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Cost-Plus Rent Control

A third proposal for local rent control to appear before the council in a month has been introduced by and referred to the ways and means committee pending further study and consideration, which will include consideration by service clubs and other interested groups for whom copies of the measure are being prepared. The first of the three ordinance bills, modeled after Salem's original rent-control plan, was introduced a month ago. Referred to the ways and means committee for possible alteration, and was sidetracked for the simpler one suggested by Chairman David O'Hara which, in turn was supplanted by a second O'Hara proposal substituted for the other two at Monday night's council meeting.

O'Hara's new plan is, if anything, less complicated than the first. It sets up the office of Rent Arbitrer in the person of the city treasurer, who, upon application of either landlord or tenant, shall determine the fair rental value of any house, apartment, room or other shelter used as living premises, subject to an appeal to the Board of Review of three members appointed by the mayor.

If the premises were occupied by tenants during any part of the year 1942, the rent to be charged shall be the highest rent collected during that year, "plus such an increase as will produce to the landlord a net return of not to exceed 8 percent interest per annum on his capital investment therein, whether the rental is by the day, week, month, year or longer period." Where premises are new or not rented out during 1942 the Rent Arbitrer, on application of either the landlord or tenant, and upon five days notice in writing, shall fix a rental rate for the premises, which will produce, "as nearly as can be calculated, a net return of not to exceed 8 percent interest per annum on the landlord's capital investment therein." For his services in fixing rentals the Arbitrer shall charge a fee of two dollars, which shall be credited to a fund to be used for the administration of the rent control service.

The Board of Review of three members named by the mayor shall hear all appeals from decisions of the Arbitrer. Members of the board must have been residents and voters of Salem for a period of five years. One would be a landlord, one a tenant, and the third neither a landlord nor tenant.

It is further provided that every landlord shall file with the Arbitrer a copy of any eviction notice served upon a tenant within three days of the date of said notice, and if the Arbitrer "shall find that any attempted eviction is based upon the refusal of a tenant to pay rental for the premises involved in excess of the lawful rate" the landlord shall be guilty of violation of the ordinance and subject to the penalties provided.

All violations of the ordinance shall be tried in the municipal court and upon conviction violators shall be punished by fines of not to exceed \$100, by imprisonment of not to exceed ninety days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Under such a system there could be no standardization of rentals for premises providing similar accommodations and conveniences, because of variance in the capital investments of landlords, which would fluctuate widely with the age of the premises. An elaborate apartment built during the era of low prices several years ago would, because it represented a smaller investment, command a lower rental than a much inferior apartment built at present day high prices. Likewise the very real factor of convenience of location with respect to the business area or state buildings could not be weighed in determining rental values by the formula prescribed.

Like the first O'Hara plan, this second proposal has the advantage of being simple, immediate in its relief and cheaply administered. It does not, however, affect all landlords or tenants alike. It would provide a means of checking the operations of rent gougers, but is no substitute for the rent controls provided by OPA in dealing with the ordinary rent profiteers. It should not be used as a weapon to discourage the installation of OPA rent controls in the whole Salem area.

Veterans Win Point

The protests voiced by Salem war veterans, coupled with the thousands of other complaints from all parts of the country, have resulted in the announcement by the war assets administration of a revised plan to make the priorities of veterans in the purchase of war goods amount to something. The heat generated by the local vets in demanding a chance to buy individual sleeping bags from a lot of 41,000 advertised for sale at the Hermiston ordnance depot has won for them a set-aside order which will make the bags available in lots of 25, and inauguration by WAA of a plan designed to give veterans in all sections of the country a direct choice in the future disposal of surplus goods.

Robert M. Littlejohn, war assets administrator, has revealed a plan to establish a veteran's advisory committee in each of the agency's 33 regional offices, with memberships including representatives of all veteran's organizations to be selected by the national headquarters of each of those organizations.

It will be the business of each of these advisory committees to see to it that veterans are given the opportunity to see, inspect, and buy such of the surplus war goods as they may have a legitimate interest in purchasing. They will see to it that veterans are given due notice of pending sales, are given an opportunity to inspect samples at convenient points and that quantities are broken down into small lots that a veteran or group of veterans are financially able to handle. No longer will individual veterans be frozen out of the priorities to which they are entitled in buying up surplus goods by such subterfuges as selling in huge lots, limited advertising of sale dates and confinement of sales to a few central depots which bar veterans from a chance to inspect the offerings because of distance.

"Provisions of surplus property legislation which apply particularly to veterans were enacted for their benefit," Littlejohn said. "From now on the veterans themselves are going to have a lot to say about how these sales are to be administered."

Bank Plans for Additional Space

Building permit issued by the city engineer's office reveals plans for a \$25,000 program of alterations at Ladd & Bush branch of the United States National bank which due to necessity caused by increased operations will shunt some of the working force to the second floor.

The bookkeeping department, which includes about 35 of the 120 employees at the bank, will be moved to the second floor, states Linn C. Smith, assistant vice president, a second story vault will be put in and an elevator installed. The move will

allow more space on the main floor for use by the operations department.

A plant to manufacture synthetic gasoline and diesel oil from natural gas is being constructed in Texas.

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Parental Problems

By Beck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

It begins to look the way Yugoslavia, Russia and a few other countries who were helped out of their plight during the late war are talking about and acting against the United States, that the best way to make an enemy is to do a friendly act.

We have long known that the best and cheapest way to get rid of a pest was to loan him five bucks but we didn't know he'd want to go to war about it.

The decontrol board has spoken and early kickbacks seem to indicate that nobody is satisfied. We presume that when meat gets back under con-

Novelties In the News

Holding the Bag

Hays, Kas., Aug. 21 (AP)—Mrs. Van Hartman was mystified when she reached into her ice box for a sack of eggs and pulled out a bag of silver coins and pennies.

Just then her father, R. S. Maxwell, telephoned to ask anxiously if she had carried home the Lutheran church collection the night before by mistake.

He had concealed the money in the bag, and next morning found himself counting eggs instead of cash.

Not for Art's Sake

Michigan City, Ind., Aug. 21 (AP)—Patrolman Art Menke pushed through a beach crowd of males, aged 6 to 76, to find a shapely, red-haired girl posing in the nude for a photographer.

"This is for art," the photographer told him. "Nope," Menke decided. "I'm Art and it's not for me," and took the pair to the police station where they were booked on charges of indecent exposure.

Nail Dealer Held

Portland, Aug. 21 (AP)—John Garvey, charged by the OPA with selling 10 kegs of nails for \$45 instead of \$12.56, was released on \$500 bail yesterday by the U.S. commissioner here Garvey is one of 10 men charged with price violation in the OPA drive last week.

Give Your Car a BRAKE INSPECTION

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MACKENZIE'S Column

By GLENN BARR (AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)
All the noisy acrimony of the Paris peace conference thus far has been concerned with trifles compared with a clash of wills between the western powers and Russia which has been going on in the classical manner of diplomacy, behind the closed doors of foreign offices. The great powers are locked in a test of strength and nerves over one of the oldest issues of world politics, the straits question, or, to use the popular name, the Dardanelles.

Since this involves one of the primary elements of world mastery and strategy, since it touches one of the most cherished ambitions of the Russian state for three and a half centuries and since it may determine control of the vital middle east, there is a grimness about this clash beyond anything yet developed at Paris.

The other powers involved have been pulling and hauling at the straits question at least since the beginning of the nineteenth century, some of them longer. But now for the first time the United States has declared itself in on the game. Nothing in the post-war period has shown so significantly how far the United States has moved from the policies that guided its international conduct during the period between the first and second World wars or so definitely emphasized the conviction of the American government that this country can not remain aloof from any contest involving a shift in world forces.

The issue is this: Russia has served demands on Turkey, the guardian of the straits—besides the Dardanelles these include the Bosphorus and the Sea of Marmora—which neither Turkey nor the western powers find acceptable. These are, first, that the Black sea powers alone take over control of the straits and, second, that Russia and Turkey jointly assume their defense.

Black Sea Powers
The Black sea powers are Bulgaria, Romania, Russia and Turkey. Since the first two are held firmly in the Russian orbit and

Seek to Unseat Senator Bilbo

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 21 (AP)—Petitions to unseat Senator Bilbo (D., Miss.), to "outlaw the Ku Klux Klan in the United States" and to pass a federal anti-lynching law have been signed by several hundred physicians attending the convention of the National Negro Medical association here.

The petitions were circulated at the convention session yesterday by Edgar G. Brown of Washington, director of the National Negro Council. He said they already had been signed by 400,000 persons all over the country.

One of the petitions, criticizing Bilbo's recent radio broadcast in which he urged "red-blooded Anglo-Saxons in Mississippi to resort to any means to keep all negroes from voting in the primary election," asks that the U.S. senate deny a seat to Bilbo for "disorderly behavior."

7 More Gamblers Nabbed
Portland, Aug. 21 (AP)—Continuing their raids on alleged gambling centers, city police arrested seven men for being behind barred doors last night, bringing the week's total to 140.

seem destined to remain, Turkey would become a permanent minority of one in any Dardanelles councils. And the second demand would mean that Russia would move in alongside Turkey in military occupation of the shores of the straits. The junior partner in such an arrangement would have little chance to hold his own.

CIO-PAC Meets Defeat In New York Primaries

(By the Associated Press)
An upsurge of republican organization strength in some sections of New York City was noted today in the results of Tuesday's primaries. Organization-backed candidates beat down attempts by Reps. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor, and Adam Clayton Powell, negro democrat, to capture the republican nominations for congress as well as those of American Labor and democratic parties. Two years ago they were successful in winning all three places on the ballot.

And Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin, republican, denied GOP organization endorsement, failed of renomination.

In Delaware, democrats in convention renominated James M. Tunnell to the senate and Philip A. Traynor to the house. Utah republicans, in a runoff primary, apparently had chosen Arthur C. Watkins, Orem fruit grower, as their senate candidate against democratic incumbent Abe Murdock. Watkins was far ahead of William L. Baker of Provo on incomplete returns.

In New York, Marcantonio and Powell won democratic nominations and were unopposed as American Labor candidates. The democratic nomination was a close squeeze for Marcantonio, however, despite Tammany backing. He won over Patrick J. Hannigan by a vote of 9778 to 9216.

Frederick V. P. Bryan took

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