

The state grange at its Ontario meeting again scolded George H. Flagg, state public utilities commissioner, for allowing Pacific Power and Light company to reduce its rates at The Dalles in order to meet PUD competition. He invited further rebuke from the grange this week when he issued a similar order for the Mountain States Power company at Springfield where the city is going into municipal operation of an electric distribution system.

The fact is that Flagg has no alternative unless he wants to bring on a lawsuit for which precedent shows that he would lose. His action conforms to the interpretation of the law rendered by the attorney general's office.

But leave aside the legal phases of the question. Since the municipality or the PUD has moved in to compete shouldn't the private utility be left free to compete with it for the business?

Electric distribution is by its nature a monopoly, as its history has proven. To prevent the abuses of monopoly government regulation of rates and corporate practices was invoked. This restricts utility earnings to a fair return based on its investment.

But surely it is not fair to restrict utility earnings on the ground it is a monopoly and then when a competitive situation destroys its monopoly hold it to rates that cancel its ability to compete.

Assume that a return of six per cent is justified and rates fixed accordingly. If a tax-free or specially favored unit of government enters the field it may offer lower rates and take virtually all the customers. In that event the corporation would

(Continued on Editorial Page 4.)

Portland Strike Spurs Bakery Work in Salem

Salem bakeries Tuesday stepped up their bread and other production to meet new local demand prompted by a Portland bakers' strike.

This city's largest bakery, the Cherry City Baking Co., was producing at near-capacity, having increased production by about 40 per cent.

Roger Williams, assistant manager, said he was confident that Salem would have an adequate bread supply so long as none of the locally made bread is diverted to the Portland market.

Several bakery and retail market proprietors in Salem had received orders Tuesday from Portland firms seeking to find an outside bread supply.

But it was considered unlikely that any local bread would reach Portland. Those in business here indicated they would have their hands full keeping up with the strictly local demands.

Proprietors of several larger markets of the city reported that they had ample supply for their customers. Besides the increased local bread production, at least one Portland firm was still shipping bread into Salem.

Most Salem groceries normally carry Portland as well as Salem bakery products.

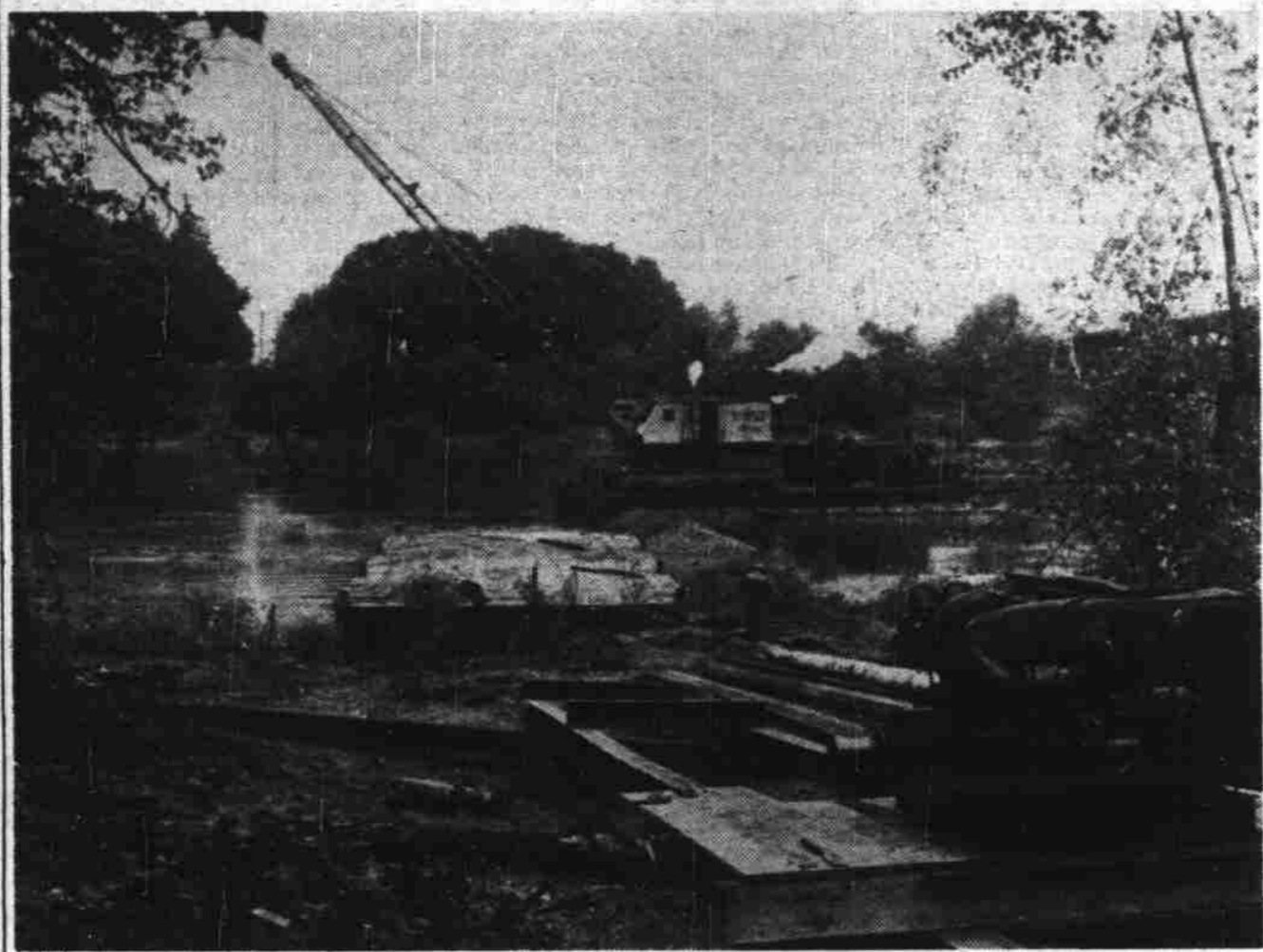
Timber Draws Record Price

EUGENE, June 20—(P)—A record price of nearly \$4,000 an acre was paid for Willamette National forest timber at auction here yesterday.

Nyland Lumber company bid \$48 a thousand for 960,000 board feet of Douglas fir in a 12-acre tract on Wiley creek, east of Sweet Home. The tract also contained 70,000 feet of hemlock, bought at the appraised price of \$1.85.

The previous high paid for fir on the Willamette forest was \$38 a thousand.

Bridge Pier Location Work Starts



The floating derrick pictured here is starting work on pier location for the new Willamette river bridge, one block north of the present Center street span. Derrick is pictured just offshore from the construction headquarters of contractor Lee Hoffman on the west bank of the river. (Statesman photo. Additional photo on page 12).

Salem Boy Critical After Gun Accident

A 12-year-old Salem boy was shot and critically wounded Tuesday night by a 13-year-old companion who accidentally fired a .32 revolver he "was certain wasn't loaded."

Howard Clemens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Clemens, 1220 N. 25th st., was shot in the left side of his chest shortly before 10 p.m. He was visiting at the home of 13-year-old Ronnie Kucera, 1940 N. Front st.

First aid men took the wounded youngster to Salem General hospital where attendants said his condition was "critical" early this morning.

Sister Heard Shot
City police officers, who ruled the shooting accidental, said young Kucera apparently pulled the revolver out of an upstairs bedroom dresser and clicked the trigger at Clemens, thinking the gun's chamber was empty.

Kucera's sister, Mrs. Joan Hughes, heard the shot and called police. Clemens had come to the home early in the evening, intending to spend the night while his parents were at the VFW hall.

Officers said Kucera admitted owning the gun for nearly two years. His father, John Kucera, did not know his son had the weapon, police said.

Had Used Gun Before
The youngster told officers that he has fired the revolver about six months ago but that he had used it frequently in the past, as had other youths in the neighborhood. There was only one carriage in the chamber.

Police did not hold young Kucera. He was released to his parents.

Earlier Tuesday the city first aid squad had been called to the Kucera home when Mrs. Hughes' infant son, Clifford, tried to drink some rubbing alcohol. First aid men said he didn't swallow enough fluid to cause trouble.

Outing Mishap Claims Three
MEDFORD, June 20—(P)—Two sisters and their uncle drowned yesterday in a fishing accident in the Big Applegate river, 15 miles west of here.

The victims were Roberta Elaine Schnack, 6, and her sister, Elizabeth Ann, 8, both of Medford, and Carl A. Walters of Beverly Hills, Calif.

Walters gave up his life in rescuing Mary Madeline Schnack, 11, Margaret Schnack, 9, was pulled from the river by another fisherman.

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Civil Service to Study Demotion Of Fire Captains
Recent demotions of two veteran Salem fire department captains will be up for study today at a meeting of the city civil service commission in the city hall.

Captains J. F. Baggett and Ben O. Fought have been demoted to fireman classification by Chief W. P. Roble who charged them with "insubordination and inefficiency in performance of duty."

Today's civil service meeting, scheduled to begin at 2 p. m., will be the first attended by Monroe Cheek, newly-appointed commission member. Other members are Chairman William J. Entress and Kenneth C. Perry.

PENLAND MENDING
VANCOUVER, Wash., June 20—(P)—The last commander of the GAR, Theodore A. Penland, is expected to be released from Barnes General hospital in a few days. His attending physician said Penland, 101, was under treatment for a heart ailment.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	71	58	0.00
Portland	73	60	0.00
San Francisco	63	53	trace
Chicago	72	53	trace
New York	69	57	.02

Willamette river 24 feet. FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy this morning, becoming partly cloudy this afternoon and tonight. High today near 78 and low tonight near 52. Conditions favorable for most farm work today.

SALEM PRECIPITATION	Last Year	Normal
This Year	62.52	61.50
	62.52	61.50

"Edgar is a wonderful provider—we have all the latest electrical appliances."

Work Begins On Marion Street Span

Work on the first of five piers for the new Willamette river bridge here was underway Tuesday.

First crews for contractor Lee Hoffman, Portland, are working on the west bank of the river where a 25-ton floating derrick, other heavy equipment, materials and field office have been located.

The work site is a block north of the present Center street bridge. The new span entering Salem on Marion street is a state highway project and part of a new through traffic system for Salem.

J. A. Troxell is superintendent for the initial bridge building work awarded to Hoffman on a bid of \$24,570. Troxell, who lives in Portland, has just finished bossing a railroad bridge construction project at Richland, Wash.

Of the five piers, two will be in the river proper, two others at water's edge on either side and the fifth one on the east bank. The state expects to call for bids on further construction this fall.

Love Course Never Smooth
CALDWELL, Idaho, June 20—(P)—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brigance of Arook, Ore., were married in Caldwell Memorial park.

As the best man, Ervin Gardiner of Caldwell, stepped forward to hand ring to the minister, he fainted. The 125 guests searched through the grass for the ring. They couldn't find it.

Gardiner was revived. The ring was in his pocket.

The wedding preparations weren't without incident. The bride, the former Vivian May Bruce of Arook, found the zipper on her wedding gown was jammed. Her mother had to sew the dress on.

Recall Fails in North Bend Special Vote
NORTH BEND, Ore., June 20—(P)—Voters refused to recall a school board member in a special election here yesterday.

Ernest Frye was kept on the board by a vote of 354 to 332, the biggest vote in local school district history.

The recall developed over the board's failure to re-hire Coach Victor Adams who has since signed at LaGrande.

Farrow Recalled to Fill Civil Defense Position
Announcement that Lt. Col. Claud G. Farrow, Portland, has been ordered back to active state military duty, came from the governor's office Tuesday.

He will fill the newly created post of state supervisor of the Oregon civil defense agency's ground observer corps.

Selection of Farrow followed a conference here last week attended by Gov. Douglas McKay, Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Riley and Louis E. Starr, state director of the civil defense agency. The stipulated period of active duty was 90 days.

Farrow was assigned to air defense when he served with the 41st division in the Pacific Thea-

tre during World War II. He is now ex-officio commanding officer of the Oregon National guard's 142nd aircraft control and warning squadron.

James A. Pryde, chief of the Washington state patrol and civil defense director of his state, would assist as a consultant in the final phases of the activation of Oregon's ground observation and air raid warning systems.

Governor McKay ordered the activation last February in compliance with a request by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson. Similar programs are being set up by the states of Washington and California.

Retirement Rolls Increased

NW Rivers Hammer Dikes

Portland Area Appears Safe As Crest Nears

By The Associated Press
The Kootenai river battered down three small dikes in northern Idaho yesterday and continued its ominous rise.

And in the Canadian province of British Columbia, scores of soldiers and civilians fought the snow-fed Fraser river. It threatened to burst through an old flood gate and sweep across 1,500 acres of crop land in the Fraser valley.

Both streams inched upward toward the heights they reached in the disastrous flood of 1948.

The Kootenai tore open protective dikes north of Bonners Ferry. It rolled over 350 acres of farming land. Flood workers estimate another 300 acres are covered by water seeping through the dikes.

Two families were evacuated without difficulty.

Reaches 32.7 Feet
The Kootenai reached the 32.7-foot level at Bonners Ferry late yesterday.

A 10-year-old child toppled into flood water near Mission, B.C., and was drowned. It was the first flood fatality in the province.

Floods have taken the lives of four persons in Washington state.

Near Portland the Columbia was giving trouble. Lowlands have been under water for several weeks. An auto racing track in north Portland was flooded. Ships on the Willamette river are proceeding slowly to avoid wave action on dikes.

Bridge Threatened
In eastern Washington, the Columbia was rising to a point where it could cause damage. A bridge near Richland, Wash., is threatened and trailer homes near the Hanford atomic plant were being moved from low-lying grounds.

The Dalles-Celilo canal has been closed since Sunday by the high water, the corps of engineers disclosed today.

Elmer Fisher, weather bureau forecaster, said the Columbia would crest Thursday in the Portland-Vancouver area under 25 feet. Flood stages at Vancouver is 13 feet, but dikes protect up to 32 feet.

Fisher expects 24.6 feet at Vancouver and 24.2 at Portland. The river will stay at that level three days, he said. He described the situation as favorable, barring unforeseen weather conditions.

Acheson Rates Defense Tops
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va., June 20—(P)—Secretary of State Acheson was reported to have told the nation's governors today the top American project is an effective defense of Europe.

Acheson spent more than two hours behind closed doors with the four executives after vigorously defending his department in an earlier public session against charges by Senator McCarthy (R-Wis) that the agency is infested with communists.

In the open session he stood up for his associates as a "good clean loyal executive" that eliminated any subversive threats.

Also in the open session he called for support of President Truman's "point four" program for export of know-how to help underdeveloped areas better themselves.

He declared that an overall program such as the Marshall plan will not work in the Orient because of its varying problems.

Departing from a prepared address, though he followed its general tenor, the secretary said that in the far east "point four" experts in health, agriculture and other fields will be "great apostles, great spreaders of democracy."

REVIEW FORMOSA POLICY
WASHINGTON, June 20—(P)—The administration was reported tonight to be reviewing its Formosa policy to see whether major steps should be taken to prevent that strategic island's fall to the Chinese communists.

Johnson Tours Tokyo Bases
TOKYO, Wednesday, June 21—(P)—Defense Secretary Johnson inspected the great Yokosuka naval base today and John Foster Dulles returned to Tokyo to discuss a Japanese peace treaty with General MacArthur.

Many American military men want the United States to retain the Yokosuka installations as well as other bases in Japan after a peace is signed.

Dulles was greeted at the airport on his arrival from Korea by Arthur H. Mearns, acting U.S. political adviser for Japan.

The question of American bases in Japan ties in a peace treaty with the American defense position in the far east—main announced reason for the Johnson-Bradley visit.

Mrs. Perkins Ends Nation-Wide Tour To Visit ex-GI Friends of War Years
By Winston H. Taylor
Assistant City Editor, The Statesman

Highly impressed with Americans and their hospitality and already dreaming of another trip here in the future, Mrs. Amy Perkins of Australia was back in Salem Tuesday after touring the U.S. to see many of the ex-GIs she had met in Brisbane during the war.

Mrs. Perkins will be here until Monday, visiting with Mrs. John A. Starr, 1455 Marion st., then will go to Portland for two days with her niece and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. William Bentson, formerly of Salem. Bentson is a son of Mrs. Starr.

On June 29 at Vancouver, B.C., she will board the Canadian-Pacific liner Aorangi for the 21-day trip home.

Back home, she plans to tell the Australian-American association of her experiences here, for it was through that group's hospitality program she met the soldiers.

Since leaving Salem last October, Mrs. Perkins has visited as far south as New Orleans and as far east as Boston with 40 men with whom she has corresponded. She also saw many others whom she had met "down under."

One of the delightful experiences, she stressed, was to talk with many Australian war brides, who were happy to get news direct from home. She reported she found them "very happy, though some-

Judy Garland Fails

In Suicide Attempt

HOLLYWOOD, June 20—(P)—Despair over career troubles drove Judy Garland to attempt suicide by slashing her throat with the shattered edge of a water-glass, her studio disclosed today.

The troubled star is resting under the care of her physician, who calls the wound "very minor." "No stitches" were taken.

Here's how her studio, MGM, told the story:

"Miss Garland had been under nervous strain since Saturday when she was suspended for failing to report for work. Last evening at six she was hashing out the problem at her home above the Sunset strip. Present were husband, Director Vincent Minelli, her manager, Carlton Alsup, and her secretary, Myrtle Tully.

"The actress became hysterical and dashed out of the room. Locking herself in the bathroom,

she broke a drinking glass and rubbed the sharp edge against her throat.

"Minelli ran to the door and begged her to open it. She turned the lock and appeared before him, weeping and remorseful. Dr. Francis Ballard treated the actress and declared the wound was superficial. He said it was caused by an 'impulsive, hysterical act.'"

Later today, Miss Garland was still sleeping and reporters were not permitted to see her.

At first, Minelli denied the whole affair, even to studio sources. But when newsmen appeared at the massive pink alabaster mansion on Sunset boulevard, the studio convinced him that the story should be made public. Miss Garland had been moved from the couple's other home on a hillside above the strip to the boulevard mansion.

Tunnel Cave-in Kills Silver Falls Worker
SILVERTON, June 20—Harold R. Taylor, 28, Silvertown construction worker, was killed about 3:20 p.m. today when he apparently smothered in a cave-in below a water reservoir in Silver Falls state park.

Taylor was digging out a broken water pipe below the reservoir in the Smith creek youth camp area when the top of the tunnel collapsed and buried him. Three other workers were in the tunnel but escaped injury. They dug out Taylor in 20 minutes and applied artificial respiration but he apparently was dead when brought to the surface.

The victim was an employee of the state park system and had been doing repair work in the area during the past month. He was about nine feet below the ground when trapped.

Workers who escaped injury were A. L. Schmidt, Stayton; Francis Danielson, 696 N. Cottage st., Salem; and Bert Lund, 1395 S. High st., Salem. State police officers and Marion County Coroner Lester D. Howell investigated the accident. A Stayton physician officially pronounced Taylor dead at 4:50 p.m.

Taylor, who lived at the old CCC barracks on Silvertown star route, came to Oregon about three years ago. He was born April 19, 1922, in Chicago, Ill. Survivors include his widow and a son, Michael, both of Silvertown; his father, Harold Taylor, Turner, and a brother, Richard Taylor, serving with the U.S. navy.

Funeral services will be arranged by the Ekman funeral home here.

Bridges Files Appeal Notice On Revocation
SAN FRANCISCO, June 20—(P)—Federal Judge George B. Harris today signed a formal decree revoking the U. S. citizenship of Harry Bridges—convicted in April of making a false statement in his 1945 naturalization proceedings.

But the longshore leaders' lawyers immediately filed notice of appeal. Judge Harris said this automatically postponed Bridges' reverting to alien status while the appeal was in the courts.

Meanwhile, Bridges cannot be deported to his native Australia. Bridges, head of the big CIO International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union, was convicted last April 4 of falsely swearing at his 1945 naturalization hearing that he was not and never had been a communist.

He was sentenced to five years imprisonment but is free on bail pending appeal.

Judge George B. Harris, who presided over Bridges' trial, last week issued a memorandum opinion, stripping Bridges of his U.S. citizenship. Today, Judge Harris signed the formal order.

Immediately Bridges' lawyer, Norman Leonard, filed notice of appeal. He contended the federal district court has no power to revoke his client's citizenship, since the April conviction is under appeal to higher courts.

Mother of 163 Dies of Old Age
OREGON CITY, June 20—(P)—Josephine, mother of 163, succumbed to old age Friday.

The news was a little late getting around. But Josephine in her lifetime wasn't.

Once she got around too much and was caught by a trip. Her rescuers called her Napoleon. Then Napoleon had kittens and became known as Josephine.

The cat Josephine lived happily at the home of Mrs. Bertha Surfus here. Her age, at death, was reckoned at 15½.

Summer to Start To Start Cloudy
Summer begins at 4:37 (DST) today and the weather bureau says it will be the longest day of the year—15 hours and 42 minutes between sunrise and sunset.

Weathermen say the first part of the day will be cloudy with the afternoon only "partly" cloudy. Temperatures will range to 76 and drop to 52.

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Ten Million More Eligible In Senate Bill

WASHINGTON, June 20—(P)—The senate passed a bill early tonight adding 10,000,000 persons to old age retirement rolls, sharply increasing benefits and easing eligibility rules.

The vote was 81 to 2, with only Senators Cain (R-Wash) and Butler (R-Neb) voting no.

The final vote came after the senate had raised from the present \$3,000 to \$3,800 the amount of pay on which old age benefit taxes are levied. That virtually assures a \$9 yearly boost in the contribution from higher paid workers and their employers, plus greater benefits for such workers.

The change in the old age tax base carries a boost to \$80 a month in maximum retirement benefits.

Benefits Up 5 Per Cent
Those blanketed into the old age and survivors insurance system are generally self-employed persons such as operators of small businesses, and domestic and farm workers.

Under the senate measure benefits for those now retired go up by 85 to 90 per cent, and those for workers retiring in the future are nearly doubled.

Fewer calendar quarters of covered employment are required for benefit eligibility, making it easier for older persons to qualify.

A similar measure was passed by the house last year but many differences in the measures will have to be worked out in conferences.

Strong Backing
The bill, a key part of the administration's domestic program, had strong backing from both Democrats and Republicans.

The senate, however, today directed its finance committee to make a thorough study of the whole social security set-up with a view to general revision. Most senate backers of the present bill described it as a stop-gap to serve until that can be done. A number of senators plumped for a pay-as-you-go system instead of the present plan of paying benefits out of a reserve built up by employee and employer contributions.

Provision Blocked
Before passage the senate refused to vote to make provision for total and permanent disability benefits.

It also refused to go along with a house provision, deleted by the senate finance committee, to continue the present system of continuing to a worker's basic retirement benefit for each year of covered employment.

At present an individual's basic benefit is increased by 1 per cent for each such year. The house cut this increment in half, and the senate committee cut it all out.

Amendment Approved
Sponsors argued that it would be only fair to provide higher pensions for workers who have contributed longer. But Chairman George (D-Ga.) of the finance committee said he feared the cost would overburden the system.

The senate approved by voice vote an amendment under which the federal government would share with the states in the cost of assistance payments to relatives or other caretakers of dependent children.

A similar provision is in the house bill. The additional cost to the child care program was estimated at \$75,000,000 a year.

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One of the delightful experiences, she stressed, was to talk with many Australian war brides, who were happy to get news direct from home. She reported she found them "very happy, though some-

sick at times."

"I could never have believed a person could have such a wonderful trip," said Mrs. Perkins. She praised the hospitality and the friendliness all over the country.

Having made many new friends in the U.S. on this trip, she is worried now about the correspondence situation, since all her spare time was spent in writing friends even before she came over here.

Mrs. Perkins came to Salem last summer with her niece, who was returning from a visit home. Able to take only a small amount of money from her country, she worked in a Salem cannery until she was able to buy a bus ticket and take care of other expenses.

BASEBALL

WESTERN INTERNATIONAL
At Salem 11, Vancouver 7.
At Tri-City-Victoria, rain.
At Wenatchee-Spokane, rain.
At Yakima 9, Tacoma 8.

COAST LEAGUE
At Portland 2, Seattle 4.
At Hollywood 2, San Francisco 1.
At San Diego 6, Sacramento 5.
At Oakland 18, Los Angeles 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
At New York 3, St. Louis 2.
At Brooklyn 8, Cincinnati 3.
At Boston 5, Chicago 4 (1st Inn.)
At Philadelphia 7, Pittsburgh 3.