

Former Slave Labor Expert New Head of Russian Atom Plants

By TOM WHITNEY
NEW YORK (AP) — The Kremlin picked a new man this week to drive Soviet atom plants. He turns out to be a top expert on use of slave labor in Siberia.

It could be the Soviet leaders are unhappy about the output of their nuclear weapon factories. Maybe that's why this week they named a onetime deputy of executed police chief Lavrenty Beria, Avrami Pavlovich Zavenyagin, to boss them.

Lost Records Issue Flares At Olympia

OLYMPIA (AP) — House Speaker John L. O'Brien Saturday renewed his request for the attorney general of Washington to determine whether former Rep. Albert F. Canwell was in contempt of a House committee.

O'Brien said Canwell, chairman of the defunct State Un-American Activities Committee, refused to tell a two-man House committee the whereabouts of microfilms of the Communist-hunting committee records.

The hot issue of the missing Canwell committee records originated in the House, was shifted to Atty. Gen. Don Eastwood who tossed it back to the House Thursday.

The two-man committee composed of O'Brien, a Democrat, and R. Mort Frayn, a Republican, reported to the Legislature that Canwell had refused to tell them where the microfilms were and had admitted he destroyed some of the committee records.

The House referred the matter to the attorney general with O'Brien's recommendation that "appropriate legal action" be brought and Frayn's recommendation that Eastwood determine whether any further legal action was required.

CIO, 3 Farm Groups Okeh Trade Plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIO and the three largest farm organizations stamped their okay on President Eisenhower's liberalized world trade program Friday.

The endorsements were coupled with a plea for federal aid to farmers or industries if they are harmed by increased imports, as a result of the program.

The farm approvals came from the Farm Bureau, National Grange and the Farmers Union.

Their spokesmen told the Senate Finance Committee, holding hearings on a House approved bill, that the program would increase markets for farm products.

John C. Lynn, Farm Bureau legislative director, said there would be ample protection against "disruptive rates of increase in imports" of industrial and farm products.

Under the 20-year-old reciprocal trade program, he testified, concessions on cotton have been gained from 20 countries; on wheat from 18 countries; on tobacco, from 30 countries; on apples, from 33 countries; on lamb, from 21 countries; and on dried milk, from 28 countries.

Duck Thinks He's a Dog

SEATTLE (AP) — George is a duck who apparently thinks he's a dog. He joined the David Dugan family last summer. Where he came from, they do not know. And Smokey, the Dugan spaniel, possibly flattered at his success in winning friends and influencing mallards, is willing to go along with the duck's delusion. They pal around together, even teaming up to chase cats and cars.

There is a complication, though. "They fight like everything at meal time," Mrs. Dugan explains. "George likes meat."

GET THAT RAT
SHELBY, Mich. (AP) — A Chicago chemical firm has done a Pied Piper. It is using Shelby as a test area, free of charge, for a new exterminating method. More than 1,000 pounds of the firm's poison—enough to kill more than 3,000 rats—has been eaten at feeding stations set up around town.

Intelligence analysts in all Western capitals — particularly in Washington — are puzzled as to why Communist Party boss Nikita Khrushchev and Premier Nikolai Bulganin found it necessary to make this highly important change at a time when Moscow broadcasts almost daily boast that the U. S. S. R. is out in front in the H-bomb sweepstakes.

Another Maneuver
It could be only one more complicated maneuver in Kremlin factional politics — intended by Khrushchev and Bulganin to end any influence ex-Premier Georgi Malenkov had in the atomic field. It also could mean the former atom boss, Vyacheslav Malyshev, failed to get into high gear on A-bomb production.

Zavenyagin has a combination of experience which gave him unique qualifications for the atomic task. He is well versed in science and engineering. He spent seven years at the Moscow Academy of Mining in the late 20s. He also has had extensive experience as an industrial executive.

Metallurgical Official
He was a member of a commission in the early 30s to draft instructions for industrial and electrical construction under the first five-year plan. In May 1931 he was named deputy chief of the main administration of the Soviet metallurgical industry.

This was a responsible post for one so young (he was born in 1901). Its equivalent nowadays in Russia would carry the title of deputy minister for the steel industry.

A Russian emigre source says Zavenyagin made a visit to the United States in 1930 in connection with negotiations with an American company for construction work at the Magnitogorsk steel plant.

He was named director of this plant in 1933 and stayed with it till 1937. Much of the credit for completion of the project has been given him.

Scout Dies in Bike Accident

ROSEBURG (AP) — David Steven Carder, 13, Roseburg, and a fellow Boy Scout were riding their bicycles on an unpaved road north of here Saturday morning to build up mileage for their merit badges. They did not see the approach of a car driven by Ralph Church, Winchester, and the vehicle hit the Carder boy's bicycle. He died a few hours later in a hospital here.

Church told state police he did not see the boy in time to stop. It was Douglas County's sixth traffic fatality of the year.

Husband Critical Of Radio Cook

WAYCROSS, Ga. (AP) — Laurie Lee Sparrow of the Waycross Journal-Herald had just completed a cooking program over WAXY when the station phone rang for her and a man referred to one of the recipes she'd given which called for a "tablespoon of vanilla" and demanded: "What I want to know is, do you mean flavoring or extract? There's a difference, you know."

The caller was her husband, Lansdale Sparrow who is quite a cook, himself.

Street Peddler Poses Financial Mystery

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A man was selling cigarettes on the streets for 20 cents a pack — five under the going rate — and a detective asked him where he got them.

"I put quarters in a cigarette machine," the man replied.

After questioning him at city jail, Detective Chief Bernard Waggoner said he couldn't find where the smokes came from but observed "if he can make money by buying them for a quarter and selling them for 20 cents, he ought to be in Washington."

In 1954, the infant mortality rate in the United States reached a new low of 26.7 per 1,000 live births.

State Park Maintenance Continues Despite Snow



Winter snows still cling these days to mountain areas surrounding the Willamette Valley. Despite the several inches of frozen snow at Silver Falls State Park (shown above) in the Cascades east of Salem, maintenance work continues. Photo shows park employee Kirk Walling bringing a scrub tree into a clearing for disposal. (Photo by John Erickson, Statesman photographer.) (Picture also on page one.)

Demos Asked To Help Kill \$20 Tax Cut

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Knowland (R-Calif.) Saturday challenged Democrats resisting a proposed military manpower cut to join Republicans in their fight to kill a \$20-a-person income tax reduction.

But Sen. George (D-Ga.), who announced he will oppose the tax cut voted by the House, indicated clearly he will be open to compromise suggestions if the House refuses to go along with the Senate's expected rejection of the measure.

Sen. Byrd (D-Va.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which stripped the \$20 provision out of an administration tax bill, said he would "fight to the utmost" against any revenue loss now.

Knowland, the GOP floor leader, said the income tax cut the House passed would cost the treasury \$2,200,000,000 revenue at "an in-appropriate time." It would be effective next Jan. 1.

Funds Required
"Democrats who have been advocating that the military forces be expanded can hardly support a tax cut now," Knowland said. "Pay increases to service workers is going to require additional funds."

"To have a loss of revenue under such circumstances wouldn't be constructive or responsible handling of the fiscal affairs of the government."

Horses Listed As Vehicles

PARSONS, Kan. (AP) — A \$50,000 damage suit puts this problem to a Cherokee County jury: To what extent must a riding horse be fitted out with head and tail lights?

The suit was brought by Jack Conrad, who was hit by a truck while cantering down a highway. The defense noted Conrad's horse had been unlighted after dark.

When a lower court struck out this part of the defense contention as irrelevant, the Kansas Supreme Court reversed the decision. It sent the case back for trial, asserting that horses are "vehicles" in the legal sense and subject to rules of the road.

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Army's Mules Unchanged by Atomic Age, Still Stubborn

FT. CARSON, Colo. (AP) — There are Army recruits training in the rugged Rocky Mountain territory near here who don't give a hoot about the hydrogen bomb.

They haven't changed since the days of Gen. George Washington, and they show no signs of changing now.

They are mules and — stubborn as ever — they refuse to be outdone by jet propulsion and nuclear fission.

There are some military observers who think the helicopter might eventually put the mule out of uniform.

But, take it from Warrant Officer Philip A. Sellers, animal transportation officer for one of the Army's two remaining mule units, tougher and more versatile helicopters will have to be built.

The Army mule is unaffected by treacherous mountain air streams that can spill present helicopters, says Sellers. The mule keeps plodding along in thin air that cuts down the payload helicopters can carry. And he forges ahead on rocky trails that defeat the finest mechanized vehicles.

Friendly Place
This training ground for the 4th Field Artillery Battalion (Pack) and the 35th Quartermaster (Pack) company is a friendly place for the mule to make his stand in the atomic age.

His ancestors trudged across the snow-tipped mountains bearing gold prospectors of an earlier age. And a century ago, mule-drawn covered wagons lumbered across the dusty plains and over the Rockies bearing freight and people to build the West.

Rugged requirements must be met before the farm mule can become a soldier. He must stand between 5 feet 6 and 5 feet 8, with a straight back, gently rounded belly, broad chest and short ankles, and weigh about 1,200 pounds.

Training for four-legged Army service first involves carrying a saddle and following a halter. Gradually, the load is increased until the mule is carrying 200 pounds 30 miles a day.

Carry Supplies
Fourth Field Artillery Battalion mules carry 75 mm howitzer sections, while their 35th Quartermaster mates bear ammunition and supplies.

"These mules are like regular men," says Sellers, whose hometown is Grovetown, Ga. "Their

backs have to be conditioned to carry loads, just like a soldier's feet must be conditioned to work in combat boots."

Then comes more warlike training, including exposure to exploding firecrackers, then to all types of weapon firing.

After basic training, the mule becomes the charge of a mule skinner, who makes the animal his 24-hour duty, problem and friend. Usually the skinner is a farm boy.

The day for a skinner begins with "mule bray" at 4:30 a.m. and lasts until darkness. It is arduous work, packing and leading mules, that demands top physical condition.

Jobs Varied
The skinner must also learn the trades of artillerymen, cannoniers, wiremen, radio operators and surveymen.

The history of the Army mule is emblazoned with remarkable accomplishments and colorful legends.

The first military acknowledgment of the mule came from General Washington, who developed a fine coach mare in 1783 from gift jackasses and jennies sent by the King of Spain and the Marquis de Lafayette.

The mule's military heyday came in World War I, when 68,000 four-legged creatures were killed. The figure includes horses. Mules were valuable performers in World War II, plodding down the shell-pocked Ledo Road in Burma, over the mountainous terrain of Northern Italy and on many Pacific islands.

The two mule units at Ft. Carson have colorful records, including battle service in World War II. Both were deactivated at the end of the war and have since been called back to duty.

Like everybody else in the Army, the mule has his rights. Any soldier who strikes or kicks a mule may be court-martialed.

But the highly individualistic mule has ideas of his own in this field, and usually they are transmitted through a pair of spring-like rear legs.

5th Amendment Stand Warrants Probe, Unit Says

GATLINBURG, Tenn. (AP) — The American Assn. of University Professors (AAUP) decided Saturday that a professor's refusal to answer questions on Fifth Amendment grounds warrants inquiry by his school.

But the AAUP made it clear, in a 10-point resolution which came only after a spirited and long debate, that it was not retreating from its position adopted last year that refusal involving the Fifth Amendment is not in itself "justifiable cause for dismissal of the faculty member."

In fact, it also passed last year's resolution over again. Proponents of the new resolution, which came at the close of the AAUP's 41st annual meeting, argued that "there is some justification for believing that a faculty member should tell the university all of the facts."

Pedestrian Killed Near Medford

MEDFORD (AP) — Charles Roubush, 62, a resident of the Camp White Veterans Center near here, was killed Saturday night when struck by an automobile as he crossed a highway in front of the establishment.

Police said the automobile was driven by Glenn W. H. Albert, 31, of Medford. Albert's wife and two small children were in the car. None was hurt.

Roubush was Jackson County's second traffic fatality of 1955.

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Law Aimed at Spokane Area Milk Strike

OLYMPIA (AP) — Legislation was completed Saturday on a measure aimed at the Spokane milk war.

The Washington Senate approved 33-4 and sent to the governor a measure authorizing the state director of agriculture to fix minimum prices of milk in an "emergency" area where it is selling below cost of production.

Sen. B. J. Dahl of Chewelah said last year's Spokane milk war nearly bankrupted some milk producers and resulted in an estimated 1 1/2 million dollar loss to the industry.

He said the price-fixing state legislation would expire Sept. 30, 1956, but by that time the area may be covered by a federal order.

Police Check City Drivers

To check drivers with suspended or revoked licenses, Salem police Saturday stopped motorists at several locations and issued 14 citations, a police official reported.

Most citations were for failure to have one's operator's license on his person. Others were for having no operator's license, expired license or expired plates.

The official said one woman admitted having never been issued a driver's license and one driver was driving on plates expired six months.

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