

By Charles A. Sprague

Receipts from sales of timber from O & C lands last fiscal year ran to \$4 million. This year they are expected to reach \$6 million and next year perhaps to \$8 million. This is good news for counties in western Oregon which get 50 per cent of the receipts.

Under the act of 1937 the share of the counties is to go to 75 per cent when the advances made by the federal treasury to reimburse the counties for back taxes are paid back. That will be next year. But judging by reports from Washington, the congress takes a dim view of any 75 per cent of gross income from these lands as the share for counties. The original appeal was for revenue to compensate the counties for loss of property taxes when the railroad land grant reverted back to the government. With current income what it is, that tax equivalent is exceeded.

Under the 1937 act for the enactment of which much credit was due to Congressman James W. Mott and Senator Charles L. McNary, a maximum of 25 per cent of income was to be made available for administration of the lands. Congress has never been so generous; as a result the bureau of land management lacks funds for the proper administration of its trust.

It looks as though the 1937 law will be up for reconsideration soon. The counties naturally would like to get 75 per cent of the revenues; and they are favorable to adequate provision for administrative expenses and capital improvements in the way of access roads, reforestation, etc. The bureau office at Portland has suggested an arrangement whereby a limited share of revenues would be assured for administrative costs and improvements and that 50 per cent of the remainder go to the counties, save that the county share would be on a moving five-year

(Continued on editorial page 4.)

Firms Asked To Give Notice Of Price Hikes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—The government asked 250 large companies outside the auto industry tonight to give it at least seven days' advance notice before raising prices on any major products.

If the companies comply with this request, it will give the government a chance to study proposed price hikes and to ask or order their abandonment in cases where officials decide the increases would be unjustified. Alan Valentine, administrator of the economic stabilization agency, telegraphed the business firms a request for such advance notice of price increases on any line in which they do an annual business of \$500,000 or more.

His telegram said the information is desired "to help our efforts to combat inflation." At the same time, labor leaders called on President Truman today for strong controls over the cost of living and said wages should be permitted to catch up with rising prices. "Wage stabilization must not become wage freezing," the group declared.

Wreck of Plane Carrying 37 Seen

MANILA, Thursday, Dec. 21 (AP)—Clark air force base announced that wreckage of a missing U. S. C-54 transport carrying 37 persons was sighted today near the peak of a 9,000-foot mountain in Central Luzon. Search pilots reported no sign of life.

The big plane disappeared near the end of a flight from Okinawa. It was seen from Tuesday morning when within half an hour of its destination, Clark air base.

JOHNSTON TO KEEP JOB

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 20 (AP)—Eric A. Johnston, who makes \$100,000 a year and expenses as president of the Motion Picture association, has been given a new contract that keeps him on as movie czar until 1958.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"If you don't like salmon eggs or worms, what do you eat?"

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Hoover Calls on U.S. to Pull Back Defense Frontiers

County Judge Murphy Dies

'Heart Attack Results in Death

Grant Murphy, 65, Marion county judge since 1941, died about 3 p. m. Wednesday of a heart attack at Salem Memorial hospital. Judge Murphy entered the hospital Monday after suffering a heart attack in his county office. He had been reported recovering successfully and his unexpected death shocked county associates and his many friends throughout the state.

A native of Marion county, Murphy was appointed county judge by Gov. Charles A. Sprague in May of 1941 after the death of Judge Leroy Hewlett. He was re-elected for six-year terms in 1942 and 1948. Murphy, organizer and operator of the Murphy-Gardner lumber company at Stayton from 1918 to 1942, was a former republican state, county and precinct committeeman, a state officer and 40-year member of the Odd Fellows and held mayor, council and school board posts in Stayton.

During his terms as county judge, Murphy was instrumental in completion of the new Willamette river bridge at Independence, a program of road oiling and building of two new ferries.

In addition, plans were begun and are nearly completed for a new courthouse, with most of the funds raised, final phases of Salem-Silverton road improvement are underway and work has started on the Mehama-Mill City link of the North Santiam highway, for which the judge long was a booster.

He also was deeply interested in the Willamette valley project, highlighted by the Detroit dam, in the proposed Cascade highway and had asked for speeded federal aid for South River road to the new Independence bridge.

McKay to Appear
Murphy's successor as county judge will be appointed under Oregon law, by Gov. Douglas McKay. The appointment would be for the duration of the judge's term, through Dec. 31, 1954.

Prior to the appointment, the two county commissioners who, with the judge, comprise the Marion county court, can transact most official business. In some cases where responsibilities are delegated specifically to the county judge, law provides for temporary fulfillment of those responsibilities by a circuit judge of the county.

Services in Stayton
Funeral services for Judge Murphy will be arranged by the Weddell funeral home of Stayton. Survivors include his widow, Alda A. Murphy, 1525 N. 18th st.; two daughters, Mrs. Marcelle Murphy Berger in California and Mrs. Gertrude Murphy Jungwirth, Lyons; two grandchildren; eight brothers and sisters, Mrs. Edna Sloper, Stayton; Mrs. Clara Thomas, Salem; Avery Murphy, Longview, Wash.; Algie Murphy, Stayton; Harold (Pat) Murphy, Stayton; Mrs. Ola Robertson, Palm Springs, Calif.; Mrs. Nora Potter, Stayton; Mrs. Bessie Williamson, Vallejo, Calif.

(Additional details on page 9)

Rock Buries 3 Workers; Fourth Dies

REEDSPORT, Dec. 20 (AP)—Three quarry workers were buried under thousands of tons of rock today and a fourth man died later of injuries. There was no hope that the men under the rock could survive.

Two escaped a similar fate by clinging tenaciously to a small ledge 250 feet above the quarry floor when a premature explosion of blasting powder collapsed one wall. One other worker was injured.

Witnesses said the blast sent perhaps 10,000 tons of rocks cascading among the several score workers at the Kern & Kibbe company job. The quarry is 7 miles up the Umpqua river from here. Buried were George Kleut, powder foreman at Reedspott; Norman R. Aspley, 4534 N.E. Lombard street, Portland, and John Doyle of Reedspott.

Charles H. Whitney of Rt. 4, box 118, Tacoma, Wash., died tonight of head injuries. The Keizer hospital at North Bend reported he had never regained consciousness. John Peterson of 825 Empire st., Butte, Mont., was also at the hospital and was expected to survive his injuries.

Both of the men who saved themselves, Sam Knight of Lakeside, Coos county, and Guisetti Braneoniso, of near Reedspott, had to be hauled from their rocky perch by ropes. They were so weak by the time ropes were dropped that truck driver David Payne was lowered to the ledges to help them scale to the 300 foot high rim of the quarry.

By-Pass Plans Speeded

PORTLAND, Dec. 20 (AP)—A state highway commissioner today called for faster department planning for a \$4,000,000 Pacific highway Salem by-pass. No funds have yet been allocated for the project.

Commissioner Charles Reynolds, LaGrande, said the people living north and south of Salem should not be subjected to bottlenecks of Salem traffic and be forced to cope with the city's planned one-way traffic system.

Faster action on the project was proposed after State Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock suggested the commission buy off-street parking space in Salem's Hollywood district to clear cars from the highway within the north city limits.

Doubt Authority
Reynolds and Chief Counsel Joseph M. Devers said they doubted that the commission had authority to buy off-street parking land.

Baldock was instructed by the commission to go ahead under the original agreement with the city.

It provides that the route to Portland be widened and prohibits parking in some places to provide four lanes of traffic. The city will provide some off-street parking. Baldock said the area is one of the most congested in the United States. Cost of widening the highway was estimated by Baldock at about \$65,000.

Use of Summer Street
The approval plan also calls for use of Summer street for south-bound traffic entering Salem, in the one-way street setup.

The proposed by-pass would take Pacific highway through traffic around the city's east limits and connect with the highway about five miles south of the city.

Contract Awarded
The commission awarded a contract for approaches to the Marion street bridge across the Willamette river. It went to General Construction Co., Portland, with a low bid of \$787,736, within \$1,500 of engineer estimates. The project includes work from Commercial street to the water on the Salem side and for 1,000 feet on the west Salem side.

Chairman Ben Chandler, Coos Bay, said the commission hopes the legislature will approve a \$75,000,000 bond issue for a five-year highway improvement program.

He said five major highways could be put in "pretty good shape" under such a program. They are the Columbia river, The Dalles-California, the Pacific, the Oregon coast and a connection between the Wilson river and Sunset highways from Glenwood to North Plains.

Ill Woman Given Citizen's Oath as Christmas Present

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—Mrs. Edith Schulz, 70, a native of Vienna, was told to take her oath of citizenship today.

So U.S. District Judge Gus J. Solomon recessed court and went to her home where she became a citizen.

Solomon admitted the procedure was unusual. But he explained: "It's near Christmas and I couldn't imagine a more wonderful present for anybody."

Mrs. Schulz came here from Austria in 1943.

Electric Power Cut for Hour South of Salem As Pole Breaks in 2-Car Wreck; Autos Burn

Electricity was knocked out for an hour in a large area south of Salem Tuesday night when a two-car collision sent one vehicle crashing into a power pole on Liberty road at the Mize road intersection.

Both cars burst into flames, and a woman passenger, trapped in one car when the door handles broke off, was rescued by neighborhood residents who smashed the auto windows and pulled her out. Four persons were injured, none seriously, in the crash south of Salem.

The crack-up snapped a power pole about 15 feet from the top, blacking out electricity from about 7:45 to 8:45 p. m. in a large area of southwest Salem, Salem Heights and the southeast suburbs.

Despite the general outage, electric lights continued to burn in the immediate accident area.

Fred G. Starrett, Portland General Electric manager, reported

13,000 Casualties In Korea Retreat

TOKYO, Dec. 21 (AP)—General MacArthur's headquarters said today United Nations casualties during the Korean war "disaster" since Nov. 27 period totaled nearly 13,000. These included the killed, wounded and missing for all allied forces except those of the Republic of Korea.

Headquarters said these losses were not exceptional in comparison with those suffered in similar pullback operations in other wars.

Headquarters denied any suggestions that the retreat under Red Chinese pressure since November 27 was caused by battle losses or "acceptance of defeat."

Reds Forced To Retreat in Hungnam Area

TOKYO, Thursday, Dec. 21 (AP)—Red troops at the point of great menace to the United Nations beachhead around Hungnam were forced to retreat Wednesday.

Devastating around-the-clock fire from planes, warships, artillery -- not only protected the allies' last holdout in northeast Korea but even improved it on the critical east flank.

A field dispatch said North Korean reds on that flank had to withdraw to ridges well back from the American positions.

"Our artillery and air chewed up at least one and possibly two North Korean battalions," said an American regimental intelligence officer.

A later field dispatch said the heavy U. N. air, ground and naval assaults had disrupted any plans by the Chinese and North Koreans for a major assault on the beachhead.

In western Korea, there was only light and scattered contact yesterday along the United Nations defense line north of Seoul, a U. S. Eighth army briefing officer said today.

On Tuesday there had been a report of clashes between North and South Korean troops along a 20-mile front northeast of Seoul. But a briefing officer said this contact was broken off.

City Colorful; Yule Shopping Still Underway

Christmas shopping kept up a rapid tempo in all the shopping districts of Salem last night, and there also was a continuous parade of cars through many of the nicely-decorated residential areas.

Decorations of the season were reaching full bloom in all parts of the city.

Many fine Christmas windows drew marked attention.

Among the finer non-commercial displays were the corner window of Sears Roebuck where a scene of the Nativity, with hushed lights and a camel-caravan background, attracted scores of people, and the center window of Bishop's store on North Liberty with its lighted church-community scene which replaced last week's Santa Claus.

"Have you got your Christmas shopping done?" was the cheery Christmas greeting throughout the business areas. The array of parcels carried by many a pedestrian provided the tacit answer, "Well, not quite yet."

Critical Period In Reich

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Dec. 20 (AP)—The international crisis has made a political powder keg out of Germany and the western allies are waiting to see whether Soviet Russia will put a torch to it.

The Atlantic pact nations made it known yesterday they are offering planes, guns and ships to conquer West Germany if they will join Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's international army.

At the same time the United States, Britain and France agreed to meet Russia for a showdown on Germany "and other problems." Their notes saying so are reported to be on the way to Moscow.

Whatever the "other problems" are, one thing is clear: leaders of both East and West regard even a defeated Germany as a major military factor in calculations of strategy.

The big question today is: Will Russia use her diplomats or her soldiers to keep the Germans in military quarantine?

Russia accused both Britain and

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP)—Secretary of State Acheson returned today from the Brussels meeting of the North Atlantic treaty council. His plane landed at Washington's National airport at 3:13 a. m. (EST).

France last weekend of violating their treaties with the Soviets by backing German rearmament.

She said that West Germany's neighbors, such as Communist East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia, "can not fail to take into account" this step toward the "rebirth of German militarism and to inevitable new attempts at aggression."

That seems a mild statement unless you recall that all Communist China said before plunging into Korea was that she "would not stand idly by" if United Nations forces crossed the 38th parallel.

The United States, British and French high commissioners will start negotiations with West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer in Bonn tomorrow, looking toward use of 150,000 Germans in a 1,000,000-man force proposed to be built up in two years.

Christmas shopping kept up a rapid tempo in all the shopping districts of Salem last night, and there also was a continuous parade of cars through many of the nicely-decorated residential areas.

New 'Halt-Fire' Appeal Sent To China Reds

LAKE SUCCESS, Dec. 20 (AP)—The United Nations has sent a second cease fire appeal to the Chinese communists, pointing out that a halt in the Korean fighting will greatly improve prospects for talks the Reds want on a general settlement of Asian problems.

The message was sent by the three-man U. N. cease fire committee last night after the Red China delegate, Wu Hsiu-chuan, turned a deaf ear to cease fire pleas and left with his delegation for home.

The latest message to Peiping, the committee's second, gave no promise that negotiations for settlement of all far eastern problems would follow if the communists agreed to a cease fire.

Says U.S. Near Another Korea In West Europe

BY JAMES DEVLIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 (AP)—Herbert Hoover called on America tonight to make the Atlantic and Pacific oceans its frontiers—not continental Europe or Asia—and to "arm our air and naval forces to the teeth" to defend them.

"We alone can thus prevent any 'possible invasion of the western hemisphere by communist armies," he said.

The former president said "It is clear that the United Nations are defeated in Korea." And he declared that "We shall be inviting another Korea" by feeding more men and money to western Europe unless and until it organizes its own defenses.

"We have little need for large armies unless we are going to Europe or China. Any attempt to make war on the communist mass by land invasion, through the quicksands of China, India or western Europe would be sheer folly," he said in a radio address.

"That would be the graveyard of millions of American boys and would end in the exhaustion of this Gibraltar of western civilization," Hoover said the prime responsibility for defending western continental Europe rested upon the nations of Europe. He said that western Europe, to warrant further aid, "must express itself in organized and equipped combat divisions of such huge numbers as would erect a sure dam against the red flood. And that before we land another man or another dollar on their shores. Otherwise we shall be inviting another Korea. That would be a calamity to Europe as well as to us."

Says U. N. Forces in Korea Beaten

The United Nations have been defeated in Korea, he said, by the aggression of communist China, and there are no world forces adequate to repel the Chinese.

Hoover's pronouncement came only a day after President Truman pledged more American troops would be sent to Europe to aid the west European defense set-up headed by American Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Hoover called for arming the United States navy and air force "to the teeth" to hold the two oceans, with possibly one frontier on Britain and the other on Japan, Formosa and the Philippines.

Hoover said that, after the initial outlay to strengthen the navy and air force, attention could be turned to reducing expenditures, balancing the budget and avoiding inflation.

Hoover said he spoke in response to "hundreds of requests" that he appraise "the current situation." His office said actually "thousands" of such requests had been received.

He said that, even if western Europe armed beyond anything contemplated, "we could never reach Moscow," but that neither could communist armies reach Washington in force.

In declaring the communist armies could not reach the American capital, Hoover said: "In this military connection we must realize the fact that the atomic bomb is a far less dominant weapon than it was once thought to be."

He did not elaborate. "These policies I have suggested would be no isolationism," Hoover said. "Indeed they are the opposite. They would avoid rash involvement of our military forces in hopeless campaigns."

"We are not blind to the need to preserve western civilization on the continent of Europe or to our cultural and religious ties to it. But the prime obligation of defense of western continental Europe rests upon the nations of Europe. The test is whether they have the special force, the will and acceptance of unity among them by their own volition. America cannot create their spiritual forces; we cannot buy them with money."

Europe Said Lacking in United Action
Commenting that non-communist nations other than the United States "did not or could not substantially respond to the U. N. call for arms to Korea," Hoover said:

"It is clear continental Europe has not in three years of our aid developed that unity of purpose and that will power necessary for its own defense.

"It is clear that our British friends are flirting with appeasement of communist China.

"It is clear that the United Nations is in a fog of debate and indecision on whether to appease or not to appease."

Hoover said there was no parallel in history to the effort and sacrifice America has made to elevate the spirit and achieve the unity of western Europe.

Hoover said that in both World Wars one and two, western Europe, including West Germany, placed more than 250 trained and equipped combat divisions in the field within 60 days, with strong air and naval forces.

"They have more manpower and more productive capacity today than in either one of those wars," he said.

Winter to Begin Early Friday

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 (AP)—Winter begins this Friday at 2:14 a. m. PST.

That's the moment at which the sun will be at its southernmost point in the sky, and which will mark the year's shortest day in the northern hemisphere.

IRAN FORCES ALERTED
TEHRAN, Iran, Dec. 20 (AP)—Warning that World War III seems near, Premier Gen. Ali Razmzari disclosed today he has alerted all Iranian army garrisons including those facing Russian frontier forces.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	37	46	30
Portland	38	44	trace
San Francisco	50	50	30
Chicago	25	10	trace
New York	23	20	30

Willamette river 4.5 feet.

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy today and tonight. Continued mild today with 36-40 and low tonight 43-45.

SALEM PRECIPITATION
Since start of weather year, Sept. 1
This Year Last Year Normal
26.02 12.48 14.81

New Railroad Strike Threatened

CHICAGO, Dec. 20 (AP)—A union official said tonight several Chicago committees of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen have threatened to renew their walk-out.

"But in every case, he said, he had been able to persuade them to remain at work 'in hopes of a settlement tonight' in wage-hour negotiations in progress at Washington.

Sam Vander Hel, brotherhood vice president, said committees from several railroads "have threatened to walk out" unless there is a quick settlement.



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