

By Charles A. Sprague

Our supreme court seems to have adopted a "rule of silence" when it comes to determining the validity of laws passed by the legislature.

It is this way. In the 1945 legislature House bill 403 was introduced, passed by the house and amended in the senate. The house refused to concur in the senate amendments; the bill went to conference and new amendments were drawn up which were agreed to by both houses. The bill which was enrolled and signed by the speaker, the president of the senate and the governor, however, did not contain the conference committee amendments but did include the senate amendments which the house had rejected. The supreme court in June held that this bill or Chapter 460 in the 1945 laws was invalid.

The same legislature considered another bill, HB 388. It passed the house. The senate adopted a committee report recommending certain amendments, then backed up and adopted other amendments and passed the bill. The house concurred in the latter senate amendments; but the enrolled bill as signed by the presiding officers and the governor does not contain the senate amendments which were included in the bill as passed by the senate and repassed by the house, and does include amendments reported.

(Continued on editorial page)

3-Hour Blaze Destroys Home In South Salem

The home of Mrs. Alice Edmondson at 2509 S. Commercial st., burned to the ground Wednesday night. The Salem fire department was unable to answer the call because the house was two blocks outside the city limits. No one was injured in the blaze which burned for more than three hours.

Almost all of the family possessions were removed with the help of neighbors. The house was said to be insured. Mrs. Edmondson had lived in the house for more than 40 years. She had been living alone but her daughter-in-law, Mrs. L. F. Edmondson, had dropped in for an evening visit shortly before the fire started, supposedly from a defective flue, about 7 o'clock.

The air base fire department was called, sometime after the Salem department was notified, but the flames had progressed too far to prevent destruction of the home.

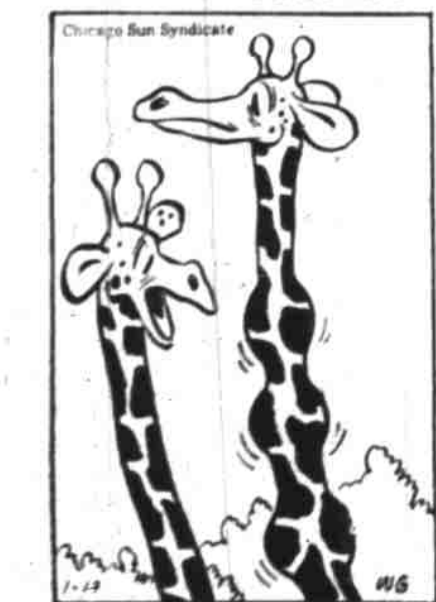
The house was considered a landmark in south Salem, being the property of the Ohmart family before the Edmondsons purchased it more than 40 years ago. Mrs. Edmondson's belongings included many heirlooms most of which were saved with the exception of two marble topped dressers which were in a room made inaccessible by the spreading flames.

Vet Strikers To Lose Pay

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (AP)—General Omar N. Bradley, veterans administrator, ruled today that veterans are not entitled to unemployment compensation under the GI bill of rights when deprived of work by a strike.

Omar B. Ketchum, national legislation representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, announced immediately that his organization will attempt to have the bill amended so that veterans who do not vote for strikes may draw compensation. He estimated about 13,000 veterans are involved in the General Motors strike alone.

Animal Crackers



"Oh, oh—here come your hiccupps again!"

Iran to Toss 'Hot Potato' to UNO's Security Council

Resigns



TOKYO, Jan. 16 — Sotaro Ishiwata (above), imperial household minister of Japan, has resigned as a result of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's order for the ouster of all ultra-nationalists from the cabinet. (AP wirephoto to The Statesman.)

General Bans Unauthorized Mass Meetings

FRANKFURT, Germany, Jan. 16 (AP)—Gen. Joseph T. McNarney today banned all unauthorized GI mass demonstrations in Europe and warned that such meetings might be "exploded by some individuals or elements" to the injury of army discipline.

"A tendency has been noted on some occasions to use the meetings for purposes other than urging more rapid redeployment," said the theatre commander's order, directed to all major commanders in Europe.

The soldier demonstrations have served their purpose, McNarney said. He told the commanders to "guard against the relatively harmless practice of mass protests for informational purposes from degenerating into an opportunity that may be exploited by some individuals or elements to the extent of becoming definitely injurious to the discipline and good name of the army."

Discharge Due 45-Point Men

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (AP)—Army ground and service forces installations in this country were ordered today to get started at once on discharging all men with 45 points or two and a half years service.

They will be released "as fast as the separation centers can handle them," the announcement said.

The action was in line with the war department order yesterday that by April 30 all enlisted men with 45 points or two and a half years service be discharged or be aboard ship en route home.

The ground forces said that "many eligible men will be out weeks and months earlier than the deadline."

Ex-Servicemen Picket Mines

LANSFORD, Pa., Jan. 16 (AP)—Waving banners asking "welcome Home For What?" ex-servicemen picketed anthracite mines in eastern Pennsylvania's Panther valley today in what they called a fight for jobs.

War veterans paraded past every mine in the valley. Miners refused to cross the picket lines and 6000 were made idle.

The vets said mines hired "outside" help during the war and the ex-GIs now want the jobs they say they rightfully deserve.

About 65 participated in the picketing but a mass meeting of all jobless ex-GIs in the area was called in a move for a "solid front" throughout the valley.

Priest Lays Claim To Japan Throne

BALTIMORE, Jan. 16 (AP)—A former Buddhist priest who claims that he, and not Hirohito is really the emperor of Japan has asked Gen. Douglas MacArthur to place him on the imperial throne. Robert B. Cochrane, Tokyo correspondent of the Baltimore Sun wrote today.

The claim of Hiromichi Kumazana—who would become the Emperor Hiromichisa—was accompanied by documents purporting to prove that Hirohito's ancestors displaced those of the "former priest 554 years ago."

Byrnes Asks For Delay in Complaints

LONDON, Jan. 16. (AP)—The United Nations security council was confronted tonight with an international dispute before it had even taken a first step toward organizing for its task of keeping the peace.

Iran served notice it would ask the 11-member body, which meets for the first time tomorrow, for protection against what it termed "Russian interference" in northern Iran.

Simultaneously, delegates to the six-day-old general assembly of the United Nations learned of two other international problems they might be called upon to consider.

The Hilversum radio said that the premier of the self-proclaimed Indonesian republic planned a direct appeal to the United Nations to resolve its conflict with the Dutch.

Poland threatened, through its foreign minister, to bring before the security council a protest against the maintenance of a Polish army in Great Britain and Italy.

All three disputes came to the fore despite pleas of Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and other assembly leaders not—as one delegate phrased it—to "put ice skates on the international baby before it has learned to walk."

Judge Charges County Welfare Power Shorn

Under existing law, Marion county is virtually shorn of all its powers in administration of the welfare situation and its place in the present setup is a farce, County Judge Grant Murphy declared Wednesday.

Judge Murphy's remarks came after he had been handed an opinion from the attorney general's office directed to the county court in response to inquiries of the court in regard to handling funds for public assistance.

The judge indicated that as the matter stands at present the state should take over the entire administration and control of public welfare matters. The opinion indicates, he said, that the court should take its orders in regard to welfare matters from the county welfare commission which in turn gets the word from the state commission's ruling. Which puts the county court in the role of puppet, the judge added.

LICENSE OFFENDER FINED

It cost James Delmer Campbell of Salem \$4.50 to drive his car without new 1946 license plate and sticker. Campbell paid a \$1 fine (the first collected in Salem this year for the offense) and \$4.50 costs in Salem justice court on Wednesday.

Oregon Motor Stages to Seek Hearing to Set State Bus Rates

Oregon Motor Stages will present a formal request next Monday to George H. Flagg, public utilities commissioner, that he institute a general hearing to fix just and equitable rates under which all motor passenger carriers in the state shall operate.

It will be joined in the request by Pacific Trailways, formerly Mt. Hood Stages. This is the move by competitors of Pacific Greyhound stages against the rate cuts initiated by that carrier in 1945 and permitted to go into effect by the public utilities commissioner pending hearing on his docket next Monday.

The basic contention of Oregon Motor Stages is that motor passenger carriers operate under regulations, and that rates should not be dictated by competition but by determination of the commissioner on a basis which will protect the public interest and at the same time prevent the industry from becoming a monopoly. Greyhound stages on the other hand has set the pace in rate reductions through its own initiative.

On Feb. 1, 1945, Greyhound reduced rates to 1.5 cents a mile on the Pacific highway and on the Klamath Falls route. On March 1, 1945, Greyhound reduced the rates on its assistant routes to two cents per mile. On Oct. 1, 1945, it cut commuter fares on the suburban lines around Portland by selling ten one-way rides for the price of seven. The last cut was filed in November to be effective Jan. 1, 1946, and set up a scale of rates from a maximum of 1.5 cents per mile for trips of not more than 300

Refusal to Jail Spies Revealed

Kimmel Testifies Stimson Blocked Pre-Harbor Move

By William T. Peacock

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. (AP)—Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel said today that Secretary of War Stimson blocked a pre-Pearl Harbor proposal to jail Japanese consular officials spying on naval installation in Hawaii.

Kimmel, who was Pacific fleet commander at the time, said the recommendation for arrests originated with Adm. C. C. Bloch, then commandant of the 14th (Hawaiian) naval district, in the summer of 1941.

"Bloch recommended that they put them all in the jug," he testified to the joint Pearl Harbor investigating committee. "In effect, that is what he recommended."

Army Opposed

But the army opposed and nothing was done, Kimmel related, adding: "I have since found that the secretary of war was the man who decided nothing should be done. I don't know what his reasons were."

Under questioning by Seth Richardson, committee counsel, Kimmel had testified that he knew, of course, prior to the Dec. 7, 1941 attack that Japanese agents could easily keep track of what fleet units were in Pearl Harbor since a view of the whole harbor could be obtained from nearby mountains.

"On Alert"

Kimmel declared flatly that "the fleet was on the alert" when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Shaking his finger, he told the committee that every step he took in the days before the attack was taken only after "mature consideration" of the information given him by the navy department.

"I did the best I could," he said. "And with the same information I am not certain I would not take the same actions again."

Chinese Charge Truce Violations

CHUNGKING, Jan. 16. (AP)—Gen. Chang Chun, government truce negotiator, told China's unity conference today that armed clashes still were reported in the north—the communists said in seven strategic provinces.

(U.S. marine planes dumped cease-fire leaflets over three strife-torn provinces today.)

The national military council charged the communists with three specific violations of the truce.

Deaths Draw Secret Probe

FRANKFURT, Germany, Jan. 16. (AP)—Investigation of the crematorium slaying of three American military government officers at Passau has been classified "top secret," it was learned today. Correspondents were unable to obtain confirmation of rumors that an arrest had been made.

So secret has the investigation been that thus far there has been no official announcement of the names or addresses of the three officers who were hacked to death before their billet was burned almost to the ground 10 days ago.

Spring to Bring More Vet Jobs

Two angles of the mounting unemployment problem in Oregon were analyzed Wednesday by state offices.

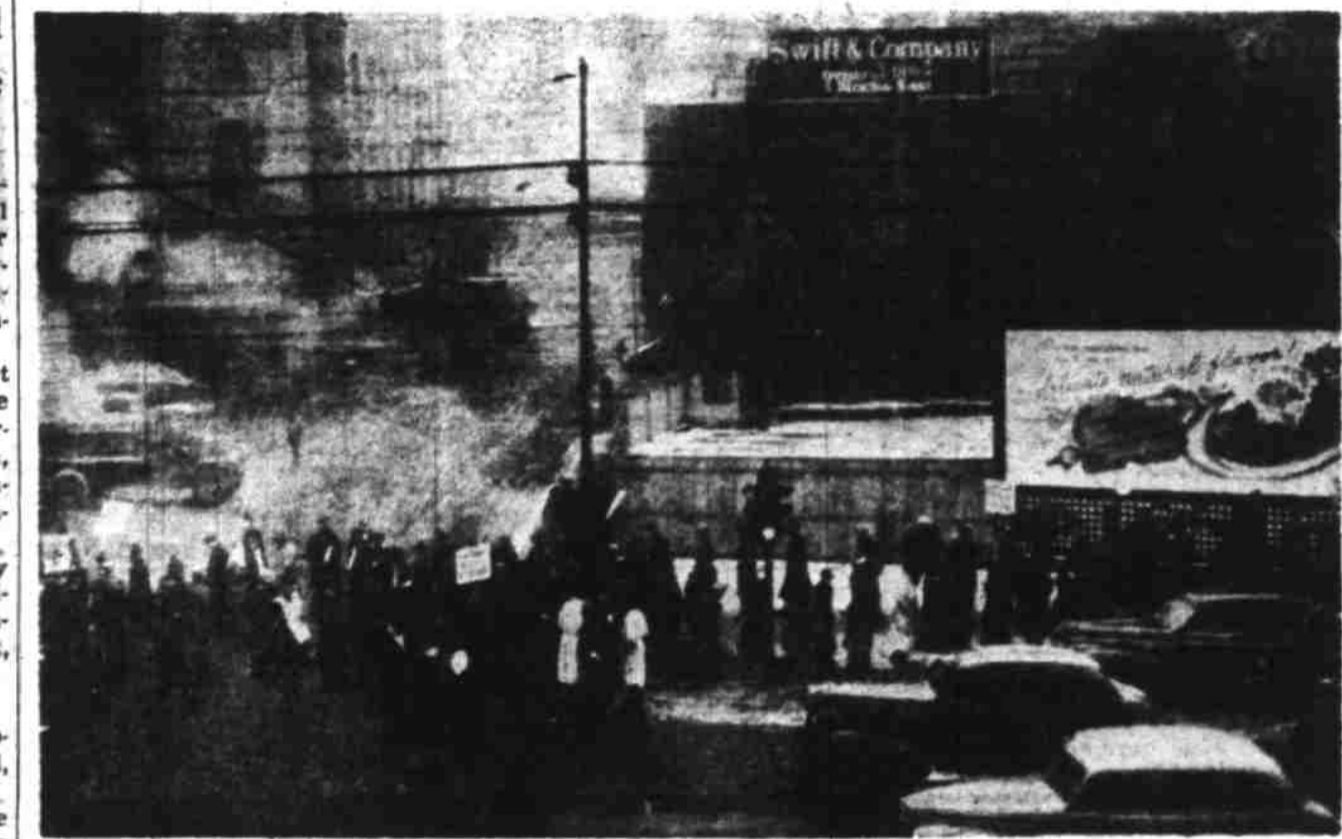
Veterans Affairs Director Hugh E. Rosson predicted that jobs for returning war veterans will be scarce until April, after surveying selective service, employment service and unemployment compensation commission officials.

At the same time the state unemployment compensation office reported that unemployment payments, for the first time since benefits were started in 1938, now threaten to outstrip contributions to the unemployment benefit fund.

Rosson cited four main causes of job scarcity for returning servicemen, who will number 85,000 in Oregon by the end of February:

President Ready to Take Command of Steel Parley

Pickets Parade Past Swift & Co. Plant



CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Picket lines stretch across the entrance (background) to Swift & Co. packing plant early today as a strike in the nation's meat industry starts. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman)

OPA Ready to Attack Meat Black Market

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. (AP)—OPA, fearing "tremendous pressure" on meat price ceilings as a result of the packinghouse workers strike, today promised swift action against any blackmarkets.

The agency strengthened its enforcement staff as a retail meat dealers' spokesman warned that if the stoppage is in effect a week or ten days it will make wartime black markets "look like a Sunday school picnic."

Representatives of management and labor agreed to attend a government conference here tomorrow in an effort to settle the strike which has pinched off fresh meat supplies to a nation which has less than a week's reserve left.

The conference was called by Secretary of Labor Schweitzerbach, after consultation with President Truman.

Lewis J. Clark, president of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers, reported his 193,000 men were out in full force. The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher workmen estimated 70,000 of its men were out.

Driver's Wartime Habit Boomerangs

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. (AP)—A habit inspired by wartime gasoline rationing boomeranged today on one Washington motorist.

For three years, Charles Tappy, a radio salesman, has been parking his car atop a highway hill near his home. When he goes someplace, he releases the brake and coasts away. But this morning when he got to the bottom of the one-mile glide, he remembered he'd left the switch key at home.

Senator Urges 4F, Single Men For Overseas

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. (AP)—Senator Johnson (D-Colo.) proposed today that single men up to 45 and "lots" of 4-Fs be drafted to provide army replacements overseas.

The war department announced, meanwhile, that General Dwight D. Eisenhower will address the nation by radio on the demobilization problem. The chief of staff will make a 15-minute broadcast at 6 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) Friday over CBS and possibly other networks.

If the draft is greatly expanded until May 15 and voluntary enlistments are increased, Johnson said, "then there will be no need to continue selective service beyond May 15, when it will expire."

Committee Given Hawaii State Bid

HONOLULU, Jan. 16. (AP)—Hawaii's bid to become the 49th state in the union was in the hands of the house territories subcommittee today.

The great bulk of testimony by more than 70 witnesses strongly favored giving the rights and privileges of statehood to the islands, which occupy a strategic military and commercial position in the Pacific.

U.S. Meat Crisis To Lose Punch In Salem Area

Salem meat wholesalers and retailers today braced themselves against the impact of the nationwide packinghouse workers strike, but expressed confidence that Salem will not go meatless.

Since well over half the meat retailed locally comes from independent packers of Salem and vicinity, the pinch will not be felt here as strongly as in cities more dependent upon the four giant packing companies.

Local independent packers are not directly affected by the strike, but they are already operating at capacity and hence are unable to increase their normal meat output to Salem markets.

A survey of local meat market operators indicated that meat shipments by the big packers continued through yesterday and are expected again today. One operator said he received an extra-large shipment from Armour's yesterday, apparently because stocks on hand there were being cleared rapidly as the workers went out on strike.

Nearly all dealers will have normal stocks on their shelves today and on through this weekend. What the shelves will look like next week, however, is still a matter of conjecture among the dealers.

Loan Defended By Churchill

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Jan. 16. (AP)—Winston Churchill, here on a victory vacation but his mind full of world affairs, today defended the proposed \$3,750,000,000 loan to Britain by declaring it was vital "to give us time to get on our feet again."

"We have suffered financially more than any other country," said the war leader who is now leader of his majesty's loyal opposition.

"I think his majesty's government would never desire to raise the social and economic standards of the British people at the expense of other people, but unless we are given a chance to regain our stride we may not again be able to take our place as a producing nation."

\$850 LEFT IN STREET

TACOMA, Jan. 16. (AP)—The sum of \$850 in currency, wrapped in a torn piece of newspaper, lay unnoticed on a busy street here yesterday 15 hours until a holdup suspect, questioned by police, led them to where he said he dropped it on his arrest.

Weather

Table with columns for Max, Min, Rain, and other weather data for Salem, Eugene, Portland, Seattle, and San Francisco.

Truman Prepares Proposal

Deadline Set For Ending Dispute At 2 p.m. Today

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16. (AP)—President Truman tonight told CIO President Philip Murray and president of the U. S. Steel corporation, Benjamin F. Fairless, to settle their wage dispute by tomorrow afternoon or he will make a proposal himself "in the public interest."

Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told newsmen, after the principals recessed their conversations until 2 p.m. tomorrow, that the president asked for an agreement when they return then or within a "reasonable time thereafter" during the afternoon.

Ross said, in response to questions, that seizure of the vital steel industry "has not entered into the discussions" up to now.

Murray and Fairless, called to the White House by Mr. Truman in an effort to avoid a strike of 800,000 CIO steel workers set for Monday, had no comment on today's sessions when they left the White House.

Mr. Truman urged them, Ross said, to "sleep over it and pray over it and do their utmost to get together and come back again at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon."

Police Check Woman's Story In Deganan Case

CHICAGO, Jan. 16. (AP)—Chief of Detectives Walter Storms said tonight police working on the Deganan kidnap-slaying case were investigating the story of a woman, held at Sheboygan, Wis., regarding conversations she said she had with a Chicago man.

The search for the slayer of six year old Suzanne was expanded to a police tour of north side taverns with the woman, in an attempt to locate and identify the Chicago man whom she described.

Police said no charges had been filed or contemplated against either the man or woman in the Deganan case.

Police were checking all possible angles to the case in their so far unsuccessful investigation of the Jan. 7 slaying of the Deganan child, whose body was dismembered.

\$200,000 Fire Hits Refineries

FINDLAY, O., Jan. 16. (AP)—A spectacular fire, which raged out of control at the Midwest Refineries here for approximately seven hours today, cost the lives of three men and destroyed 11 petroleum products tanks with a loss estimated by plant Superintendent C. A. Peterson at \$200,000.

The flames, which roared as high as a thousand feet in the air, threatened for a time to reach storage tanks containing high octane gasoline.

Further destruction was spared by the fortunate easterly direction of the wind, Vice President L. A. Woodward said.

Argentine Gamblers Walkout in Protest

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, Jan. 16. (AP)—Vacationers in this resort made a demonstration protest against Argentina's present military government last night by refusing to play roulette at tables operated by the government.

In a prearranged demonstration, all players halted their betting at 8:30 p. m. and started to leave the casino. They reentered the place when police fired tear gas into the retiring crowd, but did not resume play. When the gas cleared they left.