

FORECAST (from U. S. Weather Bureau, McNary Field, Salem): Cloudy with occasional rain today, tonight and Friday. Little change in temperature with highest today near 52. Lowest tonight near 36. Temperature at 12:30 a.m. today was 41.

SALEM PRECIPITATION Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1 This Year Last Year Normal 28.37 40.93 35.18

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Stryker

One of the hot issues in Congress is whether to exempt so-called independent producers of natural gas from rate regulation by the FPC. It's an old issue. In 1938 Congress passed an act giving the FPC power of regulation over operators of interstate gas pipelines. This gave some exemption to independent producers (those who sell gas to pipeline companies). During the Truman administration the producers who include some of the big oil companies, sought a law making it clear that their sales of natural gas were not under regulation. President Truman vetoed the bill. Later the FPC decided it had no authority under the 1938 act to regulate such sales of gas. The Supreme Court, however, decided the FPC did have such power. Since then the FPC has been trying to work out methods of discharging its duty. The independent producers are back seeking a fresh exemption under a new act of Congress. Recently representatives of oil companies have urged Oregon chambers of commerce and others to endorse such legislation.

A study of the subject discloses that it is very complicated. "Regulation" has a favorable ring to it, and consumers are apt to regard it as necessary for their own protection. It isn't so simple as that, however.

First, consider the various interests involved. Pipeline companies, which carry natural gas to various markets, often own some gas wells. But the most of the natural gas reserves are held by corporations not in the gas (Continued on editorial page 4)

Power Rates Sliced

Electric power rate reductions which will effect a large portion of the mid-Willamette Valley are provided in an order signed Wednesday by Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel. The order provides for a \$302,000 annual rate cut by Pacific Power and Light Co. for its Coos Bay and Willamette Valley divisions. The firm services Linn County, much of Polk County including the cities of Independence and Dallas, and eastern Marion County. The new rate schedules will become effective April 22, 1955, to provide savings to customers in the Coos Bay district of Pacific Power & Light Co. of approximately \$242,000 annually and in the Willamette Valley districts of approximately \$60,000 annually. The new schedules will provide uniform rates in the coast districts of the company. The reductions are in keeping with the commissioner's order issued in April, 1954, permitting the merger of the Pacific Power & Light Co. and Mountain States Power Co.

Salem Woman Charged With Embezzlement

A larceny by embezzlement charge has been lodged against a middle-aged Salem woman after an audit of her former employer's accounts disclosed a \$14,356 shortage.

The complaint, signed Tuesday by Dr. Edgar S. Fortner, charges Mrs. Thelma Jones, 680 Wild Wind Drive, with embezzling \$172. Mrs. Jones committed herself to the State Hospital April 14 for examination. The embezzlement charge was filed against her five days later. The woman had been employed in Dr. Fortner's office since 1950. She was fired Jan. 17 of this year, police said, after admitting theft of \$1,027. She executed a promissory note for that amount plus interest and had paid a total of \$40 on the note, police reported. Police said Mrs. Jones admitted verbally Wednesday that she managed thefts by cashing checks requiring no receipt and entering less than the face amount in the daily ledger. Her husband, she told police, knew nothing of the money. The district court warrant will be served on her later this week when she is scheduled to be released from the state hospital after further examinations. The city police investigation was launched at the request of District Attorney Kenneth Brown.

3 Corvallis Policemen Admit Theft

CORVALLIS — The city fired three of its policemen Wednesday after they had pleaded guilty in district court to theft charges. Fined \$30 each and paroled from 90-day sentences were Noble C. Stewart, 28. A. E. Bodeker, 41, and James J. Gundry Jr., 32. They were suspended from the force Monday after Police Chief Cecil Fruit said they stole a power saw and some inexpensive articles from a store where they went to investigate an open door Sunday night.

Underweight Loaves

PORTLAND — Managers of nine Portland bakeries were fined \$25 each Wednesday in district court on charges they put on sale underweight loaves of bread.

EISENHOWER RETURNS

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower returned to Washington Wednesday after a nine-day work-play vacation at Augusta, Ga.

U.S. Military Chief Flies to Formosa

Marion County Districting Bill Vote Today

The bill to divide Marion County into two districts for the election of representatives comes up today for consideration by the House. This bill stood approved Wednesday by the House elections committee after an 8 to 1 vote to recommend that the House pass it with an amendment that would require the approval of Marion County voters to put it into effect. It would be submitted at the general election next year.

THURSDAY HEARING

On bill to raise unemployment benefits — House labor and industries committee, Capitol Room 6, at 7 p.m.

Other major action at the Legislature today will be consideration in the Senate on two House-approved elections bills that would require voters to verify their addresses by signing poll books and would require additional information on voter registration cards.

In a major development Wednesday, the Legislature's joint ways and means committee gave its approval to a \$14,904,658 state construction program, just as outlined last week by a subcommittee.

The Legislature will caucus at 7:30 p.m. Friday to hear an explanation of the program, which will be introduced in five bills covering 26 proposed projects.

The program includes \$10,305,000 in new state institution construction, and \$3,975,000 for university and college buildings.

3 Per Cent Sales Tax The House Taxation Committee worked again Wednesday on its 3 per cent sales tax program. The committee will resume its work today, hoping that the House can consider it early next week.

The Senate tax committee, meanwhile, scheduled four meetings for today and promised to have its decision on the income tax increase bill before the night is out.

This bill would raise income tax, probably, about 60 per cent. The sales tax, in the House plan, would go before the people soon as a possible alternative. (Additional legislative news on Page 11, Sec. 1.)

Truman Plans Portland Talk

WASHINGTON — Former President Truman will address a Jefferson-Jackson regional dinner of Democrats in Portland, Ore., June 11, National Committee Chairman Paul M. Butler announced Wednesday.

The Democratic committee is sponsoring the fund-raising dinner of Democrats from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.

Truman addressed a \$100 a plate party honoring Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn.

'Minute Men' Answer Call as National Guard Alert Sounds



Salem's National Guardsmen, and those throughout the land, Wednesday participated in a preparedness alert to test their speed in manning strategic installations. Salem's units, which within a couple hours had about 250 men in the field, had infantryman guards at posts within 45 minutes and anti-aircraft guns set up in the Capitol district within an hour and a half. Shown guarding the Capitol, left to right, are Privates First Class Lester Miller, Robert Lyons, Wallace Gibson and Francis Smith Jr. (Statesman Photo)

Home, Garden Show Opens at 7 p.m. Tonight

The Salem Downtown Lions Club's Home and Garden Show opens at 7 p.m. tonight at the state fairgrounds grandstand pavilion and continues Friday night and Saturday afternoon. Seventy exhibits, in contrast to last year's 56, are lined up. Purpose is to display the most recent trends and developments in home furnishings, garden equipment and interior and exterior decorating. Admission is free. Professional talent from Portland will put on a free 25-minute show each of the three days. The Friday show opens at 7 p.m. and the Saturday show, at 1 p.m. Each day it will run as long as the crowd demands. Sponsor is the Downtown Lions Club, but the East Salem Lions Club and its auxiliary will be in charge of the concessions. (Additional details on page 9 of Home and Garden section, 3.)

250 Salem Guardsmen Watch Over City Sites

Some 250 Salem National Guardsmen, responding to a nationwide preparedness alert, Wednesday took up watch at the city's vital installations—the Capitol area, communications centers, bridges, the airport and the waterworks. In Dallas, the guard unit there mustered up nearly full strength in the same exercise, extending from 5 to 9 p.m. The alert, which the men had been told would come any time now, was a test of mobilization speed. Representatives of each of Salem's three companies felt they had done very well in getting guards at their posts within 45 minutes after the alert and anti-aircraft guns set up in the Capitol area within an hour and a half. The units, which draw their men from all over this area, manned their posts after about 60 per cent of their respective strengths had assembled at their armory—Salem's two infantry companies at the downtown armory and the anti-aircraft gun battery at the old armory, 2650 Lee St. Men who turned up late for the initial manning were either formed into relief details to release those first to man the posts or to prepare the unit for a theoretical move-out. All companies made arrangements to feed the men supper. (Additional details on Page 2, Sec. 1.)

Hospitals Vie For Brain of Albert Einstein

PRINCETON, N.J. — A calm descended Wednesday in the disagreement over which hospital will get the brain of scientist Albert Einstein, who wanted it left to science. Montefiore Hospital in New York City, which had said it expected to get the brain Tuesday, referred all questions to Princeton Hospital, where the brain is hardening in a solution. Spokesman for the hospital here declined to discuss the subject further. They simply reiterated that the whole thing had been a misunderstanding. Dr. Thomas S. Harvey, pathologist at Princeton Hospital who now has custody of the brain left by the 76-year-old mathematical wizard, was reported out of town for a few days. No matter which hospital gets the brain, a team of top pathologists will study, dissect and analyze it. After the removal of the brain and major internal organs, Einstein's body was cremated Monday, the same day he died of a ruptured aorta and hardening of the arteries.

Sudden Trip Due to 'Tense Situation'

By WARREN ROGERS JR. WASHINGTON — The nation's top military man and the State Department's Far East specialist sped Wednesday to Formosa for on-the-scene consultations about the "tense situation which continues" there. But Secretary of State Dulles said "no crisis is involved" in the sudden travel orders for Admiral Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Walter S. Robertson, assistant secretary of state. As if to emphasize his words, Dulles himself left for a few days vacation at his island retreat in Lake Ontario. Robertson and Radford are due about noon Sunday in Taipei, Nationalist China capital. Their visit will mark the second time the United States and Nationalist China have consulted under their mutual defense treaty. Dulles himself held the first consultation at Taipei last March 3. Statement Issued A statement issued by the State and Defense Departments about two hours before Robertson and Radford actually took off said the consultations were ordered "in view of the tense situation which continues in the area." The statement added that periodic conferences under the treaty can be expected "so long as the Chinese Communists indicate by deeds and words their purpose to take Formosa by force." Moderate Stand The sudden dispatching of Robertson and Radford comes at a time when Dulles has disclosed reports of a Red air buildup opposite Formosa. It also coincides with the surprisingly moderate statements by Red Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai at the Asian-African conference of 29 nations at Bandung, Indonesia. Robertson told newsmen at Washington's National Airport the trip had been talked about "for several days." He said the idea originated with Dulles, who had talked to President Eisenhower about it at Augusta, Ga., last Sunday. Nothing New Robertson, who developed the defense treaty with Nationalist China in secret negotiations last year, said there was nothing new in the tense Formosa situation. As to whether his and Radford's visit resulted from an increased air buildup, he said that was "just a phase." Radford said he had made plans to go to Europe for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) command exercises. "When I got orders to go to Formosa," he said with a smile, "I was all set. All I had to do was to turn around and go the other way." Radford said he believes the Red Chinese buildup is "methodical" and proves they "have not deviated from their intentions to take Formosa by force." Both men said they expect to talk to Chiang Kai-Shek and other leaders of the Nationalist China government during their three or four days at Taipei.

More Rain Seen For Salem Area

Road conditions in the mountains were bad because of packed snow Wednesday and cloudy weather with occasional rain is forecast for Salem through Friday. McNary Field weathermen predicted little change in temperature with the highest today near 52 and the lowest tonight near 36. The occasional rain was predicted for today, tonight and Friday.

ANIMAL CRACKERS BY WARREN GOODRICH



GOP Eager to Start Work on 1956 Campaign; Democrats Show New-Found Unity

By ROBERT E. GANGWARE City Editor, The Statesman

The kind of political campaigns Oregon will see in 1956, and who will carry them to the people, are far from decided now, but just about everyone is expecting a terrific fight. Republicans will be out to regain lost ground. Democrats will redouble the efforts that made the last campaign their most successful in years. In both parties there are signs of early organization for the '56 campaigns, but there is more talk than strategy at this moment.

To see if any trends of campaign organization are taking form yet, a check was made with leaders and strong followers in both political parties, inside and outside the Capitol, in Portland as well as in the Salem area. This is what turned up:

1—A surprising large number of individual Republicans seem to be chafing to get started on the campaign. This attitude is by no means confined to those who hope to become candidates.

Republicans Promoting Party Organization

2—Most Republicans think there's a lot of basic party organization work, or reorganization, to accomplish right now. They fear the Democrats have them out-organized and out-popularized now; most Democrats are inclined to agree with this, of course.

3—Oregon Democrats, stimulated by having an even stronger base in Congress than the Republicans, seem to be getting along

well with party organization in the counties and seem to be less hampered by factionalism than has been the case in many recent years.

Many Top Positions at Stake in Next Election

The Republicans elected the governor and three Congressmen last fall; Democrats elected the U.S. senator, one Congressman, and state labor commissioner. The stakes coming up next year are a U.S. senate seat, the four U.S. House seats, state treasurer, secretary of state and attorney general posts.

It will be a presidential election year and this, plus the fight Sen. Wayne Morse, now a Democrat, has promised to put up for reelection, will mean a heavy emphasis on national issues in the 1956 campaigns.

"The Democrats already are beating their drums on the power issue and other issues," said one Republican leader who wanted to see earlier action in Republican organization for the next campaign. "We Republicans should start sounding off with some positive issues of our own."

He was one of several Republicans who expressed themselves strongly that election candidates and issues should be developed immediately in a buildup for '56. On the other hand, one top official in the Republican party organization, expressing the apparently traditional view, said: "The organized party has no business mixing in the Legislature, but after the session we'll have to appraise the results and see what bearing they have on next year's elections."

Many of the legislators take the opposite view, advocating that party liaison with Legislature should be strong, that potential candidates should be groomed, that some issues should be presented on party lines, with future campaigns in mind. Emphasis on nonpartisan approach to state legislation was all right, they say, in the recent sessions where most of the legislators were Republicans, but that hasn't been the case this time, with one-third the lawmakers Democrats.

Similar thinking is being applied to the primaries. Traditionally the party has a hands-off attitude in the primary, then is supposed to get strongly behind the candidates nominated. But more politicians are now saying that the party should make sure of its candidates, even if it has to take active part in the primaries to do this.

Modern Means of Promotion Are Expensive

Cost of financing campaigns is one reason for this. Modern, aggressive methods of promotion, newspaper, radio and television use are expensive. Instead of each candidate trying to raise his own money and develop his own personal campaign organization, some argue, the party would get best results from a highly centralized financing effort—and that would require getting together well in advance on a slate of candidates.

An oldtimer in Republican politics put it bluntly: "It's about time we stopped picking candidates with the money or candidates who would be accepted by the people with the campaign money. We should first line up strong candidates who can win an election, then go out after the money needed to back them up with a good campaign."

Another Republican who has handed top party assignments in recent years and who is in the anxious-to-get-started class, gave this opinion: "Frankly we face a unified Democratic party with a lot of enthusiasm left over from the election of Dick Neuberger for the Senate. The Republican party will have to start getting behind some strong candidates for 1956, and we don't yet see any Republicans head and shoulders above the crowd as candidate possibilities. We need to develop some colorful candidates like a Dick Neuberger."

New Type Strategy Group Being Developed

On the organization line, Republicans are in the process of developing a new type strategy committee for the state central committee and are faced with selecting a new Multnomah County chairman soon to replace Philip Englehart who resigned because he would be out of the state several months between now and the 1956 elections.

Some party leaders think these developments are overdue and also think liaison with the national party organization has been weak. Sen. Guy Cordon's defeat last November showed some party organization weakness, they say, that still hasn't been corrected.

But one of the top elected Republican party officials said he wasn't too concerned, "because there is always rumor of dissension in any political party."

In contrast, a behind-scenes campaigner long identified as a source of Republican strength said: "The only way to get out of the rut and really get going is for Gov. Patterson to take command of the party organization and make it tick."