

# Group Out to Save Battery Separator Plant for Salem

By Isabel Childs  
City Editor, The Statesman

Unwilling to accept as final the announcement of Keith Brown that plans for construction of a half-million dollar battery separator plant on his company's property had been dropped, representatives of labor, veterans and the real estate profession met in Salem Chamber of Commerce rooms Thursday night and will meet there again today. They hope to map a way out of the tangle of misunderstandings and red tape they feel has discouraged but should not spoil the big industrial development.

**700 Vets Unemployed**

More than 700 veterans are unemployed in this area, it was declared at Thursday's meeting. The proposed battery separator plant of the Cascades Plywood corporation would employ some 160 men soon and might later, just about double that payroll. Its operating reputation is good and its business desirable.

Neither the council, which delayed action on a zone change application Monday night, nor the residents of a nearby neighborhood who objected to establishment of the plant fully understood the implications of their actions, the men who gathered at the chamber last night believe. This morning, after certain preliminary preparations, they will meet again to map a campaign which they believe may draw the two groups into unified and satisfactory action.

**Wives Fail to Sign**

Meantime, no official pronouncement concerning the technical legality of the original petition for zone change has come from the planning and zoning commission to which it was referred. However, a check of the petition shows that it was not signed by the wives of two of the property owners, who hold their lands in entirety, and that, therefore, only approximately 40 per cent of the owners are on record as seeking the

change; 50 per cent are required. The council had not been informed that the time element was paramount in securing the development for the city, nor did the persons who signed the objection realize what type of plant was contemplated, members of the group which met Thursday night maintained. A far less desirable industry could be set down today only one-half a city lot behind what would have been the front line of the plant which Cascades Plywood wanted to build on the Keith Brown industrial sites and no action of the neighborhood could stop it.

**Willing to Assist**

Brown announced Thursday that he and his associates were ready to drop the whole thing, but that they would be willing to assist Cascades Plywood in securing another site. Charles W. Fox, vice president of the plywood concern, indicated that no other site had yet been selected.

## Lumber Ceilings Revised

### Construction Grades Raised, Premiums Cut

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—The office of price administration revised mill price ceilings today on Douglas fir, western hemlock and true fir lumber, and said that revisions raised some ceilings and lowered others.

The OPA announcement said the new regulation was designed primarily to stimulate production of lumber needed for home construction.

The new order provides:

1. Increases ranging from \$2 to \$10 per 1000 board feet for basic grades of lumber used in home construction, except for common boards.
2. Elimination of premiums for special grade and grain specifications which OPA said were seldom charged before the war "but which might have been charged considerably during the war." These premiums ranged from \$1 to \$6 per 1000 board feet, OPA said elimination of them will largely offset the price increases granted in basic construction grades.
3. Lower ceilings on some items not used in construction which are cut from the same part of the log as certain construction items, such as flooring.

## Phone Walkout Date Set; Coast Dock Strike Voted

### Dispute Ties Up Bay Ships

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21-(AP)—The International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's union (CIO) announced late today that Pacific coast dock workers have voted, 13,979 to 1120, to strike "on or before April 1" in support of their wage and working condition demands.

Louis Goldblatt, union secretary, made the announcement as the loading of two ships at San Francisco piers was halted in a union-employer dispute over the hiring of union checkers to direct longshore gangs.

Goldblatt, in a long statement, accused the employers of planning a "well-laid scheme to divert public attention from the real issues."

The statement said the employers had carried on "a persistent attack on the ILWU, marked by insolent disregard of government directives, stubborn refusal to consummate contracts in accordance with those directives, and general provocation of the ILWU and its members."

### Degnan Child's Arms Found



CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—Lieut. John Olson of the Chicago police force holds the cloth wrapped arms missing from the body of Suzanne Degnan, Chicago child who was kidnapped and slain above the sewer in which they were found. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman)

## NFTW To Halt Work March 7

By the Associated Press

A strike was called last night by 150,000 of the nation's telephone workers.

A new wage dispute in the coal industry appeared possible and the General Motors automotive tieup continued deadlocked.

The walkout of the telephone workers was called for 6 a. m. in all time belts on March 7 by the Independent National Federation of Telephone Workers.

The telephone federation's executive board, meeting in Memphis, Tenn., voted unanimously for a strike of 17 union affiliates claiming 150,000 communications workers.

President Joseph A. Beirne of the federation indicated the telephone strike, if begun, would have far-reaching effects because "the other 33 affiliated unions will respect picket lines to be established by striking unions."

He said, however, the federation would continue talks with company and federal officials in efforts to settle the dispute.

A possible coal wage dispute appeared as John L. Lewis called a March 11 meeting of his AFL United Mine Workers policy committee. Lewis may seek wage boosts for the 500,000 United Miners through this committee, which has authority to reopen the miners' contract with the suit coal operators.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

One of the lesser tragedies goes on in Europe — lesser only in comparison with the death and wounds of war and the horrors of concentration camps. This is the evacuation of unwanted peoples from their ancestral homes.

In the effort to purify the national strain, alien elements, no matter how long resident in a land, are being driven out. It is like our own Japanese relocation except on a permanent basis without the menace of war. The Nazis are defeated but the Nazi ideas of distinction due to race, language or national origin persist.

In Poland the Germans are being roughly expelled both from Poznan, part of old Poland, and from the portions of old Germany like Silesia and East Prussia which have been annexed to the new Poland. The lands of the displaced are being given to Poles.

## Drowns



NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 21 — Vice Adm. Theodore S. Wilkinson, former commander of the third amphibious force of the third fleet, who drowned here yesterday as his car plunged off a ferry into the Elizabeth river.

## Truman Adds Assurances Secrets Safe

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—Confidence that American military secrets are safe was expressed by President Truman today while Secretary of State Byrnes renewed similar assurances.

The senate atomic energy committee held a session with Byrnes behind locked doors. Afterwards Chairman McMahon (D-Conn.) stated, "Secretary Byrnes repeated to the atomic energy committee today his previous press conference statement that the state department has no information regarding the implication of any American officials in the Canadian investigations."

McMahon told reporters he assumes that the absence of information in the state department that any Americans are involved in the Canadian affair applies to all other departments too.

The president told his news conference that United States security measures always have been adequate and he considers "they still are."

Mr. Truman's comment came amid a barrage of questions prompted by disclosure that Russia had obtained data on atomic energy and radio location in Canada.

## Negotiations Reported in India Mutiny

BOMBAY, Friday, Feb. 22-(AP)—Negotiations seeking the surrender of mutinous seamen of the Royal Indian navy, barricaded in the bullet-pocked castle barracks in downtown Bombay were reported in progress early today while civil rioting in support of the sailors subsided.

British military forces here were reinforced, meanwhile, by the arrival in Bombay of HMS Nith, an armed escort frigate which the harbor master said normally carried a complement of about 200 men.

Naval headquarters said additional reinforcements were expected shortly.

The Times of India, a leading Bombay daily newspaper, told of reports that the men actually were surrendering weapons at the barracks but this was not confirmed by official army sources.

However, firing in the long range rifle and machine gun duel between the mutineers and British Tommies who surrounded the barracks had ceased.

## Threat of Portland Dock Tie-up Averted

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 21-(AP)—Threat of an immediate tie-up of the Portland waterfront appeared averted tonight as employers extended to 8 a. m. Monday their deadline for checkers to return to work on the basis of the number set by ship operators.

Originally, 5 p. m. today had been set as the deadline by the waterfront employers association here.

## Continuation of OPA Urged by Farmers Union

HILLSBORO, Ore., Feb. 21-(AP)—The state farmers union, concluding its 36th annual convention today, urged that the OPA be continued "on the basis of its old-line policy."

The group also endorsed a proposal for a world disarmament conference, but specified that the United States should not disarm unless all other nations do likewise.

Other resolutions: (1) Praise Sen. Wayne Morse (R-Ore) for his "sincere liberalism"; (2) endorse the Willamette valley project and the proposed Columbia valley authority; (3) recommend that an office of lieutenant governor be created for Oregon; (4) approved bureau of reclamation statutes setting a 160-acre maximum for farms on federally financed reclamation projects; (5) backed the government full employment bill; (6) went on record as opposing peace-time conscription.

Ronald Jones, Brooks, was re-elected president. Paul Youngman, Newberg, was named vice president succeeding Wendell Barnett, Gervais. Harley Libby, Jefferson, was re-elected to the board of directors and Henry Johnson, Beaverton, was named a new board member.

## Adm. Wilkinson Drowns as Car Rolls Off Ferry

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 21-(AP)—Vice Admiral Theodore S. Wilkinson drowned today when his automobile plunged from a ferry into the Elizabeth river, but the veteran of South Pacific amphibious warfare saved his wife's life by shoving her from the car a second before it sank.

Mrs. Catherine Wilkinson, wife of the 57-year-old officer who distinguished himself as commander of the third amphibious force, third fleet, said Wilkinson lost control of the car and when he realized they were going off the front end of the ferry he opened the door, yelled "jump" and shoved her out.

Mrs. Wilkinson was removed to a naval hospital for treatment. Wilkinson's body was recovered from the car by a diver.

The admiral was unfamiliar with the car, having borrowed it from a friend, his wife said. A court of inquiry will be appointed to investigate the accident.

## Universal Ban On Draft Asked

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—President Truman called impractical today a house military committee move to sidetrack universal military training legislation in favor of a campaign to outlaw peacetime conscription throughout the world.

The president expressed his views at a news conference when asked for his opinion about the proposal gaining strength in the committee.

The president gave no reasons for his belief it would not be practical to try to outlaw universal training everywhere, and in the absence of an explanation House Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts said he would continue his fight for an international ban.

## Savant Favors Diet of Weevils

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 21-(AP)—Dr. Edward S. Hathaway, professor of zoology at Tulane university, said discarding flour because it has weevils "in moderate numbers" is a wasteful practice.

"These weevils are just as clean, just as nutritive, just as wholesome as the very flour itself," he commented in an official Tulane release today.

"Just this morning," he continued, "my wife opened a sack of flour and discovered it contained the young grubs of weevils. There was absolutely nothing wrong with it. I was in favor of using it." His wife threw the flour out.

## Rosson Planning Vet Job Campaign

Hugh E. Rosson, state veterans' director, announced Thursday he is planning a campaign in cooperation with Governor Snell's office to bring attention to the need for employing returning servicemen.

By securing cooperation of employers much can be done to solve the problem, Rosson said, and pointed out that there are more than 70,000 veterans returning to Oregon.

## Wreck Victim 'Very Critical'

Mrs. William Ogle, 818 N. Liberty st., was in "very critical" condition Thursday night at Salem General hospital where she has been confined with injuries suffered Tuesday night in the bus-truck crash at Steiwer hill involving 36 members of the local Eagles auxiliary.

The bus driver who figured in the accident, Paul Hart, 645 Ferry st., also had a poor day and was reported in "not very good" condition at the same hospital Thursday night.

The other two hospitalized victims improved Thursday. Mrs. Reva Davidson was still at Salem General and Mrs. June Wallace was discharged to her home from Salem Deaconess hospital.

## FBI Reveals Stocks of Arms, Dynamite, Maps Found in Raids

By Brack Curry  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—The FBI disclosed that the smashing of America's wartime fifth column uncovered huge stocks of weapons and explosives, thousands of short-wave radios and photographs of Panama canal defenses and other vital installations.

The federal bureau of investigation itself used the words "fifth column" in making available to a reporter these figures to show how dangerous aliens were holed and their weapons of sabotage and espionage taken from them.

From January 8, 1942 to the present, FBI agents have recovered from the homes and businesses of these aliens 307,506 rounds of ammunition and 4626 firearms and related items.

In addition to supplies of buckshot, shell caps and reloading devices, the FBI seized 2340 sticks of dynamite, over 2800 dynamite caps, 3787 feet of dynamite fuse and over 1700 pieces of other explosives.

More than 3000 contraband shortwave radio receiving sets were uncovered along with more than 4200 cameras and all kinds of photographic equipment.

Other contraband articles nabbed from enemy aliens included code books, hydrographic, navigation and aeronautical maps of all sections of the United States coasts and Panama.

Since the beginning of world war II, 16,062 enemy aliens have been arrested in the United States and its possessions, including 7043 Germans and 5428 Japanese.

Since January 8, 1942, the FBI has searched 25,881 homes and businesses of enemy aliens for contraband articles.

SILVERTON, Feb. 21-(Special) Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grinde have been notified that their son, Sgt. Lee A. Grinde, has been officially declared killed in action. He was formerly reported missing in action over Borneo on June 20, 1945.

Grinde was a radioman and waist gunner on a bomber with the 13th air force in the Pacific. He was born in Silvertown June 16, 1925, and graduated from the Silvertown high school, following which he attended Willamette university.

## Weather

City	Max.	Min.	Rain
Salem	55	45	13
Eugene	55	45	14
Portland	55	45	14
San Francisco	60	48	28
Seattle	52	44	22

Willamette river 2.5 ft.  
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy today, few scattered rain showers. Little change in temperature. Highest today 55 degrees.

## Board of Control Postpones Action on Building Bids, Urgent Need for Structures Stressed

No decision on the fate of Oregon's state buildings construction program was reached by the state board of control Thursday, but various opinions were advanced during the meeting.

The immediate issue is whether to build the first project, a 360-bed patients' dormitory at the state hospital farm, low bid for which exceeded the estimate by 60 per cent and indicated an inflationary trend which may drastically curtail the \$10,000,000 building program.

Final action was postponed due to the absence of Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., who is recuperating from an operation. But action is expected within a few days and it appeared the board might approve the project and delay much of the rest of the program.

Charles R. Schmiedeskamp of Oswego, explaining his low bid of \$511,930 (which compares with the \$325,000 estimate) told the board that wages and prices are stabilized now and there probably will not be lower prices for four or five years.

State Treasurer Leslie M. Scott suggested that the hospital might temporarily relieve its overcrowding by obtaining surplus army buildings from the Salem airport, although "Scott said he didn't think much of that idea."

Dr. J. C. Evans, state hospital superintendent, told the board: "It is urgent to start construction at the earliest possible moment. We now have 2719 patients, and last month we got 131 new patients, so you can see how overcrowded we are. It's a tough situation."

Dr. Evans suggested that construction of the proposed treatment hospital at the state hospital might be delayed until the custodial building and two ward buildings are constructed, as they would take care of 900 patients.

Gov. Earl Snell suggested construction might be delayed until unemployment becomes more severe, pointing out that the building program also was designed to provide employment when needed. Scott answered that "our need for patients' facilities is more important than providing employment."

The governor did not indicate what his final decision might be, while Scott said: "I'm almost of the opinion that the welfare of the patients pushes us ahead."

## School Lunch Bill Bans Racial Discrimination

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—The house voted today to make the federal aid school lunch program permanent but specified that negro and white children shall benefit alike from the \$50,000,000 annual government outlay.

The anti-discrimination provision, sponsored by Rep. Powell (D-NY), a negro, cost the lunch plan some southern votes on the final 275-101 roll call.

As it goes to the senate the measure is stripped of a proviso, which had been approved by the house agriculture committee, to authorize the U. S. office of education to spend \$15,000,000 additionally per year to supervise the lunch program and help plan children's diets.

Congress has been appropriating sums annually to help states furnish lunches for school children. However, there never was any basic legislation and continuation of the program has been a question year by year.

The bill provides for dollar-for-dollar state participation at first with accelerated state payments to a point where the states will be paying 80 per cent of the lunch costs by 1950. If states take full advantage of available federal funds the program will grow from \$100,000,000 in 1947 to \$250,000,000 in 1950, Flannagan said.

## Wilson Found Not Guilty of Assault Charge

Glen Wilson, state prison convict, was found not guilty of a charge of assault with intent to kill Thursday in Marion county circuit court. The case was heard by Judge George Duncan and 10 of the 12 jurors concurred in the verdict.

Ten witnesses for the defense, all of them inmates of the prison where the alleged assault took place, indicated that Wilson was not at the scene of the crime when Louis Francis, also an inmate, was allegedly tripped and stabbed by two fellow prisoners.

A stipulation from the testimony of Byron Dyson in a previous trial in which Dyson was found guilty of the same charge, also bore out the Wilson defense. Earlier in the Wilson trial, however, four state witnesses had identified Wilson as the man they saw trip Francis just before the other convict stabbed him.

Wilson, taking the stand in his own behalf, denied any complicity, stating he was talking with his brother at some distance from the scene at the time of the stabbing.

Dyson has not yet been sentenced.

## Truman Admits Giving Douglas Bid to Cabinet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)—President Truman today firmly snuffed out reports, which have flared since the big strikes started, that Secretary of Labor Schweienbach possibly would be replaced.

Schweienbach, and Secretary of Agriculture Anderson too, will remain where they are, Mr. Truman told his news conference—just as long as they care to stay.

This ruled out the possibility that Schweienbach might be named to the supreme court to succeed Justice William O. Douglas if the latter would swap his \$20,000 a year lifetime seat on the court for the \$15,000 salary and relative insecurity of the cabinet.

The president confirmed that he has discussed the interior post with Douglas but gave not the slightest indication that Douglas had agreed to accept it and the general opinion at the Capitol was that Douglas was out of the picture.

## McAllister Frowns On Political Future

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 21-(AP) Maj. William M. McAllister, Medford, former speaker of the state house of representatives, said today that his future plans include "no politics."

He has just returned from Germany where he was in charge of the military government's legal section at Bremen.

McAllister said he would return to the practice of law in Jackson county. He and Mrs. McAllister, the former Jean Middleton of Salem, have a son, 12, and a daughter, 10.

## 'Peoples' Court' Sends Rysto Ryti to Prison

HELSINKI, Feb. 21-(AP)—A special "people's court" today found former President Rysto Ryti guilty of leading Finland into war with Russia at the side of Germany, and sentenced him to serve 10 years in prison at hard labor.

Seven other former government officials similarly convicted were given varying terms of imprisonment.

## FILIPINO SOLDIERS KILLED

MANILA, Friday, Feb. 22-(AP)—At least four Philippine army soldiers were killed in a clash today with 400 peasants at San Isidro in Nueva Ecija province, 60 miles north of Manila, Philippine army authorities announced. The peasants reportedly used pistols, rifles and machine guns.

## Animal Crackers



"Come now, which one of you has one eye closed?"