the rapidly growing area it is proud to serve, will place Salem and our neighbors in their rightful metropolitan status so far as newspaper service is concerned.

Pilot Sucked Through Door of Plane into Space

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, April 20-(AP)—An air transport co-pilot who tried to stuff a blanket around the plane's drafty door was jerked out to an almost certain death over Alaska waters last night. He fell an estimated 3,500 feet. The victim was Dave Hyskye of Los Angeles, a crew member of a Sourdough Air Transport company C-47.

Stayton Telephones Extended to Cutoff

STAYTON, April 20—The crew of the Stayton Telephone company is building a new line which is being called the Cutoff Telephone company.

Robeson Tells Pro-Red 'Peace' Meet 'U.S. Negroes Will Never Fight Russ'

By Joseph E. Dynan. PARIS, April 20-(AP)—Paul Robeson, American negro singer, told the communist-inspired world peace congress today that American negroes would never fight the soviet union. His resonant voice injected the first fire into an otherwise monotonous opening session that heard repeated attacks on the Atlantic pact, the U. S. atomic policy, the Marshall plan and "Anglo-American capitalist imperialism" from a series of speakers.

Silverton to Play Host to County 4-H Spring Show Next Week

By Lillie L. Madsen. FARM Editor, The Statesman. SILVERTON, April 21—More than 1,000 youngsters, their families and friends will be welcomed in Silverton April 25 to 29 when the big four-day Marion County 4-H Spring show will be held there. This is the first time the show has been held out of Salem, Washington Irving building, a former school building now city owned, will be headquarters for the show and all exhibits will be displayed in the chamber of commerce rooms on the second floor.

Bankers Demand Controversy Over Treasurer Job End

PORTLAND, April 20-(AP)—Multnomah county's muddled treasurer situation was still unsettled today as a committee of bankers warned they soon will refuse to honor county warrants.

Amethyst Refloat

A report received from the Amethyst early this morning said she was refloated last night by her own efforts.

Sought to Tow Ship

The Consort, however, continued. When the firing died down, she turned back from a position two miles below the Amethyst and closed to take the sloop in tow.

HENS WORKING HARDER

PORTLAND, April 20-(AP)—An increase in Oregon's egg production last month was reported today by the U. S. department of agriculture. Hens, numbering 3 per cent more than a year ago at this time, laid 9 per cent more eggs. The total: 50,000,000 eggs.

Shull Reported He Hoped He and Democratic Commissioner M. James Gleason Could Agree Within 24 Hours.

Shull, who yesterday said he was considering taking the treasurer job himself, indicated today he had changed his mind.

Casualties Were About 17 Killed and 20 Wounded.

A message received by the British naval attaché said about 60 of the Amethyst's crew — including four wounded — were making their way to the nearest large town.

This Message Said the Crewmen "Could Not Return Through Land Mine Fields" to their Ship.

The Shanghai spokesman said this indicated most of the ship's complement of about 150 men had been forced to evacuate the sloop temporarily to avoid casualties. The spokesman said all who could returned to the ship yesterday evening.