



Spring is definitely in the air. Kenny Raphael, 1715 Yew St., offers proof of the fact as he struggles to untangle his "Atomic Rocket" kite from a tree near his home. Kenny, a third grader at Bush School, says breezes are just about right now for kite flying, but he doesn't have any suggestions on how to get a stray "Rocket" out of a tree. (Statesman Photo).

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

When sale of liquor by the drink was authorized by the voters the time seemed appropriate to consider the old question of whether the Liquor Control Commission should consist of full-time, salaried members. At first look that seemed to me timely; at second look not so good. It would be much better in my opinion to continue under the present plan of a part-time commission with administration vested in a permanent staff under a single administrator. Then in two or four years we might take a fresh look and see if any change is needed.

We can begin with this fact, that in the 20 years since repeal Oregon's experience with a commission serving only part time on a per diem basis has been quite satisfactory. Those familiar with the situation in other monopoly states say that Oregon conditions are fully as good as in any of these states, usually better. Almost uniformly commissioners have been men of responsibility and character who have endeavored faithfully to administer a law in a notoriously difficult field. There have been numerous changes in membership and many changes in the administrator but policies have remained remarkably consistent throughout.

The basis for urging a change would be that the business has grown. But the fact is that it has pretty well stabilized. The routines of administration are pretty well established. When the actual administration is in good hands as it appears to be now under Bill Baillie the duties of the commission are greatly lightened.

A full-time commission would introduce complications. The administrative staff still would be required. If each

(Continued on editorial page, 4.)

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



MAN THE LIFE-BOATS! FISH OVERBOARD!

Replacement of 3 Salem Street Bridges Planned

Contracts for three new Salem street bridges probably will be awarded in mid-April, City Engineer J. H. Davis said Wednesday. The current city budget provides some \$75,000 for new-reinforced concrete bridges at Mission Street over Pringle Creek, at Ford St. and at South 25th Street, both over Shelton Ditch.

Plans are now under preparation by the city engineering staff. A timetable will be worked out so that neither the Ford or 25th Street bridge will be open at any given time this summer to accommodate Waters Field traffic. All three bridges are old wood structures which have required extensive maintenance in recent years.

Silverton Drive-In Theater Planned

SILVERTON—Plans for a new 400-car drive-in theater at Silverton were reported Wednesday by James Anderson of Mt. Angel and Lawrence Heer of Silverton. Anderson, proprietor of the Mt. Angel Theater, said the drive-in will be located on an eight-acre tract within the city limits on Mill Street in north Silverton. The two men announced they would operate the new theater jointly. They said work will start immediately and the drive-in should be ready to open the latter part of April.

Farmers Union Raps Opposition to Federal Welfare Work, Asks Social Security Widened

By LILLIE L. MADSEN Farm Editor, The Statesman Opposition to a bill now in legislature which would prohibit Oregon from participating in federal welfare programs was expressed Wednesday in one of the first three resolutions to be passed at the 43rd annual state convention of the Oregon State Farmers Union. The convention opened Tuesday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall and will close there Thursday afternoon with election of officers.

In another resolution adopted Wednesday, the state was urged to "not lose the two television channels," and in the third resolution extension of the social security law to farm owners was urged.

Further resolutions will be considered at the opening session Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. James T. Marr, representing the AFL organization, in his talk before the assembly Wednesday remarked that he could not recall a session of legislature where there were "so many attacks on people's rights." Among bills he singled out as being attacked were the initiative, the "sky-scraper tax bill" and the so-called "millionaire's amendment." He stated that he had sent a protest to the mayor and council of Portland against any "tampering with standard time." In reference to the initiative and referendum, Marr remarked that "just so long as we have this we will never have sales tax," and that

Salem People At Alumina Plant Hearing

By A. ROBERT SMITH Statesman Correspondent WASHINGTON, D. C.—Salem interests were outlined Wednesday as part of the current negotiating between the General Services Administration and Harvey Machine Company which is bidding for the Cherry Avenue Alumina Plant.

Clay Cochran, manager of the Salem chamber of commerce, and Arch Metzger, former manager of the plant, met with GSA representatives for more than two hours in continued efforts to bring together the Harvey Machine Company and the government. Cochran advised he had been assured by the GSA that the government will sell the plant intact rather than piecemeal to a private firm.

Harvey is known to be the only firm interested in buying and operating the government-built alumina plant as it was intended. Another company showed some interest in the facilities with a view of selling it for junk. "Harvey is definitely interested," Metzger reported Wednesday evening.

Ike Willing to Confer With Joe Stalin

State Pay Boosts Advance

Salary increases for appointive state officials which would boost their total annual maximum pay \$52,000 (from \$390,000 to \$442,000) were approved by the joint ways and means committee Wednesday.

The salary readjustment of these Oregon officials, based on a minimum fixed by the committee, would reduce the total from \$390,000 to \$442,000. This is the first time that salaries of these officials have been fixed on both a minimum and maximum basis.

Sen. Angus Gibson is chairman of the subcommittee on salaries which filed a report with the full joint ways and means committee. He and Sen. Dean Walker voted against the salary raise.

Gibson said salary increases for District Attorneys and District Judges were still under consideration. Readjustment of salaries of 3,300 state employees also is being studied with a report expected within a week. Virtually all of these employees were by-passed when the last salary increase was announced by the State Emergency Board.

Under the new salary schedule for appointive state officials the minimum salary of the state health officer would be \$9,000 and the maximum salary \$12,000. He now receives \$10,000 a year. The minimum salary of the public utilities commission would be \$9,000 and maximum salary \$11,000 as against a present salary of \$8,800.

Maximum salaries of the superintendents of the Oregon State Hospital, Eastern Oregon State Hospital and Fairview Home would be \$9,500 as against a minimum salary of \$8,000 and current salary of \$8,910. The maximum salary of the Eastern Oregon Tuberculosis Hospital Superintendent was fixed at \$9,000 as compared with a present salary of \$8,400 and the maximum salary of the State Tuberculosis Hospital Superintendent was raised from \$8,500 to \$9,000 with a minimum of \$8,000.

Establishing a minimum-maximum range for salaries of such state officials would permit the governor to start an appointive at or near the minimum salary with the opportunity to "work up" to the salary maximum. All the appointive officials affected are named by the governor. (Other salaries and additional details on Page 2.)

Chrysler Says 'No Comment' to Report Of Proposed Factory at Four Corners

Statesman News Service FOUR CORNERS — Talk that the Chrysler Corporation is considering an assembly plant near Four Corners persisted Wednesday, and Chrysler officials at Detroit, Mich., declined to confirm or deny the matter.

The Chrysler name was linked to negotiations for a site, said to be approximately 140 acres in size, two miles east of this sprawling Salem suburb.

From Detroit, the Associated Press quoted the Chrysler firm as declining further comment after stating "Can't confirm rumor of new assembly plant at Salem."

The property presumably in-

volved is owned by several relatives of the late Charles Wilson. One of them, Otto J. Wilson Jr. of Salem, disclosed Wednesday that a representative of the Southern Pacific Railway contacted him several months ago concerning purchase of the property. Wilson said the deal never reached the bargaining stage, and that he had never heard Chrysler mentioned in connection.

The Wilson property is bordered by SP trackage on the north. The railway often acts as agent for industries in securing sites, according to Phillip H. Hulley, Portland, tax and right-of-way agent for the SP in this area.

Hulley, however, said he had never heard of negotiations for the Four Corners property. The Wilson property is in two tracts. One is just east of the 40-acre West Mushroom Farm. The other is across the road to the south of the mushroom farm.

Several adjacent landowners described the property as well suited to industrial use. Many other property owners in the area were contacted, but they reported no queries concerning their land.

Several members of the Salem Industrial Development Council said they had no knowledge of the subject.

Tape-Recorded Hearings Win Senate Okeh

The Oregon Senate decided Wednesday to open up its public hearings to tape-recorded broadcasts provided the tape is made available to any radio station that wants it.

There was only one dissenting vote, cast by Sen. Angus Gibson, Junction City, at the Senate caucus called to set a policy in the matter. The House hasn't decided yet whether to allow the broadcasts of hearings.

The matter came to a head after the joint ways and means committee refused to let station KGW, Portland, broadcast a hearing on the bill to open up public welfare rolls to inspection. This is scheduled for 2:30 p. m. today.

The Senate decided that Thursday's welfare hearing could be broadcast. But, since it is a joint Senate-House hearing, it seems that approval of the House members of the committee would be needed.

Generally, the senators expressed a desire to have the hearing broadcast. But they said that radio has the same rights to cover a legislature as the press does.

In today's committee hearing discussion will center in both the opening of welfare rolls to the public and also in a proposal to tighten up the relative responsibility law by requiring brothers and sisters to help in the support.

The first bill would require the public welfare boards to file lists each month with the county clerk. The subcommittee has heard testimony that such publicity would cut state welfare costs 10 per cent.

The brother-sister proposal would let the welfare commission find out from the county clerk if a relative has enough income to require that he or she pay support. It also lets the commission decide how much should be contributed, and provides for court appeals.

Proponents of the present system has not worked effectively. A special order of business in the senate Thursday morning will be consideration of a proposal submitted by an interim committee creating legislative subdistricts and requiring senators and representatives to run on numbered positions on the ballot.

The House Wednesday approved, by 43 to 15, legislation permitting imposition of bridge tolls on the Portland-Vancouver toll to finance a parallel second span. The second crossing would cost \$11,000,000 and be completed in five years.

Opponents declared the tolls would "work a terrific hardship on the 3,000 workers who use the bridge daily." The toll would be 25 cents a car, and Edward A. Geary, chairman of the house Highway committee estimated the bridges would be toll-free in nine years.

City Budget Boost May Require Vote

By ROBERT E. GANGWARE City Editor, The Statesman

Salem city budgetmakers may go to the public with fund requests as budget season neared. And strong pressure for city employe salary increases is also expected to be a top budget problem.

City Manager J. L. Franzen said his overall budget for the city will be submitted to the budget committee without salary changes. "That matter will be up to the committee," he said.

But most department heads in making their budget recommendations are passing along requests for higher salary from various employe groups. In many instances the departmental budget is reported in two forms, one with higher pay and one without.

Pay increases are being asked of about 10 per cent or somewhat less. This would mean about \$30 a month so patrolmen and firemen, for example.

Estimates of what a general pay increase of this type would cost the city ranged from \$50,000 to \$80,000—equal to 2 or 3 mills of taxation.

Two or three aldermen told The Statesman Wednesday they felt some salary increase is probably in order this year; other aldermen said they had not studied the matter yet.

Mayor Alfred Loucks, who is calling an organization meeting of the budget committee for March 9, said the city faces several expensive projects which may add up to more than the budget can take without extra financing. He noted street resurfacing, development of the one-way street grid, 12th Street traffic improvements as examples.

There was no general salary increase last year, but some adjustments were made. Firemen gained \$12 a month as a result of a study which showed their pension system was costing less than expected.

Frost Nips Peach Buds

The frost is on the peach buds in the Willamette Valley these brisk nights and predictions are the frosty temperatures will continue for the next few days. But along with the below freezing drops—usually between midnight and sunrise—will come fair, sunny days, says the weatherman.

Indications are that Salem will enjoy good weather through Saturday. The weatherman said Wednesday night he couldn't find a storm anywhere. One peach grower in Eastern Linn County, Roy Fitzwater, estimated that 50 per cent of the buds on his trees were killed by 27-degree temperature early Wednesday.

Cherry trees, apparently not so far advanced, appeared to have suffered little damage.

Silverton Unit Of Guard Wins Top U.S. Prize

A Silverton National Guard company was awarded Wednesday the national trophy for highest merit figure for all National Guard companies competing in the U. S. and its possessions in indoor rifle matches in 1952.

Maj. General Thomas E. Rilea, Oregon adjutant general, accepted the award yesterday on behalf of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment of the 41st Oregon National Guard Division based in Silverton.

He also accepted for the company for Pershing Plaque of the National Guard Association for having attained the highest score in the Sixth Army area which includes seven states, Hawaii and Alaska.

The presentations were made by Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh at White Sulphur Springs, W. V., where the Adjutant General Association is meeting. Rilea was elected vice president of the association.

Lt. Col. Paul L. Kliever of Salem is commander of the 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry, and Capt. Jess A. Nunn, also of Salem, is the company commander. Nunn said the entire company of 41 men qualified with their respective weapons during indoor matches in 1952.

Of the total company, 53 per cent achieved expert, 38 per cent marksman and nine per cent sharpshooter.

Funeral services for A. N. Bush, Salem banker and philanthropist who died Tuesday, will be conducted at 2 p. m. today in the Bush home at 800 Mission St. Pallbearers will be Dr. C. A. Downs, Henry V. Compton, Karl E. Wenger, Stuart Compton, Rex Gibson and Sidney Jones. The service will be conducted by the Rev. George Swift.

Asahel Nesmith Bush died at the age of 95 after being in failing health for several months. He was president of Pioneer Trust Co. Surviving are a grandson, Stuart Bush, and three great grandchildren, Asahel, Samuel and Margaret Ann (Jody) Bush of Salem.

Another plan the chamber board marked for further study was advanced by Miss Hattie Bratzel who urged that the city be asked to employ a trained policeman to patrol a night beat with special attention given to places where juveniles assemble.

Wary of Canceling Treaties

By ED CREAGH WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower voiced willingness Wednesday to meet Joseph Stalin face to face and thresh out differences splitting East and West.

The President imposed conditions, however, that the Russians have turned down repeatedly in the past. Eisenhower made his qualified offer in response to questions at his second news conference since taking office. He said he would meet anybody anywhere—even halfway to Russia — to advance the cause of peace.

But he said he would do so only if any agreements made were self-enforcing — that is, if there were safeguards against violation. He rejected "self-enforcing" agreements consistently. A notable case in point is the often-pressed American proposal for development of atomic energy under United Nations auspices. The Russians have refused to permit U.N. or any other inspection teams on Soviet soil.

Bombarded with questions from more than 200 newsmen, Eisenhower also touched on a number of other topics. The President said among other things:

1—This country might find itself in an awkward position if it tried to repudiate all the secret agreements made by Democratic Presidents with the Russians in World War II.

2—To balance next year's budget would be a terrifically hard job. Otherwise, he said, the job would have been done long ago. Apparently he meant the Truman administration would have done it if it had not been so hard. Eisenhower contends there should be no tax cuts until a balanced budget is in sight.

3—U.M.T. Now. The Korean conflict is a fairly major war, and he doesn't at the moment see how universal military training could be started on top of the draft program needed for Korea.

4—Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio) to the contrary, he's against Communists being employed as teachers. On other matters, Eisenhower said:

1—He believes Alaska is still in the position of a dependency and hasn't proved its claim to statehood. Hawaii, on the other hand, has proved its claim and should be granted statehood in the near future.

2 — The armed services have been persuaded to reduce their demands on the supply of doctors, and so the call in this quarter has been cut from 1,800 to 1,200 medical men.

PORTLAND (AP) — Trade sources said they expect cigarettes to go up nearly two cents a package at many stores here Thursday. All brands are expected to be higher by Monday.

The new price at independent retail stores is expected to be 20 cents a package, with chains selling for 19 cents and some at 18 cents. The boost will be the result of removal of price controls. (Story on page 15.)

Semi-finals of Spell Contest Will Be Aired See them if you can—but at least hear them! Portions of the 19 semi-finals of the OREGON STATESMAN-KSLM SPELLING CONTEST will be broadcast over KSLM at 2:30 p. m. daily for two weeks, starting next Monday.

Monday's broadcast will comprise a resume of the contest, and on other days will be heard parts of the contest of the preceding night. All semi-finals are open free to the public. All start at 7:45 p. m. They are at Ketchikan, March 3; Astoria, March 5; Dallas, March 6; Stayton, March 8; Turner, March 9; West Salem, March 9; Independence, March 10; Silverton, March 11; Woodburn, March 12; Mt. View, March 13. Finals, which will be broadcast by KSLM direct from the stage, will be at Parrish Junior High School, Wednesday, March 25.

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