

# Salem Hi Basketball Squad Crowned State Champs

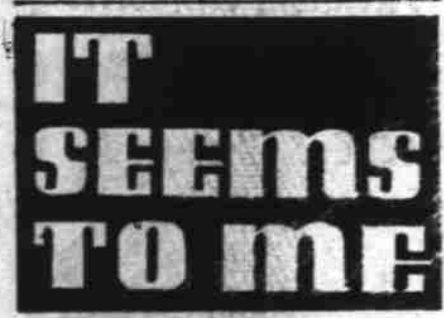
## Final Tilt Sees 34-28 Victory over Grants Pass; Girod, Rogers Make All-State

# The Oregon Statesman

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# 14 Navy Tender Crewmen Found Safe on Ship



By Charles Sprague

(Mr. Sprague is on vacation. Periodically he will write reports of his trip. The first of his travel letters follows.)

**Travel Letter I.**  
"I left home at St. Petersburg, Fla., this morning in sunshine," said the woman who sat beside me on the bus in from the Willow Run airport to Detroit.

"And I left San Francisco this morning in sunshine," I replied. And my seatmate on the plane from Chicago said he left Los Angeles this morning in sunshine.

Here we all were landing in a belated blizzard—snow, wind and cold. The woman was worst off. Her destination had been Columbus, Ohio, but the plane had to pass up landing there or Toledo. She was taking a train back. (I recalled the A.P. folder poking fun at airline literature by referring to the person who was put down at Upper Dental Plate, Virginia, though he didn't want to go to UDP, Va.)

Just a flare-back of winter, however, which persisted the next day. At Flint I had a wait of several hours before the car I was to pick up was ready. But Steve Richards, head of public relations for Buick, took me to lunch, along with Mr. Curry, city editor of the Flint Journal. Later I visited the fine plant of the Journal, which is one of the Booth papers of Michigan, a group with editorial autonomy, published in eight important cities in Michigan.

Flint is quite a boom city itself, made so by the expanding motor industry. It has developed, however, excellent community programs. The Mott Foundation has sponsored work in recreation and adult education. Flint's work in federated financing of local welfare activities (community chest) has been unusually successful, obtaining full cooperation of the leading

(Continued on editorial page 4)

## Belgian Regime Quits; Delays Leopold's Bid

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 18—(AP)—The Belgian government resigned today and thereby postponed King Leopold's chance to return to his throne.

The collapse of the government was caused by the eight liberal ministers, who refused to go along with the nine pro-Leopold Social Christians to end the regency and invite the 48-year-old monarch to return from exile in Switzerland.

One of the possible results may be new general elections. The king, still in a jam because of his surrender to the Germans after only 18 days of fighting in 1940, will not be able to come back until Belgium has a government which agrees to call parliament into joint session. Parliament must then repeal a law of 1945 which bars Leopold from resuming his constitutional powers without its permission.

## Fire Destroys Lumber Firm Near Rickreall

Statesman News Service

DALLAS, Ore., March 18—Fire destroyed the Central Lumber company at Rickreall near Rickreall today, with a loss estimated at \$45,000 by the owner, Carl Omie. The loss is covered by insurance.

The Dallas fire department battled the blaze for more than two hours and prevented the flames from spreading to Omie's nearby home.

The fire was believed started from a faulty electrical connection or a spark left smoldering after some electric welding was done Friday. The mill had been cutting 30,000 board feet of timber daily.

**PLANNING A HOME?**  
The Home and Garden section in today's Statesman has a lot of valuable hints.

## Rescued Men Tell of 'Snub' By Transport

PEARL HARBOR, March 18—(AP)—The navy skipper and crewmen who saved the navy net tender Elder from explosion and fire in a week-long ordeal in mid-Pacific, vowed today to see that their charred little ship into harbor under tow.

The Hawaiian sea frontier command, however, said present plans called for bringing them promptly to Pearl Harbor in another ship. It was interested in learning the particulars of the whole operation, including how a nearby transport passed them by four days before they finally were rescued.

**26 on Rafts**

All the Elder's crew of 40 were found safe late yesterday, 26 of them in life rafts into which the skipper, Lt. William F. Adams, had ordered them when the fire spread March 10.

Lt. Adams and 13 volunteers who had stayed aboard and watched the Elder burn from doom after a long struggle, were located 17 miles away aboard their charred and helpless ship.

The Pacific fleet commander, Adm. Arthur W. Radford, today dispatched the traditional "well-done" signals to all hands involved.

But—the navy also started organizing an inquiry to find out why a military transport sailed near the stricken Elder last Monday without responding to frantic distress signals that included gunfire and flares.

Lt. Adams in a radiophone interview was outspoken about his failure to attract attention of the transport General A. W. Brewster. The transport en route on Yokohama from San Francisco. When the navy began inquiring about the overdue Elder on Wednesday, the transport reported sighting the missing ship Monday in no apparent distress 700 miles from its destination—the atomic weapons testing island of Eniwetok.

**Failed to Heed Signals**

Lt. Adams said the Brewster passed within two miles and was in sight for an hour and a half but did not heed signals.

"We signalled with flares, international distress flags, smoke signals and mirrors," said Adams. "We fired 20-millimeter guns and very pistols. The crew jumped overboard swimming and waving anything they could lay hands on."

"We signalled with everything we had aboard except our 3-inch gun. If we had ammunition left for that, we would have used it, too."

The ammunition had been jettisoned while fighting the fire, which started at 2 a.m. Friday and was finally extinguished shortly before the Brewster hove into view.

The Brewster's message Wednesday to the Hawaiian sea frontier said the Elder had failed to respond to visual signals but that the signal officer believed the reflection of the sun may have prevented the Elder seeing them.

## Adm. Leahy Holds Use of A-Bomb By U.S. as 'Ethics of Dark Ages'

WASHINGTON, March 18—(AP)—Admiral William D. Leahy says that when this nation used atomic bombs against Japan it adopted "an ethical standard common to the barbarians of the dark ages" and that it is "a practical certainty" that A-bombs will be used against us.

Leahy also says in his book, "I Was There," that in January 1944, President Roosevelt received an intelligence report indicating that the Germans were getting secret U.S. assessments of Russia unwittingly leaked by Vice President Henry A. Wallace.

Leahy says, however, that the information would not have been of any great military value. He writes that the report to the late President Roosevelt came from the office of strategic services (OSS), and that it quoted Wallace as voicing the opinion in 1943 that "Russia means to dominate the whole of Europe."

A lifelong navy man, Admiral Leahy was personal chief-of-staff to Roosevelt.

## Loyalty Board Cites Ruling by Truman in Refusing to Reply to McCarthy's Queries

### Pictures of Alaska Hold Pupils' Attention



When Englewood school fourth graders taught by Mrs. Dolores Jager, wanted to learn more about Alaska, they invited to class a former resident of the territory, M/Sgt. Hugh M. Smith, air force, in charge of Salem's army and air force recruiting station, is shown Wednesday displaying to the class his collection of pictures of Alaska. He also talked about his experiences in Alaska. He was invited by Johnny Haskins, member of the class. (Statesman-Winner photo.)

## Vietnam Reds Fire at U.S. Destroyers Nationalists Raid Red China Mainland

By Spencer Moosa

TAIPEI, Formosa, Sunday, March 19—(AP)—Naval sources said today Chinese nationalist troops had invaded the mainland about 200 miles south of Shanghai and captured the coastal town of Sunmen.

The troops went ashore Wednesday as nationalist warships bombarded Haimen, about 30 miles north of the town. This was to prevent the Reds from sending aid to Sunmen.

The navy sources asserted that the Sunmen garrison was wiped out. Press reports said that in all 2,500 communists were killed. (casualty claims in the Chinese civil war usually are exaggerated.)

Indications were that the landing force was small, possibly not exceeding a battalion.

It still was not clear whether the nationalists will try to hold Sunmen. The landing might have been a test for bigger projects in the future, particularly to supply nationalist guerrillas with arms.

The navy sources said the landing forces were aided by nationalist guerrillas waiting on the mainland. They estimated the warships blasted about 110 small craft in Haimen harbor, and also bombarded shore targets.

## Injured Girl Left at Scene Of Accident

A hit-run charge was expected to be filed Monday claiming that a Portland man left his tiny niece unconscious in a car he was driving after a north Salem accident Saturday night.

Treated at Salem General hospital for facial cuts, bruises was four-year-old Georgina DeWitt, 1430 N. Liberty st. She was released to her mother, Mrs. Sylvia DeWitt, after treatment.

Police listed the driver of the hit-run car as Richard Thompson, Portland, brother of Mrs. DeWitt, after Mrs. DeWitt said Thompson was using the car at the time of the accident.

The driver of the car was not identified at the scene.

Joseph Clement Taber, driver of the second car involved in the accident, told police he was driving south on Portland road and had stopped for the light at Highland avenue when the other car struck his from the rear. Police listed the time of the accident as 6:35 p.m.

Following the accident, the driver of the car in which the girl was found drove into a service station at the intersection and left the scene on foot after shouting to occupants of the other car to determine if anyone was injured.

The little girl was found in the seat of the car unconscious and bleeding from a cut on her right cheek. First aid was summoned and took the girl to the hospital where a suture closed the wound. Georgina recovered sufficiently to tell attendants her name and the first name of her mother. With that information and the registration in the automobile, police were able to locate Mrs. DeWitt who took her daughter home.

THE WEATHER			
	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	50	40	.44
Portland	50	41	.51
San Francisco	50	41	trace
Chicago	36	19	trace
New York	32	21	

Willamette river 12.3 feet.  
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy this morning and afternoon with intermittent light rains. Clearing tonight and Monday. High today near 52. Low tonight near 36.

SALEM PRECIPITATION		
This Year	Last Year	Normal
26.41	26.00	26.22

## Car Insurance Rates to Drop

PORTLAND, March 18—(AP)—Oregon insurance companies today announced automobile insurance rate reductions to go into effect Monday.

They will average 10 per cent on lower premiums for bodily injury and property damage policies, said Fred C. Reed, Oregon chairman for the National Bureau of Casualty Underwriters. Fifty-five member companies of the bureau will put the reductions into effect.

He estimated the cuts would result in a saving of \$1,000,000 for owners of automobiles and trucks.

French reports said Ho may be in China conferring with Chinese communists and possibly seeking military aid.

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## Soviet Zone East Mark Plummets to New Low

By Thomas A. Reedy

BERLIN, March 18—(AP)—The Soviet zone's east mark plummeted in value to little more than two cents today. The collapse paralyzed trade in the Russian sector of Berlin.

Merchants held onto their goods rather than accept a currency which had gone down 30 per cent in 24 hours.

WASHINGTON, March 18—(AP)—Citing a presidential order, the civil service loyalty review board tonight refused to answer questions by Senator McCarthy (R-Wis) about the case of Diplomat John S. Service.

Seth W. Richardson, the board chairman, wrote McCarthy that if he wishes to pursue the matter further he should take it up with President Truman.

McCarthy has charged that Service, foreign service officer assigned to India, is pro-communist and that the state department has ordered "a complete and thorough whitewash" of his case. The department called McCarthy's charges "dead and discredited."

Service has been ordered back from India to testify personally before the department's loyalty board.

This was recommended by the civil service review board and today Chairman Richardson announced he was investigating to find out how McCarthy learned about the review board's recommendation before it was made public.

McCarthy told reporters he obtained his information about the Service loyalty file from sources at the state department, not from anyone at the civil service loyalty board.

Earlier this week, in a letter to Richardson, McCarthy asked the board to answer four questions dealing with the review of Service's loyalty record.

**Answered Only One**

Richardson, in his reply today, answered one of the questions and said regarding the others:

"I regret that the all-inclusive terms of the directive of the president under the date of March 13, 1948, in my opinion prevent me from disclosing to anyone not connected with the operation of the program, the contents of any report, record or file relative to the loyalty of employees. I think your questions 1, 3 and 4 fall within the language of the president's order."

In his letter to Richardson, McCarthy asked for answers to these questions:

"1. How could it have taken 11 days (from March 8 to March 14) for the document to go to the blocks from your board to the state department?"

"2. Why did the executive secretary of your board attempt to mislead the public by publicly stating: 'I have never heard of the Service case?'"

"3. What caused the 13-month delay in the audit by your board of this case?"

"4. On what date was Service ordered to appear before the loyalty board?"

Richardson answered only question No. 2. He said the Executive Secretary L. V. Meloy's statement that he knew nothing about the Service case "was intended to put an end to the continuous queries visited upon him, concerning matters he was not at liberty to discuss."

**Names Released**

Acting after much prodding by the committee, McCarthy turned over to the group today the names of the 81 cases he outlined to the senate February 20. He said then that the individuals in each case either now work for the state department or in the west. He labeled them all bad security risks and some of them communists.

McCarthy sent the names to Senator Tydings (D-Md), the committee chairman, by registered mail today. He said they were being submitted for consideration behind closed doors.

## Seventh State Championship Gives Salem All-Time Record

McARTHUR COURT, Eugene, March 18—(Special)—Salem high's Vikings captured the State High School Basketball crown tonight as they turned back the Grants Pass Cavemen, 34-28, in the finale to this 1950 State tourney.

The title was the seventh in history for Salem, putting them one up on Astoria in the all-time record. Last Vik State crown was won in 1940 and they also took the gonfalon in 1939. Under the tutelage of Coach Harold Hauk the Salems have now captured three togas.

Roosevelt of Portland took third place honors in tonight's first game by stopping Corvallis, 41-29. In consolation games Marshfield

McARTHUR COURT, Eugene, March 18—(Special)—Salem high's champion Vikings placed two men on the All-Star High School basketball team announced at the end of the State tourney tonight. The pair are Captain Daryl Girod and Forward Doug Rogers. Other members of the first team are Bill West of La Grande, Ron Fundingsland of Jefferson and Bob Altenhofen of Central Catholic.

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## River Rises 8 Feet Here

The Willamette river climbed nearly eight feet in the 24 hours ending at 4 p.m. Saturday, but river forecasters expected a crest far below the 20-foot flood stage at Salem.

At 4 o'clock the river had reached 13.2 feet, then fell slightly before midnight. It was expected to rise again today to a crest around 15 feet. Upstream at Harrisburg on the Willamette and Jefferson on the Santiam, declines were already reported. The Santiam at Jefferson was down 1.3 feet to 13.2 at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Through threat of flood seemed to be waning Saturday, the weatherman could see no break in the heavy rainfall which has soaked the valley area for four days. Rains were forecast today. A total of 45 inches fell in Salem Saturday.

**ARMED AID SENT TO FRANCE**  
NORFOLK, Va., March 18—(AP)—The first shipment of the billion-dollar program of military aid for western Europe left here today aboard the French aircraft carrier Dixmude.

## Listening Posts Aim to Detect Soviet Plans

WASHINGTON, March 18—(AP)—The air forces propose to build three ultra-long range radio listening posts to detect an enemy's battle orders to his own forces thousands of miles away.

Although the intended location is not disclosed, the 2,000-mile range of these "interceptor stations" suggests they could be spotted in the far north to bring Soviet military command centers, and forces on the move inside Russia, within hearing distance of the listening posts.

So used, they would be a vital part of the polar defense system, which includes radar warning systems and radio networks to keep contact with and direct the arctic operations of American fighter and bomber forces.

## School District To Dedicate New Buildings

Salem school district will dedicate its two new buildings and two major additions at a program and open house next Sunday afternoon, Superintendent Frank B. Bennett announced Saturday.

Completed since last summer, the projects are the new Washington and Lincoln grade schools, the additions to Parrish junior high and Englewood elementary schools.

The public dedicatory program will be at 2:15 p.m. in the just-finished Parrish auditorium. The schools themselves will be open for inspection from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Dr. T. G. Holy, director of Ohio State university bureau of educational research, now directing an appraisal of Oregon public schools for the legislature. He will be introduced by Dr. Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction.

Also on the program will be music by Parrish orchestra, directed by Karl Thelen; Carl Ashcambrenner, Parrish principal, master of ceremonies; invocation, Dr. Chester W. Hamblin of First Presbyterian church; music by Parrish ninth grade girls' chorus, directed by Mrs. Madeleine Sukoy; greetings by Harry W. Scott, school board chairman; benediction by the Rev. Brooks H. Moore of First Methodist church.

Dr. Frank B. Bennett, Salem school superintendent, will explain the extent and use of the building program so far developed.

## Ranch Foreman Rodeo Queen

PENDLETON, March 18—(AP)—The queen of the Pendleton rodeo on August 24-27 is the foreman of a 13,000 acre ranch.

Not a weather-beaten, squint-eyed foreman, though, it's a girl—a good-looking, blue-eyed red head. She's Kathryn Lazinka, 19, a princess and star of the show.

She bosses an all-family crew of three younger sisters and a brother on father Henry Lazinka's ranch. There are no hired hands.

## Antarctic Trip Held Possible

RICHMOND, Va., March 18—(AP)—Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd says that Secretary of Defense Johnson has decided to reconsider another expedition to the Antarctic to study polar warfare, the Richmond News Leader reported today.

If the plan wins full approval, Byrd said in the exclusive interview he will lead an expedition of some 4,000 men back to Little America next October on a trip requiring five to six months.

Last summer, the navy postponed indefinitely a scheduled Antarctic trip.

**JUST A WHISTLE STOP**  
COVE, Ore., March 18—(AP)—Unlucky county residents are beginning to suspect that America's whistling swans have some Irish background. For the second straight year a huge flock wheeled in here on St. Patrick's day for a stop on their way north.