

# Truman to Make H-Bomb Decision

By Francis J. Kelly

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—President Truman said today that he alone will decide whether this country will try to produce a hydrogen bomb, and that he had no idea when the decision will be made.

Meanwhile, he said, he is striving constantly to bring about international control of atomic energy.

The president was asked at his news conference whether there is anything authoritative he could tell the people on the much discussed super-destructive weapon. No, said Mr. Truman, and no one else could either.

Nevertheless interest was mounting steadily in Washington, the nation and the world in the prospect that U.S. nuclear physicists would get a go-ahead to try for an explosive weapon hundreds or possibly a thousand times more violent in its action than the prototype atomic bomb. There were strong indications that the matter may have come up for discussion earlier today at a closely guarded meeting of atomic authorities on Capitol Hill.

The meeting was a joint one of the atomic energy commission and the senate-house atomic committee. At its conclusion, Senator McMahon (D-Conn.), chairman of the congressional unit, told reporters, "We have been discussing plans for advances and the technological improvement of atomic weapons and I anticipate your questions by saying this includes all types of atomic weapons."

## A-Scientist Urges U.S. Develop Super Bomb

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (AP)—Dr. Harold C. Urey, one of the nation's top atomic scientists, urged tonight that the United States develop the hydrogen super-bomb before the Russians do it first. "We may already have lost the armaments race," he said.

Urey, who played a leading role in developing the atomic bomb, told a Roosevelt day dinner he was unhappy to advocate a weapon that might be 1,000 times as powerful.

The H-bomb, he said, may endanger those who explode it as well as those who are the targets. But he said possession of the super-bomb would make a nation so powerful that the bomb might never have to be used, and he added:

"I do not think we should intentionally lose the armaments race. To do this will be to lose our liberties. And, like Patrick Henry, I value my liberties more than I do my life. It is more important that this spirit (of liberty) should continue to exist than that I or you or any group should continue this mortal existence for a few years more."

## IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Spurgeon

The Coates apartment house deal has everybody going round in circles, and arriving nowhere. All are agreed that something should be done to shift constructing a seven-story apartment house away from the proposed Capitol zone extension, but thus far no one has been able to break out of the circle.

It is this way: Coates bought his lot on North Summer street, arranged for FHA financing, filed his plans with the city engineer and took out a building permit. Zoning of the area permitted apartment house use of land.

Meantime plans were adopted and published calling for northward extension of the Capitol along the Summer street axis. The state Capitol planning commission asked the council to apply Capitol zoning (1C) to the extended area. That however did not forbid erection of apartment houses.

When the state and city woke up to the fact that a big apartment house would be a financial road-block in the way of Capitol extension efforts were initiated to head off the Coates project.

Coates himself has shown a very cooperative attitude. He says that if another lot will be provided in the area where he could fit his plans he would be quite willing to move. So there has been racing and chasing all over town to locate a suitable lot; thus far with little success. Whenever a doorbell rings and some one asks the price on the property the price rises like the thermometer on an August day.

The askings are \$20,000, \$30,000—nothing in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range where the Coates lot fits.

Coates would be willing to take a larger lot and increase the size of his project. But FHA says the act under which his financing has been approved expires March first and there isn't time for processing a revamped proposal. FHA says it wants to help, but that its hands are tied. The state wants to help, but it lacks funds or authority to pay Coates his investment in lot and plans. Mayor Elfstrom of the city has been working hard to devise a solution. Coates is as reasonable as any prudent man should be. There will have to be some last work if a solution is reached before FHA deadline. Anyone have a lot to offer in the Capitol district?

## Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"People give me the crumbs!"

## Short Drought In Coos Bay as Reservoir Out

COOS BAY, Jan. 27 (AP)—Engineers got water flowing to Coos Bay and North Bend tonight after a storage reservoir collapsed and left much of the two towns dry throughout the day.

A torrential rainfall of 2.75 inches within 24 hours was believed to have weakened the reservoir. When it went out, it broke the main pipeline and a smaller bypass line.

The main reservoir on Pony creek was not affected. On higher ground, its lines to the filtering plant were intact, and work crews laid a 10-inch pipe from the filtering plant around the break.

They connected with the main 16-inch pipe supplying the two towns. The final connection was made at 7 p.m. Water had not reached household taps at 8 p.m., but engineers explained they still were busy getting air out of the pipe. Full service was expected to be restored soon.

Parts of Coos Bay and North Bend had water through the day. Those were the higher areas that had their own storage tanks.

## Board Okehs Hospital Plans For Lebanon

LEBANON, Jan. 27 (AP)—Architect's plans for the new 50-bed Lebanon Community hospital were approved by hospital trustee board today and arrangements completed for final activities before construction starts this spring.

L. D. Barr has been named to direct final fund drive. The new structure will include two operating rooms, two maternity delivery rooms, a private wing for maternity cases, separate wing for laundry, kitchen, and plant operations, a wing for wards and private rooms, administration center and a separate heating plant.

The structure will be erected on the recently purchased site east of highway 20 and north of the paper mill.

The new hospital will include modern, fully equipped laboratory and facilities, and a blood bank unit where whole blood and plasma can be stored for emergency uses.

## Treasury Traps Silver, Fox, That Is

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—A silver fox raced about for an hour on downtown streets today until it tried the United States treasury.

There the animal leaped into a 15-foot window well where an attendant of the Animal Rescue league snared it before a large audience.

The fox appeared out of nowhere and centered into Franklin park where it chased squirrels awhile. Then it took off for the treasury with police, reporters and news photographers in pursuit.

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# Road, Rail Travel Bogs Under New Snowfall

# U.S. Transport Plane Missing with 44 Aboard

## Burglars Let 30 Sleeping Dogs Lie

BURLINGAME, Calif., Jan. 27 (AP)—But there wasn't a "watch dog" on the place. Police today reported a burglar robbed the Burlingame dog hospital of \$120 some time in the night—without awakening a one of the 20 dogs sleeping there.

## Truman Clears Way for Arms Flow to Europe

By John M. Hightower  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—President Truman formally approved today the grand defense strategy of the Atlantic allies and cleared the way for a billion dollar flow of American weapons to help rearm western Europe.

Secretary of State Acheson and representatives of the eight European nations, which will receive the arms, signed agreements guaranteeing to use them in strengthening the defenses of the North Atlantic area.

In a third move, Mr. Truman issued an executive order placing Acheson in charge of the arms program with instructions to administer it in consultation with Secretary of Defense Johnson and Paul C. Hoffman, European recovery chief.

"These developments," Mr. Truman said in a statement, "are the result of close cooperation among free nations which intend to remain free."

"They are, of course, first steps," he added. "The successful implementation of the North Atlantic treaty will require constant and continuing effort and cooperation by all its members. Planning for defense can not be static."

The intent of the rearmament of western Europe is to make that area strong enough to discourage any Soviet attack or to resist it if it occurs.

Officials said that arms will begin moving from arsenals and warehouses to ports within a week and that the first shipments will leave for Europe in about a month.

Asked Eastern Oregon Site for Airforce School  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—Rep. Stockman (R-Ore.) said today he has recommended that the airforce site selection board survey all larger towns in Eastern Oregon, including Bend, as possible sites for the proposed airforce academy.

Stockman said that at the present time those towns have the same chance as all other sites of being selected.

Robert Coates, Portland builder, Friday was still searching the Salem real estate market for an apartment house site near the statehouse, as an FHA deadline approached.

Latest reports that Coates would be allowed only a few more days to transfer his proposed seven-story apartment house project from N. Summer st., property which has drawn objections from planners of the state Capitol group extension.

Change of site for the already approved project would require approval of the Federal Housing administration which is financing the project. FHA has been reluctant to accept a location farther from the Capitol than the North Summer street lot north of Marion st. Since FHA authority will expire March 1, too little time remains for re-submitting an entirely new plan for FHA consideration.

## Canada Scene of Search

EDMONTON, Jan. 27 (CP)—Search for 44 persons aboard a missing U.S. transport plane tonight centered along the blizzard-swept Alaska highway flight route.

It also spread to the Vimy district, only 33 miles north of Edmonton, where school children were reported to have spotted a low-flying plane.

Missing for 24 hours, the big plane was homeward bound to its Texas base, carrying a mother and child, 34 military personnel and a crew of eight. The woman and child are dependents of military personnel.

The four engine C-54 U.S. air force transport was last reported over Snag, a tiny weather station settlement in the Yukon, 1,300 miles from Edmonton. The report came through at 5:09 p.m. (CST) last night.

From then on its radio was silent. The big Whitehorse air base, a refueling station for wartime planes bound for Alaska, was put on the alert, but the plane was not sighted there. Whitehorse is about 300 miles southeast of Snag.

It is a land of wilderness, where only isolated trading posts, trappers' cabins and Indian villages offer shelter for stranded travelers.

A search plane has left to scour the Vimy district. Mrs. A. H. Bernard, a school teacher at Vimy, northwest of here, said some of her pupils saw a plane seven miles east of the town at 9 p.m. last night.

Planes in Search  
Seventeen Canadian and American aircraft have entered the search along the winter-shut-down highway route. Others, from far-flung U.S. bases, are heading for the north.

The planes took off from bases at Whitehorse and Watson lake in the Yukon, and Fort Nelson, B.C. The plane, bound back to its base at Briggs field, El Paso, Tex., carried a routine training flight in the north, carried a full passenger load.

Observances Slated During Youth Week  
The Salem and the Oregon Christian Youth Councils are taking the lead in planning observances of National Youth week beginning Sunday.

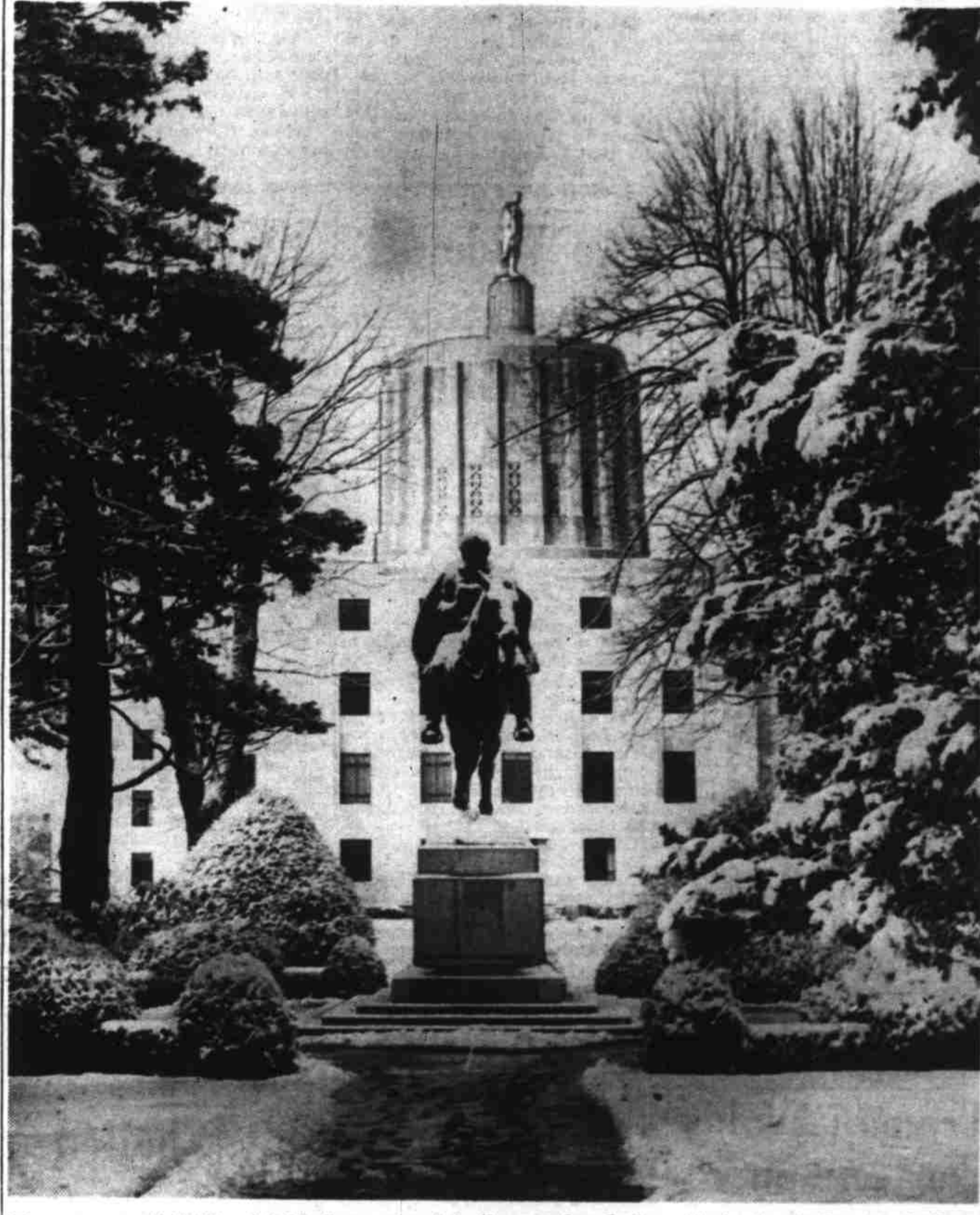
Among local events in connection with the observance will be a Salem high school "religious emphasis" assembly Thursday, special services or events in several Salem churches and an interdenominational youth meeting February 5 at First Methodist church.

Catherine Person heads the Salem Christian Youth group. The high school program will feature a talk by Dr. Harry Dillin, president of Linfield college at McMinnville.

Theme of the seventh annual Youth week is "God Designs — Youth Build!" The nationwide observance is fostered by the United Christian church movement, Boy and Girl Scouts, Christian Endeavor, YMCA and YWCA and Camp Fire Girls.

(Additional details on church page, 10.)

## White 'Coat' Adorns Oregon's Circuit Rider



The snow-mantled "Circuit Rider", monument to the preacher-doctor gallants of early Oregon who braved all types of weather on tours of pioneer settlements, completes a wintertime picture. The statue stands framed by trees and shrubs laden with Salem's heaviest snow of the season Friday and back-grounded by Oregon's white-marbled Capitol building. (Statesman photo.)

## Wedemeyer Sees Victory Over Reds Via Philosophy, Not Force of Arms

(Picture on page 5.)  
The war against communism is not going to be won militarily—it is going to be won by Americans becoming more fervent and espousing at home and to the world the philosophy of the free man.

This in effect was the statement in Salem Friday of general, graying Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, commander of the 6th army and author of the controversial Wedemeyer report on China.

The general is not commenting on China, however, no matter that his report was in conflict with many high officials — "our president has pronounced our policy on the far east and it is up to the military only to implement, not argue with, governmental policy."

He was in Salem on an inspection tour, accompanied by several high military officials, and conferred with Gov. Douglas McKay Friday afternoon.

The general was the honored guest at noon at a Senator hotel luncheon sponsored by the Salem Booster club. He commended highly the Salem area's "enthusiastic cooperation" in military matters; said he was gratified the city was obtaining a new army reserve armory (Olympia is to get the only other one in the northwest), and indicated a belief that the northwest and Alaska were not being overlooked in the defense program.

Never Any Friction  
At a brief press conference, the general said regarding unification that "so far as I am concerned, there never has been friction, and as to whether unification as such is working, I'd say the answer definitely is yes." His naval aid, Capt. R. W. Berry, said he concurred.

The general evinced a deep admiration for the Chinese people and said his associations with Chiang Kai-shek (while he served in the far east as deputy chief of staff in southeast Asia and commander of the U. S. military forces in China) had convinced him the Chinese leader was "sincere, honest and concerned for the welfare of his people."

Of Alaska, the general declared the U. S. defenses there "are being improved progressively and definitely improved," despite limitations of high labor costs and short construction season. Nevertheless, he said he held confidence in the present defenses there.

At Fort Lewis  
General Wedemeyer, who spent a brief tour of duty at Fort Lewis several years ago, is a long-time friend of Oregon's adjutant general Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Riley, who was with him at the Friday luncheon.

Mayor R. L. Elfstrom presided and Lawson McCall, executive assistant to Gov. Douglas McKay, welcomed the visitors including

Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, commander of the northern military sub-area; Capt. R. W. Berry, naval aid to General Wedemeyer; and Col. W. R. Woodward, L. H. Slocum, R. C. Snyder, John R. Rodman and James Notestein.

Special guests included Col. Carl Abrams, head of the Salem military advisory board; Robert Boardman, head of the Salem military manpower committee; members of both committees; General Riley; Brig. Gen. H. G. Malson, deputy commander of the 41st division, and Salem army reserve officials.

The visitors returned to Portland last night. Their headquarters is San Francisco.

## Gubitchev Almost Barred from Trial

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (AP)—A short, stocky man was barred from the Coplon-Gubitchev trial courtroom today because he had no pass.

"All right then, I go home," said the man cheerfully. He was admitted, however, when his lawyer identified him—as one of the defendants, Valentine A. Gubitchev.

Pliers Help Keep Carrot in Ground  
It almost required pliers to pull up a stubborn carrot in his garden, and K. I. Jennings, Glen Creek road, found the pliers on the carrot itself when it came up this week. The vegetable was four inches long and its 2 1/2-inch diameter filled the hole between the handles of the well-rusted tool.

## Records Set; SP Line Cut

Old man winter unleashed a few more laymakers at the Pacific northwest Friday and communications again took the heaviest blows.

Southern Pacific rail lines were blocked by a derailment near Cascade summit. The Pacific highway was blocked by snow slides between Dunsmuir and Redding. Nine slides closed the Willamette pass. Both the north and south Santiam highways were bottled up in a slide at Hogg Pass. Snow closed the Columbia highway.

Southbound traffic was being stopped at Weed, Calif. In addition to the major routes, another heavy toll in broken ti many secondary roads were closed

January, still four days away from the end, has already accounted for two all-time weather records and threatens at least two more.

At midnight Friday a total of 25.8 inches of snow had fallen on Salem to top the one month mark of 25.2 inches set in February 1937. Also tumbled from top rank in the 57-year history of the weather bureau here was the January record of 22.1 inches recorded in 1943.

Threatened for eclipse is the yearly record of 33.9 inches established in the winter of 1936-37.

All the precipitation falling this month hasn't been snow either. The total of 11.42 inches reported up to midnight was approaching a January record of 55 years standing — 1895's 13.72 inches.

by the heaviest snows of an already brutal winter. And the storm added another heavy toll in broken telephone and power lines throughout the northwest. Schedules Delayed

All schedules along Southern Pacific's mainline were thrown behind Friday after an engine pulling a 77-car freight train was derailed about 3 p.m. on the Cascade summit. Reports indicated that no one was injured in the accident.

Two northbound trains were held back, the Klamath at Crescent Lake and the Shasta at Klamath Falls. The southbound Cascade left Portland Friday night, but was to be held back at Eugene. Both north and south runs for the Shasta were canceled for today.

Nine Slides  
On the Willamette pass, where 22 inches of snow fell in the last 24 hours, there were nine slides. Crews cleared away all but the latest, which plugged the Willamette highway near the summit of the Cascades about 8 p.m.

Salem dug itself out from under the heaviest fall of a snowy winter Friday, packed it into treacherous layers on streets, sidewalks and roads and waited for new onslaughts from a harried weatherman.

More snow for the area was forecast from the McNary field weather station Friday night. Intermittent snow showers along with skidding temperatures were expected in Salem early today. A drop to about 20 degrees was predicted for this morning with the high today expected to reach 38 followed by rains tonight.

Over 4 Inches  
A forecasted rain storm which turned out to be a snow storm shoveled the city under a 4.2 inch blanket Friday morning. Low temperatures throughout the day prevented melting and an even four inches still remained late Friday night.

And the city for all its snow had apparently fared better than the rest of the Willamette valley. Albany took the worst of the new storm among river-bank towns in the valley. Twelve inches of snow fell there Friday morning contributing blocked roads, and broken telephone and power lines. Crews from Mountain States Power company were prepared to work throughout the night to repair the wire damages. (Additional details on page 5.)

THE WEATHER			
	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	35	25	1.1
Portland	33	18	.39
San Francisco	51	39	.51
Chicago	33	8	.60
New York	41	38	.04

Willamette river 12.2 feet.

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy to cloudy today and tonight with intermittent showers of rain becoming more or less continuous by nightfall. High today 35 to 38. Low tonight 23 to 25.

SALEM PRECIPITATION		
This Year	Last Year	Normal
26.41	22.08	21.93