

Washington's Vet Bonus Held Constitutional

OLYMPIA, Nov. 5. (AP)—The Washington supreme court in a 5-4 decision today ruled the state's \$80,000,000 veterans bonus law constitutional.

The ruling removed the biggest obstacle for payment of the bonus. The state must now call for bids for the sale of the bonus bonds and set in motion pre-arranged plans for paying the bonus. An estimated 250,000 Washington veterans will be eligible.

The law provides that the state issue \$80,000,000 in bonds to pay a bonus to veterans of World War II who served between Dec. 7, 1941, and Sept. 2, 1945. It will pay \$10 a month for stateside service and \$15 a month for overseas duty.

On Cigaret Tax
The bonus will be paid off by preempting the present 10 per cent state tax on cigarettes and by levying an additional 10 per cent tax on them.

The court's decision overturned a Thurston county superior court ruling. The lower court had held the law passed by the 1949 legislature had not corrected the defects the high court found in ruling old bonus initiative No. 169 unconstitutional.

The majority overruled a big argument that the 1949 act would create a state debt in excess of the \$400,000 constitutional limit.

From Special Fund
The majority held the bonus bonds "are to be paid from a special fund and solely from anticipated revenues to be derived from the sale of cigarettes. They are not, and cannot be, a general obligation of the state."

The friendly suit against state officials to test the law's constitutionality was brought by Charles H. Gruen, a Seattle tobacco dealer. State officials have been barred from carrying out the bonus act's provisions under a temporary injunction issued by the superior court.

Two-Headed Calf Born in Wisconsin

MANITOWAC, Wis., Nov. 5. (AP)—If calves could speak, we might have the answer to the question: "Are two heads better than one?" A heifer calf with two heads was born Tuesday to a Holstein cow on the farm of Frank Prochazka in the town of Gibson. Witnesses were Prochazka and his son Carl.

The calf has four eyes, two mouths, two ears and a single neck. But the jaws do not meet and the calf has to be fed through a funnel—either mouth.

Mother Builds Insanity Case For Leland

PORTLAND, Nov. 5. (AP)—The mother of 22-year-old Morris Leland, on trial for murdering a 15-year-old girl, testified today that he had been abnormal since childhood.

Mrs. Maude Leland displayed a head scar she said was caused when her son threw a coffee cup at her in one of many fits of temper.

"Morris often threatened me," she said. "I was afraid of him. . . he always carried a knife and it was always open."

The mother's testimony was part of the defense attempt to prove that Leland is mentally unbalanced, and not legally responsible for the death of Thelma Taylor, 15.

The mother said he had been odd since a childhood accident. "He was always taking headache pills and saying his head hurt," she testified. "Morris slept on the floor by the heater on nights when he was home. We couldn't get him to sleep in a bed."

Coffee Import Firm Denies Shortage Due

CAMDEN, N. J., Nov. 5. (AP)—The head of a coffee importing firm has urged American housewives not to worry—there would be no coffee famine.

Noting widespread fears of a serious shortage, with rising prices, R. Barclay Scull, president of William S. Scull Co., said: "There will be no sudden disappearance of coffee from breakfast tables in America."

The industry, he said, will protect the U. S. supply in every way possible.

The jump in prices, he explained, was due to a severe drought in the Brazilian growing areas last season.

Trees were weakened and high winds scattered many blossoms, making for a much smaller crop when harvesting begins next June.

The present shortage, he said, is in coffee futures, the crop that will be gathered next year.

Another major factor in the "so called shortage," he said, is the "phenomenal" increase in American consumption of coffee in recent years.

Czech Bishops Fail to Secure Law Changes

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, Nov. 5. (AP)—Roman Catholic bishops disapproved today they have sought without success—to get revision of government controls which they charged virtually outlaw the church.

In a memorandum handed to the government October 21, the churchmen asked for immediate changes in the control laws and the decrees putting them into effect on the grounds they put the church "outside the legal pale."

The government made no reply to the note, which was released to the western press for the first time today.

The law went into effect, on schedule, November 1 despite the protest. Under it, a cabinet ministry was formed to supervise church affairs. Priests and pastors became civil servants, paid by the state. All churchmen were required to swear an oath of allegiance to the Czech Republic and the communist-controlled people's democratic regime.

Ten bishops and the Apostolic administrator signed the memorandum, which invoked Czechoslovakia's constitution freedom of expression clause. Missing from it was the name of Archbishop Josef Beran, the Czech primate, who says he has been interned in his palace since June 19.

The bishops charged that the new law "ceases to respect the autonomy which until now was granted the church to direct independently, within the limits of the laws, matters of faith, morals, church service, discipline, religious education and membership in the church."

It said the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of religious activity was not insured.

Last week, the bishops gave their priests permission to obey the provisions of the law in order to stay out of jail—a retreat from their former stand.

About 300 priests had been jailed for their opposition to the laws, church sources have said. Subsequently, 127 were released.

Arthur Babson Predicts Good Portland Business

PORTLAND, Nov. 5. (AP)—Arthur C. Babson, vice president of a stock and bond advisory service, Friday predicted fairly good business in Portland during 1950.

In a speech to clients here, Babson said the 1950 readjustment should not lower Portland business volume more than 3 to 5 per cent under 1949 levels. The country as a whole, he added, probably will see a 5 per cent drop.

The Massachusetts economist predicted lower living costs next year, and unemployment in areas which produce a few over-supplied commodities.

Short courses in agriculture are conducted by many universities and colleges annually.

Man Disappears After Telling Deputy Sheriff Story of Seeing 'Murder' Atop Railroad Boxcar

A bizarre tale of a knife slaying in a boxcar of a southbound freight train Saturday afternoon was related to a Marion county deputy sheriff by a gone-again transient. The story sent police between Portland and Eugene on an unsuccessful hunt for slain and slayer.

The deputy, alone on duty at the sheriff's office here, said the man came to the office about 7 p. m. while he was down on the main floor to the jail. He said he wanted to "report a murder" and gave some details of the "crime" before slipping out of the courthouse and disappearing.

The medium built transient, who the deputy said appeared to have been drinking, said he was riding in the boxcar with five other men "just a short while out of Portland" when one of them pulled a knife in an argument and slit the throat of another and threw him out of the car.

The train, supposedly the one passing through Salem about 3:15 Saturday night for evidence of the "crime" or the men involved. Railroad agents and state police who conducted the search reported no trace.

State police from the Milwaukee office were searching the track area in the vicinity of Oregon City, but doubted they would be able to find the body if there was one, before daylight today.

Meanwhile city police were continuing a search of the Salem area for the mysterious informant in hopes he might be able to cast more light on the reported slaying.

Chinese Admit Gains by Reds

CHUNGKING, China, Nov. 5. (AP)—The Chinese nationalists acknowledged today that the communists were inside Kweichow province and hammering at the gates of Szechwan province, but vowed to fight to the end, with or without foreign aid.

The defense ministry said communist armies in unstated strength had reached the Tienchiu district, 17 miles inside Kweichow province and 150 miles northeast of the provincial capital, Kweichow.

Fall of Kweichow, 210 miles southeast of Chungking, would virtually split the nationalist mainland holdings in half.

There are more than seven thousand different kinds of ants.

U.S. Demands Chinese Reds Free Envoys

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5. (AP)—State department officials said today they have finally succeeded in delivering to a top Chinese communist leader a demand for the release of Consul General Angus Ward and his staff held by communist authorities at Mukden.

The demand was set forth in a letter which Consul General O. Edmund Clubb delivered to Chou En Lai at Peiping. The letter demanded the release of Ward and the four members of his staff arrested with him, and also the evacuation of American officials from Mukden. The letter said promises of evacuation were given by communist officials there last June.

Chou En Lai is foreign minister of the new communist regime. Clubb, it was said here, dealt with him, however, not as foreign minister but as a communist leader. This was emphasized evidently because officials feared that contact between an American diplomat and the communist official might be interpreted by someone as a kind of practical recognition of the Chinese regime.

Ward and the four Mukden consulate employees were arrested two weeks ago on charges of having beaten a Chinese employee. The Chinese communist press and radio broadcast sensational details of the incident by refusing to let messages come through from Ward. The department knows that. He sent several, which were never received here and informants said today they still had not come through.

There are more than seven thousand different kinds of ants.

Mother Gives 3-Year-Old Son Cigars, Beer

GLEN COVE, N. Y., Nov. 5. (AP)—"Sonny, do you want something to eat?" asked Mrs. Janet Opalasti in her family's neighborhood bar and grill.

"Nope, I'm having a cigar," replied her three-year-old son, Richard.

"That's a good boy," replied Mrs. Opalasti fondly. Richard fingered the cigar, drew in his chubby cheeks and let a fine, fat smoke ring curl down across his glass of beer on the bar in front of him.

Mrs. Opalasti explained that her only child acquired a taste for cigars when he was two years old. He prefers the Italian kind—strong. Likes from one to four a day.

"We tried to break him of the habit," the mother said. "But he started smoking butts when we hid the cigars. If he wants cigars that bad, we'd rather give them to him than have him smoke butts."

The beer?

"Oh," Mrs. Opalasti said, "he likes half a glass of beer or wine now and then."

He holds it well, too.

"He tried a pipe once," the mother went on. "But he prefers cigars. We hope the habit wears off, don't we sonny?"

Richard fixed his calm gaze on his mother, sipped his beer in silence then drew on the cigar and sent another perfect smoke ring across the bar.

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Woodburn Church Ceremony Today

WOODBURN, Nov. 5. (Special)—The cornerstone for the new Methodist church here will be laid at ceremonies at 2:30 p. m. Sunday with Bishop Gerald Kennedy officiating.

The cornerstone was provided by the Sunday school.

Rev. Ormal B. Trick will officiate at services, with the Rev. Oliver J. Hill, supervisor of the Forest Grove district and the Rev. D. Lester, Fields, Woodburn, assisting. A choral program is also scheduled in connection with the ceremonies.

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HUMPHREY ARRIVES
PORTLAND, Nov. 5. (AP)—Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) Arrived here today to speak at an Americans for Democratic Action meeting scheduled here for tomorrow.

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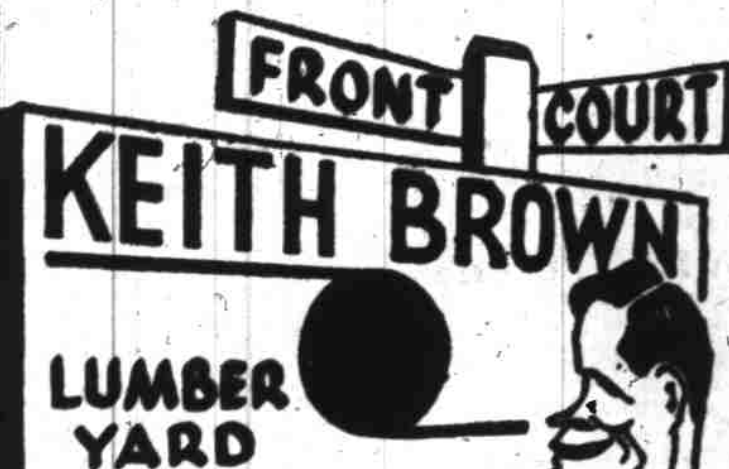


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