

# Center Street Span's Lights Get New Year's Eve Sendoff

New lights on the Center Street bridge went on for the first time shortly before 5 o'clock Thursday evening.

# Ex-Prisoners Term Camps As Hell Holes

By TOM REEDY  
BERLIN (AP) — Two American ex-prisoners—one a World War II veteran and the other a merchant seaman who calls himself a cured Communist—described Soviet prison camps Thursday night as "hell holes" where men died daily or worked without hope amid brutality and chaos.

# French See '54 Victory In Indochina

By LARRY ALLEN  
HANOI, Indochina (AP) — The French High Command — predicting a surge in 1954 toward final victory over the Communist-led Vietminh — announced Thursday a minor success in the campaigning near Dien Bien Phu and a minor defeat in the Red River delta.

# Ramoz Held, Gun Victim Very Critical

Statesman News Service  
GRAND RONDE — Johnnie Ramoz, 47, waived preliminary hearing in Valley Junction Justice Court Thursday afternoon on a charge of assault with intent to kill and was bound over to Polk County Grand Jury.

# WORKER CRUSHED

JOHN DAY (AP) — A Canyon City man was crushed fatally at the resaw operation of the Blue Mountain mill here Wednesday. He was Richard Bridges 29, who left a widow and three small children.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER**  
12 Noon to 8 P.M.  
**ROAST TURKEY**  
**OVENBROWN STEAK**  
**BAKED SALMON**  
— with —  
✓ 30 Buffet Foods to Help Yourself to . . .  
✓ Hot Entree with the Fixings  
✓ Coffee by the Silex - Full  
✓ Choice of Dessert  
**ALL YOU CAN EAT . . . for 99¢**  
(of anything and everything)  
(Kids under 10—44¢)  
**Nohlgruen's**  
FAMOUS BUFFET  
Downtown on State

**HOMEOWNED HOLLYWOOD**  
Matinee Today - Cont. 2:00  
**"THE MOONLIGHTER"**  
Barbara Stanwyck  
Fred MacMurray  
- Technicolor Co-Hit -  
**"MASTER OF BALLANTRAE"**  
With Errol Flynn  
**GRAND**  
PHONE 3-3467  
Kathryn Grayson  
Howard Keel  
in  
**"KISS ME KATE"**  
- Also -  
Rhonda Fleming  
in  
**"SERPENT OF THE NILE"**

**DINNER at NORTH'S**  
**New Year's Special**  
**Roast Turkey And Dressing**  
Sour Cream Cole Slaw  
Potatoes & Giblet Gravy  
Home Made Hot Rolls  
and Butter  
Tea-Coffee-Milk  
Dessert  
**\$1.00**  
**Prime Rib Roast Of Beef**  
Whipped Potatoes and Brown Gravy  
Parsley Buttered Carrots  
Home Made Hot Rolls  
and Butter  
Sour Cream Cole Slaw  
Tea-Coffee-Milk  
Dessert  
**\$1.25**  
We invite You to Visit  
**SALEM'S MOST COMFORTABLE DINING ROOM**

# Ready for March of Dimes



Mrs. T. J. Brabec (left), president of the American Legion Auxiliary 9, and Carroll Robinson, president of Post 136 Auxiliary, look on as Patrolman Robert Keefer unloads three boxes of March of Dimes collection containers to be distributed Saturday and Monday by the Legion auxiliaries and the police department. The new containers feature a test tube in place of the iron lung used in previous years. (Statesman photo.)

# Multiple Death Mishaps Get Safety Study

State traffic safety division officials — reviewing Oregon's traffic accidents for the year 1953 here Thursday — referred particularly to five smashups in which a total of 19 persons lost their lives.

Two of the multiple death accidents were in Lane County. One occurred when a driver lost control of his car at high speed and struck another vehicle. Five persons were killed in this accident and both cars were reduced to wreckage.

The other Lane County accident occurred when a driver traveling at high speed skidded in loose gravel and catapulted across the highway into a lake. The driver and three passengers were drowned.

Four other persons lost their lives in a Yamhill County collision following a driver's disregard for a stop sign. His car collided with another vehicle. The driver at fault later was arrested and convicted of negligent homicide.

Another accident in Jackson County resulted in the deaths of three persons. This accident occurred when a car, out of control, skidded off the highway and plunged down an embankment. Two occupants of the car were killed almost instantly while the third died in a hospital a short time later.

Twenty-seven other accidents brought death to 54 persons during 1953, to boost Oregon's multiple-death collisions to a total of 73.

# Might Fit in Well During New Years

EAST JORDAN, Mich. (AP) — A totally blind man was fined \$10 Thursday on a charge of driving an automobile without a license.

# Rain Ushers Out Third Wettest Year

The year 1953 had the distinction of being the third wettest year on record. Rainfall hit 52.99 inches—13.4 above normal.

It was beaten out by slightly sopping 1937 when the McNary Field Weather Bureau measured a fall of 63.5 inches. In 1950 rainfall tallied 56.55 inches.

Greatest rainfall in a 24-hour period Jan. 19-20 when 2.48 inches fell.

Other statistics for the year were not unusual. Mean temperature was 52.7 degrees, just a shade below normal.

Aug. 11 was the hottest day of the year when the mercury boiled over at 95. The two coldest days were Feb. 24 and March 1 when the thermometer read 24.

Only a trace of snow fell here during 1953. It was noted on several days.

The month of December was a near normal month weatherwise. Rainfall totaled 7.80 inches—68 above normal.

Seven days it was 32 degrees or below and the low mercury reading was 26 on the 22nd. High est was 58 on the 19th, the day when the most rain fell in a 24-hour period—3.88 inches.

There were no clear days in December. Three were partly cloudy and 28 cloudy.

The prevailing work day in Japan is nine hours.

**ELSINORE**  
3-5793  
**STARTS TODAY!**

**GEE!**  
But It's Great!  
**WALKING MY BABY BACK HOME**  
Celia O'CONNOR  
Lance LEIGH

**SKELTON**  
IT'S A STEAL...  
The Year's Biggest Fun and Laugh Bargain!  
**THE GREAT DIAMOND ROBBERY**  
Cora WILLIAMS - Jane WHITMORE  
Bert KASZNER - Beverly STICKNEY

**GRAND**  
PHONE 3-3467  
**Boys and Girls Tomorrow at 12:30**  
**SPECIAL KIDS SHOW**  
See The Great Adventure of **CAPTAIN KIDD**  
- And -  
**3-Color Cartoon**  
- Also -  
**Kathryn Grayson Howard Keel**  
in  
**"Kiss Me Kate"**  
- Also -  
**RHONDA FLEMING**  
in  
**"Serpent of the Nile"**

**CAPITOL**  
PHONE 3-5896  
Now Playing Regular Prices Plus 10¢ for Viewers  
**JOHN WAYNE**  
...They called him **Hondo**  
-3 DIMENSION  
Swamp **"Black Fury"**  
Filmed in Georgia's Primitive Okefenokee

# Frankie and Ava Back Together, Toast New Year

ROME (AP) — Crooner Frankie Sinatra and his wife actress Ava toasted in the new year at a fashionable Rome restaurant.

# Con Blocked In Tunneling Out Scheme

WALLA WALLA (AP) — A state prison inmate, locked in isolation since early this year, was stopped in an abortive attempt to tunnel out of the institution, Warden John Cranor said Thursday.

The warden did not identify the prisoner but said he was one of five who had been placed in isolation as punishment for producing the bomb that last February claimed the life of one prison official and injured another.

Cranor said officers have been investigating the incident for some time but had no way of knowing how long the tunnel digging has been going on.

The tunnel started in the man's cell in isolation where the old steel or iron floors are fairly soft. The prisoner cut a hole 10 by 18 inches through the floor and then through an inch and a half layer of concrete.

He had started digging in the dirt when the hole was discovered but he was allowed to continue, Cranor said. The dirt he removed was wrapped in cloth. When he was not digging, the man would put the cloth-wrapped dirt back in the hole.

Officers watched him for two days, then put a stop to further burrowing. Had he continued, the officers said, the tunnel would have come up in a small exercise yard—which apparently was the last thing he needed.

# Boat Upsets, Dunks Driver In Willamette

A Salem man got a chilly dunking in Willamette River Thursday afternoon when his 12-foot outboard motor boat flipped over off Minto's Island.

Within minutes after the upset, Joan Gordon, 195 S. 24th St., was pulled from the water by a Sea Scout and his craft was saved by Willard Taylor of Salem Boat House.

The Sea Scout, Sterling Williver of 1970 Maple St., was operating his own outboard nearby when Gordon flipped over.

Taylor went to the scene in his towboat and rescued the speedboat just as it was drifting under a log raft. The boat and its 25 horsepower motor were valued at about \$1,000 by the owner.

Witnesses said Gordon had a case of knocking knees and chattering teeth, but apparently suffered no other ill effects.

The incident occurred about 3:45 p.m.

# Little 1954 Rides in on Wind Storm

Old man 1953 rode out of Salem astride a driving wind and rainstorm Thursday night and little Mr. 1954 arrived just in time to get a taste of Oregon mist.

About 20 minutes before the New Year bounced in, heavy rains and winds slackened off and gave the new youngster a break.

Downtown Salem rocked to horn blasts and car backfires at the count of 12 as traffic got on the heavy side, but police said just plain noise seemed to be the only disturbances.

The weatherman says the mid-valley is starting off 1954 with a few showers.

Salem night spots reported good crowds on hand to bring in the New Year.

Senator and Marion hotels were hosts to several private parties and business in their lounges was brisk.

The community's five dancing clubs all held parties—four of them formal dinner affairs.

Spots where public dances were held included the American Legion Club, Crystal Gardens Ballroom and the VFW Hall.

Most of the city's fraternal organizations celebrated the New Year.

There were scores of watch and dinner parties at private homes.

Fifteen Salem churches and the Salvation Army held worship and watchnight services and many of them early evening social hours.

RESERVE HOUSE  
ASTORIA (AP)—A sixth house has been moved from the sliding West Commercial St. hillside here and property-owners plan to move two others.

MEETING SCHEDULED  
MEDFORD (AP)—The Order of the Arrow, a senior Boy Scout organization, will hold its annual state meeting here, Sept. 12-13.

**START THE NEW YEAR**  
At The **HOTEL MARION**  
Dining Room and Marion Lounge  
Open at Noon  
Oak Room Open At 5 P. M.  
Bowl Games Televised  
**HOTEL MARION**  
Downtown Salem

Special: Fried Eggs  
PORTLAND (AP) — Fire destroyed a semi-trailer loaded with eggs on the Columbia River Highway east of Cascade Locks Thursday.  
The blaze broke out after the truck driver had pulled the rig off the road, apparently to go for help in fixing a flat tire.  
**Complete New Year's Dinner**  
**Roast Prime Rib Of Beef**  
AU JUS  
Extra Thick, Tender and Delicious  
**THE RANCH**  
3260 Portland Road  
Phone 2-9887  
For Reservations

**New Year's Dinner**  
AT THE **SAN SHOP**

**Roast Turkey**  
and Dressing, Cole Slaw with Sour Cream dressing, Mashed Potatoes and Giblet Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Hot Biscuits and Butter.  
**85¢**

**Roast Veal**  
With Roast Potato, Gravy, Cole Slaw, Hot Biscuits and Butter.  
**85¢**

**BRING THE FAMILY**  
Service in the Dining Room or Service in Your Car

**Woodroffe's San Shop**  
½ Mile N. of the Underpass

**SAVE SAFELY EARN MORE**  
ACCOUNTS INSURED TO \$10,000  
**FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION**  
Savings Received On or Before Jan. 11th Earn From Jan. 1st. **3%** Current rate  
Savings at First Federal Are:  
**S**afe — Each saver's funds are insured to \$10,000.  
**A**vailable — No waiting years for full earnings.  
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**E**arnings — Are ½ to 1% more at First Federal.  
**FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS**  
129 N. Commercial  
Opposite Ladd & Bush Bank  
"Where Thousands Are Saving Millions"