

2 American Ships Bombed, Strafed at Port of Tsingtao

NEW YORK, Feb. 27-(AP)—Two American ships were attacked from the air today at the communist-held north China port of Tsingtao.

Officials in Washington said they assumed the attacking craft were Chinese Nationalist planes and that the Nationalists were attempting to extend their blockade of red-controlled ports.

United States Lines here said its 8,000-ton freighter Pioneer Dale was bombed and strafed as it approached Tsingtao. A message from the captain said one of the 50 crew members was injured slightly.

In Washington, the state department said the master of the 8,192-ton Isbrandtsen ship Flying Clipper reported his vessel was attacked while anchored in Tsingtao harbor.

(In Tokyo H. Krabbenschmidt of A. P. Pattison Co., shipping agents, said the Flying Clipper's master radioed the ship had been strafed and a bomb had scored a "near miss." He reported "numerous holes in the hull and superstructure." The attack occurred as the ship approached Tsingtao's quarantine area.

(Krabbenschmidt and S. E. Walker of the U. S. Lines in Tokyo said the captains of both ships radioed they had been attacked by "planes." This indicated more than one aircraft took part in the attack on each ship. Neither captain identified the nationality of the planes.)

(Tsingtao is the port at which

the Isbrandtsen ship Flying Arrow put in last month after being shelled by a Nationalist gunboat.)

An official of U. S. Lines said the master of the Pioneer Dale, James F. Knowlton, cabled from Tsingtao.

"Attacked by bomber, one bomb dropped six lengths astern this vessel while approaching breakwater. Ship badly strafed. One slight casualty. Now proceeding seawards awaiting orders."

U. S. Lines ordered the ship to Japan.

Officials said the five-year-old freighter was going into Tsingtao for general cargo. The holds were said to be empty when it left Hongkong.

The state department said today the Chinese Nationalists have failed to reply to an American protest sent more than three weeks ago following an attack on the Flying Arrow.

Council Forms Traffic Safety Boards

To Study Revision Of Laws

A Salem traffic safety council and a safety commission were established Monday night by the city council.

Designed to aid the city in increasing traffic safety, the council will be a citizens' group appointed by the mayor to spearhead public education for safety and the commission will be a city official's group to study proposed traffic legislation and otherwise advise the council.

Mayor To Appoint

Mayor R. L. Elfstrom will have the authority to appoint any number of interested citizens to the council. The resolution was adopted by the city alderman last night, set the membership of the commission as consisting of the city manager, police chief and city engineer.

Legislation in traffic matters remains the exclusive authority of the city council.

Formation of the new safety groups was endorsed by Police Chief Clyde A. Warren and by Capt. Walter Lansing who heads a state safety program in which the secretary of state's department and the state police cooperate.

Reservations Voiced

Although the new measure was adopted unanimously at the city council session in city hall, reservations were voiced by Alderman David O'Hara.

"It sounds like a circuitous procedure to me," declared O'Hara, who felt the big safety problem lies in the need for more enforcement of existing traffic laws.

He mentioned in this connection that the recent presence of a traffic patrolman at the statehouse during rush hours has "increased the observance of traffic rules tremendously."

Capt. Lansing told the council that even if policing could be extensive enough to provide a traffic officer at every intersection, traffic problems could not be solved "without the desire to comply with the law by an informed public."

Mine Seizure Talk Heard; Union Files Innocent Plea

Sun Baskers Keep Coats On



Enjoying Monday's spring-like sunshine in Salem are the men above, taking time off during their lunch hour to sit in front of the Oregon Pulp and Paper Co. mill. A chilly wind served to remind all that it is just a little early yet, however. (Statesman photo).

Government Contempt Case Starts in Court

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27-(AP)—A high government official expressed the personal opinion tonight that unless the coal strike is settled by Tuesday night federal seizure of the idle mines would appear inevitable.

There was no sign at the White House, however, that President Truman was preparing to ask for seizure of the mines.

House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.), after the usual meeting of congressional leaders with the president, told reporters that while coal had been discussed, there was no talk of seizure.

However, Rayburn said that Mr. Truman asked for a seizure law, he thought congress would pass one. He deemed passage of such a law unlikely, lacking a request.

In the opinion of the other high government official, who asked that his name be withheld, this is the critical week.

It was his belief that the effects of the paralyzing coal strike, already felt in many cold-numbered communities, will begin to pyramid—that smaller industries will be forced to shut down, in turn affecting the bigger manufacturers.

The government started its contempt case against the United Mine Workers union in federal district court.

Asserts Innocence

The union insisted that it was innocent of contempt charges on the grounds that the miners' refusal to work was not a union decision but an individual decision by the 372,000 miners.

The case will continue before Federal Judge Richmond B. Keach tomorrow afternoon.

This was the legal situation as it was outlined before Judge Keach today.

The union argument: Since no strike officially was called, the union can't be in contempt of federal court which on February 11 ordered the men back to their jobs.

Say Union Responsible

Government attorneys began to build up their argument: The men all quit at the same time, and the union is responsible for its members' actions.

Federal conciliators again arranged for contact talks between the miners and the operators. But these lasted only an hour.

City Council Bypasses Daylight Saving Protest

Daylight saving time almost, but not quite, got a foot in the city council door Monday night.

A strongly worded protest against a time switch was on the doorstep from the Salem Trades and Labor council, but the council didn't even read it.

Word had got around that bills to make daylight saving time effective here would be introduced at this council meeting, but none appeared. Mayor R. E. Elfstrom simply asked that letters on the subject be held until the council had daylight time legislation before it.

Claims Reduced Employment

The labor council resolution said daylight time "has never been a success and has caused more confusion, turmoil and disorder of schedules and routine events than any other factor."

It asserted also that the fast time would reduce employment in some ranks of labor like musicians and theatrical workers' groups.

Another letter referred to but briefly was a protest from C. C. Franklin, a local landlord.

Hearings Called

In other business, the city council took these steps:

Called a March 13 public hearing on 40-foot setback lines for Portland road north from the underpass to city limits.

Set a March 13 public hearing on a controversial zone change which would permit a service station to be established at the southeast corner of Capitol and Center streets.

Ordered South Capitol street in the block facing Bush school, closed between 8:30 a. m. and 4 p. m. on all days that the school is in session as a safety measure for pupils.

Approved a city zoning commission hearing for March 21 on zoning for new Salem city territory on the west side of the river. (Additional details on page 2.)

Lebanon Nut Growers To Leave Association

LEBANON, Feb. 27-(AP)—The Lebanon Nut Growers Co-operative will pull out of the Northwest Nut Growers association July 1.

The co-operative voted to withdraw because the association cancelled operations at a local plant.

Kenneth Watters, co-op manager, said the co-operative would use the local plant and find its own market outlets.

6 Federal Census Crew Leaders for Marion County Appointed, 2 for Polk

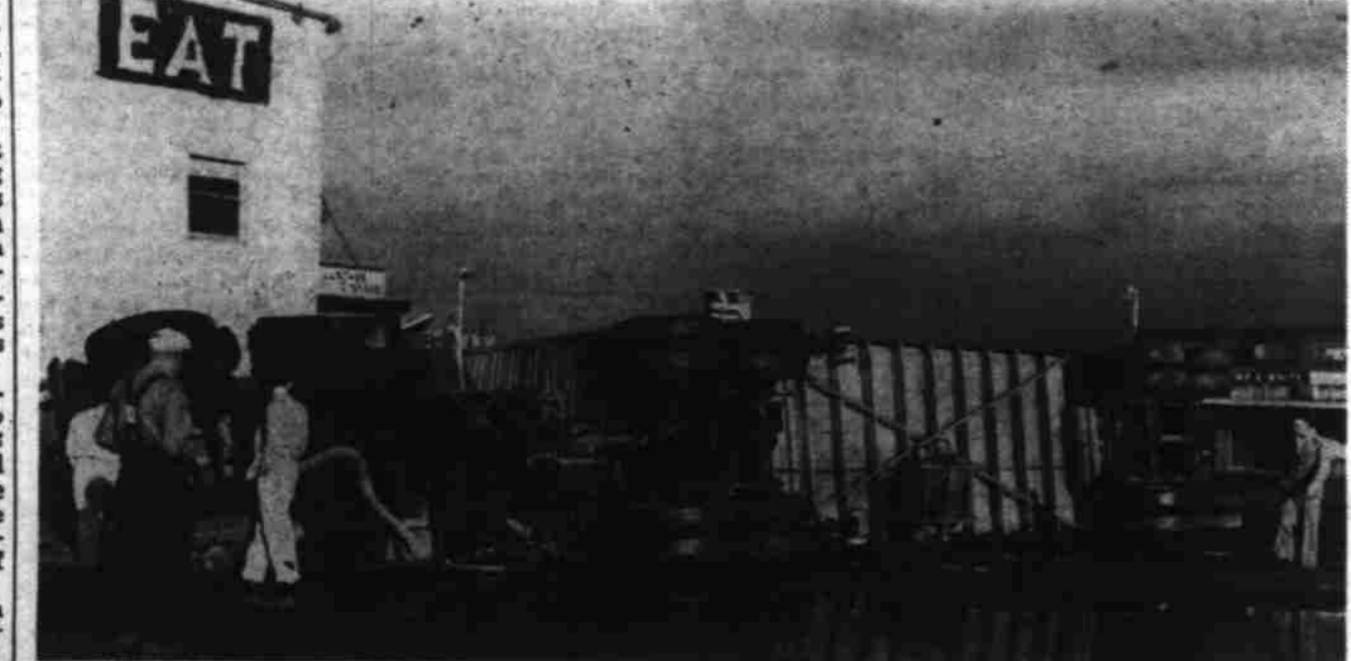
Appointment of six federal census crew leaders for Marion county and two for Polk county was announced Monday by Cornelius Bateson, district census supervisor.

Each of the crew leaders will head a group of from 15 to 20 enumerators during the census taking which is slated to begin April 1. The crew leaders will begin preliminary operations about March 8.

The appointments for Marion county include: Mrs. Louis C. Doughton, 1131 N. 14th st., who will handle the western half of Polk county, including West Salem, and Gilbert F. Loy, Independence, who will canvass the eastern sections of Polk county.

Although West Salem will be canvassed separately from Salem

Even on Its Side, Truck Towers over Men



Brooks residents got a chance to see what the bottom of a 27-ton truck and trailer looks like when this one upset in the business district Sunday afternoon. State police said the driver, A. R. McKay of Mapleton, wheeled the rig sharply to the left to avoid a car ahead. McKay was not injured. The truck was headed for Portland with a load of broccoli which was transferred to another trailer. (Statesman photo).

County Jail Inmates Use Cots to Loosen Bricks in Escape Try

Using strips of steel from their cots for tools, Marion county jail inmates pried 25 bricks loose from a wall of the jail Monday, but a deputy sheriff discovered the plans for a break before it started.

Sheriff Denver Young said the bricks had been loosened around a window on the north side of the room to which all 25 prisoners had access during the day. The bricks had been replaced when the work was detected during a 5 p. m. check after the men had been returned to their cells.

Young said the men apparently expected to complete tunneling through the wall today. It was not known how many participated in the plans for a break but several are due for questioning today.

Five of the strips of steel were found. The men had used them to pry mortar loose around the bricks. Eleven ex-convicts were in the ranks of those confined Monday night.

Leopard Hunt Spurred By Showers, New Clue

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 27-(AP)—The weather came to the aid of frustrated leopard hunters tonight. It began to rain.

Zoo Director Julian Frazier joyfully said: "That'll mean fresh tracks tomorrow and good hunting."

Just before the shower began officials directing the widespread search for the jungle-bred leopard which bolted the city zoo here Saturday held a strategy huddle.

Frazier decided to send a group of park department employees over a 20-mile area along Deep Fork creek putting out doped horse meat as bait for the beast. Knock-out drops were injected into the meat.

Before weary and desperate hunters called off today's search at dusk, they were confident they were on the beast's trail at last.

An encouraging clue came from Farmer Floyd Crabbs. He told searchers his 17 head of cattle stamped last night "and I don't know why."

Zoo Chief Frazier said: "That is a good indication the leopard is up this way and that he's working northeast. We didn't find any paw prints, but we think we're on the right trail."

Two guards reported the leopard reentered the zoo grounds about 1 a. m. A thorough search of the grounds failed to locate him.

A hunk of meat—treated with a sleep-producing drug and hung on a zoo fence last night—was missing today. But it still wasn't known if the cat, captured in India 60 days ago and brought here only last week, grabbed the food.

The cat, which scattered scores of zoo visitors when he hurtled from his 18-foot deep pit, hasn't been fed since Saturday morning. His mate has been placed in a cage.

County Roads To Stay Rough, Funds Low

Some of the roughness must remain in Marion county roads until at least July because of fund depletion by two consecutive severe winters, county court members said Monday.

How much maintenance work can be accomplished prior to that is dependent upon amount of funds needed to repair damages from the recent freeze, extent of which is not yet known.

While repair crews cannot be augmented, it will not be necessary to cut them down, County Judge Grant Murphy said.

Commissioner Roy Rice asserted "We can't patch all the holes or put rock on all the roads until after June 30" (end of the fiscal year).

Appropriation

The county's road appropriation for the fiscal year 1949-50 was \$668,825, providing an average of about \$53,000 per month for road-building and maintenance, outside a \$25,000 item specified for improvement of public roads not in the county system. But as of January 31, the fund was down to \$248,000, or less than \$45,000 per month.

That would probably be sufficient in an ordinary year, according to Judge Murphy, but is not enough to care for freeze damage in addition.

Much of the 1949 freeze and thaw damage was repaired with \$100,000 borrowed from the state and with funds appropriated for 1949-50, said the judge, because the previous budget was lower, \$558,000. This year's budget was thus drained early.

The state's loan will be repaid this year and next at \$12,500 per quarter. Since that means \$50,000 for the 1950-51 fiscal year alone, Murphy said road work prospects for that period also are diminished.

IT SEEMS TOMORROW

By Charles A. Sprague

What's all this talk about legislative reapportionment?

The constitution provides that after each census the representation in the senate and house would be reapportioned on the basis of population (white population since the constitution was drawn up in 1857 when negroes were not rated as citizens). The legislature however has failed to make any general reapportionment since 1911.

Members just are unwilling to serve up the state again in senatorial and representative districts because they hate to legislate any of their fellow-members out of office. The result is that representation is sadly distorted as far as comparative populations go.

Two measures are now being submitted for signatures under the initiative. One is sponsored by groups such as the two big labor organizations, Young Republican Federation and Young Democratic clubs. This would leave representation in senate and house to be based on population (the word "white" deleted), except that no county may have over one-third of the membership in either body. This provision is intended to satisfy upstate Oregon that Multnomah county will not "hog" the show.

The special feature of this proposal is that the apportionment is to be made not by the legislature but by a commission composed of the governor, secretary of state and state.

(Continued on editorial page, 4.)

Neuberger Declines to Run

PORTLAND, Feb. 27-(AP)—Richard L. Neuberger, Portland democrat often mentioned as a possible candidate for governor, said today he would not run for any office this year.

An author, Neuberger said he wanted to remain free to write. "I am afraid I would not write about many subjects with independence and freedom if I thought of myself as a nominee for high elective office," he said.

Strengthening Of Superfort Groups Due

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27-(AP)—The department of defense announced tonight that the 83rd force is strengthening its superfort groups with additional bombers and tanker planes. The tankers are similar to those which enabled a B-50 bomber to fly around the world without stopping.

One of nine air force groups listed for added strength is in the United Kingdom; the others are in the United States.

A defense department spokesman said that the nine groups of B-29 and B-50 superfortresses are being reorganized to provide for 45 bombers in each group, instead of 30 as before.

Hewitt Eyes Race

TILLAMOOK, Feb. 27-(AP)—Roy R. Hewitt, Salem lawyer, speaking at a democratic committee meeting here yesterday, indicated he would become a candidate for congressman from the first district.

ACHESON PROBE ASKED

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 27-(AP)—The New York state assembly demanded tonight that congress investigate Secretary of State Dean Acheson because of his declaration that he would not turn his back on Alger Hiss.

Animal Crackers



"Here ya go, Doc—see what you can do with Alfred—he keeps rejecting realities."

Ship Rips Up Dock in Fog

PORTLAND, Feb. 27-(AP)—A Liberty freighter tore away 80 feet of a Willamette river dock here today while turning around in a heavy fog.

The ship, Sulphur Mines, was trying to dock to load lumber across the river from the grain terminal it smashed. Pilings were torn out, timbers smashed and several hundred grain bags spilled into the river. The ship apparently was undamaged.

Truman's Cousin To Seek Election

LONG BEACH, Calif., Feb. 27-(AP)—Attorney Rolland Truman says he will run for congress to "rescue" his cousin, President Truman, from "leftwing subdoctors."

"I feel that Cousin Harry has been kidnapped by leftwingers and is being held prisoner by advisers who lean to socialistic philosophies of government," Truman said.

Truman, 37, a democrat, said he is a candidate for congress on both democratic and republican tickets.

The Statesman Sounding Board

It's too early in the unofficial voting to term the results a definite trend, but it can be reported that so far Daylight Saving Time isn't getting many votes.

Here're the percentage results of the Sounding Board's initial count:

For Daylight Saving Time 18
Against Daylight Saving Time 82

Breaking it down into classifications by percentage:

For Daylight Time 16
Against Daylight Time 84

(You can mail your vote to "The Sounding Board," care of The Statesman, or drop your opinion into the ballot box just inside The Statesman's main door at 215 S. Commercial st.)

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	50	30	.00
Portland	49	30	trace
San Francisco	61	47	.00
Chicago	28	0	.02
New York	21	9	.00

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Fog and low clouds this morning, misting before noon. Gradually increasing cloudiness during the afternoon and evening with rain tonight. High today near 55; low tonight near 37.

SALEM PRECIPITATION	Last Year	Normal
This year	32.91	34.44
		27.25