

British Voters Begin Trek To Polls; Close Vote Seen

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Telephone Strike Postponed 60 Days

Truman's Proposal Accepted

By Sterling F. Green
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (AP)—The nation-wide telephone strike scheduled for Friday was postponed tonight for 60 days.

The CIO Communications Workers of America agreed to a 60-day truce proposal made by President Truman, who said a walkout would deal a severe blow to the public welfare.

Joseph A. Beirne, union president, issued a statement that the union's executive board had agreed to delay the strike call.

"We have a sincere desire to resolve the issues through collective bargaining in an open, straightforward manner," Beirne said.

Bargaining to Continue
The president asked that there be no interruption of work and that the nation's telephone communications remain unbroken during two months of bargaining with the help of federal mediators.

American Telephone and Telegraph company wired the president late today it would be glad to continue bargaining for another 60 days "in a sincere effort to settle the dispute."

In New York, Stanley Bracken, president of the Western Electric Co., also agreed to the truce and the reopening of bargaining talks.

Western Electric, the manufacturing and installation unit of the Bell system, is one of the key companies involved in the labor dispute.

Pacific Firm Agrees
In San Francisco, President Mark R. Sullivan of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. likewise agreed to the extension. He said that of the 60,000 non-supervisory employees in the company, 25,000 are represented by the communications union.

In wires to 25 officers of the Communication Workers of America and 19 officials of Bell System companies, Mr. Truman said a walkout would cause "great damage to the public interest and welfare."

The country's switchboards and "long lines" already are working on borrowed time. The strike previously was set for February 8 but was deferred to February 24 at Federal Conciliator Cyrus Ching's request.

BURGLARS LIKE MUSIC
OREGON CITY, Feb. 22 (AP)—Music-loving burglars broke into the Farmers Union hall at Cedarvale, near Colton, and stole \$100 worth of phonograph records, record cases and a phonograph, the Clackamas county sheriff's office was informed today.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	56	38	.87
Portland	49	41	1.10
San Francisco	57	44	.00
Chicago	27	25	.43
New York	28	19	.25
Willamette river	6.8		

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy with rain today becoming partly cloudy with showers tonight. Little change in temperature with high today near 50 and low tonight near 35.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

This Year	Last Year	Normal
30.95	24.44	26.50

Ashes Mark Foreheads as Lenten Season of Penance Opens



Catholics in the Salem area began Lent on Ash Wednesday by receiving the traditional ashes. In the above picture members of St. Vincent de Paul church approach the altar at Wednesday morning services. Distributing ashes are the Rev. George O'Keefe, pastor, (in background), and the Rev. Ervin S. Vandehy (nearest camera). (Statesman photo.) (Story on page 2.)

Retired Admiral Visits Salem



Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, one-time physician to President Roosevelt and now head of the national American Red Cross blood program, was a Salem visitor Wednesday. The photo shows him talking with his sister-in-law, Mrs. Floyd McIntire, at the home of his cousin, Frank Harritt, 605 Union st. (Statesman photo.)

Ross McIntire, One-Time Physician to FDR, Visits

By Lester F. Cour
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, author, retired naval officer and personal physician to President Roosevelt, visited his old home town of Salem Wednesday.

McIntire, now head of the American Red Cross's blood collection program, dined with relatives Wednesday afternoon before leaving for San Francisco to continue a tour of regional blood centers.

In a short interview with Statesman reporters, he backed a proposal by Defense Secretary Louis Johnson to Gov. Douglas McKay urging revival of the wartime civilian air raid warning system in Oregon.

"In view of existing world conditions," McIntire stated, "we must be prepared. I can remember vividly our feeble defense set-up at the beginning of World War II and would hate to see the same mistake repeated."

He urged Salem citizens to step up contributions through the mobile blood collection unit, declaring a surplus supply of blood and derivatives must be accumulated to meet emergencies. He said the present supply was just barely meeting demands.

McIntire is no stranger to Salem and the Willamette valley. He was born on a farm in the Sunnyside district, about eight miles south of Salem and attended the old, one-room Sunnyside school.

His family then moved to Liberty where McIntire finished grade school. He was later graduated from Salem high school and received his bachelor of arts degree from Willamette university in 1912.

"After 1912 I spent very little time in the valley," he said Wednesday, "but I have always considered it my home. In fact, I hope to return here some day."

During his Wednesday stop-over, McIntire was a guest of his first cousin, Frank Harritt, 605 Union st. Accompanying him to Salem were his sister-in-law, Mrs. Floyd McIntire and her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Murphy, also of Portland.

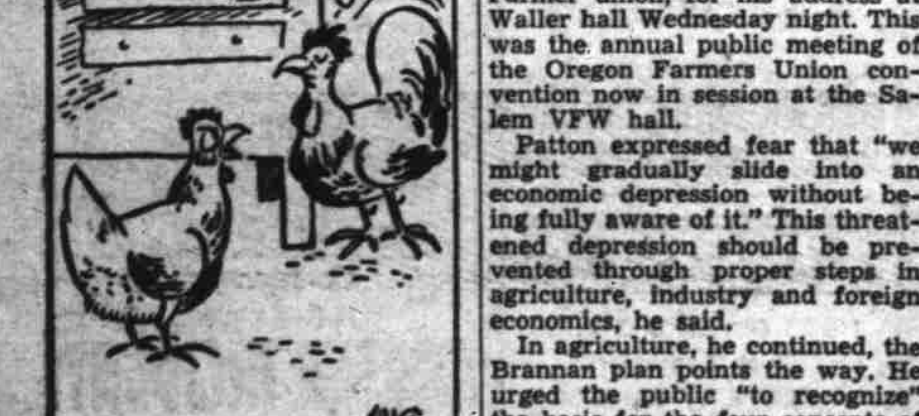
ELLIS SEEKS REELECTION
PENDLETON, Feb. 22 (AP)—State Sen. Rex Ellis, Pendleton, said today he would file for his fifth term in the state senate. Ellis, a republican, is second in seniority in the senate, topped only by Sen. Dean Walker, Independence.

Conservative Baptists Choose Dr. Anderson
PORTLAND, Feb. 22 (AP)—Dr. Lloyd T. Anderson, pastor of the First Baptist church, Salem, was elected moderator of the Conservative Baptist Churches of Oregon today.

His election closed a two-day annual conference of messengers and visitors from 66 member churches.

John Foster, Portland, was elected vice moderator. Ray Cates, Salem, heads the men's lay group.

Animal Crackers



"WELL! I hope you two will be very happy!"

LONDON, Feb. 23 (AP)—Britain began voting today in a vital election to decide whether to keep Britain on the road to socialism. More than 5,000 polling places opened at 7 o'clock this morning, British time, (11 p.m. PST). Some 34,000,000 voters will choose between continuing the labor government of Prime Minister Clement Attlee or a return to the conservative leadership of Winston Churchill.

Mild weather in most sections promised a record vote turnout, Churchill, who hopes to regain the government leadership he wielded during the dark days of World War II, planned to vote on noon near his home in the Hyde Park district.

A close race between the laborites and their major opponents — the conservatives — is forecast by most political observers.

For the past three weeks candidates of various parties have been campaigning in the hamlets and great cities of the nation. In their pleas for support, the candidates have described the balloting as a time of careful decision. Position Not Clear.

A few hours before the polls opened the liberal party announced it would be willing to support the labor party in the new parliament if the laborites halt all nationalization of British industry for the next five years, including the key iron and steel industry.

The liberal position was not entirely clear to political observers since the party's statement did not mention a coalition. It did not amplify what was meant by the word "support."

Coalition Seen Possible
Perhaps significantly, the statement made no mention of a possible liberal - conservative combination. The laborites have declared repeatedly they would not take part in a government based on a combination of parties.

Political writers have speculated that neither the laborites nor the conservatives may obtain a working majority in the house of commons as a result of today's balloting. A coalition is one possible way out of such a stalemate.

Naval Officer Claims View Of Flying Disc

NEW YORK, Feb. 22 (AP)—A navy officer says flying saucers were seen over the White Sands, N. M., proving grounds for guided missiles last year and he thinks the discs are space ships from another planet.

The officer, Commander Robert B. McLaughlin, writes in the March issue of True magazine that saucers were seen at White Sands in April, May and June, 1949.

On one occasion, he said, two small saucers chased a navy rocket.

The air force has called the discs hoaxes or misunderstandings of natural phenomena. The striking saucers were seen at White Sands in April, May and June, 1949.

McLaughlin identified by the magazine as a naval officer and guided missile expert, wrote in his article: "I am convinced that they are space ships from another planet, operated by animate, intelligent beings."

McLaughlin said that in April, 1949, a group of navy men and scientists "tracked" a disc with an instrument which was being used to watch a weather balloon and chart its progress upward.

He added that data obtained indicated the saucer was about 105 feet in diameter and flew at a speed of about five miles per second at an altitude of approximately 56 miles. It was visible for a minute.

McLaughlin wrote that in May, 1949, he personally watched a flying saucer at White Sands. McLaughlin also wrote that in June other observers saw two small flying saucers flitting around a 2,000-foot-per-second navy rocket. The discs finally speeded up and passed the fast-traveling navy missile.

At White Sands, officials said the flying saucer report is nothing new and declined comment.

Land Reform Advice Needed In World, Farm Leader Tells

By Lillie L. Madsen
Farm Editor, The Statesman

World markets should not be killed by wars. Money spent for wars could better be spent for the cultivation of these world markets. If there had been more agricultural specialists and not so many diplomats the United States might have "gone some place in China." Land reform assistance was what was really needed.

These were some of the statements prepared by James G. Patton, president of the National Farmer union, for his address at Waller hall Wednesday night. This was the annual public meeting of the Oregon Farmers Union convention now in session at the Salem VFW hall.

Patton expressed fear that "we might gradually slide into an economic depression without being fully aware of it." This threatened depression should be prevented through proper steps in agriculture, industry and foreign economics, he said.

In agriculture, he continued, the Brannan plan points the way. He urged the public "to recognize" the basis for the four concepts of the Brannan plan which he named as:

(1) Agriculture should receive a fair share of the national income, or about \$27,000,000,000 annually for its program if present standards of living are to be maintained.

(2) Agriculture is the first industry to contribute to the economic depression slides.

(3) Agriculture should produce abundantly and supplies should be put on the market place so that people can buy. The supplies should not be locked up or otherwise withheld from a market under a program to prop up prices at artificial levels such as proposed by the "security plan." He cited potatoes and eggs as samples of government purchases of surpluses and their results.

(4) Frank recognition of efficient and sensible use of such devices as government guarantees of income through direct payments, which "is a more honest and efficient than kidding the public that purchase programs are not forms of subsidies."

In referring to subsidies, Patton explained that they had been in use in some form or other for generations and people had generally become of the opinion that they were good if "they helped us and bad if they don't."

(Additional details on pages 10 and 11.)