

Hoover Feted By Home Town

CHICAGO.—Herbert Hoover was on his way East Wednesday after a tiring 74th birthday celebration in his home town, West Branch, Ia.

Hoover, the nation's only living ex-president, returned to West Branch after a train and automobile trip from the West Coast. The trip from the West Coast, the town of 800, bolstered by thousands of well-wishers, feted him with a picnic and a parade.

Gov. Robert D. Blue of Iowa, the president of four universities, and officials and old boyhood friends were on hand to greet him. The town was decorated with flags and Quaker trappings for the parade.

Hoover brought applause from a shirt-sleeved crowd as he entered his life, and cheered as he mentioned the "primitive days" when "social security was from the cellar, not from the federal government."

The statesman told newsmen that he would have some "bold ideas" to give Congress on the reorganization of the executive branch of the federal government. He is chairman of a commission appointed jointly by Congress and President Truman to make recommendations for governmental reorganization. The commission must report by January.

Hoover said the group was "very well along" in its work, but would not comment further.

Credit for adaptation of animated cartoons to motion picture projection is given to Winsor McCay and J. R. Bray.

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Rose Wants To Help 'Em

NEW YORK.—(AP)—Billy Rose wants to streamline the opera. And if the financially-wobbly Metropolitan will let him try it, he will "personally guarantee it against deficit."

The columnist and showman made his offer as the Metropolitan Opera Assn. planned to meet this week with heads of various artists and show workers' unions.

The meeting is a last-minute effort to change the association's mind about cancelling the coming season of the Met.

But the opera directors have promised to consider Rose's offer at "the first opportunity."

Here's his plan for the 1948-49 opera season, as outlined in his letter to George Sloan, chairman of the board:

"I would agree to present the standard operas and cast them with the finest artists available."

"In the belief that a bit of streamlining would find favor with lovers of good music, I would introduce modern lighting, staging, choreography and certain other elements of present-day stagecraft."

Thomas Gives Berlin Stand

BOISE, Idaho.—(AP)—Had the Socialist program been followed, there would have been no Berlin crisis," Norman Thomas said Tuesday.

Thomas, Socialist Party presidential candidate, spoke to Idaho party members climaxing a day-long state convention.

The socialist party always disapproved the Morgenthau Plan for Germany, Thomas said in a speech prepared for delivery.

The Socialists disapproved the "complete appeasement of Stalin, and the whole program which left Berlin an island in a Russian sea and saddled us with at least a billion-a-dollar-a-year expenditure for keeping Germany from starving to death."

Industry Destroyed

"Demilitarization and denazification of Germany never required the virtually complete destruction of German industry from which only the Communists could benefit."

Criticizing the bi-partisan foreign policy, Thomas said: "It has increasingly depended upon a growing militarism at home and it failed to launch for the attention of the people of the world any great and rational appeal for peace or the end of the armament race upon which peace depends."

Concerning domestic affairs, Thomas accused both the Republicans and Democrats of "playing the same old game of politics."

UAL Flights to Return To Portland Airport

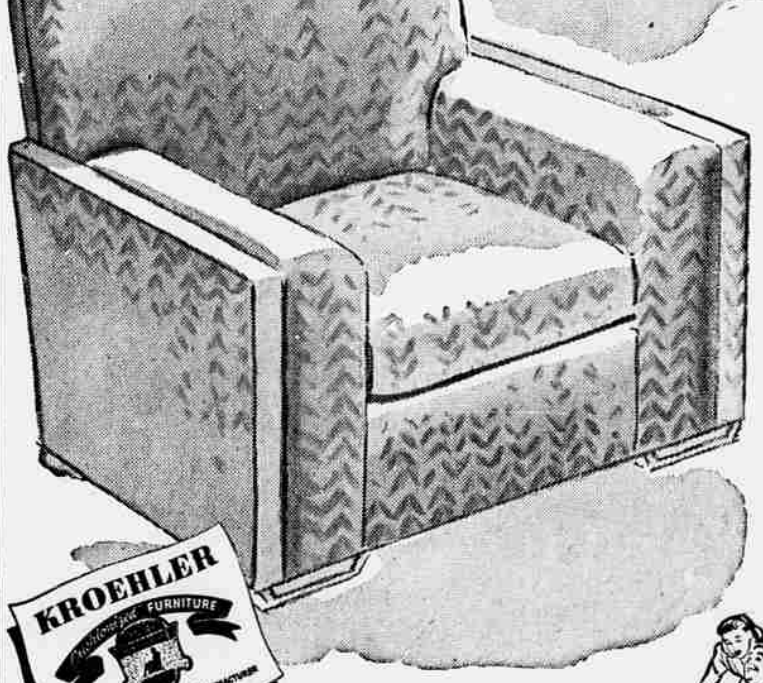
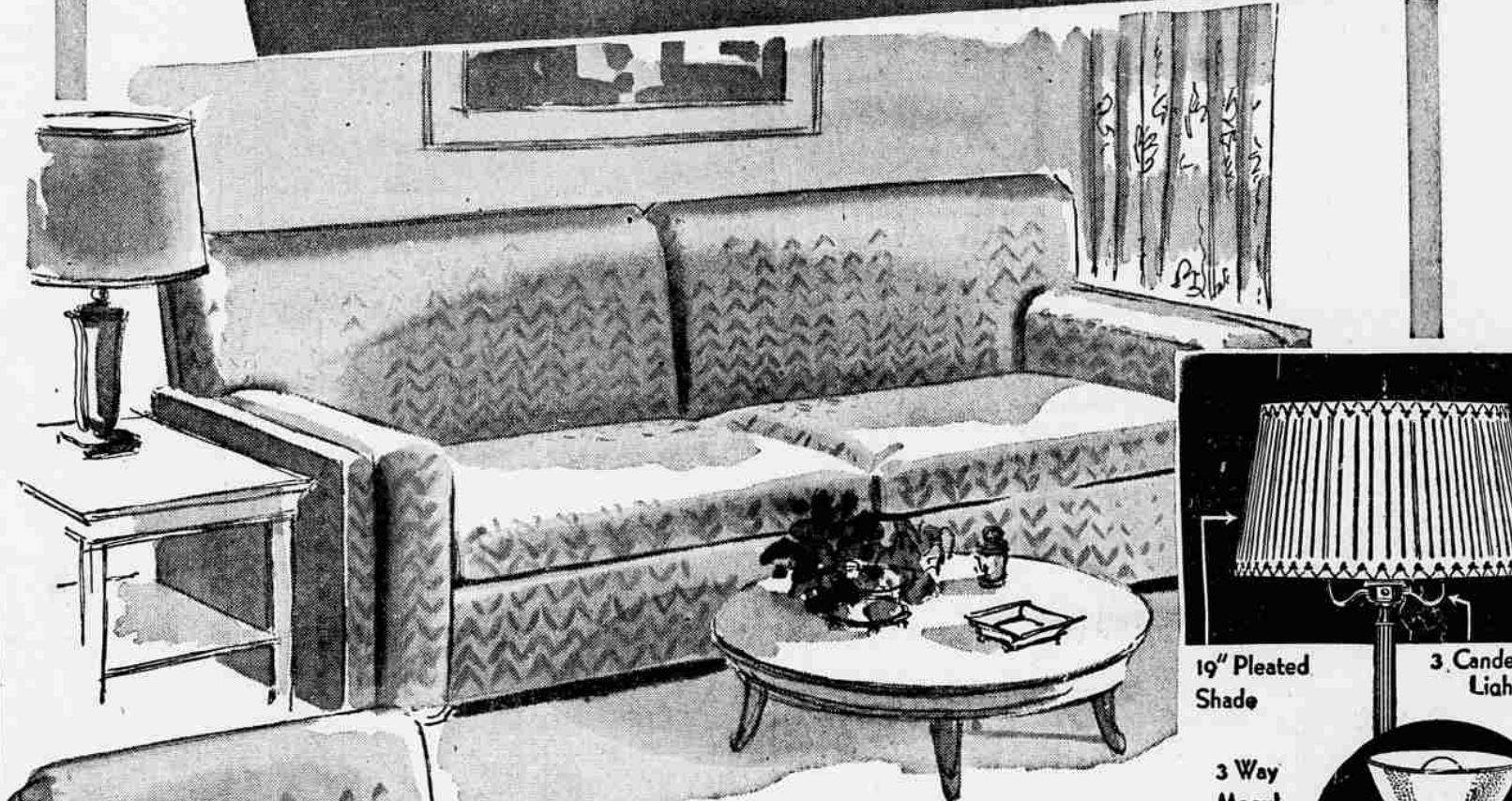
SALEM.—(AP)—United Airlines officials said here Tuesday that the company's three daily DC-6 flights out of Salem will be transferred to Portland Airport Aug. 23. The big planes have been using the Salem airport since the Columbia River flood drove air traffic out of the Portland Airport May 31.

Smaller planes, which had used the Salem field for several weeks after the Portland airport was evacuated, were transferred to McMinnville and Troutdale airports a few weeks ago.

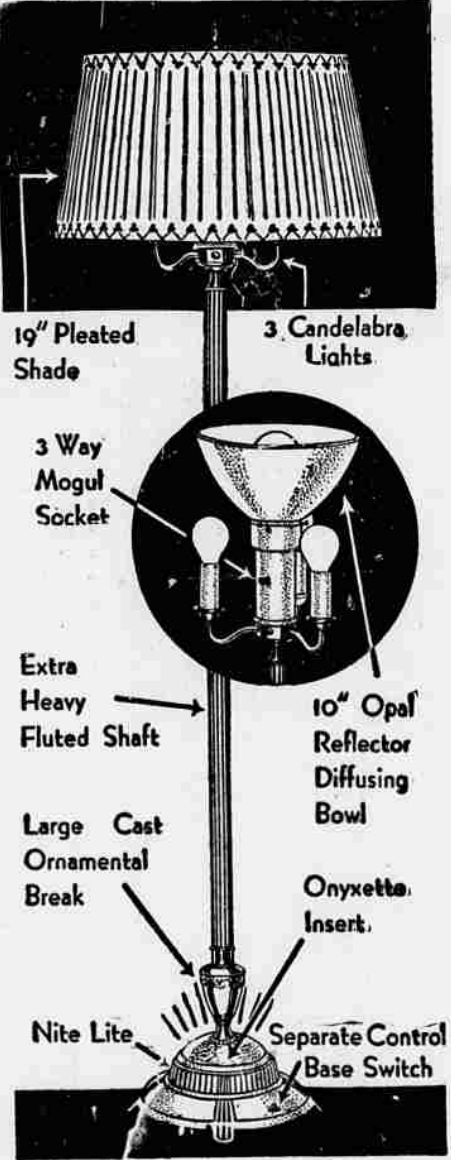
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