

Senate Tempers Flare at Opening of 'McCarthy Session'

The Weather

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McMinnville, Oregon):
Mostly clear with showers today and tonight. High today near 55; low tonight near 46.
Temperature at 12:01 a.m. today
Was Willamette River -1.8 feet.
SALEM PRECIPITATION
Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1
This Year Last Year Normal
5.36 8.33 6.66

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

104TH YEAR 2 SECTIONS—16 PAGES

The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, November 9, 1954

PRICE 5c

No. 227

Gas Blast Wrecks Oklahoma School, 45 Students Hurt

Official Lit Matches Seeking Leak

ALLEN, Okla. (AP)—A deafening gas explosion which wrecked the Allen High School Monday injured 45 students and two school officials including the superintendent who said he presumed he was to blame for striking a match to find a leak.

Twenty of the injured remained in hospitals Monday night. The high school wing of the one-story brick building, occupied by 150 students, was demolished. An explosive pocket of gas apparently had accumulated beneath the school.

Three of the injured were reported in "very serious" condition but no one was killed. Principal Freeman Pickle, 48, who was teaching English, and a student were still unconscious Monday night.

Students in an algebra class told a reporter Superintendent J. N. McKeel had struck several matches just before the blast.

Charles Rhodes, of The Ada News, said several members of the class informed him there was an overpowering odor of natural gas, even though windows were raised.

They said McKeel had been trying to find the leak with matches. The students said everything blew up in their faces at 2 p.m. when the school official held the flame on the north side of the room.

It was the adjoining English classroom to the north which caught the greatest force of the explosion. Grade and high school sections of the building escaped major damage.

Dale Plunk, 18-year-old algebra student and a sergeant in the National Guard, said of McKeel:

"He touched one to the stove (which was reported not burning) and nothing happened. Then he struck another match. There was a flash and the explosion."

McKeel, who suffered from shock, cuts and abrasions, Monday night accepted blame for the tragedy.

Set Off Blast

"I presume I set off the blast in an attempt on my part to find a gas leak," he told newsmen. "I had no reason to think that there was a general gas leak."

Students had high praise for McKeel, who helped hold up the collapsed ceiling so casualties could be rescued.

Most of the walls were razed. The few that remained standing threatened to crumble at any time.

Witnesses said desks were blown with such force against the ceiling that they lodged there in the broken plaster. Students were blown upward leaving blood-stained impressions on the ceilings.

Fire Trucks Sent

Ambulances and fire trucks were dispatched from Ada, 18 miles southwest of Allen, a town of 1,200 population in East Central Oklahoma.

Bill Kober, Donaldson, Mo., photographer, one of the first passers-by on the scene said the high school wing was "just blown apart." Windows were shattered and floors torn up.

He said he saw children stumbling from the wreckage — some barefoot. The blast had ripped off their shoes. Many, he said, were staggering blindly with blood streaming from their heads.

"I don't see how anyone escaped from that building alive," Kober said.

A frantic crowd of parents gathered at the school as workers rescued children trapped in the debris. Highway Patrolmen and National Guardsmen were rushed to the scene to aid in the work and keep away the curious.

One hospital official said injuries ranged from cuts and bruises to severe burns, lacerations and broken bones.

Alderman Loses Topcoat at First Council Meeting

Walter E. White, the West Salem merchant who has just become a city alderman, was sworn in ceremoniously before the City Council Monday night, was referred to as the new alderman from Ward 8 as several times during council business and was welcomed personally after the meeting by his fellow alderman.

But he'll remember his first council meeting especially because when he went to the cloakroom of the City Council chamber on his way out from the session, his topcoat was missing. It hadn't turned up by midnight either.

However, Oregon protested the project would seriously curtail the region's fish supply by preventing salmon and steelhead trout from going upstream to spawning grounds.

The U. S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals last February upheld the state, ruling that ownership of the

Ike Fills Court Vacancy

WASHINGTON (UP)—President Eisenhower Monday chose John Marshall Harlan of New York City, a Republican now serving as a U.S. Circuit Court judge, to fill the Supreme Court vacancy caused by the death of Democrat Robert H. Jackson.

On the court, Harlan would join two other Republicans — Chief Justice Earl Warren and Associate Justice Harrold Burton — and six Democrats.

Harlan, 55 years old, is a native of Chicago who graduated from Princeton University, received a degree in jurisprudence from Oxford University in England and a law degree from the New York Law School.

Harlan has been serving on the circuit court of appeals covering Vermont, Connecticut and New York since March 4 of this year, by appointment of Eisenhower. Justice Jackson died Oct. 9.

The White House said Eisenhower would send Harlan's nomination to the Senate Tuesday, along with that of Joseph Campbell, now member of the Atomic Energy Commission, to be comptroller general.

Campbell, a native of New York City whose legal residence is Cooperstown, N.Y., is on leave from his post as treasurer of Columbia University, which he has also served as vice president of business affairs. Eisenhower for a time was president of Columbia.

The comptroller general watches out for Congress to see that appropriated funds are properly spent, not wasted or misused.

Would Quit AEC?

The 54-year-old Campbell is an accountant by profession and a Republican in politics. He would resign from the atomic commission if and when the Senate confirmed him for the comptroller general's assignment.

The judge is a grandson and namesake of Justice John Marshall Harlan who served on the Supreme Court from 1888 to 1911. They both bear the name of one of the most famous chief justices, John Marshall.

Typhoon Kills One on Luzon

MANILA (UP)—Typhoon Ruby blew into the South China Sea early Tuesday, leaving one known dead, several thousand homeless and vast tracts of farmland under water in Northern Luzon.

The late-season Pacific storm cut across Luzon Monday night with furious 120-mile-per-hour winds. Its center passed just north of Manila.

The winds swept flimsy Filipino dwellings, felled trees and communications poles and flooded rice croplands across the fertile waist of Luzon.

Spared along with Manila by the veering of the typhoon was the huge U.S. naval base and air installation at Subic Bay, northwest of Manila.

In view of this unprovoked action of the American intruder, the Russian note said, the Soviet aircraft were compelled to retaliate the fire, after which the American aircraft left the air space of the Soviet Union and flew off in a southerly direction.

(Additional details on page 2, sec. 1.)

U.S. Supreme Court to Settle Pelton Dam Project Dispute

WASHINGTON (UP)—The Supreme Court Monday agreed to settle a dispute between the state of Oregon and the federal government over construction of a dam at the Pelton site on the Deschutes River in Jefferson County, Ore.

A lower court has upheld Oregon's objections to the project.

The Supreme Court will soon schedule arguments on the case and later hand down an opinion.

The Federal Power Commission in 1951 granted a license to the Portland General Electric Company to build a 205-foot high hydroelectric dam on the non-navigable stream at a site owned by the government.

However, Oregon protested the project would seriously curtail the region's fish supply by preventing salmon and steelhead trout from going upstream to spawning grounds.

The U. S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals last February upheld the state, ruling that ownership of the

Schoolroom Moves Into Store Window at Mt. Angel



MT. ANGEL — A classroom in a store window opened here Monday with the expressed purpose of promoting interest in the teaching profession. The week-long venture is being sponsored by the Future Teachers of America chapter at Mt. Angel Women's College. (Statesman Photo by John Erickson). (Education week story on page 8, sec. 1.)

U.S. Demands Russia Pay for Downing B29

WASHINGTON (UP)—The United States demanded reparations from Russia Monday for the shooting down of an American photo-mapping bomber.

The Reds countered with charges that the U. S. plane had violated Russian territory and opened fire.

As on earlier occasions of this sort, the American and Russian versions were exactly opposite.

The U. S. Air Force claimed the shooting was all done by the Russians, with the American bomber not replying, and stressed that the scene was over Japanese territory. It said the American plane was never within 15 miles of Soviet territory.

A note which said "The United States strongly protests" and wants "moral and material reparations"—i.e., an apology, disciplining of the Red airmen responsible and money to pay for the destroyed plane and to compensate the family of the lone airman lost—was handed to the Soviet Foreign Office by Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen.

However, the tack taken by the Russians in their countering note was one of absolute innocence. Moscow said its fighter planes intercepted the American ship to ask it to leave Soviet territory but "The American aircraft opened fire on them."

Lodge replied later that he was glad to hear Vishinsky assert that the United States was wrong in claiming the Soviet attitude was "negative."

Lodge added "he can prove me wrong by supporting the resolution," put in by the United States and six other countries to set up the international atomic agency.

The alderman killed a water surcharge bill that would have been an alternative financing method to the assessment plan.

(Additional Council news on Page 2, Sec. 1.)

Two Residential Areas To Vote on Annexation

By ROBERT E. GANGWARE
City Editor, The Statesman

Annexation elections in two residential areas east of Salem city limits will be held Dec. 17 and a favorable vote in either would make it into the city of Salem.

This was decided Monday night by Salem City Council which had held up the long-proposed annexations pending outcome of the recent election at which two annexation policy measures were

stake.

The city voters approved both measures which now amend the city charter so that property owners in annexed areas can be assessed for the cost of sewer and water improvements, to the extent that their property is benefited.

The areas from which annexation petitions had been filed are a 191-acre tract north of Sunnyside Avenue, between the State Fairgrounds and the new bypass highway, and an 18-acre area east of Park Avenue, near Moody Avenue.

The President departed from the prepared text of his speech before the 27th meeting of the National Council of Catholic Women to mention the shooting down of the photo-mapping plane.

"Peace is the problem of the American people," the President said. Americans, he added, "rejoice that the possibility of permanent peace is more promising than in any time in recent years."

"They are heartened, too," he said, "by the building of strength where there was weakness throughout the Pacific, despite such instances of provocation as that which occurred yesterday off the coast of Japan."

"All of us are profoundly thankful that the terrible specter of war looms less threateningly over all mankind."

The President spoke before a capacity audience in 3,000-seat Symphony Hall, Massachusetts Gov. Christian A. Herter, Sen. Stennis and Mayor John B. Hynes met him on his arrival at the airport and sat on the platform as he spoke.

Peace Hopes Bright, Says Eisenhower

BOSTON (UP)—President Eisenhower said Monday that despite Russian provocation, "the specter of war looms less threateningly now than in years."

He mentioned specifically, as an instance of provocation, destruction of a U.S. Air Force plane by two Russian planes Sunday near Japan.

The President departed from the prepared text of his speech before the 27th meeting of the National Council of Catholic Women to mention the shooting down of the photo-mapping plane.

Plainly nettled, Watkins told McCarthy he could see the revised report after the session ended.

"There isn't anything to hide," he assured McCarthy.

But McCarthy demanded to see the revision then and there.

Pale With Anger

"In common decency, in common honesty, he should tell us," McCarthy cried out to the whole Senate. And to Watkins himself, who turned pale with anger, McCarthy said dramatically: "There is no reason on earth why you shouldn't tell us, Arthur!"

Then, his manner of weary resignation, McCarthy sighed:

"This gives you some idea of what I had to put up with for days (in the Watkins committee's public hearings)."

So Watkins sent for a copy of the revised report, formally presented it to the Senate and thrust a copy at McCarthy.

McCarthy said he couldn't be expected to wade through the whole report to find the altered passage.

Case, one of the Senate's mildest

mannered members as a rule, strode over and located the passage for him.

Slaps Report Down

Muttering something like "Here it is" he slapped the report down on McCarthy's desk.

Before the session began McCarthy got evidence of support from two non-congressional groups.

He received the Patriotic Service Medal of the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, and also from Vincent J. Ferrari, past commander of the Queens County (N.Y.) Catholic War Veterans — bound volumes with more than 250,000 signatures protesting the censure proposal.

The American Coalition described itself as a federation of 96 patriotic organizations.

From this presentation ceremony in the office of Vice President Nixon, McCarthy went straight to the Senate floor.

There, on each senator's desk, was a 20-page pamphlet titled "Throw The Bum Out" — official Communist Party line on Sen. McCarthy.

The pamphlet — prepared on McCarthy's behalf — was made up of articles and editorials from the Communist Daily Worker.

Its obvious intent was to suggest that backers of the censure move share the Communists' objective. McCarthy put parts of it into the Congressional Record.

SECTION 1

General news 2, 3, 5

Editorials, features 4

Comics 4

Society, women's news 6-7

Star Gazer 7

Valley news 8

Classified ads 6-7

SECTION 2

Sports 1-3

Crossword puzzle 3

Radio, TV 4

Comics 4

Markets 5

Classified ads 6-7

TRANSPORT DOCKS

SEATTLE (UP)—The transport

Frederick Funston docked here

Monday with 912 passengers from the Far East.

Censure Motion At Issue