

Exiled Belgian King Wins Plebiscite by Slim Margin

80 Persons Perish in Welsh Airliner Crash

Worst Disaster in History of Aviation

CARDIFF, Wales, March 12—(AP)—A low-flying airliner filled with gay Welsh football fans crashed 150 yards short of its home runway today, killing 80 persons in the worst recorded disaster in aviation history.



By Charles Sprague

Mr. Sprague is on vacation, taking a trip to the east coast and into the deep south, returning about mid-April. His regular column will be interrupted, save for such travel letters as he may find time and opportunity to write.

2 Engineers Lost; Klamath Area Searched

KLAMATH FALLS, March 12 (AP)—Police checked waypoints in the Lava Beds National Monument area tonight in a search for two federal bureau engineers.

Listed missing are A. G. Ribbeck, 38, Sacramento, Calif., chief of the federal reclamation bureau engineering office there, and Rudy Simonson, 26, Weed, Calif. They left Weed Thursday evening. Police today learned the two men had checked out of a hotel here early Friday.

Three Oregon air guard planes were lined up for an air search due tomorrow. It is planned on a chance the car the men were riding had plunged off an icy mountain road or into a roadside canal. The engineers were to inspect the Tulelake section of the Klamath irrigation area.

Ground parties searching along the basin and mountain highways are directed by H. W. Thomson, Sacramento. He came here aboard a reclamation bureau airplane dispatched from the California headquarters to join the air patrol.

Salem Youth 'Speaker' of Mock House

One of the top positions in the annual Oregon Youth and Government legislature, to convene in Salem April 28 and 29, went again to a Salem delegate, as Kent Myers was elected speaker of the house at a preliminary session Saturday in Eugene. Last year James Cooke of Salem was boy governor.

In Eugene about 50 Hi-Y boys and Tri-Hi-Y girls from one of the state's four zones heard state officials tell of their jobs and of legislative procedures. They also saw University of Oregon speech students demonstrate the handling of a bill as in a house of representatives.

Others elected Saturday included Bill Reeves, Springfield, clerk of senate; David Blackmer, Salem, and Janet Elliott, Roseburg, reporters. Each zone elects two of the major officers, two reporters and several senators. Other delegates, chosen by their home clubs, become representatives. Senators for this zone are Bob Meaney and Charles Willhoit of Salem. Helke Ohling of Albany, Vic Sanders of Roseburg, Lynn Johnson of Eugene and Bob O'Connor of Springfield.

Myers, a senior at Salem high school and a member of Abel Gregg Hi-Y club, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur V. Myers. He is school yell king this year and is on the track and golf teams.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH

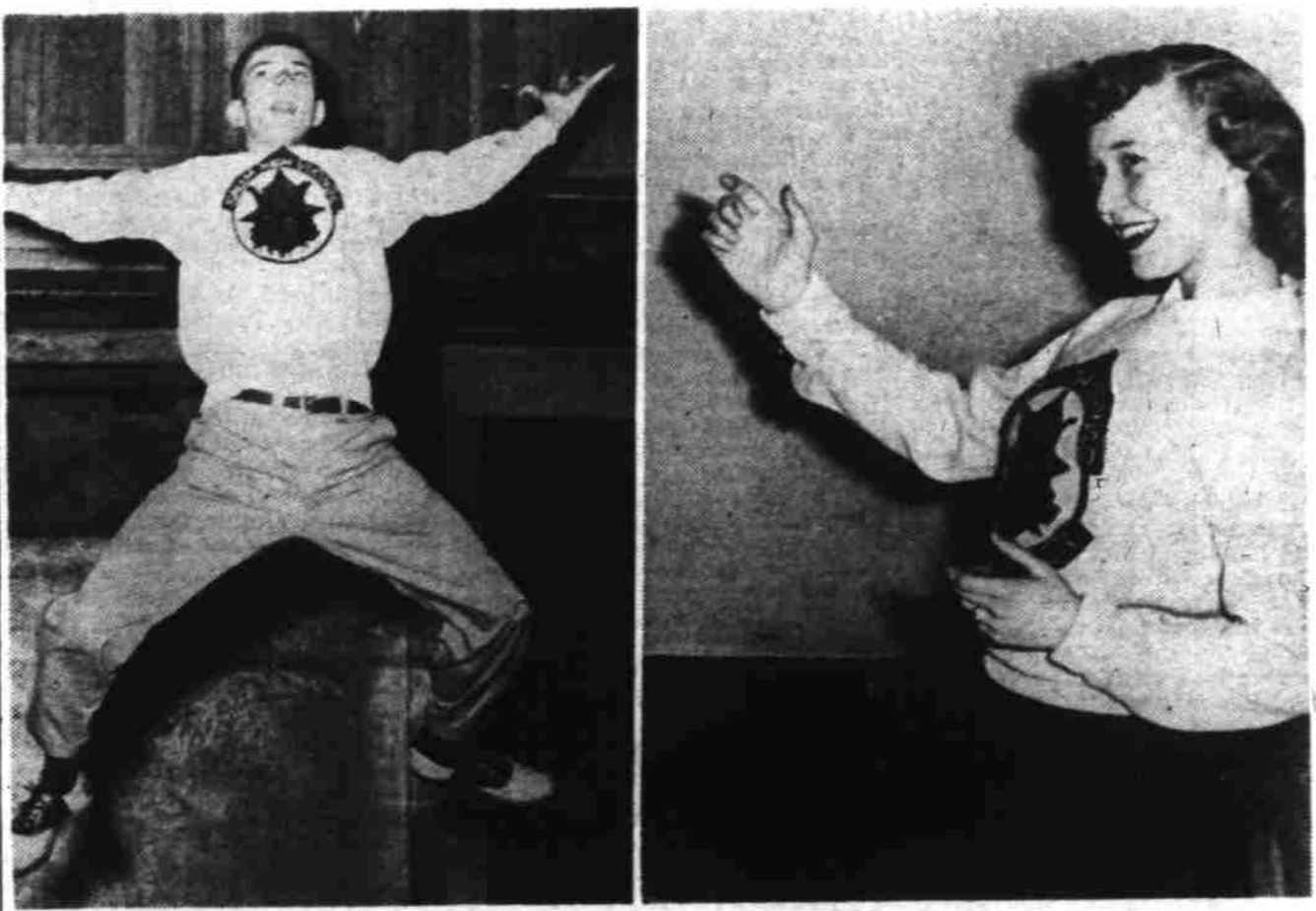


"Worms? Heavens no! I'm a vegetarian—that's spaghetti!"

The Oregon Statesman

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On the Sidelines---But Vital to Vikings



It will be lusty cheers for Salem high school's Viking basketballers at the state tournament in Eugene this week if the cheer leaders above have their way with Salem rooters. With Salem in a top spot for the coveted state championship trophy the rally squads should be in readiness to give all in urging the hoopers on. At left is Kent Myers, 17, of 2375 Madison st., a senior who is yell king and really up in the air about it. And winsome Ginger Currier, 17, of 1225 N. 14th st., also a senior and state queen should have no trouble getting loud singing out of any pep squad. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

'Fire Ball' Seen in Amity Sky

Statesman News Service
AMITY, March 12—An unidentified fiery object, night-time version of the flying saucer, was reported to have been sighted moving slowly across the skies near here tonight.

State police reported that "nearly 100 persons," saw the object which seemed to hang low about three-quarters of a mile north-east of Amity.

The A. A. Anderson family, living in town, said they sighted the bright amber-colored object about 7 p.m. Anderson said it was "too large to be an aircraft light and was moving too slow; there was no engine noise."

Within a few minutes, Anderson said, the apparition appeared to "speed up," and soon disappeared. City Marshal James Davidson, said he sighted the lighted visitor just after 8:30 p.m. and that he notified authorities at McMinnville.

State police said they were checking on missing aircraft.

Pen Inmates Blast Radio 'Crime School'

WETHERSFIELD, Conn., March 12 (AP)—The Monthly Record published by a group of inmates at the Connecticut state prison at Wethersfield, here, has taken up cudgels against radio "crime" programs.

In an article entitled "15,000 Murders a Month," a writer-in-mate says:

"I object! I vehemently object! I get glassy-eyed with anger and my trigger finger jerks spasmodically every time I think how the radio crime presentation industry operates its debasing crime schools."

The writer said he had listened to 50 radio "crime" programs in two weeks, one of which "gave details on how to snatch 75 G's worth of diamonds," while another "showed how to cash a bank for a 50 G stickup."

Also included, he said, were programs which "told how to blackmail recently widowed women out of 5 and 10 G's apiece," and gave "details on a 40 grand kidnaping plot, with a little murder and extortion thrown in."

Calling radio crime presentation "the most blatantly debasing and most crime-inducing factor with which the American listening public has to contend," the writer-in-mate turns to television and asks:

"When they get television so good that half-congealed blood drips onto the nursery floor, will you still allow it? Will you still think it is thrilling?"

Gubitchev Still Undecided

NEW YORK, March 12 (AP)—Federal authorities still were waiting tonight to hear from Valentin A. Gubitchev whether he will accept the government's offer of release from a 15-year prison term on condition that he go home to Russia.

Gubitchev, convicted on a spy charge, has been reported unofficially as ready to accept the offer.

Cloud of Gas Explodes; Fire Fatal to Woman

MARTINEZ, Calif., March 12 (AP)—A cloud of gas, hanging low over the highway at Oleum, exploded early today, killing a woman and seriously burning two men.

Three automobiles were set afire by the blast. Highway Patrolmen Gordon Campbell and Neil J. McClintock said the gas apparently came from a leaking overhead pipe which carried waste from an oil refinery to a nearby dump. They believed it was ignited by exhaust or ignition sparks from an automobile.

Mrs. Ursula Adams, of Alameda, Calif., was killed. John Esta of Berkeley and Pvt. Burnett Hale, 21, of the Fairfield-Suisun airbase, were injured. Hale was burned pulling Esta from his blazing car.

Esta told police he saw the cloud and slowed down. "There was a terrific flash of flame," he said. "Everything was on fire."

Hale, driving behind Esta and Mrs. Adams, said: "There was a sudden explosion. My car was on fire. I jumped out. I pulled a ball of flame—a man—out of another car."

The third car set afire was driven by Charles Sherman, jr., of Hayward. He and his companions, Bob Sherratt, Barbara Wittrich, and Carolyn Herfield, all of San Francisco, beat out the fire in their car. Sherman said flames shot up around his car as he drove into the fog of fumes.

Dominick Angelo, of Crockett, said he avoided the flash of flame by a quick U-turn on the highway.

WORKERS BACK ON JOB

NEW YORK, March 12 (AP)—American Airlines ground crewmen striking a nationwide 11-day strike that crippled 80 per cent of the line's operations.

vacation retreats in Key West, Fla., and Maryland. An estimated staff of 665 persons to run them at an annual cost of \$1,491,540. Then there are vacation allowances of between \$33,896 and \$40,000, exclusive of air travel which is charged to the air force. The yacht Williamsburgh, "for which crew costs alone are \$190,000 annually."

'Over Exposure' Fatal to Husband

BELLAIRE, O., March 12 (AP)—A 23-year-old farm wife told authorities today she shot and killed her husband during an argument over his wearing only shorts before their 15-month-old daughter.

Prosecutor William H. Irwin said Mrs. Alice Blake signed a statement that she fired a shotgun blast at her husband, Edward, 27, in their tenant farm home four miles west of here. He died instantly.

In the statement, Mrs. Blake said the argument began when her husband got out of bed to cover their child. He was dressed only in a pair of shorts and she declared it was "indecent" to appear so before their daughter, the statement said.

Opponent of Peron Held

BUENOS AIRES, March 12 (AP)—Argentine police today arrested Ricardo Balbin who was running against President Juan D. Peron's right hand man for the governorship of Buenos Aires province. They picked him up, just after he had cast his ballot.

Peron's friend, Col. Domingo Mercante, was leading 194,428 to 119,468 with one-third of the results counted.

The order for Balbin's arrest was issued by Federal Judge Ismael Tesaglia. It was based on a police report of a speech where Balbin reportedly assailed Peron. Criticism of authorities is against the law in Argentina.

EVACUATION SCHEDULED

HONG KONG, Monday, March 13 (AP)—American President Lines will leave here March 18 for communist Shanghai to evacuate Americans and other foreigners.

These, he said, are specially-built limousines with "gold-plated doorhandles, vanities and perfume cases."

What's more, Woodruff added, even the White House secretaries, who once walked to work . . . now arrive in White House cars.

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Russians Elect Parliament on 'Peace Ballot'

MOSCOW, March 13 (AP)—Russians elected a new parliament of 1,302 members today as the climax to a campaign based on political pledges that the Soviet Union is following a policy of peace.

The No. 1 candidate was Prime Minister Stalin. He headed the ticket of communists and their non-party associates who were shooting for as near 100 per cent of the vote as possible. There is only one ticket, and that approved by the communist party.

The complete vote was expected to be announced within a week. At the last election in the climax to a Soviet (parliament) in 1946 the returns were complete in five days.

All members of the politburo, with the exception of Stalin, delivered speeches during the election campaign.

Remembering Stalin's speeches on the eve of past elections, many foreigners in Moscow awaited his appearance last night. Early in the evening, however, it became apparent he would not appear at the Bolshoi theater, where he made such a speech in 1946. An opera was presented there last night. (This dispatch contained no explanation of why the 70-year-old prime minister did not speak.)

Acres of red bunting and thousands of strands of electric lights decorated Moscow and the city was in a holiday mood. Bands played patriotic and folksy airs. Loudspeakers broadcast light music. Voters dressed in their best clothes to visit the polling places. Many attended special parties afterward. The weather was bright and mild.

From the mouth of the Danube to Bering Strait, and from the Baltic to the sea of Japan the voters were electing 671 members of the council of the union, the upper house, and 631 members of the council of nationalities, or lower house.

ROSSSELLINI WINS PRIZE

ROME, March 12 (AP)—Roberto Rossellini, Italian movie director, was awarded a one million lire (about \$1500) prize of Rome today for his picture, "Stromboli," starring Ingrid Bergman.

WOMAN APPOINTED

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP)—Miss Bertha S. Adkins of Salisbury, Md., has been named to the long-vacant post of executive director of the women's division of the republican national committee.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	50	31	trace
Portland	48	36	.00
San Francisco	59	38	.00
Chicago	29	23	.00
New York	53	40	.01

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy; light rain today, tonight. High near 50, low near 40.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

This Year	Last Year	Normal
34.36	34.73	28.91

Solons To Give Verdict



LEOPOLD III OF BELGIUM Waits for Invitation

By Joseph E. Dynan
BRUSSELS, Belgium, Monday, March 13 (AP)—Exiled King Leopold III was declared winner today in a plebiscite on whether he shall return to the Belgian throne. However, his margin of victory in yesterday's balloting was slim.

He received 57 per cent of the valid ballots. However, some 151,000 ballots were declared invalid. If the invalid ballots are counted, Leopold received only 56 per cent of the 5,236,740 votes cast.

These percentages are important. The king had announced he would abdicate unless he received at least 53 per cent of the votes. The results brought up the question as to how parliament would construe the returns.

Actually, the plebiscite was only advisory, being designed to show parliament how the people feel about Leopold. Parliament itself must make the final decision on the king's status.

The final official complete tabulation, announced by the interior minister, showed:

Yes (for Leopold's return), 2,933,382.
No (against his return), 2,151,881.
Invalid, 141,477.

Lead Dropped
For a time during the counting, Leopold's margin ran as high as 70 per cent. That was while the pro-Leopold Flemish-speaking districts of northern Belgium were being tabulated. The lead was cut down steadily as late returns from the anti-Leopold French-speaking provinces to the south came in. The king lost the Brussels vote by approximately 30,000 ballots.

The interior ministry said the king had carried 21 of the country's 30 districts and seven of its nine provinces.

Lost Provinces
This also may have a bearing on how the overall count will be construed when parliament finally determines the king's future. The liberal party, which holds the balance of power, has said it would oppose Leopold's return unless he accepted a simple majority in both the Flemish and French-speaking sections. The final count showed he lost two of the southern provinces.

There was every evidence that while the pro-Leopoldists considered the plebiscite a triumph, the anti-Leopoldists have no intention of accepting a 57 per cent king.

Interior Minister—Albert de Vleeschouwer, a social Christian, said he believes his party should ask parliament to bring back the king.

Meeting Called
A cabinet meeting has been called for 8 a.m. (3 a.m. EST) today, at which de Vleeschouwer said the question is "likely to be discussed." Premier Gaston Eyskens, also a social Christian, expects to leave Tuesday to call on the king in Switzerland.

Leopold has been living in exile in Switzerland since World War II. Many Belgians objected to the king's surrender of his forces to the nazis and becoming their prisoner early in the war instead of choosing to carry on the fight with a government-in-exile.

Race Relations Workshop Due Here in April

Further preparations for a race relations workshop to be conducted here April 21 to 23 were made Sunday afternoon by valley units of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, sponsors, in conference with Dr. Orval Etter, far west secretary for FOR.

Emphasis will be placed on the raising of questions regarding racism and the providing of information on Salem and Oregon race relations problems or developments.

Topics by speakers from over the state and by panels will include the "myth of race, the price of democracy pays because of race practices, the costs of segregation, anti-semitism" as well as techniques and the use of literature in inter-racial work.

The group, meeting in First Congregational church, also heard William McReynolds, formerly of Salem and now studying for the ministry at Berkeley, Calif., tell of his experiences in English and German work camps the past year.

Mine Reaches Oregon Shore

SEATTLE, March 12 (AP)—A drifting Japanese mine washed ashore on the Oregon coast today 45 miles north of Coos Bay and is being guarded by coast guardsmen from the Florence lifeboat station, the 13th naval district reported.

The mine, spotted by a civilian, is several miles from any building. It is the third to drift onto Pacific northwest beaches since Jan. 1.

A navy mine disposal team, headed by Lt. Cmdr. Robert W. Dart, was ordered to leave at 6 a.m. tomorrow to detonate the explosive.

Council to Tackle Issue of New Business at Capitol Zone Edge

Whether new business should be permitted in the fringes of the capitol zone is principal issue before the Salem city council at its session in city hall tonight.

Today's issue is over the specific request for a business zone at the southeast corner of Capitol and Center streets limited to use for a new service station. The change involved, from I-C capitol zoning to a class III-X business zone, carries the endorsement of the city planning and zoning commission.

A city ordinance bill proposing the change will be up for final passage. The city council already has received objections to the proposed change from the state board of control, state highway commission, state capitol planning commission and Salem long range planning commission.

Objectors say the capitol zone

Doctors Refuse To Issue Rebuff To Dr. Sander

CONCORD, N.H., March 12 (AP)—The New Hampshire Medical Society refused today to take disciplinary action against Dr. Hermann N. Sander.

It did not wholly close the door upon such action, however. After debating the Sander case for three hours it was said disciplinary action "is the province of the county medical society concerned."

Neither Dr. Norman W. Crisp, of Nashua, president of the Hillsborough County Medical Society, nor Dr. Lloyd L. Wells of Manchester, its secretary, was available for comment, however, on this phase of the statement.

In one sense, the medical society meeting was another hurdle surmounted by the 41-year-old Concord physician who only last Thursday was acquitted by a Manchester jury of murder in the death by air injection of Mrs. Abbie Borroto, his cancer patient.

The state society could have recommended disciplinary action to the county society. Such action might have been censure, suspension or even expulsion from membership. But the state society refrained from any such suggestion.

It did, however, condemn mercy killing, or euthanasia, in strong terms. In its disapproval it included "any process for relieving suffering by the deliberate termination of life."

Wheel Flies From Hot Rod, Kills Spectator

WALL TOWNSHIP N. J., Mar. 12 (AP)—A wheel torn loose from a "hot rod" racing car spun into a crowd of 3,500 spectators today, killing one person and injuring another.

The car, one of a field of supercharged jalopies competing at the the Monmouth county airport raceway off route 34, careened wildly close to the crowd before it was brought to a safe halt.

The driver, John Chapman of Metedeconk near Point Pleasant, N. J., told state police his ancient racer had blown two tires, sending him into a sudden swerve and causing one of the wheels to fly loose.

The wheel crashed onto 17-year-old Albert A. Jester of Avon, N. J. He died in an ambulance en route to Pitkin Memorial hospital.

The wheel struck a glancing blow at a 15-year-old boy who was taken to the hospital in a second ambulance and was held there for observation of a neck injury.

POPE PIUS HONORED

VATICAN CITY, March 12 (AP)—Flags bedecked Vatican City today on the eleventh anniversary of the coronation of Pope Pius XII. Congratulatory telegrams arrived from many parts of the world. The anniversary will be celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica tomorrow in the presence of the Pope.