

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Smaque

President Truman is getting far more than he bargained for when he urged congress to enact a law permitting him to set up fact-finding boards in labor disputes.

The house of representatives has voted to consider a bill pointedly aimed at curtailing the privileges of organized labor. The bill is a long way from becoming law, but the vote to consider it does show the temper of the majority of congressmen.

On issues as critical as this it is important to have the text of the measure before giving it a blessing or a damning. The newspaper summaries have been too brief to afford information for proper comment.

The gist of the bill as given in press summaries is to bring labor unions within the scope of injunction suits, to outlaw violent picketing, and to give the right to sue and recover from employers or workers in case of violation of contracts.

It is not readily apparent how this bill if made into law would affect the current wave of strikes. There is danger in legislating in the heat of controversy lest poor rather than constructive legislation emerge.

There is danger in legislating in the heat of controversy lest poor rather than constructive legislation emerge. The Smith-Cornally law is an example. Sprung from a desire to curb wartime strikes it actually set up machinery which was used to call many strikes. No one speaks a good word for it now.

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SCATTERED BODIES FOUND AT CRASH

Andrew Dennis To Die Today

Morning Breaks Without Word From Governor

Andrew W. Dennis, 45, Portland railroad worker, is scheduled to die in the state penitentiary gas chamber here at 8:30 a.m. today.

At an early hour this morning, Gov. Earl Snell had not announced any commutation of sentence.

Convicted of slaying Mrs. Anna Belle McAllen, 52, his mother-in-law, in her Portland apartment Jan. 29, 1944, Dennis has three times been saved from execution.

An appeal held up the first execution. Then Dennis was sentenced to die November 15, but the state supreme court interfered when it found that no death warrant existed.

To obtain more time to study the case, the governor granted him a reprieve from the third sentence a week ago.

It has been 11 1/2 years since an Oregon governor has commuted a death sentence.

Theodore Jordan, Klamath Falls Negro, and Harry R. Riley, Burns, saved by action of Gov. Julius Meier on July 3, 1944, are still in the prison.

Jordan killed a Southern Pacific dining car conductor, and Riley killed his wife and father-in-law and wounded his mother-in-law.

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The Oregon Statesman

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Deny City Barracks At Airport

Salem to Take Possession of Flying Field

PORTLAND, Feb. 1-(AP)— Authorization for Salem to take over that portion of the army air base which comprises the city airport was received today by the Portland army engineers from the chief of engineers at Washington, the field custodian.

The surplus property administration approved the immediate transfer pending execution of a formal permit, engineers said. They added that Salem's letter of authority is in the mail and due to reach city officials Monday.

First to Regain Field Salem is the first Oregon city to regain actual possession of its airport, taken over by the army, the engineers' office said. The city built the airport and leased it to the army for the war.

The engineers reported the permit gives Salem immediate possession of the "landing area and airport facilities," which they said excludes barracks buildings and land leased and purchased from private owners on which they were erected but includes the runways, apron, taxiways, hangar, field lighting equipment and other equipment necessary to maintain and operate the field.

The airport must be kept open to public use, engineers quoted the permit as saying. United Airlines is the only present user but a number of private operators are reported ready to use the field as soon as the city takes over.

Norblad Avers Vet Medical Change Due Veterans will soon be able to choose their own doctors and their own hospitals, was predicted by Walter Norblad, Oregon's newest congressman reported in a telegram to Glenn Wade, Salem Deaconess hospital public relations man, and Joseph B. Felton, justice of the peace, last Friday.

The congressman wired that he had been assured by veterans' administration officials in Washington that an announcement would be made soon that veterans will be permitted to choose their own doctor for treatment instead of the present necessity of traveling to the nearest veterans' hospital.

Norblad expects that the policy "will be extended to hospitals very soon."

In his last radio speech before leaving for Washington, Norblad spoke of the need for initiating this change in policy.

AFL WINS AT CANNERY Cannery Workers local No. 670, AFL, won a national labor relations board election conducted among workers at Paulus Brothers Packing Co. Thursday evening.

NLRB Representatives Calkin and O'Connell from Portland conducted the election together with plant representatives.

Judge Page Rebukes Methods Used to Obtain Divorce Decrees courts are not to be trifled with," he added.

Declaring the divorce rate outrageous, Judge Page said that there has been a growing lack of appreciation of marriage vows on the part of young people coming to court.

He placed the burden of decreasing the divorce rate upon the people themselves, saying, "The courts can do little to save a marriage that is brought into the law chambers for argument."

In pointing up his words, the judge stated that five years ago he handled about eight divorce cases per month, but that now 50 divorces per month are average.

Of these about 75 per cent concern marriages contracted within the past five years.

Most divorces today are secured by the easy method of default, when one of the parties does not contest the suit. The two main reasons why most divorces are contested at all, Judge Page stated, are custody of children and property rights.

Naval Officers Ordered To Destroy Pre-Harbor Data

Legion Attacks Bradley

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1-(AP)— Gen. Omar N. Bradley, faced with his removal as veterans administrator, fired back tonight a heavy barrage of figures to show progress in his "short six months of stewardship."

And, answering a news conference question, Bradley said a "scrap" last week over a hospital site preceded the blast cut loose at him by John Stelle, national commander of the American Legion.

The question of a hospital site at Decatur, Ill., in Stelle's home state, also came up in a telephone conversation Wednesday, Bradley said. But he added that he did not think that this talk with Stelle had "much to do with this attack."

Other veterans' organizations and congressmen were hounding in on the free-for-all row that broke out when Stelle demanded today that congress investigate what he termed "neglect" of veterans and a "tragic breakdown" in the handling of their problems in the veterans administration.

In New York City tonight, Stelle said he did not necessarily seek removal of Bradley, and that if the general could do the job he would have Legion support.

Ike Unfamiliar WASHINGTON, Feb. 1-(AP)— Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, army chief of staff, said tonight he was unfamiliar with American Legion charges against Gen. Omar N. Bradley, veterans administrator, but added that if Bradley needs support, he will support him.

Salem Building Permits Soar

January was the largest month in the issuance of building permits since the month the new state capitol building was begun in 1936, when total permit valuation was over \$700,000.

Largest permit issued during the month was to Douglas McKay for a \$94,000 garage building on North Commercial street.

Permits issued Friday included one for a \$4000 residence at 2645 Brooks st. to Donald J. Striggow; one to Ed A. Morris for two garages at 725 S. 13th st. at \$1000, and an alterations permit to August Fetsch for \$900 changes to a house at 725 S. 18th st.

Red Cross Set County Quota

Over-all quota for Marion county chapter in the American Red Cross fund campaign opening March 1 is \$66,000. Later, quotas for individual divisions within the local drive will be announced.

Dr. E. E. Boring is the general chairman for the campaign in Marion county. First of the weekly luncheon meetings for division chairmen was held Friday. Dent B. Reed, co-chairman of the drive, presiding.

Instructions were handed out to all division heads. Justice George Rosman, chapter chairman, gave a short talk on the great need for Red Cross services during the coming year.

VATICAN CHARGES RUSSIANS VATICAN CITY, Feb. 1-(AP)— The Vatican City newspaper Osservatore Romano today charged Soviet authorities with religious persecutions in the Ukraine and accused the Soviet radio of carrying out a "hate campaign against Catholicism."

DONALD HELSER FILES Donald E. Helsel, The Dalles, Friday filed in the state department here for representative in the state legislature from Wasco county at the republican primary election. He is now a member of the house.

Good Medicine



SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 1—Mrs. Patricia Anne Vought, 21, flew from Australia to her ailing husband, T/Sgt. Maurice P. Vought, 28, Fort Wayne, Ind., at Bruns General hospital here to help him recover. She is shown feeding him. (AP Wirephoto to The Oregon Statesman.)

Sewer Service Problem Faces Fairground Site

The problem of providing sewer service for Salem's new veterans' colony if and when it may be established on a little-used portion of the state fairgrounds appeared close to solution today. But city housing authority members had several disturbing hours over it Friday.

Chairman W. J. Braun said he expected to confer Monday with officials of the Interstate Tractor & Equipment company to determine whether that concern is actually planning, as has been stated by competent authorities, to pay for extension of city sewers to its new building on Silverton road. If that is the plan, the one main could probably serve the housing project, Braun said.

Under original plans, the 90-family dwelling units offered to Salem and Willamette university by the federal public housing administration were to have been served by the fairgrounds sewer. However, that is a state system and the city engineer advised the housing authority Friday that it could not serve both fair and veterans' colony in stormy weather.

Salem is one of the first 12 cities in the Pacific northwest to have an application for temporary war housing for veterans' use approved by the federal public housing administration and has been allotted the largest number of family units. Jesse Epstein, regional director for FPHA, said Friday in Seattle. Willamette university is one of 17 educational institutions offered the housing.

Lake-Watcher Gives Up as Souther Sinks

MEDFORD, Ore., Feb. 1-(AP)— Federal Geologist F. W. Cater today washed his hands of Crater lake and its bashful burps. He gave up his lonely vigil which began Jan. 24 in the lodge on the lake rim and radioed for the Crater Lake national park service crew to come with its "sno-cat."

Cater said he noticed Wednesday that the sound recording instrument in the lodge was not working. The recorder was attached to a 1500-foot cable connected with a microphone-like instrument suspended to a raft in the lake.

He summoned park rangers with his radio and, in another perilous survey of the steep crater side, they discovered a heavy snowslide had broken the cable about 500 feet from the water and the raft end of the cable slid into the lake.

The geologist said further watching for the strange smoke clouds belched from the lake last fall will be postponed until spring.

Col. Joe Carson Denies Political Aspirations

PORTLAND, Feb. 1-(AP)— Portland's former mayor, Col. Joseph K. Carson, said today he would not be a candidate for any political office this year.

Carson, mentioned as a possible democratic candidate for governor, said he could not afford the time or the expense. "What I am going to do is to practice law, and do it just as vigorously as I know how," he declared.

POSTAL RECEIPTS RISE Salem postal receipts or January topped the same month in 1945 by more than \$400, for a total of \$52,236.11. Postmaster Albert Gragg announced Friday, January, 1945, was greater than 1944 by more than \$9000.

Captain Tells Of Jap Code

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1-(AP)— A naval officer testified today that orders went through the navy department after Pearl Harbor for all personnel to destroy any personal notes concerning events preceding the attack.

The officer, Capt. L. F. Safford, also declared the war and navy departments got "72 hours advance notification of the attack on England and the United States" through interception of a Japanese "winds" code message on Dec. 4, 1941.

"It meant war, and we knew it meant war," he told a senate-house committee investigating the Japanese attack.

Safford gave this story of the "note destroying" order: On Thursday or Friday after the Sunday of Pearl Harbor he was called to the office of Rear Admiral Leigh Noyes, chief of naval communications. Safford was head of the intelligence unit of communications.

All other section heads were there and they were told there was a "whispering campaign" against Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, Pacific fleet commander, and Adm. Claude C. Bloch, commandant of the 14th (Hawaiian) naval district, and it must be stopped. He said he had a clear understanding that the orders came down from Adm. Harold R. Stark, chief of naval operations.

"It seemed a perfectly logical and fair order at the time," Safford said.

Army Expands Family Order

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1-(AP)— The war department announced tonight that dependents of all ranks of army personnel will be permitted to join them overseas, contingent upon the necessary housing, food and medical care being available for them.

The non-commissioned officers to which the original order applied were master, first, technical and staff sergeants.

The soldiers who want to have their families with them must agree to remain overseas for at least a year after their dependents join them.

First priority will be given the dependents of those service men who are willing to remain overseas for two years.

Groundhog May Get Nose Wet in Timid Peek

Spring is just around the corner if the tradition of the groundhog and his shadow are believed. It is considered extremely unlikely that the little rodent will be able to see his shadow today as cloudy skies and occasional rains are the prediction of the weather bureau.

Marriage Education Urged at Farm Program; Reports Given

Liam Teutsch, assistant director of extension, OSC, and also by the 13 conference committee chairman reporting surveys made in recent weeks. Increase in quality rather than in quantity was stressed by all.

Teutsch predicted that a surplus production was approaching, with a likely 10 per cent decrease in farm market price and a 15 per cent lower gross income than during the war years. However, he believed with favorable weather the net income in 1946 would be double that of pre-war years.

Searchers Surmount Icy Peak

Sled Dogs to Aid in Removal Of Dead Today

By Richard K. O'Malley ELK MOUNTAIN, Wyo., Feb. 1-(AP)— The bodies of the persons aboard a Seattle to New York United Air Lines plane were found late today on Elk mountain where the plane crashed early yesterday.

"The bodies were widely scattered over a slope of the mountain about 1150 feet from the top and the plane appears to have disintegrated," said Stewart England, a civil aeronautics authority official from Cheyenne, who was a member of the searching party.

"The bodies were only slightly singed and there were no indications that the plane burned," England said. No count was made of the bodies, but England said there was no possibility that any of the 18 passengers and three crew members escaped death.

To Remove Bodies Officials of United Air Lines began making plans for removal of the bodies from the mountain tomorrow. A truckload of sled dogs from Fort Robinson, Neb., was en route to Elk mountain in charge of Capt. Murray Trump, to assist in the operation, it was announced at Fort Warren, Wyo.

England, Allan Garbutt of Elmo, Wyo., and Ray Leforge of Elmo, told of the difficult 11,000-foot climb to the wreckage through deep snowdrifts and over crusted snow when they had to hack out footholds.

Missed Wreckage The party climbed to 11,000 feet without discovering the wreckage and began circling the area when one of them met Edward Hicks and his brother, Joe, coal miners from Hanna, Wyo., who discovered the bodies 1000 feet lower on the peak.

"They were standing beside an engine that had fallen from a cliff and they told of finding the bodies scattered over a wide area," Garbutt said.

Janitor Claims Police Abuse

CHICAGO, Feb. 1-(AP)— Hector Verburgh and his wife, who were held without charge for two days for questioning in the Suzanne Degnan kidnap-killing, today filed two suits asking \$125,000 damages from 18 police officers.

Verburgh, 65, a janitor, charged false arrest and brutal treatment and asked \$100,000 damages. He alleged that police "beat, struck, bruised and otherwise physically abused and tortured him" and "blind-folded plaintiff, and placed handcuffs on the wrists of plaintiff, with his hands behind his back, and with a rope or other device attached to said handcuffs behind his back, maliciously and wickedly raised the plaintiff's body off the floor."

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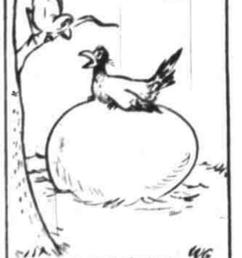
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Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"I don't know, but I can tell you one thing—when it starts to hatch I'm getting out of here!"