

Knowledge of Ships 'Deal' Flatly Denied

By WILMOT HERCHER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former members of the old U. S. Maritime Commission testified Thursday that if there had been a "full disclosure" of the facts they would not have approved the surplus ships deal in which Joseph K. Casey and two friends earned \$450,000 on a \$1,000 investment.

Adm. William Smith, former chairman of the commission, said any advance indication of a "speculative purpose" on the part of the Casey group "would have disqualified the applicants under the law—as I understand the law."

Another former commission member, Greenville Melton, told the Senate's investigations subcommittee that he would have "torn up" the Casey group's application for three war surplus tankers if he had known that even before the ships were obtained from the government the group had agreed to sell them to a Chinese-financed corporation.

"No disclosure" of the transaction was made, Melton said, "let alone full disclosure."

Casey is a former Democratic member of the House from Massachusetts who now practices law in Washington.

Witnesses have testified that he and Julius C. Holmes, minister at the U. S. embassy in London, and E. Stanley Klein, a New York financier, put up \$1,000 to organize the National Tanker Corp., in 1948 and buy the three tankers from the government.

It has also been testified that the Maritime Commission approved the sale to National Tanker even before the company was incorporated.

National Tanker, the testimony showed, was committed to sell the ships to United Tanker Corp., the Chinese-financed firm, which was represented by a New York law partner of Newbold Morris, the administration's anti-corruption chief.

In October, 1948, title to the ships was sold to United for \$450,000. Later United used some of its ships to ferry oil to Red China until a month before the Korean War.

Mountain Passes Catch Snow Coat

Motorists crossing the Oregon Cascade mountains via the Wapinitia, Santiam Pass and Willamette Pass routes should carry chains, the state highway commission said Thursday.

One inch of snow fell on those mountain road during the night. All other points had bare pavement.

Truman Still Silent on Plan For Politicking

By The Associated Press

President Truman, silent Thursday on any plans to rebound from the stunning defeat he suffered at the hands of Sen. Estes Kefauver in the New Hampshire "popularity" election.

Vacillating at Key West, Fla., the President skipped the usual Thursday news conference, he holds in Washington, and so far has said not a word on the contest which saw him lose to Kefauver by a margin of 20,147 votes to 18,258.

Speculation arose, however, that Truman might cut loose Saturday. He leaves at noon (EST) Friday on a 2,400-mile weekend flight to address 3,000 young school editors in New York, then back to Key West.

Sen. Alton (R-Vt.), who predicted last month that Kefauver would "beat for tax" out of Truman in New Hampshire, said the President "must be fighting mad . . . he's hurt and he'll fight now."

Here is what various candidates were doing Thursday:

KEFAUVER—The tall Tennessee formally announced his entry in the Florida primary on May 6 against Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.).

WARREN—California's Gov. Earl Warren swung into a stump tour through Wisconsin in his bid for the GOP Presidential nomination. He will face Taft and Harold E. Stassen in the Wisconsin primary April 1.

TAFT—Campaigning in New Mexico, the Ohio Senator said the nation must choose between giant foreign expenditures and domestic works such as reclamation.

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Chimney Fire Burns Out on N. 21st St.

A chimney fire was reported Thursday night at the residence of G. H. VanBuren, 285 N. 21st St., and was answered by the East Station Salem fire department.

No damage was reported and the firemen let the fire burn itself out.

Safe Driving Records Bring Awards to Bus Drivers



These 15 men represent the safest Salem drivers in the City Transit Lines, all of whom were honored at a safety awards banquet Wednesday night. A gold watch for 16 years was presented to George Walker, second from left, front row. Others in the first row are Lee Epley, 4 years; Henry Eide, 14 years; Walker; Homer Harrison, 11; Eddie Dolan, 8; O. K. Hale, 7. Standing are John Ankeny, 8; James Harp, 5; Norman Taylor, 4; W. M. Ashcraft, 3; Eddie Ryan, 1; William Burright, 3; H. V. Cross, 4; Ernest Wilson, 3; Raymond Cross, 1. Not present were Benay Miller and F. M. Stewart, both 3 years.

Ike Men Woo Party Liners

WASHINGTON (AP)—Eisenhower for President headquarters Thursday night made public an excerpt from a letter from the General giving assurances that he would not be a "wild maverick" and ignore the "rank and file of any organization."

Although he did not mention specifically the Republican Party organization, there was no doubt here that was what he meant in particular.

It was regarded as a move to build up Eisenhower strength with leaders and workers in the Republican organization, many of whom favor or are leaning to Sen. Taft of Ohio.

Coming on the heels of the General's victory in New Hampshire, it showed the Eisenhower forces were pressing their campaign to oust the backing of party workers who might be doubtful of their political future if Eisenhower won the presidency.

The Des Moines Register obtained a copy of the excerpt from Eisenhower headquarters, which later gave it to other newsmen, saying the General had written it to an unnamed close friend, with permission to quote.

Eisenhower headquarters struck another blow for him Thursday night by announcing that Richard G. Jordan, who has been city chairman for Taft in Manchester, N. H., has urged Taft to get behind Eisenhower.

Steelhammer Nominated for Top Elk Post

Carl Steelhammer, president of the Mill Supply Corp., was nominated for exalted ruler of the Salem Elks Lodge Thursday night.

Steelhammer will be unopposed in the election next Thursday for officers for the next year. Nominated along with Steelhammer were Wes Stewart Jr., leading knight; John Graham, loyal knight; Harry Wiedmer, secretary; Paul West and Edward Binkh, treasurer.

Nominated for the five-year term as trustee was Harry Wendroth. Earl Croken was put up for the position as tyler, and Clint Standish named for alternate representative to the grand lodge.

Toddler Swallows 15 Aspirin Tablets

Two-year-old Susan Pyle must have had quite a headache Thursday night before swallowing 15 aspirin tablets.

Salem first aid was called by Susan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Teddy R. Pyle, 625 Jefferson St., at 7:44 p.m. when they discovered that she had gotten into the aspirin bottle and consumed about 15 tablets.

The doctor suggested she be given mustard to assist getting rid of them but listed her case as "nothing to worry about."

Retired Farmer Taken by Death

Ellsworth Gregory, retired farmer and resident of 1366 State Street for the past 10 months, died Thursday at the age of 72 years.

According to his landlady, Mrs. Alta Larsen, Gregory had no known relatives except a cousin in Pueblo, Colo. Mrs. Larsen said she thought the deceased was a native of Idaho and had been engaged in farming in California and Canada before retiring to Oregon.

He was a member of the Church of Christ, Scientists.

Victim of Accident In Poor Condition

Four-year-old Linda Gardner, struck by an auto Wednesday, was reported Thursday night in poor condition by Salem General Hospital.

Linda, who suffered puncture wounds of both knees and forehead as well as possible skull fracture and internal injuries, was taken to the hospital in a critical condition.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell R. Gardner, 2783 Evergreen Ave. The accident occurred Wednesday evening one block from her home.

Ice Company Burglarized

A burglary at the City Ice Company, 1551 Center St., was reported to Salem police Thursday morning at 9 a.m.

Robert Radcliffe, engineer at the ice company, stated in the police report that entrance was gained by forcing the door into the engine room.

The burglary was estimated by Salem police to have occurred at about 10 p.m. Wednesday. There was no reported loss except the report indicates that some tools might be missing. The office was reported ransacked and no fingerprints were discovered.

House Construction Authorized by City

Six building permits were issued by the City Engineer Thursday. One permit lists store alterations and the other five were to erect dwellings and garages.

They were to W. J. Braun and T. H. Tomlinson, \$2,335 alteration of store at 1422 State St.; Harry Collins, \$8,000, at 2620 Myrtle St.; and \$8,000 at 1908 Hickory St.; O. K. Relling, \$8,000, at 1350 West Way; S. and S. Projects, \$5,500, at 2280 Electric St.; and F. M. North, \$11,000, at 2785 Englewood Ave.

Woman Missing From Oregon State Hospital

Gladys Blue, a patient at Oregon State Hospital, was reported missing Thursday by hospital authorities.

She is described as 53 years old, 5 feet 4, 110 pounds, has sandy hair, and brown eyes. When last seen she was wearing a pink felt hat, black coat, black velvet suit and black shoes.

Also, an escapee from the alcoholic ward, Cecil Skelton, is still reported missing. He escaped from the hospital Wednesday morning.

Portland Driver Held On Intoxication Charge

Marion County sheriff's deputies arrested George Hubert Knoetzel, a salesman from Portland, Thursday night on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Knoetzel, according to the deputies, was operating his car in a southerly route between Salem and Jefferson at 9:45 p.m.

He was brought to Marion County jail where he was booked on the charge of driving while intoxicated and confined without bail.

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John Welborn, Mail Carrier In Salem Dies

Mail carrier John Warren Welborn, local carrier for 33 years, died Wednesday while cutting wood at the James Hartwell residence near Shaw.

Welborn had delivered route 16 in the business section of Salem for the past 10 or 15 years.

He was born in Yates Center, Kan., July 12, 1892, coming to Salem in 1900 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Washington Welborn. He resided at 1880 N. 20th St. with his wife, Mrs. Ann Lydia Welborn.

Besides his widow he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Robertson, Salem; a son, Stanley of Portland; three sisters, Miss Edith Welborn, Santa Ana, Calif.; Mrs. Mabel McIntire, Coos Bay, and Mrs. Violet Inman, Junction City; two brothers, Ralph, The Dalles, and Forrest Welborn, Alameda, Calif., and three grandsons.

Services will be held at the Virgil T. Golden Chapel at 4 p.m. Saturday with interment at Belcrest Memorial Park.

SIX KILLED IN CRASH
BAY MINETTE, Ala. (AP)—An Air Force cargo plane caught fire in the air and spun to earth in a mass of flames near here late Thursday. Six men were killed.

KENNAN CONFIRMED

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Thursday confirmed George F. Kennan to be ambassador to Russia. Kennan, a Pennsylvanian, was approved without debate or opposition.

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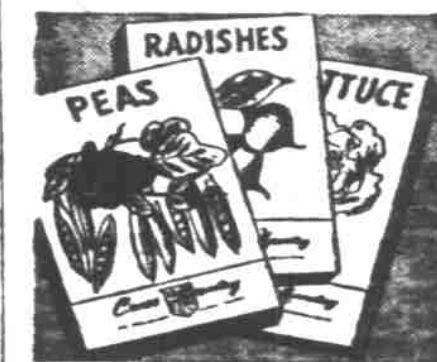
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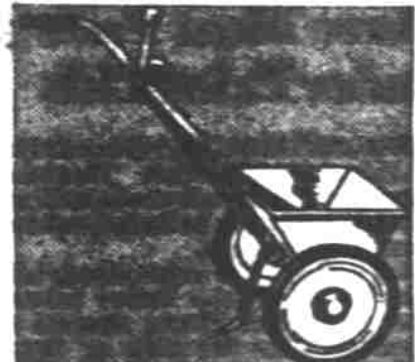
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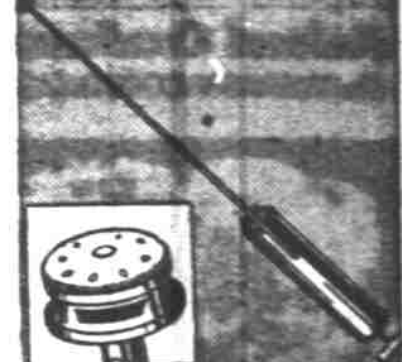
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