

# U. S. TO SEIZE STRIKE-BOUND PACKING PLANTS

## Builders to Start 87 Salem Houses; Vets Get Choice

Applications for priorities for construction of at least 87 new dwellings to be started within the next 90 days in the Salem area will flow into federal housing authority offices as soon as the blanks are made available here.

The would-be builders of these houses, all to be constructed by or for veterans, were among the 150 persons who met Tuesday in Salem Chamber of Commerce rooms with Folger Johnson, FHA director for this district, and L. C. Simms, Portland, representative of the National Home Builders' association, to discuss new priority regulations which went into effect over the nation January 15.

### IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Stryker

The U. S. senate is wrestling with the fair employment practice bill. This prohibits an employer from discriminating against a person seeking or holding employment on the ground of race, color or religion. It is an effort to make permanent through legislation the policy of non-discrimination set up by the executive order of President Roosevelt during the war.

Without having the text of the bill at hand one cannot state exactly the extent of the application of the proposed bill. Whether it applies to domestic service, to employers of only two or three persons, to farmers I do not know. The principle however is simple: No one should be hired or fired or refused employment because he is a negro or an Irish Catholic or a Scotch Presbyterian or a Chinese or a Jew or a Hottentot.

The principle of non-discrimination carries out the democratic idea embraced in our constitution, and in fact is an application of the fundamental of the Christian religion: "God is no respecter of persons." In the case particularly of the negro race in this country there has been appalling discrimination. Negroes in the mass have been the last to be hired and first to be fired. Many unions deny membership to negroes. Both workers and employers discriminate against negroes when it comes to jobs. They are driven to take the poorest-paid, the most laborious jobs, and usually denied.

## \$100,000 Cost Of Fairground Improvement

It will cost approximately \$100,000 to place the state fairgrounds plant here in condition for the 1946 state fair, to open Labor day, Leo Spitzbart, fair manager, announced Tuesday.

The state fair was suspended in 1941 because of the war and the plant later was occupied by the army. Spitzbart recently received a check from the federal government for \$45,000 to apply toward repairs resulting from army occupation.

Spitzbart said premiums for this year's fair would aggregate approximately \$50,000, and two trotting daily races will be added to the racing card. Requests for exhibit space at this year's fair are more numerous than ever before.

## Flax Tow Machine Purchased for Pen

The state board of control Tuesday authorized purchase and installation of a used flax tow machine at the state penitentiary here to take care of the demands of the Oregon flax textile company.

Officials said the machine would increase materially the output of the penitentiary flax plant.

## Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Frankly, I liked her better before she took that Charm and Reducing course."

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## Gen. Eisenhower Confronted By War Mothers



WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, (center) Army Chief of Staff, is confronted by a group of irate war mothers in office of Rep. Andrew J. May (D-Ky) (right), today. Mrs. Dorothy Galomb of Kilkinsburg, Pa., secretary of group, addresses the general (left of Eisenhower) demanding return of husbands. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman)

## Irate Mothers Plague Ike, Seek Autograph at End

By William F. Arbogast  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower walked into a verbal ambush of irate war mothers today, heard at length their complaints about demobilization, and promised them his autograph.

From half a dozen cities the mothers, about twenty of them representing organizations devoted to obtaining the release of soldier-fathers, gathered in a hallway in the house office building. They had heard that the army chief of staff was due to explain demobilization to the house military committee.

Unwarned and unguarded, Eisenhower walked toward the committee room. Before he could dig in, he was backed into a corner of the office of Chairman May (D-Ky) and faced a withering barrage of questions. They all dealt with the theme: "When do we get our husbands back?"

When he could get an answer in edgewise, Eisenhower, obviously embarrassed but in charge of the situation, told the women: About 700,000 fathers are still in uniform and by July 1 all but 200,000 of them should be home. To turn them all loose now would be impossible.

"There will be no army if that happens," he added.

The general told the mothers he sympathized with them and wished he could get all fathers home immediately. He also sympathized, he added, with non-married overseas veterans who think they should be given a chance to come home, get married and start families.

When the mothers concluded the unscheduled meeting with a request for the five star general's autograph, Eisenhower told them to write him letters and promised to answer all of them personally, over his signature.

## Wayne Henry Ranch Sold to James Smarts

By Lois Crawford  
Salem Valley Correspondent  
ZENA, Jan. 22.—(Special)—Two hundred acres of one of the best farm and orchard properties in the Willamette valley recently changed hands when the old W. J. Crawford place, known more recently as the Wayne Henry ranch, was sold to James Smart and his son, James Smart, Jr., of Glen Creek road.

A new house under construction will be occupied by the younger Smarts. He was recently discharged following duty in the south Pacific with the U. S. marine corps, and Mrs. Smart is the former Margaret Hood whose family lives in Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Smart, sr., will occupy the family residence on the place and father and son plan to operate the farm and orchards together.

The Henrys will move to a place on Shipping street in Salem following an auction sale sometime in February. They have lived on the place since the death of Mrs. Henry's father, the Rev. W. J. Crawford, 29 years ago.

The acreage was purchased by the Crawfords in 1896 and includes 34 acres of cherries, 37 acres of prunes and the balance in farm and pasture land. Henry says that he is proud of his record on the old place and that during his 29 years there he has never had a failure in grain or fruit crops.

## Oregon Faces Lack of Liquor

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 22.—(AP)—Oregonians will be confronted with the worst liquor shortage in the state control system's history during 1946, State Liquor Administrator Ray Conway said today. Some liquor supplies may not improve for three years, and national stocks of scotch, bonded and straight whiskies are dwindling, he declared at the League of Oregon Cities and Oregon Finance Officers conventions. Appealing for public opinion on the whiskey shortage, he warned bootlegging may be expected.

A return to rationing was recommended by Mayor A. T. Niebergall of Bend, who said crowds of 1000 jammed Bend's liquor store during whiskey sales.

## Irvin Hill Replaces Waltz as Director Of Fairview Home

Dr. Irvin Hill of the Oregon state hospital staff was appointed today by the state board of control as superintendent of the Fairview home, an institution for feeble-minded persons.

Dr. Hill succeeds Dr. Ray M. Waltz, whom the board said has resigned. The board said also it instructed Dr. Hill to improve the institution, which has been understaffed.

Dr. Hill, a graduate of University of Oregon medical school, served on the Fairview home staff before going on the state hospital staff.

## HALIFAX TO RETIRE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—The Earl of Halifax, British ambassador to the United States, is planning to retire this spring probably in May, it was learned today.

## Indonese Desire British to Remain

UNO Leaders Confident Russian Protest Can Be Resolved Amicably

By Vern Haugland  
BATAVIA, Java, Jan. 22.—(AP)—Premier Sutan Sjahrir of the unrecognized Indonesian republic and an official of The Netherlands East Indies government both said today that they opposed the withdrawal of British forces from Indonesia at this time.

The Ukrainian soviet socialist republic yesterday asked the security council of the United Nations organization to "put an end to the present situation" in Indonesia, and asserted that British troops as well as Japanese armed forces were taking part in military actions against the local population in Indonesia.

Sjahrir said that if the Russians did not mind, the Indonesians would prefer that the British remain in the islands until the Japanese had been disarmed and removed.

## OFFICIALS OPTIMISTIC OVER FIRST CRISIS

LONDON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—United Nations leaders declared optimistically tonight that the newly-born peace agency could settle amicably the Russian protest against British policy in Greece and Java.

They discounted talk that the surprise move by soviet Russia and the Ukraine might create a crisis at the very outset of the United Nations organization.

The first major test of UNO ability to smooth international friction brought the comment from UNO president, Paul-Henri Spaak, of Belgium, that there were "no grounds for pessimism" and a warning from him against falling into "the terror of the League of Nations" by putting off major problems.

American officials soft-pedaled talk of a crisis and said they were not alarmed. They saw the United States moving into a middle-man, pacifier role between the soviet union and the United Kingdom.



PAUL HENRI SPAAK, President, UNO Assembly

A qualified British source said his government felt it had "nothing to fear or be ashamed of, and certainly nothing to conceal" and that it would not oppose UNO intervention.

British Prime Minister Attlee told commons that the British aspired only to "an amicable settlement" between the Dutch and the nationalists in Java. He did not touch on the Greek question.

Britain's attitude further was understood to be that if the Russians have suspicions, "then this is a first-rate opportunity to air them and clear Britain's name."

A top-ranking security council member, who asked anonymity, admitted that the council was moving into an uncharted field, but said it was better to tackle big problems at the outset rather than "let them ferment."

## Vets to Discuss Buying Tract For Houses

Purchase of 23 acres in Orchards Heights (north Polk county near river) upon which to build 32 one-family houses or construction of 30 apartments on a piece of property in Salem will be discussed as possible alternatives by the veterans' housing cooperative at its meeting tonight.

Members of the cooperative's executive committee will report individually on progress made. On that committee are R. Vance MacDowell, chairman; Don Goode the state office of veterans affairs; W. R. Willis, engineer; Carlton Greider, veterans' counselor with the United States employment service; Joseph Devers, attorney; William Magness, AFL, and William Linfoot, attorney.

The meeting has been called for 8 o'clock in the offices of the Oregon State Farmers Union, 345 N. Commercial st.

## Predict Santiam At Flood Stage

PORTLAND, Jan. 22.—(AP)—The weather bureau forecast the Santiam river would pass flood stage at Jefferson by tonight, after heavy rains soaked the Willamette river and its tributaries.

The Santiam was expected to be only slightly above flood level. Quartzville had 2.53 inches of rain within the last 24 hours; Detroit 2.36 inches, and Falls City 2.61.

## Alumina Forecast Within 3 Months

Alumina of quality, although in still unknown quantity, probably will be produced at the Salem alumina plant within the next three months, W. R. Seyfried, project manager at the plant which is operated by the Columbia Metals corporation, predicted Tuesday.

Formulae to talk alumina from clay are to be tested at the plant, built with federal funds.

## Short Accuses Washington of Withholding Vital Information

By William T. Peacock  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short today accused the war department of withholding vital information from him and then trying to make him the "scapegoat" for the Pearl Harbor disaster.

In a blistering statement read before the joint congressional committee investigating the Dec. 7, 1941 attack, the former Hawaiian army commander said:

1. He would have foreseen the attack and taken steps to meet it had the war department only transmitted to him its "abundance of information."

2. The top army command sought to "pass the buck" to him for "their failure to anticipate the surprise raid."

3. He believed the high command fully realized from his report of action taken after a Nov. 27, 1941, war warning that his command was alerted only against sabotage.

that my action was correct or I would have received instructions to modify my orders."

With this testimony, Short today joined Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, the 1941 Pacific fleet commander, in laying on Washington's doorstep the prime responsibility for the surprise element of the assault.

Contending Washington had the information "essential to a correct estimate of the situation," but did not give it to him, Short asserted: "Had this information been furnished to me I am sure that it would have arrived at the conclusion that Hawaii would be attacked and would have gone on an all-out alert."

It was the first time that Short has told his story publicly although he testified at previous secret inquiries. A slightly-built man in blue suit and striped tie, he took the witness chair in a glare of lights set up for news reel photographers. Spectators seats in the big hearing room were half filled.

## Move To End Meat Scarcity

White House Sources Indicate Order Due Today

By the Associated Press  
The government will seize strike-bound meat packing plants, probably today, it was disclosed in Washington last night.

Assistant Secretary of Labor John W. Gibson announced the seizure action would be taken to end the meat scarcity and White House sources indicated the order would be issued today.

Although little action was taken in other huge steel, electrical, automotive, and farm equipment strikes -- and no seizure plans were indicated in any of them -- Gibson said government operation of the packing firms would go into effect even though no promise had been received that 193,000 CIO union members would return to their jobs working for the government.

Gibson added that AFL meat workers, estimated at 70,000, had agreed to work under federal operation.

"The CIO people have made no commitments," Gibson told reporters after a day long meeting with union leaders in the meat dispute. "They did not say they would refuse to return -- they simply did not say whether they would or not."

Will Not Delay Order  
Gibson said this would not delay the seizure order, adding: "The government is going to seize, that's my understanding."

Later Gibson made the first statement that the plants would be seized.

In Chicago, however, Herbert March, district director of the United Packinghouse Workers of America (CIO), declared, "Seizure without putting wage increases into effect constitutes strike-breaking action, or, at best, compulsory arbitration."

## Would End Tax Rebate

In the steel dispute, CIO President Philip Murray appealed to Secretary of the Treasury Vincent to "take immediate steps to terminate" tax rebate provisions in the present revenue laws. Murray contended these would enable the steel companies to keep all plants closed in 1946 and still benefit financially.

Assuming that the steel companies in 1946 break even -- that is, do not make any net profits -- the United States treasury will actually pay the industry \$148,000,000, Murray said in a letter. "The U. S. treasury is being mulcted for the benefit of a privileged few bent in sinister conspiracy to plunge the country into economic chaos."

## Franco Buys C47s From U.S.

By Graham Hovey  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—The United States has approved the sale to Spain of eight C-47 transport planes and nearly \$300,000 in airport equipment discarded by the army, government officials disclosed today.

At the same time, it was learned that the state department has approved sale of five four-engine transport planes to a private aviation company in Argentina. Previously, the department permitted sale of eight Pratt and Whitney aircraft engines to the same Argentine firm for four Short-Sunderland flying boats purchased from Britain.

The planes and equipment for Spain were purchased from the state department's office of foreign liquidation in Paris by a commission representing the Franco government.

## Fact-Find Bill Loses Teeth

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—The house labor committee pulled two teeth from the president's fact-finding bill today and shoved it to the floor for early consideration.

President Truman wanted action. But he also wanted the fact-finding boards empowered to examine company records and unions barred from striking during the process.

These two features, were missing from the bill which the committee approved. Mr. Truman has said he thinks the measure will be useless without them.

## Weather

	Max.	Min.	Rain
Salem	54	40	38
Eugene	53	44	53
Portland	52	39	40
Seattle	51	31	45
San Francisco	50	41	00

Willamette river 2.1 ft. FOGCAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Mostly cloudy today, intermittent light rain toward evening. Highest temperature 52 degrees.