

Details of Charter Proposal

Lane County voters will decide May 16 whether they want the county's form of government altered. Specifics are presented on page 42. A 15-minute radio explanation of the council-manager proposal will be given on KORE at 7:30 p.m., Monday.

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(5 SECTIONS — 50 PAGES)

Phone 5-1551

In a Tiny Rural Church, Easter Means Just as Much



—Staff photo. Wiltshire engraving.

EASTER IS SACRED, whether observed in massive, spiraled cathedrals in New York, hallowed, ancient stone halls in Italy, secretly by Russian Christians, or in smaller country churches throughout the western world. Easter services mean as much to the congregation of this one-room church—Spencer Creek Lutheran—as to the multitudes who will attend St. Peter's in Rome. Whether celebrated

at midnight, at dawn, Sunday morning, or Sunday evening as at Spencer Creek, the Easter day will bring out crowds of worshippers, like young Jack Hill and Beth Aalbu, above. Beth is the daughter of the Rev. H. E. Aalbu, pastor at Eugene's Central Lutheran Church and at Spencer Creek Lutheran Church.

Firms Protest Court Purchase of Equipment

High Bidder Gets \$5300 Contract

Two firms which sought to microfilm equipment for the county government last week protested the award of the contract to a third firm. The complaining firms asserted that the contract should have been theirs, on the basis of cost and quality of merchandise.

The County Court, after conferring with county officials who would use the machinery, have awarded the contract to the Burroughs Co., on that firm's bid of \$5300 for the equipment.

The Remington-Rand Co., which protested the award formally, offered four bids, on varying combinations of equipment. All combinations, they said, met specifications put out by the court.

THEIR BIDS WERE:
• For reconditioned equipment with a "new equipment guarantee," \$1925.
• For reconditioned equipment with a "new equipment guarantee," \$2450.
• For new equipment, with a hand reader, \$4800.
• For new equipment with an electric reader, \$5200.

The Recordak Corp., a subsidiary of Eastman Kodak, put out bids, one for \$3400 and one for \$3095.

County Judge Day T. Bayly indicated the Remington-Rand \$5200 bid was the only one which offered equipment the court really wanted, and admitted it was \$103 over the Burroughs bid which was accepted.

THE REMINGTON-RAND people, however, insist all their equipment met specifications. The Remington people say the same thing, but that the county must award the contract to the low bidder, providing specifications are met, Judge Bayly said. "I don't think it makes sense."

There was only \$103 difference between the high Remington-Rand bid and the Burroughs bid, Bayly noted, "and that's not a lot of money. I don't think it makes sense to get the lowest bid, and I don't think the taxpayers are going to be worried by that \$103."

BAYLY SAID the court awarded the bid to the Burroughs firm after consultation with County Assessor Harry Chase, Assessor George Stock, and Sheriff C. A. Smith, officials whose offices would use the equipment. "Harry actually made the decision," Bayly said.

Chase told the Register-Guard yesterday afternoon that the Burroughs equipment would fit better into the courthouse scheme of equipment. "It's just a better set-up," Chase said.

Asked about the extremely low bid which Remington-Rand made for "reconditioned equipment with a new equipment guarantee," Bayly said:

"That was apparently some used equipment they wanted to get rid of."

BAYLY POINTED out that he would like the equipment will save the county \$6000 a year, and that it was important and in the long run economical to purchase the type of thing the county officials wanted.

Remington-Rand and Recordak, in letters to Bayly, contended that their equipment was superior to the equipment the court bought.

MEETINGS FOR EASTER confused by strike

What with the Easter weekend and the exchange of telegraph messages that go with it, it was difficult to sell Saturday what was supposed to be messages usually handled by Western Union. The company still is strikebound after a week.

Mail handlers at Eugene's post office noted an unusually heavy volume of airmail special delivery mail. How many greetings might be got through by wire, however, was not known.

Probably the same condition prevailed Saturday at the local telephone and telegraph office. Long distance calls are more frequent than usual.

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30,000 Flee As Missouri Pours Along

Crest Will Reach Sioux City, Ia., On Monday; Omaha Raises Levees

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—Spring floods, scourging seven Mid-West states, had driven 10,244 families—perhaps 30,000 to 40,000 persons—from their homes Saturday night. More were evacuating by the hour.

For another 7,500 families, displacement was only a matter of time, the Red Cross said.

The worst lashing was coming from the muddy Missouri, swollen beyond all record along nearly 1,000 of its miles from South Dakota to Kansas and Missouri.

Sioux City, Ia., and its crossriver neighbor, South Sioux City, Neb., were taking the worst of the Missouri's flood. Still another three-foot rise is expected before the flood crest arrives Monday night.

DOWNSTREAM, OMAHA, and its twin city Council Bluffs, Ia., worked feverishly in a slim hope that levees could be raised enough to hold back a gigantic 30-foot crest, expected by Thursday.

Total evacuation of a Council Bluffs area containing nearly 5,000 persons was ordered. Hundreds more on the Omaha side were getting out.

Nearly 4,000 Army troops were ordered in to help fight the levee battle.

IN MINNESOTA, the Mississippi River surged to an all-time high at St. Paul, causing about 700 families to flee and all but closing Holman Airport. Scores were engaged in a sandbag battle to stem damage from further rises in the next several days.

IN NORTH DAKOTA, the Red River of the North rampaged along a 150-mile course from Wahpeton to Grand Forks in what looked like the worst flood of the current century.

Fargo, with 36,256 population was a focal point. St. John's Hospital in Fargo was surrounded by water up to five feet deep. Some 107 patients were evacuated with the help of National Guard "ducks."

The blow being dealt by the Missouri, trying to disgorge its spring thaw runoff, was set against a backdrop of dreary spring rains mixed with snow.

Along the Nebraska-Iowa reaches downstream, the river's width spread out to 10 miles and more. Farm after rich farm was gobbled.

THE RED CROSS estimated that 9,080 families had been displaced or faced imminent displacement in Iowa, 3,301 in Nebraska, 823 in North Dakota, 1,979 in South Dakota, 1,431 in Minnesota, and 1,330 in Missouri.

IN SIoux CITY, with 83,991 population, feeling of helpless surrender gripped the area. Across the river at South Sioux City, the story was the same. Mayor Wilbur Allen urged complete evacuation of the city. Its population is 5,567.

Fully one third of South Sioux City was covered with silt-laden water averaging eight feet deep. Mayor Allen said no part of the city will be less than one foot under water when the crest arrives.

A water superintendent caught two catfish on South Sioux City's main street.

GOV. W. S. BEARDSLEY of Iowa ordered six more Iowa National Guard units into action, bringing to 13 companies and one platoon the number on flood duty.

Gov. Val Peterson of Nebraska proclaimed a state of emergency in the affected Nebraska area. States of emergency had been declared for cities as far downstream as St. Joseph, Mo.

Pope Urges 'Union of Men' To End Wars

VATICAN CITY (U.P.)—Pope Pius XII said Saturday in a pre-Easter speech that a religious union of all mankind without distinction of race or color was the only way to dispel the fear of "a horrible war between brothers."

The Roman Catholic pontiff spoke to 1400 Belgian priests, professors and students as thousands of pilgrims massed in Rome from all parts of the world to await the Pope's Easter address in St. Peter's square.

The Pope will appear at the central balcony of St. Peter's at noon Sunday and impart a special apostolic benediction—"Urbi et Orbi" to the city and to the world—to the Easter pilgrims.

His Easter Sunday address is usually one of his important speeches of the year.

Official Predictions Call for May Truce

Solution Is Forecast On Prisoner Problem

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Officials guiding truce negotiations in Korea said Saturday an armistice probably will be agreed on fairly soon, possibly by May 1.

The chief reason for this new optimism in Washington is the belief that a solution will be found for the United Nations-Communist deadlock over release of prisoners of war.

The issue has been under active study in both Allied and Communist capitals, as well as in closed sessions of truce negotiators at Panmunjom, it was reported.

It is understood that a formula has been evolved, but not yet fully agreed to, which would:

- Avoid forcible return to North Korea and China of prisoners held by U.N. forces.
- Assure release of American and Allied prisoners by the Reds.
- Save face all around.

DIPLOMATS SAID the U.N. would never compromise the right of prisoners of war who do not wish to return home.

The problem has been how to secure this in a formula acceptable to the Reds.

The brevity of recent negotiating sessions in Korea, though giving rise to some concern there, was described as of no great significance. Ultimate decisions on basic issues have to be made in Washington and Peiping or Moscow and the lull in diplomatic activity in Korea was attributed to this.

Aside from the prisoner of war question there are two other issues. These are the Red proposal that Russia be accepted as a "neutral" nation to help police a truce, and a U.N. demand that airfield construction in Communist North Korea be banned during a truce.

These have been insoluble problems up to the present, but the Washington view is that if the prisoner issue can be settled, the other two difficulties will quickly disappear.

Until the current wave of hope set in, the best informed authorities generally rated the chances of a truce agreement as 50-50. The idea that an agreement will

TRUCE BY MAY
(Continued on Page Four)

Mickey Writes Us a Letter About His 11th Birthday at Easter Time

Dear Register Guard

In 1941 the Easter Bunny delivered me Easter eggs on my Birthday which was the day of my birth. Now I have waited for eleven long years for the Easter Bunny to bring me Easter eggs on my Birthday & I want to tell the boys & girls who are born on April 13, 1952 to have patience the bunny will bring them eggs & cake on the birthday in eleven years maybe. Now they tell me I have to wait 11 more years for eggs & cake too. So I'll be waiting with you. Happy easter till you are 11. Then Happy Birthday too.

MICKEY LEE KNIGHT
Age 11 years
April 13, 1952
P.S.: Hope you'll publish this in Sunday's paper.

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Mickey mailed us his little note from Springfield, but he gave no home address. Staff detective

worked with directories Saturday was unable to determine to which of the numerous Knight clans in this area Mickey belongs.

(But we can tell Mickey and other Easter birthday boys today something—and it's not good news. The bunny won't bring both eggs and cake to the 1952 Easter boys and girls when they are 11 years old. Easter will be on April 14 in 1963.

(Easter, in fact, won't come again on April 13 until 2031. The bunny is funny about his arrival times.)

Get Out the Umbrella

The Easter Bunny may get his tail wet if he's not careful today, the U. S. Weather Bureau at Mahlon Sweet Field reported Saturday night. The prediction for Sunday is for clouds and scattered showers. Elsewhere in Oregon the same situation will prevail.

Van Fleet Issues Easter Message

SEOUL — (AP) — Gen. James A. Van Fleet, U. S. Eighth Army commander, Saturday issued the following Easter message to U. N. troops in Korea:

"Easter Sunday, down through the centuries, has been a symbol of hope—a rekindling of man's desire for a world at peace and a life free from fear. The Resurrection, in all religious channels, is held as the beginning of a new and promising future.

"Easter marks the fulfillment of a mission—the mission of One who sacrificed His life for all mankind....

"I remind my Eighth Army and attached United Nations forces that God is with us in our righteous mission against the Communist evil. It is difficult to wish you a happy Easter, separated as you are from your families, but I can extend to you my heartfelt Easter appreciation for new hope and confidence implanted... through your sacrifice, courage and devotion."

Christian soldiers along the Korean battle front knelt in the early morning haze at sunrise Sunday to welcome Easter. Services were held in crude chapels almost on the battle line, in Seoul's war-scarred churches, in quonset huts, at air fields and often in the open fields. Some chaplains converted hoods of jeeps into altars.

Reds Willing to Resume Talks on Prisoner Issue

MUNSAN, Korea — (AP) — The Communists said Sunday they were willing to resume the recessed prisoner of war talks "any time" the Allies are ready.

The prisoner talks were recessed by mutual consent April 4 "in order for both sides to develop additional avenues of discussion for the remaining problems."

Presumably the Reds have worked out a new approach and are ready to offer it for Allied scrutiny.

She Remembers That Terrible Night 40 Years Ago When the Titanic Sank

'Grove' Woman Was Bride-to-Be On Ship Which Struck Iceberg

By MARVIN TIMS
Register-Guard Staff Writer

COTTAGE GROVE—Mrs. Arthur Woolcott, a gracious grandmother who has lived in this area four decades, feels a strange, almost frightful sensation whenever she rides down an elevator.

It isn't because she is afraid of elevators, but because they recall to her that tragic night 40 years ago when she was lowered in a swaying lifeboat from the great White Star passenger liner, The Titanic, which was sinking several hundred miles off the Newfoundland coast after striking an iceberg.

The Titanic, considered unsinkable, was making its maiden run from Southampton, England, to New York City. Mrs. Woolcott, then a 27-year-old girl named Mary Wright, had booked passage on the 46,000-ton "floating hotel" because she had a wedding date to keep in America.

Her fiancé, who had left England three years earlier, decided Cottage Grove, Ore., was the place to make a home. He had built a farm home on Hazelton Road, four miles west of the city—a home the Woolcotts still occupy today.

When Mary kissed her mother and father goodbye at Southampton, April 10, 1912, she had no reason to believe she was to undergo in four days the most terrifying ordeal of her life.

"SUNDAY MORNING on April 14 was warm and sunny," Mrs. Woolcott recalls. "I was walking on deck—there were 11 of them—with Mrs. Elizabeth Watts, a woman I met on board who was going to Portland. We were enjoy-



MRS. ARTHUR WOOLCOTT Tells Her Story of the Titanic Disaster



COTTAGE GROVE—"OLD NUMBER ONE SPOT," after a quarter century of faithful service up and down Row River for the Oregon Pacific & Eastern Railroad, has been retired. The old engine has never had a breakdown. In earlier days it would make three round trips a day over its 22-mile route. The 64-ton locomotive is still in good shape and will be used for "standby" service. The company's new diesel electric, "The City of Cottage Grove," will make regular runs starting Monday. (See story on page 24.)