

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

Both General Ridgway and General Van Fleet have been guarded in their reports of the smashing of the initial spring offensive of the Chinese red army in Korea. The latter hailed the event as a great victory, but warned at the same time that another and perhaps heavier punch was coming. It seems to be developing now.

Behind a smoke screen the reds pushed across Coyang river on the central Korean front and have been able to maintain their bridgehead. In North Korea forward movement of equipment has been observed, revealing a build-up of forces and supplies. Work of laying out airfields also progresses in enemy territory. Before long we shall see a fresh thrust to crack the UN lines close to the 38th parallel.

The great mystery of the Korean war has been the withholding of planes from the red armies. It is known that they have planes and that Russia has planes in adjacent Siberia. But no large-scale commitments of planes have been made. The occasional flights of Russian-made jets have held to North Korean territory. Thus, the allies have not been able to determine from the pilots in planes knocked down whether they are flown by Russians or not. The airfield activity would seem to preface the use of planes to support the coming offensive.

Much speculation has arisen also as to the relations between red China and Russia. It is freely assumed that Russia has been the prime instigator of the North Korean attack and encourager of China's intervention. Gen. Marshall also states that Russia is the principal supplier of military (Continued on editorial page 4)

Measure Gains in House

WASHINGTON, May 14—(AP)—The house ways and means committee tentatively voted a \$614,500,000 increase today in taxes on cars, trucks, cigarettes, television sets and a long list of household appliances.

Contrary to earlier unofficial reports, however, the federal tax on gasoline was left unchanged at 1 1/2 cents a gallon.

Total prospective additional revenue from the 1951 tax bill now stands at \$6,325,000,000 with several excise tax fields remaining to be explored. President Truman asked for a \$10,000,000,000 revenue increase this year.

The committee voted to raise the cigarette tax from 7 cents a package to 8 cents for an estimated \$177,000,000 additional income. The treasury had asked for a three-cent hike. An unsuccessful effort has made to exempt economy-brand cigarettes from the increase.

If the committee's recommendations become law, the tax on passenger automobiles and motorcycles will rise from 7 per cent at the manufacturers' level to 10 per cent.

The manufacturers' tax on trucks and buses would go up from 5 to 8 per cent.

The committee rejected the treasury's proposal to increase the 10 per cent manufacturers' excise rate on household electrical, gas and oil operated appliances to 25 per cent. However, the base of the tax was broadened to take in the following additional appliances:

Mangles, dish washers, clothes dryers, electric razors, floor polishers and waxers, electric and power driven lawnmowers, hedge clippers, belt driven fan dehumidifiers, door bell chimes, electric food choppers and meat grinders, electric ice cream freezers, home movie projectors, automatic timing devices, and electric pants pressers.

The committee voted to hike the rate on radios, television receivers, phonographs, phonograph records and musical instrument from the present 10 per cent to 25 per cent.

The tax writers voted specifically not to tax sewing machines, washing machines and garbage disposal units. The existing 10 per cent tax on refrigerators, quick freezers and air conditioning units was left unchanged.

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11 Perish As Ships Collide

NORFOLK, Va., May 14—(AP)—A collier rammed a navy seaplane tender loaded with high-octane gasoline off Cape Henry today, and the navy said tonight that 11 men were killed—all aboard the tender.

Nine of the victims were trapped in the engine room of the tender USS Valcour by blazing gasoline after the naval vessel collided with the collier Thomas Tracy.

Naval spokesmen said that salvage crews had been unable to enter four compartments below decks to search for survivors.

The navy declined to speculate on whether any more bodies might be found in the four compartments not yet entered.

If the entire assigned complement of the Valcour's 215 officers and men were aboard—which is not likely—a total of 25 men remain unaccounted for, an Atlantic fleet spokesman said.

The Valcour was enroute for operational exercises in the Atlantic and was loaded with 70,000 gallons of aviation gas.

Fifth naval district headquarters said the collision resulted from a steering and power failure aboard the Valcour. The tender veered across the course of the Tracy and the collier rammed the navy vessel amidships.

Navy public information officers said the gas apparently spilled into the engine room and ignited. Shortly after the entire starboard (right) side of the ship was aflame. Gasoline spilled into the water and burst into flames covering an area of 100 yards.

All It Takes Is Axe Handle, Motor, Buggy Wheels



This home-made motorized buggy is the handiwork of Carl Hills, right, who put it together of odd parts for \$30. He's pictured taking friend Robert Norman, 1740 Oxford st., out for a 3-mph spin. (Statesman photo.)

British Alert Paratroops; Iran Watched

LONDON, May 14—(AP)—Trouble-shooting troops of Britain's crack 16th independent parachute brigade group rushed tonight to assembly areas at Aldershot, near London, under orders to get ready for an undisclosed emergency assignment.

Are they intended for Iran?

Strong indications are that the Labor government intends to take firm measures if Iran insists on nationalizing the huge British oil interests there without first trying to negotiate a settlement.

The alerted 4,000 paratroopers—known as the "fire brigade" because of their training for use in emergencies—could have an important part in these firm measures.

No Departure Orders

Military sources said that the group, made up of three parachute battalions and attached units of airborne artillery, engineers, signalmen and a field ambulance setup, has no departure orders. The sources said the alert was routine war office business.

But the London Daily Mirror said the troops are being issued tropical uniforms and equipment and will soon get inoculations against tropical diseases.

The Iranian oil crisis threatening seizure of one of Britain's biggest sources of petroleum, also interrupted Foreign Secretary Herbert Morrison's Whitsun holiday.

From his vacation spot on the Isle of Wight, Morrison kept in close touch with the foreign office by telephone. He also put the final touches on a new British note protesting Iran's rapid moves to carry out a law nationalizing the British-owned Anglo-Iranian Oil company.

Firm Note Expected

That note is expected to be firmer in tone than earlier British communications.

It was understood the United States is being kept informed on all developments.

TEHRAN, Iran, May 14—(AP)—Premier Mohammed Mossadeq, suffering a heart ailment and upset nerves, barricaded himself behind locked doors in the parliament building today. He said he would stay there to await the showdown on oil nationalization and the thwart death-threats from "fascists."

Ex-Pen Official Charged with Grand Larceny

Felony charges of grand larceny involving the alleged theft of \$3,500 were added Monday against Frederick Beck, Salem, discharged head of schools at the Oregon state penitentiary.

Beck, arrested last Tuesday on charges of introducing benzidine into the prison, was rearrested Monday after Mrs. William Homer Berry, wife of a convict, had filed a complaint against the former city juvenile officer on the new charge.

Beck was freed on \$3,500 bond Monday afternoon. He will appear in district court today at 10 a. m. to enter a plea to the larceny charge.

Beck's attorney, Bruce Williams, said Monday night that Beck would plead innocent to the grand larceny charge. Beck pleaded innocent last Thursday to the charge of taking the benzidine into the prison. He was free on bail of \$1,000 while awaiting court trial for June 6 at the time of his second arrest.

The \$3,500 mentioned in the larceny charge represents the total amount in currency mailed to Dupree Poe, a convicted murderer, by Mrs. Berry at her husband's request. State Police Captain Ray Howard said. Three thousand dollars was included with a \$1,000 check in a registered letter which Beck signed for at the Salem post office minutes before his first arrest. Capt. Howard said the other \$500 had been sent to Beck's address previously. It was also addressed to Poe, police said.

State police said Beck had signed a statement at the time of the first arrest saying he received the \$500 and after retaining a \$10 fee, sending the remainder to "an unknown person at an unknown address."

Mrs. Berry, complainant in the larceny case, told police she had sent the money to Poe at her husband's request. Berry had asked for the money in a reported attempt to obtain influence to secure his release from the prison where he is serving a 20-year term for rape.

Eagleton to Face Charge

INDEPENDENCE, May 14—A preliminary hearing for David W. Eagleton, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, will be held at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday before Justice of the Peace W. A. Wiest.

The charge was filed following an incident on Main street Saturday night when Tom Camden and Bill Goddard suffered minor wounds.

(Initial reports gave the name of the person charged as Joe Sanelle. The name was in error.)

Railroad Rails Stolen; Loot of Thefts Varied

City police were seeking an energetic thief Monday who stole 700 pounds of steel railroad rails from Salem Sand and Gravel Co., 1405 N. Front st., sometime over the week-end.

Police said the rails were all in 8- to 10-inch pieces.

Investigations of thefts from a parked auto, larceny of a boat and of a shrub were also underway by city police.

Bob Ausmus, Albany, complained that a .32 Mauser revolver, a set of golf clubs and German-made binoculars were taken from his car parked at the Rose Gardens motel on Portland road sometime Sunday night or Monday morning.

The shrub, an azalea plant, was dug up and removed from the front yard of the E. A. Russell residence, 2325 Maple ave., Friday or Saturday night. The theft was reported Monday. The theft was reported Monday.

Mrs. Laddie Gale, 1485 N. Summer st., reported the loss of the rubber boat. She told police it was taken from the back yard of her home between Saturday and Sunday evening.

Overpass Plan Wins Home Made Auto Kin To Buggy

By Robert E. Gangware
City Editor, The Statesman

An overpass to separate the Wallace road bridge approach and railroad tracks was urged by Salem city council Monday night in a resolution directed at the state highway commission.

Alderman Earl Burk said early plans for the new Marion street bridge had called for such an overpass, but it was eliminated to save expense. The resolution he sponsored stressed growing industrial and

Home Made Auto Kin To Buggy

Carl Hills, 18, a Sacred Heart academy student, claims his home-made car will do eight miles an hour.

And that's not bad for \$30. Which Carl says is about what it cost to assemble it from an old buggy, a two-cycle, three-horsepower dragsaw motor, and an axe handle that provides a sort of joystick to steer with.

Carl, who lives nine miles south of Salem in Sunnyside district, went to the public library and looked up pictures of old cars before starting to work on his horse-less buggy. It patterned after a model that was snappy about 1900, but he says he doesn't remember the make.

The vehicle burns gasoline mixed with oil, starts by flipping a flywheel and is noisier than a game of cops and robbers.

Carl had his contraption towed to the police station Sunday afternoon to see what was still needed to operate it legally alongside sleeker but less provocative models.

Police suggested license plates, rubber tires on the buggy wheels and, oh, yes—brakes.

Carl, who says he had his fun building the buggy, is ready to sell it if he gets the right offer. Did the gentlemen say two hundred dollars? Or get a horse!

Carl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hills, Salem route 9, box 468.

Auto Break-In Costs Tourist Over \$600

Third of a series of auto break-ins at north Salem motels was revealed Monday night by city police.

Vacationist Jack Stower, Shelby, Mont., reported the theft of sports equipment and clothing valued at more than \$600 from his 1951 Hudson parked near his cabin at the Rose Gardens motel, 3350 Portland rd.

Police said a wing window on the auto had been forced to get into the car sometimes between Sunday night and Monday morning.

Listed as missing were two sets of golf clubs, a 35 mm Buick camera, a DeJure light meter, a pair of golf clubs, a woman's buckskin jacket, woman's shorty coat, man's jacket, pair of Bausch and Lomb binoculars, an electric iron, a woman's suit and a white eyeshade. The value of the items was set at \$635.25 by Stower.

Monmouth Man, Nephew Missing On Umpqua River

ELKTON, May 14—(AP)—A fisherman and his nephew were missing in this area today. It was feared both had drowned in the Umpqua river.

They were Allen Adams, 29, of Monmouth, and his nephew, Donald R. Smith, 13, of Elkton.

Adams' truck was found 1 1/2 miles above the Elkton bridge. There were marks where a boat had been dragged to the water.

Adams' sister, Mrs. Wilbur Hugs of Eugene, said a man fishing from the bridge Saturday reported he saw a boat and a hat floating downstream that day.

Oregon Strawberries Reach Portland Market

PORTLAND, May 14—(AP)—Fields near Canby produced the first Oregon-grown strawberries for the market here today, two weeks earlier than a year ago.

The price for the part of a flat was \$4 a 12-cup fill, the same price as last year when the same area produced the first berries. The grower making the delivery said he could possibly offer as many as 10 flats by Thursday or Friday.

Coast-to-Coast Record Set by Light Plane

NEW YORK, May 14—(AP)—A baby monoplane, with a 47-year-old father of nine children at the controls, today finished a storm-buffed, coast-to-coast flight in the fastest time the distance has ever been flown in a light plane.

Max Conrad, the grinning pilot, set his 990-pound craft down at Los Angeles in a non-official 23 hours, four minutes and 31 seconds.

"I was wondering where all that gas came from during the last eight hours," he said as he stepped to the ground, tired but smiling. "I really did not expect to make it."

Thunderstorms and headwinds up to 30 miles an hour tossed his small Piper pacer about during much of the trip, but his non-stop hop bested a 18-year-old official speed record for light planes.

When Conrad left Los Angeles, he had 166 gallons of fuel in the two regular wing tanks and two portable tanks with pump attachments, and two five-gallon cans in the cockpit. Over Cleveland, he had thought the supply wouldn't last.

But he got there with enough fuel for about five more hours flying time.

Polk County Backer

Backing the resolution before the council also was Emmett T. Rogers of Polk county.

Aldermen Monday night aimed a recommendation at another state body, the capitol planning commission, when they voted to bring in May 28 a bill to repeal the stopgap ordinance requiring any structural changes in the capitol zone to clear through city council.

"That should instigate some zoning action," commented Mayor A. W. Loucks after the councilmen mentioned that the state planning group has asked for a conference with city zoners over permanent zoning in the area north of the capitol. The stopgap law was passed to protect that area until the state legislature could act on proposals to extend state property north from Center street.

Petition Filed

The council move last night was prompted by its approval of S. A. Wheatley's petition for permission to change wooden steps to concrete at 725 Court st.

Congestion of Front street traffic drew council attention, with the result that parking was limited to one hour between State and Ferry on the east side of Front street and the city attorney was instructed to check on laws prohibiting overnight parking of freight cars.

Action on a long-pending city tree ordinance was called for by Alderman Thomas Armstrong who said the city tree commission had ignored several calls for its report to the council on the bill he proposed to regulate planting and removal of trees in city parking strips.

The council formally thanked by resolution Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Larsen for their donation of property just south of Salem for establishment of a city playground. (Other council news on page 2.)

George Neuner In Hospital

Attorney General George Neuner was reported resting comfortably at Salem General hospital Monday night where he was taken after collapsing while at work on Monday morning.

Neuner's physician said the collapse was probably due to overwork. Neuner was taken to the hospital by City Ambulance service.

He will remain in the hospital for several days for a complete checkup.

New Secret Military Headquarters Readied

WASHINGTON, May 14—(AP)—The department of defense announced today secret military headquarters are being set up outside of Washington for use if Pentagon and other defense offices are damaged by enemy forces.

Rain Aids Red Korea Buildup

TOKYO, Tuesday, May 15—(AP)—Red troops poured southward in two areas of Central Korea today under cover of a driving rain, adding to their buildup for a new offensive.

The communists might be expected to unleash it in the unfavorable weather—ideal for concealment and for their light transportation system; unfavorable for allied tanks and planes.

The reports were spotted in the Yanggu and Chunchon areas. There was light to moderate contact all along the front. But the reds were concentrating on the two points in the mountainous central and east-central areas.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GODDRICH



MacArthur Eyes Northwest Visit Late in August

SPOKANE, May 14—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur will make every effort to be in Spokane on August 24 for a state American Legion convention appearance, he informed Legion officials today.

The general was invited last month to speak at the Legion's evening drum corps show in Spokane's memorial stadium. Convention official John MacPhee said MacArthur asserted in a letter that he will try to include Spokane in a speaking tour now being planned.

Temperamental Cows In Draft Deferment Plea

SACRAMENTO, Calif., May 14—(AP)—The cow is a very temperamental animal and can hold back the milk. It needs a very skillful man to get the milk.

So argued State Senator George Hatfield. He won senate approval today of his resolution asking draft officials to seriously weigh the matter of granting deferments to skilled milkers.

BASEBALL

Western International
At Spokane 5, Salem 6
At Wenatchee 3, Victoria 8 (11 Inn.)
Only games scheduled.

Coast League
No games scheduled.

American League
At New York 11, Cleveland 4
At Washington 7, Boston 8 (11 Inn.)
Only games scheduled.

National League
No games scheduled.

Ceiling on Beef Changes Prices in Salem Shops, Leaves Average Cost Unchanged

official ceiling price on this popular commodity is set at 70 cents a pound. But most stores were selling it last week at \$9.59 to \$9.99.

On the other hand grade A rib steak was forced down from about 89 cents per pound to the new ceiling of 76 cents. Also reduced in price Monday were rib roasts and plate and brisket cuts.

Boosted in price was ground beef, round steak, sirloin tips and roasts and pot roasts. Ceiling price on one cut of pot roast is now 97 cents while the average price here last week was about \$5 cents.

Dealers said, however, that competition and other factors would prevent meat from hitting ceiling prices in all instances.

"I have been getting about \$1.05 per pound for grade A sirloin steak," said one dealer. "The new

ceiling price is \$1.17. But obviously I can't get that high because the customers won't stand for it."

Also kicked around considerably by meat dealers was the regulation which eliminates the sale of boneless top sirloin and beef tenderloins and the one prohibiting the display of ground round steak and rolled rib roasts.

One dealer interpreted the regulation to mean that cube steaks also could not be displayed but another dealer did not hold with this interpretation. A meat dealer in a large Salem market said he had received no new price list at all.

How about customer reaction to these changes? Well, one dealer put it this way:

"Housewives, reading about the new meat prices, rush in here expecting to see drastically reduced tags. Instead they find some cuts are reduced in price, others are increased and, perhaps, one of their favorite cuts eliminated entirely."

Another section of the new regulation which is causing some heated words is the one which prohibits the sale of locker beef (in the whole or half beef) at retail markets. Individual cuts may be bought at regular prices at a retail market but a side of beef, for instance, must be purchased in a locker plant. Prices of locker beef remains unchanged.

One dealer said that the new regulations will lower the overall cost of meat to the consumer only if and when the government enacts lower ceilings on prices paid to livestock growers.

The new prices, which went into effect Monday, concerned only poultry. Dealers have until June 1 to post the prices in their stores. (Story on beef ceiling prices also on page 3.)