

## Public Probe of Power Surcharges Sought

### Navy Spaceman Suit Ready to Carry Pilot Safely Right Out of This World

WASHINGTON (AP)—The navy has a spaceman's suit, good for flight even out of this world. It said it has tested the weird-looking outfit which "will allow Navy pilots to travel in safety in the extreme upper atmosphere—or even in outer space."

Photographs look like something out of science fiction magazines—a dome plexiglass helmet; a heavily corrugated suit of rubber; strongly reinforced boots

and gloves with air pressure like the rest of the suit. The navy said this was the first time scientists had been able to provide "full protection for pilots flying above 50,000 feet, where death occurs only seconds after the loss of airplane cabin pressure."

This apparently was in reference to previous high-altitude suits which did not extend complete protection to the hands and feet. Developed for the navy by the

B. F. Goodrich Company, Akron, Ohio, the suit was given its test in a negative pressure chamber simulating conditions at 70,000 feet. The man who made the first test was Lt. Cmdr. Harry Peck of De Kalb, Ill., a naval aviator in the laboratory of the company. "The suit assures the pilot," the navy said, "that no matter what happens at altitude to the plane's pressure system—whether 100,000 feet or even higher, he is safe to complete his mission."

### Vest Lucky for Kelly



"Yes, I wear this flak vest almost all the time," smiling Gerald D. Kelly, hospital corpsman third-class, USN, seems to be saying in this picture taken in front of his tent near the Korean battlefront. Kelly was recently spared severe injury when a .30 caliber bullet was stopped by the vest. Kelly sent above snapshot to his parents.

### Rep. Sweetland Seeks Action Through PUC

PORTLAND (AP)—State Rep. Monroe Sweetland took action Thursday to try to force a public hearing on the 20 per cent surcharge that Portland General Electric has added to its power rates. In a registered letter, mailed before he left the state to visit his ailing father in Michigan, Sweetland sent a formal complaint about the situation to Charles Heltzel, state public utilities commissioner. He called the rates "excessive and unreasonable," asked that the surcharge payments be placed in escrow and that "excess earnings of the company for the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 be recaptured."

Appeals for Probe Sweetland, who also is Democratic national committeeman for Oregon, appealed for a "complete and searching investigation of the rate base, operating expenses, depreciation and earnings of the company." Any action on Sweetland's complaint is expected to affect other companies making the surcharge, such as Mountain States Power Company and Pacific Power & Light. Sweetland named only PGE because his home is served by PGE. The step was taken after Heltzel had rejected Sweetland's first request for a hearing. That one was in a letter to Heltzel, who said it was not in the proper form. The second complaint was drawn up in legal terminology. Said Not Warranted The complaint asserted the surcharge, added because of steam generation costs of PGE in the fall and winter, was not warranted. The charge was based on costs of operation in recent years, but these were years of high water flow, low costs and high profits, Sweetland contended. The company should absorb the costs of steam generation out of those profits, he said. Excesses from the complaint: "The company's net earnings were above those which it had a right to expect under a normal water cycle... Its billings were computed on the basis of the recent favorable conditions... The costs they would have experienced in a median or normal year... Rate Kept On "The company is being permitted to exact charges from its customers which are excessive and exorbitant by hundreds of thousands of dollars." "Excess earnings should be placed in a reserve fund and applied immediately in the benefit of the consumers for the beneficial purpose of discharging or rebating to them the amounts already collected from them as 20 per cent surcharges. "Adverse water conditions prevailed only during the months of October, November and December. Sweetland asked that the surcharge money be placed in escrow, that "excess earnings" for the 1949-52 period be recaptured and held "in a reserve for the relief of the customers," and that "excess earnings" for January and February be treated similarly.

Misleading Lambs Just Got His Goat PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Maybe Judas had a conscience. He had a steady job, leading sheep to the slaughter at an abattoir. But perhaps it preyed on his conscience, for Judas somehow got out of the slaughter house Thursday, took a walk up to the university bridge, jumped over the railing into the Schuylkill River and drowned.

WALKOUT THREATENED SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Ships officers on West Coast merchant vessels will walk off their jobs Friday afternoon unless shipowners agree to bargain on wage boosts, the western head of the AFL Masters Mates and Pilot's Union announced Thursday night.

Civil Rights Groups Pack Anti-Racialism Hearing The hearing was taken up entirely by proponents of the legislation. These included representatives of the Friendship House of Portland, a non-profit Catholic organization; the Legal Committee of Equal Rights, Lane County Fellowship for Unity association, and individuals. The joint ways and means committee put its stamp of approval Thursday on proposed pay increases for the state's top-level executives, but couldn't agree on salary boosts for some 50 appointive officials and sent the matter back to its sub-committee for more study. The committee recommended that the governor's salary be upped from \$11,000 to \$15,000, with retention of his \$100-a-week tax-free expense allowance. The secretary of state, treasurer and attorney general would go from \$8,800 annually to \$10,000. The superintendent of public

## World Situation 'Grim', Ike Tells Congress' Chiefs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional leaders got an inside look at the world military—diplomatic picture with President Eisenhower Thursday and generally described it as "grim." "You might say we are in a hell of a fix," commented one of the lawmakers, who asked not to be named. Led by Senate Majority Leader Taft of Ohio and House Speaker Martin (R-Mass.), the contingent of 12 senators and 12 house members of both parties emerged from the 90-minute White House session with terse comments. The general reaction seemed to be that nothing new or startling had been disclosed, but that the continuing gravity of the global situation had been driven home with considerable force. This jibed with the view of diplomats and economists who are taking no evidence of any new international development in Europe or the Far East likely to explode into a sudden crisis. Suggested by "Facts" One well-informed source suggested that members of the congressional delegation were taking a grim line because they found grim facts to work with. These facts, it was said, run counter to optimistic campaign discussions by some candidates about an early end to the Korean war and quick armistice. President Eisenhower is engaged in trying to head off a determined drive in Congress for tax cuts as the first order of business. Administration officials also have been stressing that there is no quick panacea for the Korean War, or for the other vast problems arising from Soviet pressures throughout the world. Martin Optimistic These officials, however, are counting on such things as military and economic strength, and a seizure of the offensive in the cold war to bring eventual success in the effort to establish a stable peace. Speaker Martin told newsmen after the White House briefing that while the outlook "is grim" he feels that "we will make it all right over the long pull."

Martin said the meeting did not disclose "anything particularly new" but emphasized "the tough job we have ahead."

Several courses of action on the Korean crisis in the U. N. General Assembly were explored Thursday by the United States and 13 of its Korean combat partners at a husband-and-wife conference. No decisions were reported and the host, Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., who did more listening than talking at the session, told newsmen later that "actions will speak louder than words." Lodge and several delegates emphasized that the meeting showed the solidarity of the countries having fighting forces in Korea. In a brief statement, with the other delegations grouped around him for pictures, Lodge said: "We have shown by our actions we really believe in the principle of collective security. We counseled today on steps to take in the future." Informed quarters indicated that some of the delegates are waiting with great interest to see whether V. K. Krishna Menon, Indian delegate who produced a resolution on Korea last fall, will bring to the Assembly any information from Communist China which might break the long stalemate. The assembly reconvenes Tuesday.

Hot Wire Kayos, Power Lineman Burton Dane, 29-year-old Portland General Electric lineman escaped serious injury Thursday when he was knocked unconscious atop a power pole at Fairview Home. Dane told Salem First Aid crewmen he was working at the top of the pole when he accidentally brushed his head against an 11,000 volt wire. The shock rendered him unconscious and fellow workmen lowered him from the pole. He was taken to Salem Memorial Hospital suffering from shock—his only apparent injury. He was reported in "satisfactory" condition at the hospital Thursday night.

CUT INCOME TAX OTTAWA (AP)—Finance Minister Douglas Abbott Thursday night announced an 11 per cent cut in Canada's personal income tax effective next July 1. The House highway committee approved for introduction bills that would require the applicant's photograph on driver's licenses and give special auto plates to amateur radio operators. The list of public hearings grew longer Thursday when the welfare subcommittee of the joint ways and means committee set Feb. 25 at 2:30 for discussion on the bill which would open public welfare rolls to inspection. The Senate resolutions committee recommended defeat of a bill that would have created the office of lieutenant governor, but approved a memorial calling for statehood for Alaska and Hawaii. Among bills up for final passage in the senate Friday is one that would give the governor sole authority to determine any and all hunting seasons during period of high fire hazard. (Additional legislative news on Page 3.)

### Trio Reaches Semi-finals of Spell Contest

Mt. Angel—Sue Slaten, 14 who likes to play volleyball and ride her pony Buster, is winner of the spelling championship of the 7th and 8th grades at Mt. Angel Academy. Sue, an 8th-grader and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Slaten of Lakeside, Ore., will represent her school in the semi-finals of the Oregon Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest at the Eugene Field Auditorium in Silverton, Wednesday night, March 11. Sue was certified as spelling champion by her principal, Sister Mary Hilda, O.S.B. Her teacher is Sister Mary Corinne, O.S.B. Second place at Mt. Angel Academy went to Donna Ogan, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Ogan, 124 Holley Rd., Sweet Home, Ore., and third place to Donna Woodry, 11, daughter of Donald E. Woodry, 345 Bellevue St., Salem. Donna Ogan is in the 7th grade, Donna Woodry in the 8th.

Parkerville—A 12-year-old girl who likes music and reading, Patricia Graves, will represent Parkerville School in the semi-finals of the Oregon Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest at Woodburn, Thursday night, March 12. Patricia is in the 7th grade and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Graves, Route 1, Box 210, Gervais, was certified as Parkerville champion by Principal Mattie Sue Steel. Her teacher is Mrs. Edna Wolcott. Larry Brower, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Brower, Route 1, Box 144, Brooks, won second place, and third place went to Michael Bergerson, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bergerson, Route 1, Box 151, Gervais. Both Larry and Michael are in the 8th grade.

Salem Academy—Marie Schilder, who was spelling champion of Christian School in 1952, will represent Salem Academy in the Oregon Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest this year. Marie is a 13-year-old 8th-grader and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Schilder, 1355 Marie Schindler Fairmount Ave., Salem, was certified for the contest by Lucille W. Humphreys, Salem Academy principal. Her teacher is Miss Iretta Downing. Marie missed on "governor" in the semi-finals last year. Bob Parrish, 13, son of Mrs. Lura Parrish, 21 N. 8th, Independence, won second place at Salem Academy this year. He is in the 8th grade. Third place went to Coralee Galbraith, 10, probably the youngest pupil ever to qualify for a certificate of merit in a Statesman-KSLM Contest. Coralee, a 7th grader, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Galbraith, Route 3, Box 772, Salem.

### Corporation to Clear Liberty, Ferry Sites

Another link in the chain of events leading up to business development by the unidentified L. F. Corporation was forged Thursday with two permits for wrecking downtown buildings issued by the city engineer's office.

### Worried Boss Saves Victims Of Gas Fumes

A narrow escape from death, credited to a boss' interest in his employe, put Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Shadrick, 510 W. Salem Heights Ave., in the hospital Thursday. Both were unconscious with carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas furnace before they were found late Thursday morning by Marion County sheriff's office. Shadrick, a used car salesman for State Motors, told his employe, E. O. Welling, on Wednesday that his wife was sick and if he couldn't come to work Thursday he would call. When no call came, Welling tried to telephone Shadrick from 9 to 11:15 a.m. and, getting no answer, drove to the home. Both were unconscious with carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas furnace before they were found late Thursday morning by Marion County sheriff's office. Shadrick, a used car salesman for State Motors, told his employe, E. O. Welling, on Wednesday that his wife was sick and if he couldn't come to work Thursday he would call. When no call came, Welling tried to telephone Shadrick from 9 to 11:15 a.m. and, getting no answer, drove to the home. Both were unconscious with carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas furnace before they were found late Thursday morning by Marion County sheriff's office. Shadrick, a used car salesman for State Motors, told his employe, E. O. Welling, on Wednesday that his wife was sick and if he couldn't come to work Thursday he would call. When no call came, Welling tried to telephone Shadrick from 9 to 11:15 a.m. and, getting no answer, drove to the home. Both were unconscious with carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas furnace before they were found late Thursday morning by Marion County sheriff's office.

Speculation as to the future use of the property implied the area created by razing the buildings would be used temporarily as a downtown parking area until construction "in the next several months" will begin. What the location will eventually house has never been revealed.

### 'Voice' Chief Denies Any Red Activity

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Voice of America's policy chief was confronted Thursday with a purported confession by a Chinese Communist spy that he "leaked" secrets to the Reds during the postwar struggle for control of China. W. Bradie Connors, the official involved, told investigating senators that there was no truth to the charge. He also swore that he had never been a Communist or a fellow traveler. Imperturbably chewing gum, Connors testified that at no time during his postwar service in China "did I favor the Communist regime." Connors said his title now is assistant administrator for policy and plans for the International Information Administration of the State Department. He explained that his position made him "top man" on policy for the Voice of America. During his testimony before the Senate's Investigations Subcommittee, Connors disclosed that the State Department issued an order Wednesday forbidding the use of any material by "controversial authors, Communists or fellow travelers" on Voice of America programs.

### Alumina Plant Action Backed

Clay Cochran, secretary of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, and Arch W. Metzger, long-time manager of the government-owned chemical plant at Cherry Avenue, will leave for Washington, D. C., Sunday to urge disposal of the plant to private interests. Bids were received for the plant last December. High bidder was the Harvey Machine Company of Los Angeles, which promised to operate the plant intact and for the purpose for which it was originally designed—making alumina from clay. No deal has been made, however, and the plant is idle. Cochran and Metzger have been asked to present facts in the case to senate and house committees and to the General Services Administration which is in charge of the disposal.

### Ike Collects Watchers for Golf Practice

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower stopped traffic Thursday with a golf club. The President spent 45 minutes practicing golf shots behind the White House, a pastime he has enjoyed several times since taking office. Outside the iron fence, at some distance from the chief executive, scores of passersby stopped to watch. A number of cars halted, too, and were left standing in the street while their occupants joined the fence-watchers for a quick peek. There was some traffic congestion since the President's practice session didn't end until the 5 p.m. rush hour was under way. John Moany, the President's valet, caddied for him and shagged the balls. Red Troops Beaten Back on Two Attacks SEOUL (AP)—Chinese Red troops twice assaulted an Allied outpost on the Western Korean Front before dawn Friday under cover of a smoke screen but were beaten off in bitter fighting.

### Dancing Class Kick Puts Girl in Hospital

A high kick in a dancing class at Salem High School Thursday proved too steep for student Pat Cameron, 17—she threw her knee out of place. City First Aidmen took her to Salem General Hospital where she was reported in good condition Thursday night. She resides at 345 N. 20th St. She told first aiders she was practicing a ballet-type dance when the accident occurred.

### Veteran City Bus Driver Critically Ill

Henry Eld, 54, veteran driver for the City Transit Lines, sustained a stroke at his home Thursday and was taken to Salem General Hospital by city ambulance service. His condition was described by hospital authorities as "critical" Thursday night. Carl J. Wendt, general manager of City Transit, advised that Eld had become ill about two weeks ago and last week he suffered a stroke which paralyzed a portion of his side. Eld was said to be top man in the Lines safety program having driven 14 straight years without an accident. He was driving the 12th Street bus during the day before taking ill.

### Mercury Belies Sunshiny Skies

Salem's enveloping sunshine Thursday, though pretty to behold and hinting of spring, was deceptive in that it was accompanied by a low temperature of 28 degrees with a scant 50 degrees for the day's maximum. Considerable cloudiness and a few showers were predicted for Salem today with temperatures a little warmer. Scattered showers were predicted in the offering for the week end, U. S. weathermen advised.

### Daily Speller!

(The following words are among those from which will be chosen the words for the 1953 Oregon Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest for 7th and 8th graders of Marion, Polk and part of Yamhill County: desperate conference distill influence postscript irritate poverty curling amusing travel alphabet concrete analyze difficulty annoy metery answer celebrate wisdom unanimous)

### 'Vest' Blocks Bullet, Saves Salem Soldier

Gerald D. Kelly, 21, hospital corpsman third-class, USN, now knows that flak-vests will more than likely slow up a .30 caliber machine gun bullet, too. This was well received knowledge also for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Kelly, 1875 S. Church St., after they had been told he was wounded in action. And Wednesday their son's Purple Heart from the Navy department and a citation "... for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Korea" arrived in the mails. In a recent letter sent to relatives in Portland ("... didn't want to worry the folks..."), Kelly said he was with a firing party Jan. 30 at an outpost called Hedy Hill, near the infamous Bunker Hill on the Korean battlefront. He told them that, as a corpsman, he was with the demolition squad blasting out trenches. As they were moving toward the trenches he said "something hit me on the shoulder and I fell forward on the guy in front of me who was already bugging the earth." Hurrying back to comparative safety, he and his buddies looked for what he thought was a flying rock and found a machine gun bullet imbedded in the vest. He later learned the point of the bullet had pierced his skin. Kelly told them he wasn't hurt and insisted they return "and finish the job." He and a companion, who was also wounded, were later recommended for Purple Hearts.

Kelly graduated from Salem High School in June, 1948, and attended one year at the University of Oregon and one-half year at Pacific University before enlisting into the Navy Jan. 30, 1950. He flew to Korea Nov. 30 of last year where he is attached to B Company, 1st Engineer's Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

### IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

When Senators Morse and Long made public their reports alleging enormous waste in construction of bases overseas they did more than stir up the Air Force. They poured oil on the fires for the Navy in its campaign for building big flat-tops as movable bases. This, according to a writer in the Wall Street Journal, has revived the old feud between Navy and Air Force over handling of strategic bombing, a feud which Congress will have to deal with when it considers the defense budget.

In the earlier controversy the airforce argued for fixed bases in friendly territory overseas from which great B-36 bombers could carry atom bombs to the heart of a possible enemy (Russia). The Navy argued for a super-carrier, and actually got started to building one. Then in 1949 Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson ordered work to stop on the vessel. Since then the Navy received authority from Congress to build two large carriers, not so large as the \$5,000 ton USS United States. It wants authority and appropriations for friendly territory overseas from which great B-36 bombers could carry atom bombs to the heart of a possible enemy (Russia). The Navy argued for a super-carrier, and actually got started to building one. Then in 1949 Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson ordered work to stop on the vessel. Since then the Navy received authority from Congress to build two large carriers, not so large as the \$5,000 ton USS United States. 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