The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

105th Year | 5 SECTIONS—36 PAGES | The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Sunday, April 24, 1955 | PRICE 10¢ | No. 28

China Reds Offer to Negotiate With U.S. on Formosan Issue

Well in Washington Spouts Natural Gas

TOLEDO, Wash. (AP) — Natural gas was flowing Saturday from the Cowlitz Basin Oil Co. No. 1 test well south of this Southwest Washington town.

The volume of the flow had not been determined. Some streaks of petroleum were being carried to the surface with it.

The flow, which started late Thursday, has had sufficient pressure to force a continuous 10-inch stream of water and gas to the surface. It originates in a sand strata 800 feet deep.

In optimistic mood, J. F. Wallace, president of the firm, declared:

"We are pretty sure we have hit it. This is the eighth strata of gas sand in the well, and each has been stronger than the previous one."

The Cowlitz Valley beef rancher said the cable tool rig will keep punching the hole deeper in the hope of finding richer gas supplies and possibly an oil pool.

Head driller Don Boger said the well was capped shortly after it came in and it registered 300 pounds of pressure behind the column of gas, oil and slightly salty water.

"If we hit a dry strata of gas sand farther down, we should have a commercial well," Boger said. "On the other hand, this present strata may blow itself dry and become a producer."

Wallace, his three brothers and a son own 1,200 acres in the area and have mineral leases on about 4,000 more. They say they plan to drill additional wells. They started well No. 1 in March of 1954.

Bomb Threat Added to Portland 'Crime Wave'

PORTLAND (AP) — A rash of bombing threats continued here Saturday with a wholesale merchandising company getting the latest threat.

The Dahnken, Inc., firm, located on the sixth floor of the downtown Morgan Building got a typewritten letter reading, "Merely a warning. A bomb will blow up a part of your store on Tuesday April 26. Nothing else to know."

Police, whose ranks have been spread thin in checking such threats, said they believed it was a hoax, but would investigate.

Series of Incidents

In 10 days there have been: (a) A bombing at the Meier & Frank department store, accompanying a $50,000 extortion note; (b) The bomb-killing of Oliver Kermit Smith, 34, Portland attorney; (c) A $20,000 extortion demand on the wife of a prominent Portland attorney; (d) One-day closures of four Pacific Northwest high schools after telephone calls threatening that the schools would be bombed; (e) Bombing threats to two other Portland business firms Friday, each a false alarm, and (f) Reports from several housewives that they had received telephone calls, attempting to extort minor sums.

Another householder said he received a car-bombing threat Friday, but this also was a false alarm.

Smoke Bomb

One householder did get a bomb—a Navy smoke bomb—tossed onto the porch, presumably by two boys seen running from the neighborhood.

Police said the threats to the schools probably were pranks, stemming from the attention given the department store bombing.

They also said there was no connection between the store bombing and the bomb-slaying of Smith. Smith's wife, Marjorie, 35 and Victor L. Wolf, 45, were charged with Smith's murder. Police said Wolf told them the plot against Smith's life was worked out a month ago. The motive was Wolf's love for Mrs. Smith and the $20,000 insurance on Smith, detectives said, adding that Wolf talked freely of setting the bomb, but that Mrs. Smith steadfastly denied any part in it.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

WASHINGTON, April 21 — It is easy for a convention of an occupational group to become a mutual admiration society. The program set up for the American Society of Newspaper Editors this year pointed in the opposite direction. To initiate criticism of the American press, Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, former chancellor of the University of Chicago was invited to be the first speaker. With pungent phrase and flat broadside he criticised the newspapers for failing to exercise the constitutional freedom they talk about so much. Some of his criticisms were familiar clichés: "monopoly," "one-party press," "fat cats of publishers."

The editors didn't take it lying down. Both members of the panel and speakers from the floor took issue with Hutchins on many points. One of the panel was Jonathan Daniels of the Raleigh News and Observer. He made one comment I regard as vital: "World freedom begins at home." It is well enough to proclaim freedom abroad or in the nation—sometimes it is harder to fight for freedom against local prejudice and inflamed opinion. The close-in fighter may be more heroic than the one of the ivory tower who demands freedom for the Chinese.

This afternoon a select group of Washington correspondents: Roscoe Drummond of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune, James Restan of the Times; Max Freedman of the Manchester Guardian and Nat Finney

(Continued on Editorial Page, 4.)

Dust Storms, Rain Plague Wide Areas

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blinding dust storms and drenching rains plagued wide areas of the midcontinent Saturday. Southeast Texas simmered in 100-degree heat.

A large, vigorous storm system grinding eastward across the Great Plains touched off the stormy weather.

A tornado ripped apart some farm buildings near Tariko, in extreme Northwestern Missouri, but no one was reported injured. In Western Illinois, Dan Andrews, 82, was killed when he toppled from the roof of his home at Lima while clearing away fallen tree limbs during a windstorm.

Another tornado flicked across two farms south of Coin, Iowa, blowing some buildings apart and damaging others. There were no reported injuries. Winds of near tornado force were reported elsewhere in Southwestern Iowa. The Weather Bureau said Jefferson had more than four inches of rain.

A near cloudburst hit Evansville, Ind. A downpour of 3.91 inches in 24 hours sent a flash flood pouring down streets in the city's low West Side area. Water stood 15 inches deep in Evansville's airport.

SUFFOCATES IN SAWDUST

EUGENE (AP) — John F. Boettcher, 75, nightwatchman at the Eugene Planing Mill, was found dead in a sawdust bin at the plant Friday night. Coroner Fred Buell said the man apparently had fallen into the bin. He did of suffocation, the coroner said.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	57	42	.18
Portland	55	44	.13
Baker	55	35	.01
Medford	61	44	trace
North Bend	51	44	.09
Roseburg	55	44	.06
San Francisco	60	49	.00
Chicago	58	45	.05
New York	70	49	.00
Los Angeles	67	50	.00

Willamette River 8.8 feet.

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem):

Early morning cloudiness, otherwise progressively clearing weather through Monday. Warmer today and Monday with high today of 60-62 and Monday, 63-65. Low tonight 34-36.

Temperature at 12:01 a. m. today was 35.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

Since Start of Weather Year	Year Ago Today	Sept. 1
This Year	Last Year	Normal
29.27	40.93	35.39

Editors Pick Ike Over Adlai

WASHINGTON (UP) —An overwhelming majority of editors polled at a breakfast given for the American Society of Newspaper editors believes President Eisenhower and Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson will be the prseidntial nominees again next year and that Mr. Eisenhower will win.

The annual breakfast and poll sponsored by the Washington professional chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, national journalism fraternity, showed 88 editors voting yes and 11 no on the question whether Mr. Eisenhower will be the 1956 Republican nominee. On the question whether Stevenson will be the Democratic nominee, 74 voted yes, 22 no.

The vote was 70 to 20 in favor of Mr. Eisenhower as to which would be the winner if the President and Stevenson are nominees.

State's GOP Chief Boehnke To Quit Post

EUGENE (AP) — Ed Boehnke said Saturday he was resigning May 21 as chairman of the Oregon state Republican Central Committee.

"I have not the time, energy or money to continue," he said in a letter to all county chairmen and vice chairmen.

It is this group of party leaders which will select his successor. Boehnke said he would call a meeting May 21 to do that.

Although there have been rumblings that Boehnke and Jess Gard, Republican national committeeman, were not hitting it off well, Boehnke denied any rift. He said he was giving up the job with reluctance.

He first took it when Robert Elliott of Medford resigned, for business reasons, in January a year ago. Last July Boehnke then was elected for the full term.

Boehnke said by resigning now, the new chairman would have ample time to prepare for the 1956 campaign.

Henry Busse, Band Leader, Succumbs

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UP)—Henry Busse, famous orchestra leader and trumpet player known as "Mr. Hot Lips", died of a heart attack at a hotel here Saturday.

Blossom Sunday Today Features Music, Motoring

(Tour map on Page 3; Sec. 1.)

Observance of Blossom Sunday today will be featured by recital of organ music and the traditional motor tour of the rural areas in the Salem area.

McNary Field weathermen early this morning predicted cloudiness today and progressingly clearing weather through Monday. Today's high is expected to be 60-62, Monday, 63-65.

Blossoms are late this year, but Salem Cherrians, sponsors of the annual event, guarantee sightseers a fine view of countryside landscape and some scattered blooms, according to King Bing William Healy.

Maps of a suggested route through the farming sections will be available to motorists at downtown service stations and hotels today. One route includes the Eola Hills area west of Salem in Polk County. The other directs motorists into the Liberty-Sunnyside area south of Salem.

Salem Cherrians, their wives and special guests, including Gov. and Mrs. Paul Patterson will attend a 10 a. m. breakfast today at the Senator Hotel. The organ music program will be held from noon until 4 p. m. at the State Capitol. Extra guides will be available.

New Tax Hike Bill on Senate Slate Monday

By ROBERT E. GANGWARE
City Editor, The Statesman

Newest version of a higher state income tax, a Senate committee plan that would boost the tax an average of 60 per cent, will come up for debate Monday morning in the Oregon Senate.

The big problem of where to get an extra $60 million or more to balance the state's budget will have to be solved before the tiring legislators can close up their Capitol desks and go home. They've been at it now for 15 weeks.

Big difference between the tax plan before the Senate and the tax plan the House has already approved is one of money.

The House-approved plan would extract $12,700,000 more each year out of state income tax. The Senate proposal would gain $22,400,000 a year more. (Additional tax details on page 6, sec. 1).

Senate tax committeemen thought much more new revenue would be needed because: (1) They didn't agree with some of the House revenue estimates; (2) they could see more appropriations coming along from ways and means committee than the House anticipated when it passed an income tax boost averaging 32 per cent.

A second principal tax consideration concerns the tentative plan to have the people vote on a 3 per cent retail sales tax which would raise $45,000,000 a year and would substitute for the income tax increase. Besides helping balance the state budget, it would provide additional state money for schools.

A public hearing on the sales tax bills will be held by the House tax committe at 1 p.m. Monday in Room 321 at the Capitol.

In a change of trend Saturday, House tax committee members recommended putting the sales tax on the ballot Nov. 8 instead of this summer.

Senate tax committeemen also had a change of heart over the cigarette tax bill. They decided not to add a tax on other tobacco products after all. They said neighbor states don't have such tax and the result might be too much smuggling of cigarettes across the state line.

That Senate committee is divided and at best only lukewarm to the cigarette tax (3 cents a pack) that the House passed. Most members think it would be referred and defeated by the electors anyway.

Committeemen couldn't agree Saturday whether to recommend that the bill be passed. Chairman Rudie Wilhelm Jr. announced, however, that the bill would go to the Senate floor about Wednesday, regardless of what the committee recommends.

(Additional legislative news on page 6, sec. 1).

Thailand Premier Arrives in U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO (UP) —Puang Pibul-Songgram, Premier of Thailand, arrived Saturday at the San Francisco International Airport on his first state visit to the United States.

The specially chartered Pan American Stratocruiser, carrying the Field Marshal and his party of 22 persons landed at 10:19 a.m. PST.

The 58-year-old premier is considered one of the West's strongest friends in South Asia, arrived here

America to Insist Parley Include Chiang

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States told Red China Saturday that the Nationalists must sit in at any Formosa peace talks, and that the Reds should show their sincerity in advance.

This was the official response to the offer of Chou En-Lai, Premier of the Communist China regime, to open direct negotiations with this country on easing tensions in the war-threatened Formosa area.

"The United States always welcomes any efforts, if sincere, to bring peace to the world," the State Department said in a public statement cleared with President Eisnhower.

On Equal Basis

"In the Formosa area we have an ally in the free Republic of China (Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalists) and of course the United States would insist on free China's participation as an equal in any discussion concerning the area."

The statement suggested three ways in which Red China could "give evidence before the world of its good intentions."

1. Agree to an immeiate cease fire in the narrow strait separating China's Communist - held mainland and the Nationalist - held island of Formosa. Red China has vowed to take Formosa, which the United States is pledged to defend.

Held by Peiping

2. Release at once the 15 American airmen and others, including 41 U. S. civilians, held by the Peiping regime.

3. Accpt the standing invitation of the United Nations Security Council to appear before it and take part in a debate aimed at pacifying the Formosa area. Less than three months ago Red China rejected this U. S. bid.

In Capitol Hill, Sen. Knowland of California, Republican leader, denounced Chou En-Lai's offer as an invitation to another "Munich" while other leaders took a cautious attitude.

Asks Examination

Sen. George (D—Ga), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said: "I think we should accept the statement of Chou and examine it on its merits."

State Department spokesman Henry Suydam told newsmen that acting Secretary Herbert Hoover Jr., checked by telephone with President Eisenhower before issuing Saturday's statement. Eisenhower is weekending at his Gettysburg, Pa., farm.

Nationalists Scoff at Red Peace Move

TAIPEI, Formosa (AP) — The Nationalists Sunday scoffed at a Red China bid to negotiate directly with the United States over Formosa as a move "to divide the Free World" at the very time when a high U. S. mission is arriving here to deal with the crisis.

An advisor of President Chiang Kai-Shk said the offer by Red Premier Chou En-Lai at Bandung was intended to placate worried Asian - African conference delegates but that Chou knows the United States is on record as saying any such talks must include the Nationalists.

Baby Red Fox Objects Vocally to Capture

SPRING VALLEY—A baby red fox is held gingerly by red-haired, freckle-faced Robert Washburn, whose father, Harold Washburn, caught the little varmint in the James Smart prune orchard in Polk County's Spring Valley-Zena area. Robert and his pet will soon part, for authorities will not permit a fox to be held captive in this district, where many sheep and chickens are killed annually by the predators. Handling the litle fox is serious business as his bite might cause lockjaw. (Statesman Photo by John Ericksen)

Navy to Shift Salem Air Units to Hillsboro Base

The Navy plans to shift its three naval air units from Salem to Hillsboro, it was disclosed in a recent release of testimony by Navy officials before the House appropriation committee. The three are Auxiliary Air Units 891, 892 and 893.

This was substantiated somewhat by Lt. Comdr. John Neil Bryant of the Salem air facility who, while denying anything officially, said Salem's field is not adequate to handle the larger and faster planes.

No Word Here

Bryant, whose unit trains 154 weekend trainees from miles around, said he has not been able to learn anything about the move from higher headquarters at Seattle.

According to word from Washington, the proposed new station at Hillsboro is designed to serve naval reservists within about 150 miles of Portland and will replace facilities now used at Spokane.

Navy officials, in testifying before the committee, were asking for $8,598,000 to start work on the Hillsboro base this summer. To cost $12,476,000, the base is not slated for completion until 1957.

64 Pilots

The Salem station has a permanent complement of 18 men and Bryant. Present trainees include 64 pilots and 90 enlisted men.

Bryant said perhaps half of these come from the Portland area, and others from as far away as Eugene, Medford, North Bend, Bend and Florence.

He pointed out, by way of showing that this long-distance weekend commuting is no deterrent to training, that some Medford reservists drive all the way to Seattle each weekend to fly the faster planes (Corsairs) based there.

No Building Seen

As to rebuilding Salem's airport to match the faster planes, Bryant said "there isn't much they could do with this airport—one runway runs into a hill." He said the runways here would require another 2,000 feet to be adequate.

Bryant said he guesses it would take two years before the units would be shifted from Salem, but that he has heard speculation of one year.

Aunt, Niece In Race for 'Mother' Title

Statesman News Service

FOUR CORNERS — Oregon's "Mother of 1955," Mrs. Florence Brinks of Portland, will get some competition from her own niece in the national finals at New York City, according to a former resident of this area.

The competition will come from Mrs. Johanna B. Clumpner, Anchorage, Alaska, who has been selected as Alaska's "Mother of 1955."

Reporting the coincidence of the aunt-niece selection was Mrs. Jennie Buisman, Long Beach, Calif., a former resident of 3870 Midway Dr. east of Salem.

Mrs. Buisman, who is the mother of Mrs. Clumpner, told about her daughter winning the Alaska contest in a letter to Effie Maye White, The Statesman's Four Corners correspondent.

Display Featuring Bird's Nest Wins at Garden Council's Show

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
Garden Editor, The Statesman

Wee Weeders Garden club of Salem, depicting David Morton's "Symbol," was first place winner in the division "Flowers in Poetry" at the Salem Garden Council's Fourth Annual show.

The show opened Saturday at the Izaak Walton Club House at 501 S. Cottage St., and will be open again Sunday from 12 noon to 6 p.m. There is no admission charge.

A bird's nest with two robin-blue eggs, arranged on a piece of forest limb, with Oregon Grape, cherry blossoms and Madam Langtry Narcissuses against a background of green, made up the winning display.

However, Wee Weeders was not the winner of the top cash prize. Under a new point system, tried out this year for the first time, points won by members of the club, counted toward the cash prizes. Labish Meadows Garden Club, third place winner in artistic display, garnered 106 points for the $12.50 in cash.

In itself, Labish Meadows had a beautiful display, fashioned around Hiroshigo-Aiken's "A Portrait." It followed an Oriental theme, with a big brass bowl on a teakwood stand. Again, narcissuses predominated and the background was pink and black.

In the artisic display, Friendly Neighbor's Garden Club placed second and the Camellia Society, only two points behind Labish Meadows, came in for the second cash prize, with Keizer Garden club, winning the third.

The show, which even the sponsors feared early in the week might not be good because of the weather, is unusually fine. A number of commercial growers brought non-competative displays of potted azaleas, alpines, primroses, and a variety of geraniums, as well as gloxinias. The very fine orchid display by Noble Bashor added much to the show. His Dendrobrium trailing orchid, alone is well worth taking a trip out to the show to see. He received a blue ribbon on this, as he did on others of his orchids.

(Additional details also on page 3, sec. 1.)

Chrysler Corp. Makes Seat Belts Optional on Cars

DETROIT (AP) — Automobile seat belts as a dealer — installed optional equipment were announced Saturday by Chrysler Corp. for all five lines of its 1955 cars.

The belt installations will be sold either in sets of three for the front seat alone, or the car may be fully equipped with belts for six occupants.

Bulganin Asks Ike, Eden Set Parley Date

By RICHARD KASISCHKE

MOSCOW (AP) — Prime Minister Nikolai Bulganin said at a party Saturday night it's up to President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Eden to set a date for a Big Four meeting at the highest level.

Bulganin was asked by a Western correspondent if a Big Four foreign ministers' conference on Austria might be followed by a meeting of the heads of government.

"Ask Eisenhower and Eden about the date," Bulganin replied. "I have made my position clear."

"Do you mean by your statement that you are of a positive attitude toward a Big Four meeting?" Bulganin was asked.

The Soviet Premier nodded in assent.

(In Washington, State Department officials were inclined to treat Bulganin's remark as an offhand one. They said the trend of events points toward a Big Four meeting on the highest level but added it is premature to talk about a date now. The White House and State Department had no formal comment.)

This was the first time Marshal Bulganin had talked to Western correspondents since he became Premier.

Foreign Nations To Get Formula Of Salk Vaccine

WASHINGTON (UP) —The State Department expects in the next few days to begin sending to about 75 nations the formula of the Salk polio vaccine and the University of Michigan evaluation report.

Russia and other Communist nations will be among those receiving the information.

The move is being taken on instructions from President Eisenhower as a gesture of good will. Officials said transmission of the polio vaccine information is primarily "symbolic" because the Salk formula has been known to medical authorities abroad for some months.

Grounded Troopship Blocks Suez Canal

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—Tugs dragged the British troopship Empire Fowey off a Suez Canal sandbank Saturday night, clearing the vital international channel after a 12-hour tieup.

Four ships, halted in the canal by the mishap, resumed their transit, company officials said.

Chou Asserts China's People Friendly to US

BANDUNG, Indonesia (AP) — Premier Chou En-Lai declared Saturday Red China does not want war with the United States and offered to negotiate with the United States on the question of relaxing tension in the Formosa area.

In a terse statement issued during the 29-nation Asian-African conference now drawing to a close, Chou said:

"The Chinese people are friend- Chinese people do not want to have war with the United States of America.

"The Chinese government is willing to sit down and enter into negotiations with the United States to discuss the question of relaxing tension in the Far East, especially in the Taiwan (Formosa) area."

BANDUNG, Indonesia (AP) — Rumors spread at the Asian-African conference Sunday that Red China's Premier Chou En-Lai would make an important announcement shortly concerning 11 American airmen his country holds on spy charges.

Correspondents asked Chou's spokesman if Chou was going to announce release of the American fliers. The spokesman replied only, "that has nothing to do with the conference."

There was little elaboration from the Communist side. One of Chou's aides suggested the next stop was up to Washington.

Premier Mohammed Ali of Pakistan said he already had forwarded Chou's statement to Washington "with suggestions of my own. I think it is a great move for relaxing tension, particularly in the critical Far East."

Issued to Press

Chou's statement was issued by his press representative following an informal luncheon attended by representatives of India, Indonesia, Burma, Pakistan, Ceylon, Thailand, the Philippines and Red China, where the subject of Formosa was discussed.

The first five nations named are the Colombo powers who sponsored the 29-nation Asian-African conference.

Sources disclosed Saturday night that the five Colombo powers have offered to "mediate" with the United States if Washington's reply was not acceptable to the conference.

These sources said this offer was made during the luncheon meeting at which Chou agreed, after pleas by Ceylon's Sir John Kotelawala, to make a gesture toward relaxing tension in the Far East.

Earlier Proposal

There was general belief in Bandung that actually Chou's proposal may have been initiated weeks ago. It was recalled that India's V. K. Krishna Menon, top advisor to Prime Minister Nehru, visited with President Eisenhower before joining Nehru in India for the conference.

Premier U Nu of Burma, who has assumed the role of an East-West negotiator, was among those who received Chou's statement favorably.

Askd whether he thought the United States would accept Chou's offer of negotiations, U Nu replied:

"Yes, I think so. That is also the opinion of all five Colombo states. I feel very strongly that direct talks between the two states will be helpful."

Hope Expressed

Indonesian Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo expressed hope also the United States would accept.

There was no immediate comment from India's Prime Minister Nehru.

Brig. Gen. Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines likewise reserved comment on the Chou statement, which was not read before a formal conference session.

A spokesman for the Peiping delegation, asked if Chou would have anything to add to the statement, replied "We will now await a response." A reporter asked if the statement meant Red China wished a 10-power conference such as Russia had once proposed. The spokesman answered sharply:

"We want direct negotiations."

(Additional details on page 4, sec. 2.)

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