

Senate Favors Treaty

House Votes To Retain Death Penalty

SALEM —(P)—Oregon's death penalty will remain as a punishment for first degree murder, the House voting 32 to 27 Monday against a Senate-passed resolution to take capital punishment out of the constitution.

Last Friday the House had voted, on a committee report, just the other way around. That vote was 31 to 28 to abolish capital punishment.

There was an hour's debate Monday, which included gory descriptions of past murders. Sponsors Argue

Sponsors of the repeal measure argued that under the death penalty innocent persons are executed, that capital punishment does not prevent murders, and that any person who has enough money to hire a good lawyer can get off with a life sentence.

Those in favor of capital punishment argued that the murder rate would increase if the death penalty were abolished.

The people voted in 1914 to abolish capital punishment, but in 1920 they restored the death penalty.

Vets Bonus Talks Delayed

The House had expected to take up the veterans bonus bill Monday, and finance it with a two-cent cigarette tax. But the heavy calendar caused the House to delay consideration of the bonus until Tuesday.

The Legislative Ways and Means Committee paved the way for Attorney George Neuner to take part in the battle by coastal and gulf states to keep the federal government from taking over state tidelands. It approved a bill to give Neuner \$5000 to finance Oregon's part before Congress and in the courts.

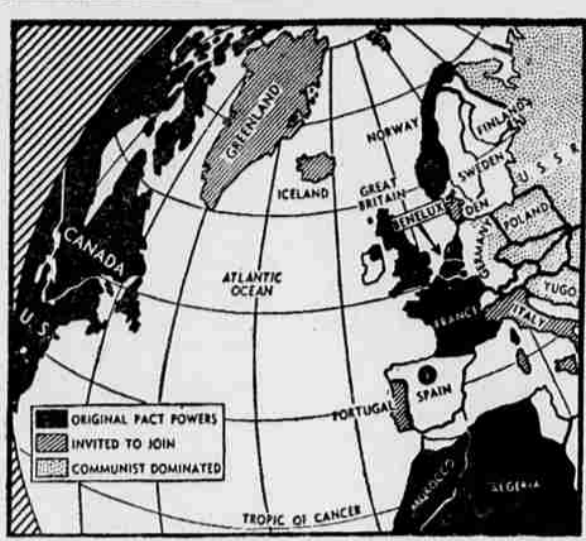
The Senate Labor and Industries Committee introduced a resolution for an interim committee to study all of Oregon's labor laws.

Denfield Says Peace Rests on Arming

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal.—(AP)—There will not be another war "as long as the American people are determined their national military establishment shall not lapse," according to Adm. Louis E. Denfield, the chief of Naval operations.

Denfield, in an address at the closing ceremonies of the 1949 National Orange Show Sunday, said the United States must be able to patrol the sea, the air and waters under the sea and "keep the enemy guessing."

"Surprise is a very potent ally," he said, "and the Navy of today is qualified to wage such a war."



MAP SPOTS NATIONS which will sign the North Atlantic Pact and those who were invited to join the alliance. Portugal has protested against the exclusion of Spain (1) on the ground that it weakens the pact and Portugal's own position. Provisions provide for a "security zone" from the Tropic of Cancer north to nearly the North Pole, including all of North America and extending eastward right up to the Iron Curtain.



A ROMAN STOPS to read pro-government posters supporting the De Gasperi administration's efforts to make Italy a signer of the North Atlantic Pact. The poster on the left draws a parallel between Nazi and Communist occupation of small nations. It reminds readers of the Stalin-Ribbentrop agreement of 1939. The other placard shows a German tank under "1939" and a Soviet tank under "1949."

Bradley Urges New Air Force Setup

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Army chief of staff, urged Congress Monday to approve a 70-group Air Force and back it up by long-range authority to maintain an army of 837,000 men.

Bradley told a Senate Armed Services Committee that one without the other would not be enough to protect this country, and the Air Force alone could not be decisive in war.

He followed Army Secretary Kenneth C. Royall, who told the committee the 70-group Air Force would give this country adequate strength in the current "chess game" being waged around the world.

Innocent Plea Entered by Girl

WASHINGTON —(P)— Judith Coplon, 27-year-old former government girl, pleaded innocent Monday to a charge that she took secret security information from Justice Department files.

She made her plea before U. S. District Judge Richmond B. Keech after traveling here from New York to surrender on a District of Columbia Grand Jury indictment alleging such removal.

Miss Coplon is also under indictment in New York on an espionage conspiracy charge.

The New York indictment charges she conspired to pass secret information to Valentin A. Gubitchev, Russian engineer at United Nations headquarters. She was released in New York under \$20,000 bond.

After receiving Miss Coplon's plea, Judge Keech fixed additional bond for her at \$10,000.

Miss Coplon was temporarily taken into custody of U. S. marshals again for fingerprinting while her attorney arranged for the bond.

Judge Keech set her trial date here for April 25.

Miss Coplon and Gubitchev are scheduled to go to trial on the conspiracy charge in New York on April 1. The Russian also is accused of an espionage conspiracy. He is in custody in New York.

Chinese Sink Red Cruiser

SHANGHAI —(AP)— The 3270-ton Chinese cruiser Chungking was sunk in the Communist-held Huludao harbor during a three-day bombing attack by B-24 bombers of the Nationalist Air Force. A Navy spokesman in Nanking said Monday.

The spokesman said that the cruiser, formerly the British warship Aurora, had settled to the bottom with only her deck and superstructure above water.

The Chungking was handed to Chinese Communists by her crew, which deserted last February.

An air view taken after one of the attacks showed the ship afire and settling. It was tied to the dock in the harbor on the western shore of the Gulf of Chihli, northwest of Russian-held Dairen.

It was not known whether the crew of deserters was aboard the vessel when the bombing attacks started. But the spokesman said they had been warned to abandon ship.

The disagreeable cold wind, either dry or misty, which blows upon the Mediterranean from the Alps is called the "mistral."

Truman to Ask Free Hand In Re-arming

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman is expected to ask Congress for a free hand in sending arms to Western Europe under the proposed billion-dollar military aid program.

Chairman Vinson (D-Ga) of the House Armed Service Committee predicted the arms program will be approved in both houses "without a particle of trouble."

Tightly linked to the arms proposal is the North Atlantic Defense Treaty, which would virtually commit this country to go to war if any of its allies were attacked. The final decision would be subject to congressional approval, however.

An Associated Press survey showed that at the moment, the edge is heavily in favor of the 12-nation treaty. But at least 25 Republican and 12 Democratic senators were still so undecided about its far-reaching effects that they were unwilling to commit themselves publicly for or against it.

Included in this group were most of the Senate's GOP leaders. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) has said he favors a North Atlantic agreement, but opposes plans to help re-arm Europe.

Since two-thirds of the senators voting must approve to ratify the treaty, the opposition of 30 senators might kill the pact. The treaty is scheduled to be signed here April 4.

The AP survey showed: 55 inclined to favor ratification, one opposed, 37 unwilling to go on record at this time.

Senator Bridges (R-NH) indicated he may vote for the treaty in the end, but said it means "automatic war" if a European member-nation is attacked.

Meanwhile, taxes and prices claimed growing congressional attention.

Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) said prices are going up again. He said Congress should give President Truman the "mild powers" the administration seeks to fight inflation.

O'Mahoney also declared he thinks it important for Congress to hike taxes as soon as possible.

But Senator Taft said the nation's economy is in fairly good balance and he doesn't think there is any need for the stand-by price-wage and other controls which Mr. Truman has requested.

A modified extension of federal rent controls began a race against time in the Senate Monday with several big hurdles in its path.

The present law fixing maximum rents for several million homes and apartments expires March 31, just 10 days away.

Senator Maybank (D-SC) told a reporter he wants the Senate to pass a 12 to 15 month extension that would allow some rents to increase 10 per cent "sometime late Monday or at least Tuesday."

Maybank is chairman of the Senate Banking Committee which sharply revised a rent extension passed by the House. He conceded he faces "powerful Senate support for major changes in our bill."

Even if the Senate passes the compromise as it stands now, the bill would have to go back to the house for action on Senate amendments. Then Senate-House differences would have to be adjusted and both Senate and House approve the compromise.

Maybank predicted the major Senate battles will come on these points:

1. A substitute proposal by Republican Senators Cain (Wash) and Bricker (Ohio) calling for a six-month extension of actual rent controls plus another six months of supervision of rent ceilings and evictions. The Senate committee bill calls for a 12 month extension plus three months of supervision.

2. A "step-by-step" decontrol of rents proposed by Senator Caphart (R-Ind). He wants to end controls on all units renting for \$150 or more monthly on Sept. 30 with similar action at \$100 and above Dec. 31, \$50 and above next March 31, and all rents next June 30.

3. A House-approved "local option" system of decontrols that would allow towns, cities, counties or states to lift rent ceilings or take them over. The Senate bill would limit this authority to states.

Both the Senate and House bills fall short of President Truman's demand for a full two-year extension with overall tightening of controls and authority to enforce them.

DOW JONES AVERAGES

Dow Jones closing bond averages: 40 bonds 98.54 unchanged, 10 higher grade rails 102.02 off 0.09, 10 second grade rails 86.54 up 0.05, 10 public utilities up 0.11, 10 industrials 101.75 off 0.06. Dow Jones closing stock averages: 30 industrials 175.61, off 0.46; 20 railroads 47.54 off 0.22; 15 utilities 35.00 off 0.05, and 85 stocks 63.01 off 0.18. Sales Monday approximated 620,000 shares against 670,000 last Friday.

AT STAFFORD

STAFFORD — Sunshine Club's next meeting is with Mrs. Harry Hill, Thursday afternoon, April 7.

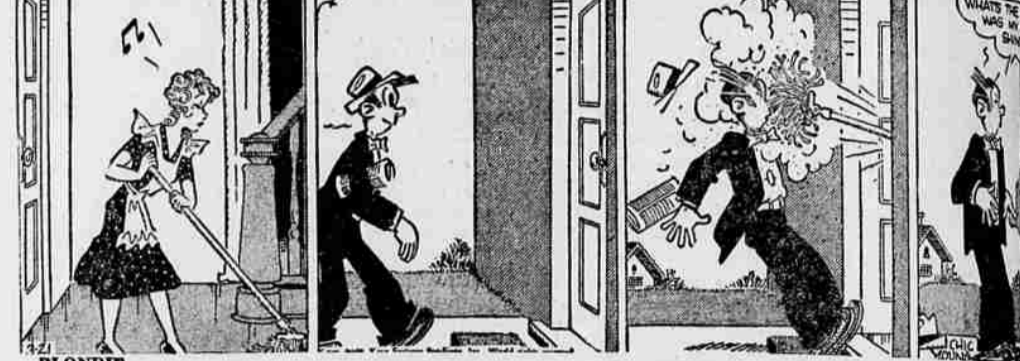
Onnie Puustinen is ill in a hospital in Eugene. John Spores and George Hill are ill at their homes.



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