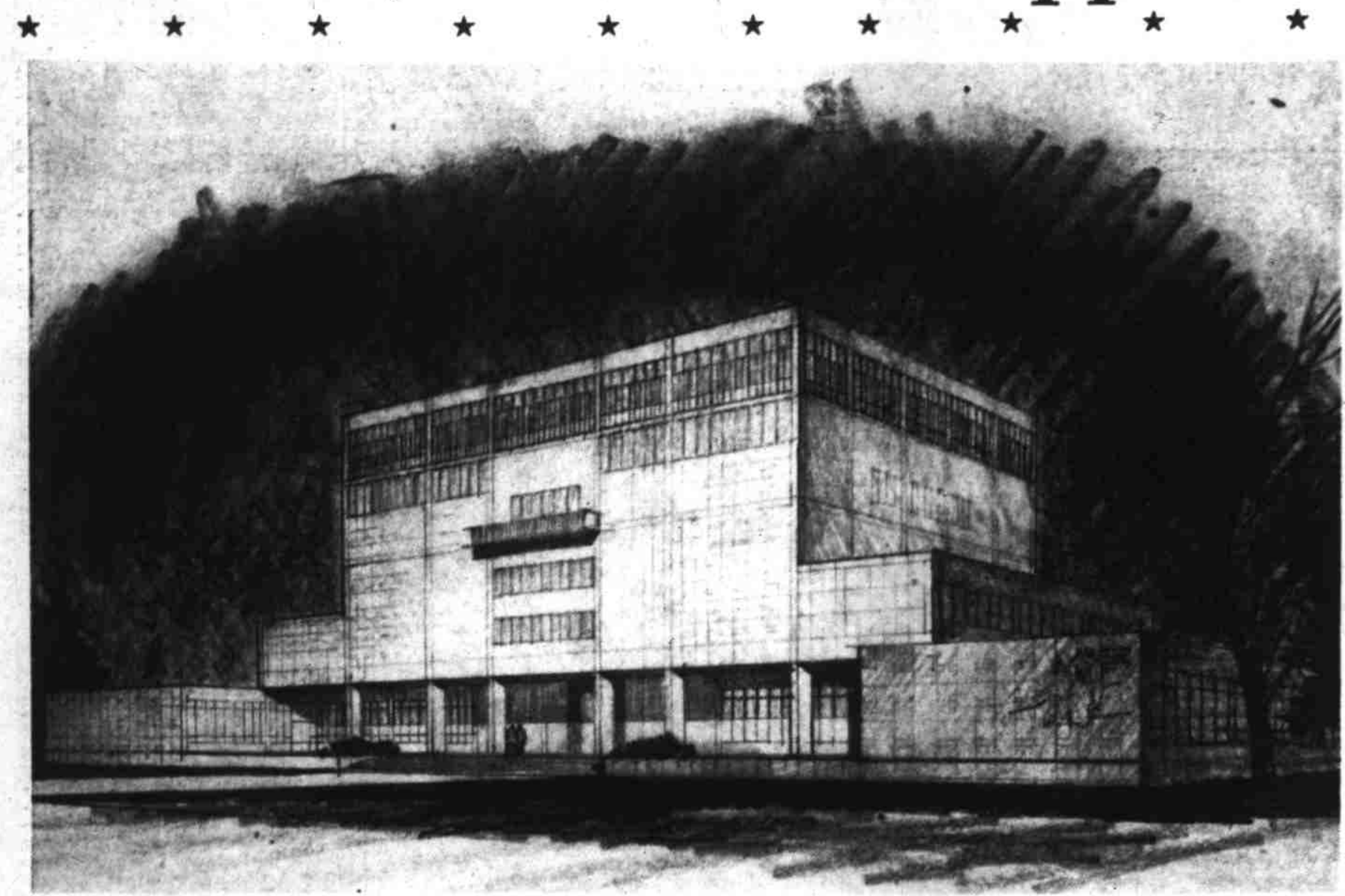


# Final Exterior Plans Approved for New County Courthouse



This revised exterior sketch of the proposed new Marion county courthouse, showing the extension of wings on either side of the entrance, was approved Wednesday by the Marion county courthouse commission. The wings were added to eliminate an overhanging effect the building had previously.

**IT SEEMS TO ME**  
By Charles A. Sprague

When the SEC holds its hearing next Monday on the application of American Power & Light Co. to sell the common stock of Pacific Power & Light to a group of 13 corporations and individuals it will find considerable opposition to the proposal. The cities of Portland, Bend, Prineville have moved to have their opposition recorded. Utility departments for Washington and Oregon will be represented, and while no announcement has been made as to the stand each will take the inference is that they will be skeptical of the deal. SEC attorneys themselves will probably have some pointed questions to ask with reference to the apparent plan to break up the system and peddle the pieces to sundry public or private buyers, with liberal commissions to the broker, Guy C. Myers.

News of the pending sale created quite a reaction in private utility circles. Those who have been fighting the battle against public ownership felt they had been rather badly let down by AP&L, a unit in Electric Bond and Share organization which has been a stalwart defender of private ownership. It looked to them as though President Aller of AP&L was interested merely in getting the most he could out of the stock his company holds without regard to what becomes of the properties.

Portland's interest is stirred by rumor of the possible sale of Pacific facilities in the Portland area to Portland General Electric (whose officers profess ignorance of the deal). The city retains an option to buy the Pacific system in the franchise under which the company operates. In 1928 voters rejected a proposal to merge PGE and Pacific's predecessor Northwest Electric.

Other cities served by Pacific are concerned over whether they will be left orphans in the storm, without certain sources of energy (Continued on Editorial Page 4)

## Taylor Resigns Vatican Post

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP)—Myron C. Taylor today resigned as special presidential ambassador to the vatican, a post which has been frequently under protestant fire during the past 10 years. Taylor himself is an Episcopalian. He was first appointed as personal envoy to the pope by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt in December, 1939, and was continued in that role by President Truman.

## Animal Crackers



"He hasn't been quite right since he had that job at Christmas in the post office licking stamps."

## Extending of Wings Adds Needed Space

Exterior plans of the proposed new Marion county courthouse were approved Wednesday and minor changes suggested in the interior planning. Pietro Belluschi, Portland architect, presented revised exterior plans to the courthouse building commission. The change brings the wings forward 42 feet. The central portico (west entrance) remains as formerly except the wing extension eliminates the overhang appearance, which brought on objections.

## False Leads Snarl Search For Robbers

BOSTON, Jan. 18 (AP)—False leads and phony tipsters snarled a nation-wide hunt tonight for Boston's million-dollar bandits. In rapid succession, police chased down these unproductive reports on the largest cash haul in American history: 1. An unidentified caller telephoned he saw two men jump out of a black sedan, drop a bag containing guns and then run into a downtown hotel. It was untrue. 2. A mask similar to those worn by the nine gunmen was found near Lowell 25 miles from Boston; no connection. 3. Another telephoned report said five peajackets, the type of garb worn by the gunmen, were found on a wharf in nearby Dorchester. There were no jackets. 4. A Cadillac sedan—black like the bandit's getaway car—was found locked in a New Haven, Conn., home reserved for taxis. It was legitimate.

## Danger Zone Declared on China Coast

TAIPEI, Formosa, Thursday, Jan. 19 (AP)—Nationalist China today proclaimed a long stretch of the south China coast a "danger zone." Peaceful craft were warned to clear out if they wish to avoid "heavy and continuous air assaults."

## Chapman Appointment To Cabinet Confirmed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP)—The senate tonight confirmed the nomination of Oscar L. Chapman of Denver, Colo., as secretary of the interior. The former undersecretary succeeded Julius Krug, who resigned Dec. 1. Chapman, a Democrat, came here in May, 1933, as assistant secretary of the interior. At the time of his appointment he was the oldest member of the "little cabinet" in terms of service.

## Trial Set Feb. 20 On Secret Society

Trial in the case of 18 Salem high school students, charged with secret society activities, will open in Marion county circuit court here on February 20 at 1:30, it was reported Wednesday. Circuit Judge Dal M. King of Coquille will hear the case. The case was to have been heard December 28 but was postponed because of difficulty in finding a judge.

## Many Degrees Warmer Inside Clears Snow

DALLAS, Jan. 18—The hangar roof at the Dallas airport was threatened by snow today, but owner Joseph Card solved the problem into. He just built a roaring bonfire inside and in a short time the roof was clean.

## POLIO CASES REPORTED

PORTLAND, Jan. 18 (AP)—Five new cases of infantile paralysis were reported last week, the state board of health said today. The total number of cases in 1949 was 324—the highest since 1943. Twenty-two Oregonians died of the disease last year.

## Page Resigns; Latourette Named to Court

(Pictures at bottom of page.) The elevation of Circuit Judge Earl C. Latourette, 60, of Oregon City to the state supreme court was announced Wednesday by Gov. Douglas McKay simultaneously with his acceptance, "with extreme reluctance," of the retirement of Supreme Court Justice E. M. Page.

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## Blamed Ill Health

The governor disclosed that Judge Page, 55, had indicated a desire to retire, because of ill health, last Thursday (although the governor Saturday denied a report to that effect), and that since that time three physicians, as provided by law, had examined Judge Page and adjudged him incapable of continuing the work—thus allowing half-pay pension for life. Judge Page, circuit judge in Marion county for eight years after being appointed by former Gov. Charles A. Sprague in 1941, was named to the supreme court by Governor McKay last June 29. He would have been up for election to a full term this year.

## Mudbank Holds Mighty 'Mo'

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 18 (AP)—The navy late today decided to postpone until Friday another attempt to pull the battleship Missouri off the Chesapeake bay mudbank that holds her fast. A small armada of tugs that had tried twice to refloat the 45,000-ton warship was prepared for another try at high tide tonight. The navy called it off. The mighty Mo has been stuck since yesterday morning. Other methods to remove the nation's only active battlewagon from her mud prison went on apace. These included dredging of a big trench from the main ship channel to the Missouri's position.

## Blaze Damages Mill at Redmond

REDMOND, Jan. 18 (AP)—The Tite Knot Pine mill was damaged by a \$20,000 fire today in 3 below zero weather. The fire damaged the boiler house and two conveyors and forced the dry kiln to halt operations until the boilers can be repaired. The planer mill will continue running. The owners expected to repair the boilers within a week or so, and rebuild the boiler house later on.

## ORC Armory Approved For Early Construction

Construction will start soon on a \$150,000 armory for Salem organized army reserve corps. The building will probably be located on the west side of Airport road at its intersection with East State street. The announcement came Wednesday from Lt. Col. Bruce Johnson, inspector-instructor for Salem ORC, after a conference with the 6th army's armory site board in Salem. Lt. Col. William F. Curren, San Francisco, head of the board, said the Salem armory was number one on the 6th army's priority list. The nine-man board conferred with State Forester George Spaur, commander of a Salem reserve unit, and highway engineers on possible procurement of the Airport road property which belongs to the highway department. If the site is approved by the state board of control, the proposal will then go to 6th army headquarters for action. The two-story armory will measure 140 by 90 feet and will face Airport road. It will house a large assembly hall, class, locker and storage rooms and a small arms range. It will be of steel-reinforced concrete construction. Site board members agreed that the 10 local army reserve units are hampered by existing inadequate quarters. The units are now meeting in three quonset huts near 25th and Lee streets.

# Freezing Rain Glazes Valley

## Salem Schools Closed Again

### Weatherman Predicts Break In Cold Spell

Freezing rain ice-glazed the valley Wednesday night and brought announcement that Salem's public schools will shut down again today and Friday. With weather conditions on the verge of a "silver thaw," most private schools and many around the valley announced they would follow suit. The weatherman called for definitely higher temperatures and light rain today. It was 28 degrees here early this morning and slated to rise gradually until a maximum of 35 to 38 is reached this afternoon.

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Neat Silver Thaw "Silver thaw" conditions near Eugene felled trees that closed the Willamette highway, according to latest reports from the highway commission. The situation at Silverton at midnight was termed "the start of a good silver thaw." In Salem it was touch-and-go, with the next few hours to tell the story. If rising temperatures lingered near 32 degrees a few hours when the rains came, the wire-popping and limb-falling could start. Utility crews had their fingers crossed and the weather bureau said it was swamped with calls about such a possibility.

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## Bonus Measure Preliminary Filed

A preliminary petition seeking a referendum vote on a state World War II servicemen's bonus was filed with State Elections Chief David O'Hara yesterday by the Oregon departments of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. If a minimum of 25,482 signatures is obtained by July 6, the proposal will be on the ballot in the November election. The campaign for signatures, as well as other expenses in the movement, are to be financed by the sale of buttons. The proposed bonus, for which Attorney General George Neuner is to draw the ballot title, would be at the rate of \$10 a month for domestic service, \$15 a month for overseas service, with a maximum of \$600 in any individual case. The bonus would be financed by a state bond issue.

The preliminary petition was accompanied by press releases both from the Legion and the VFW and from a committee representing both organizations. Clyde Dickey, Legion department vice commander, said the referendum petition would provide the people of Oregon "the opportunity to reward those veterans who entered the armed forces from Oregon and served honorably during the emergency." Vere A. McCarty, state VFW commander, declared the proposed constitutional amendment "is not in reality a bonus in the sense of a 'hand-out'; it is in effect an adjustment in pay for the veterans of Oregon who served in World War II." Eighteen states thus far have provided World War II bonuses. (Additional details on page 5)

## Warm Storm From South Mixes Weather

OLYMPIA, Jan. 19—(Thursday)—(AP)—The state patrol said early today a rescue party was being formed at Vancouver, Wash., to try to reach 50 families marooned without communications in the Cape Horn district 25 miles east of Vancouver. Last night and early today an 80-mile-an-hour wind was reported roaring over the Cape Horn area, in the Columbia river gorge. A Weasel from McChord air force base left at 11:10 p.m. last night aboard a 6x6 truck. Officials said they hoped the truck and Weasel would arrive in Vancouver by 5 a.m., "depending on the weather." Up to an inch of ice was reported on the highway at Kelo, enroute to Vancouver.

## Oleo Tax Repeal Bill Passes Senate Test

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP)—A bill to wipe out the federal taxes on oleomargarine was passed by the senate tonight by the lopsided margin of 56 to 16. The measure, bitterly fought by some members from big butter producing states, now is expected to go to a senate-house conference to iron out differences between it and a measure passed last year by the house. Abolished under the measure would be the federal levies of 10 cents a pound on colored margarine, and one quarter cent on uncolored. Restaurants serving oleomargarine would have to label it as such or serve it in triangular form, to prevent its being confused with butter. Oleo sold at retail would have to be in triangular packages. Before the final vote, the senators rejected an effort to turn the margarine bill into a billion-dollar general excise tax cut. The excise tax amendment, sponsored by Senator Butler (R-Nebr.), was rejected 43 to 32. Earlier, two attempts by Senator Langer (R-ND) to attach "civil rights" riders to the measure were killed by motions to table. The vote against Langer's anti-lynching amendment was 60 to 20, and against an anti-poll tax proposal 59 to 17. Langer also made an unsuccessful move to displace the margarine bill with a third civil rights measure—a proposal to establish a federal fair employment practices committee (FEPC). The senate tabled that motion 59 to 17.

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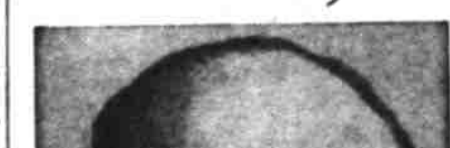
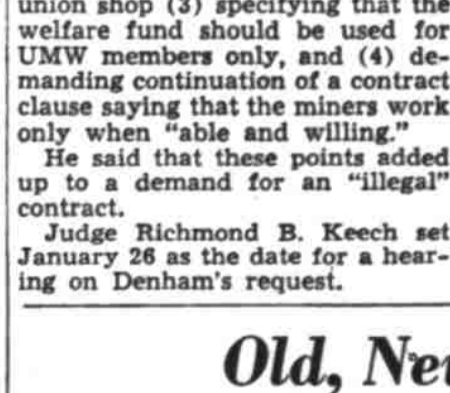
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## Troutdale Has Weather Variety

Weather is weather everywhere but some places have even more of it. Here's the report from the Troutdale, Ore., airport late Wednesday: Visibility one-half mile. Freezing drizzle. Freezing rain. Sleet. Snow. Blowing snow. 40-mile southeast wind. Temperature 10 degrees. Fog.

## Old, New Justice



Circuit Judge E. C. Latourette (left) who was moved up Wednesday by Governor Douglas McKay to fill the vacancy left by the illness-forced resignation of Justice E. M. Page (right) on the State supreme court bench.

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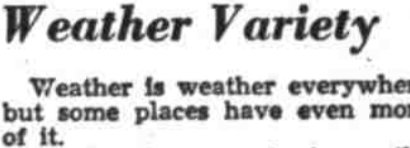
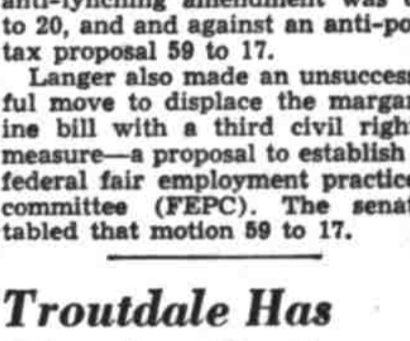
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### THE WEATHER

City	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	27	25	.45
Portland	22	13	.57
San Francisco	39	31	trace
Chicago	29	1	.02
New York	30	34	.29
Willamette river	23	12	1.00

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy today with intermittent light rain and moderate southerly winds. Temperatures will continue to rise with the high today expected to reach 35 to 38. Low tonight 34 to 36.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

Year	Last Year	Normal
2020	21.86	20.30

## Old, New Justice

Freezing rain added a new hazard to highways that were already plagued by snow and ice. The Columbia River highway was reopened despite drifts between Hood River and Cascade Locks. A section of the Eugene-Florence highway, near Florence, dropped 12 feet under the throats of high water, and was closed to traffic.