

6 Month Liquor
Sales Show Total
Of \$23,069,292

Six Months of 1947
Decrease 3.38 Percent
From 1946 Period

By JAMES D. OLSON
Total revenue from liquor
sales in state liquor stores dur-
ing the last six months of 1947
totalled \$23,069,292.68, a de-
crease in revenue of \$807,179.98
or 3.38 per cent of sales in 1946
or 3.38 per cent of sales in 1946
or 3.38 per cent of sales in 1946.

The report showed an in-
creased profit of \$307,787.59
or 5.34 per cent over the same
six months in 1946, Aiken said.
The \$21,000,000 inventory of
stock carried by the commission
early in 1947 had been reduced
to \$12,284,498.77 by December
30, 1947 the report revealed.
Net Profit for 1947.

Net profits of the commission
during the fiscal year ending
June 30, 1947 was \$10,771,660.-
87 with total sales amounting
to \$42,995,694. In the previous
year the sales had totalled \$41,-
268,870.53 with a net profit of
\$10,393,775.80.

The budget director in his
annual message to the legisla-
ture estimated that the total
revenue of the liquor commis-
sion during the biennium end-
ing June 30, 1949, would total
\$84,079,062.78 while the liquor
commission estimated the revenue
during the same period at
\$55,034,000.

Spread Brought Debate
The large spread between the
estimates brought about no end
of debate over possible revenues
for the state welfare commis-
sion, dependent as it is on li-
quor profits.

Aiken said Friday that the
actual revenues received and
reported by the commission up
to date support his original es-
timates even though sales have
dropped to some extent.
"Of course there is no way
at present to make any predic-
tion as to future sales of li-
quor in this state because con-
ditions are seemingly changing
fast," Aiken said. "However,
whatever happens to the price
structure will eventually affect
everything and I feel that our
welfare obligations can be as-
sured from the future liquor re-
ceipts regardless of what hap-
pens."

Taft for Cut in Price Supports

Omaha, Feb. 13 (AP)—A cut in
the level of government farm
price supports was proposed to-
day by Senator Taft (R-Ohio).
Arriving to open a drive for
Nebraska's backing in his race
for the GOP presidential nomi-
nation, the Ohioan chose this
midwestern grain and livestock
area to outline a farm program
of his own.

This included:
1. Price drops "at a much less
percentage of parity than 90 per-
cent." (Parity is a level calcu-
lated to keep farmers' income
equal to that of other workers).
2. No price or production con-
trols, although the latter might
be used "in the greatest emer-
gency."

3. No taxation "on farmers
banded together to sell at a
higher price or buy at a lower
price."

4. Encouragement of soil con-
servation.
Taft said in an address pre-
pared for delivery before the
livestock exchange in South
Omaha that the government has
"peculiar justification" for
maintaining minimum farm prices.

12-Cent Drop in NY Butter Prices

New York, Feb. 13 (AP)—Retail
prices of butter have dropped
as much as 12 cents a pound
in New York stores this week.

A. & P. Food stores today said
effective tomorrow its price
would be 85 cents a pound, re-
flecting a 5 to 6 cents a pound
drop today in wholesale prices
on the New York mercantile ex-
change. Earlier this week that
chain's price was 97 cents, and
today it is 91.

The Weather

(Released by United States
Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and Vicin-
ity: Cloudy with occasional light
rain tonight and Saturday.
Warmer tonight. Lowest expect-
ed temperature tonight, 35 de-
grees; highest, Saturday, 50.
Maximum yesterday 48. Mini-
mum today 31. Mean tempera-
ture yesterday 34, which was 8
below normal. Total 24-hour pre-
cipitation to 11:30 a.m. today,
none. Total precipitation for the
month 1.68, which is 87 of an
inch below normal. Willamette
river rising at Salem Friday
morning, 7 of a foot.

Capital Journal

59th Year, No. 38

Entered as second class
matter at Salem, Oregon

Salem, Oregon, Friday, February 13, 1948

Price Five Cents

Betty Voecks, 21 Waitress, Shot In Hotel Room

Mrs. Betty Voecks, 21, a wait-
ress, is in a critical condition at
Salem General hospital with a
bullet wound through the body
inflicted Thursday night by
an automatic .45-caliber pistol
in the hands of Bobby Leo Britz.
The shooting occurred in a
room occupied by the two at the
Marion hotel. Britz told police
immediately that the shot was
accidental and adhered to his
story Friday. District Attorney
Miller B. Hayden, before decid-
ing whether a charge will be
placed against Britz, is awaiting
a change in the condition of the
woman and the possibility she
may be able to make a state-
ment.

Clerk Called by Britz
A call to police headquarters
was made at 7:59 Thursday
night, and Captain Walter Es-
plin and Officer Glenn Bowman
responded. In the room they
found the badly wounded wom-
an, Britz, and Dr. Burton E. My-
ers, who had been summoned
from a dinner meeting in the
hotel. Investigation revealed that
Britz had called the hotel desk
immediately after the shooting,
and the desk clerk had called
first aid and the police.

Mrs. Voecks was taken to the
hospital. Britz was taken to po-
lice headquarters and booked on
a drunk charge, and will be held
until further disposition of the
case is decided on.

Cleaning His Gun
Britz, said the police report,
told the officers they had been
drinking a little and had just
finished eating some sandwich-
es. He was lying on the bed, he
said, and had decided to clean
the gun. He said he didn't know
the gun was loaded. He was
pointing it around, according to
his story, and pulled the trigger.
Why he did that, he said he
didn't know.

While Mrs. Voecks was being
taken to the hospital she told
Captain C. M. Charlton of first
aid that she had asked Britz not
to "fool with the gun."

The doctor's examination
showed that the bullet entered
the upper right breast, penet-
rated both lungs and came out
at the left shoulder. The bullet
penetrated the wall of the room,
officers said.

No Disturbance Heard
Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Ikeler, who
occupy a nearby room at the ho-
tel, said they heard no distur-
bance in the room occupied by
Mrs. Voecks and Britz until they
heard the shot. Ikeler at once
telephoned the hotel desk and
was informed the information
had already been received.

Britz came here several
months ago from Skidmore, Tex-
as, and has been employed as a waitress
at the Salem Coffee shop in the
Salem hotel. The Marion hotel
reported that Britz registered
there January 7 for "B. Britz
and wife."

School Election Initiative
A preliminary initiative peti-
tion to let all registered voters
vote in school elections was filed
with the state department to-
day by Gertrude H. Farris, Port-
land. The measure would amend
the constitution, which now pro-
vides that only property owners
may vote in school elections. A
similar move was defeated in
the 1947 legislature.

Theft of 21 Parking Meters With Cash Contents Told

Theft of 21 parking meters and
contents from two Salem streets
by thieves operating Wednesday
and Thursday nights of this
week was reported by police today.

With the meters was taken an
undetermined amount of money,
but the sum is believed to have
been small. The meters them-
selves, however, were valued at
a total of about \$1200.

That the theft is according to
an organized plan is indicated
by information reaching Salem
police headquarters that similar
thefts have been perpetrated in
Portland, Oregon City, Albany,
Sweet Home and Lebanon.

The thefts here were in the
100 block on South Church
street and the 400 block on
North High. First information
came Wednesday night from
North High street where several
meters had been cut from their
standards. The thieves operated
again Thursday night in the
same block but across the street.
Police reported that 11 meters
were stolen Thursday night
about midnight.

Information that they were at
work on South Church street
came Thursday night from the

Soviets Set-up Economic Group In German Zone

Berlin, Feb. 13 (AP)—Germans
in the Soviet-occupied eastern
zone were instructed by the
Russian commander today to
set up an economic commission
for their part of the country.

Marshal Vasily D. Sokolov-
sky issued the order. Another
Soviet spokesman said it does
not mean establishment of an
East German government.

The marshal had objected to
a German economic administra-
tion for the United States and
British zones in the west, now
being formed, and demanding
that the plan be dropped.

Refuse to Co-operate
In ordering an economic set-
up for his own zone, he turned
down once more a standing in-
vitation to tie in the zone's eco-
nomy with that of western Ger-
many.

Sokolovsky granted the com-
mission power "to issue orders
and instructions binding on all
German organizations in the
Soviet zone of Germany in har-
mony with orders of the Soviet
military administration."

The commission was empow-
ered also to "examine questions
of the reestablishment and de-
velopment of peacetime indus-
try in the Soviet zone of Ger-
many as well as co-ordination
of the activity of the central
German administrative organs
for individual branches of the
economy."

The commission was ordered
"to carry through according to
plan reparations deliveries and
to satisfy the needs of Soviet
occupation forces in Germany."

Under the marshal's order,
the commission will be organ-
ized along Soviet lines.

Civil War Near In Costa Rica

San Jose, Costa Rica, Feb. 13
(AP)—The best political minds of
Costa Rica worked behind the
scenes today to save this tiny
Central American republic from
civil war.

Soldiers and police put down
an effort yesterday to take over
the government and make Ra-
fael Calderon Guardia president.
Calderon was the presidential
candidate of the government-
supported national republican
party in last Sunday's election.
Latest returns show him 10,000
votes behind Publisher Otilio
Ulate Blanco of the national
union party.

The key to the country's po-
litical future apparently lay
with Defense Minister Rene Pi-
cado Michalski, brother of out-
going President Licencio Teo-
doro Picado Michalski. General
Picado controls 125 United
States-trained mobile troops. He
has indirect control over most
of the national police.

The general has agreed to
support Ulate. Ulate's lead is
based on returns issued by the
electoral tribunal Wednesday.
Calderon has charged election
fraud.

Gangs attempting the coup
were armbands of the national
republican party and the com-
munist popular vanguard. The
night before, a policeman was
shot to death and six persons
were wounded.

Thousands of national repub-
licans and popular vanguard
members marched through the
streets late yesterday.



Winthrop Rockefeller, Fiancee—Winthrop Rockefeller, 36-
year-old "most eligible bachelor" (right) and Mrs. Barbara
Sears, who have obtained a marriage license to wed. The cere-
mony will take place Saturday, St. Valentine's day, at Palm
Beach, Fla. (AP Wirephoto)

Wealthiest Bachelor To Wed Ex-Actress

Palm Beach, Fla., Feb. 13—Winthrop Rockefeller and pretty
Barbara Sears have bowed to sentiment—and the law—and will
be married Saturday—Valentine's day.

Previously, Rockefeller, one of the heirs to the oil millions of
the late John D. Rockefeller, his grandfather, had planned to
wed on Friday the 13th, tradition-
ally the day of bad luck.

The change in plans was an-
nounced late yesterday because
Florida law requires a 72-hour
waiting period from the time of
application for a license to the
time of the wedding. The time
is measured from midnight to
midnight.

Mrs. Sears, 31, is the divorced
wife of Richard Sears, Jr., third
secretary of the American em-
bassy in Paris.

Rockefeller, long considered
one of the most eligible young
men in America, is an officer of
the Socony-Vacuum Oil com-
pany.

Rockefeller stunned the social
world when he removed his
name from the list of America's
most eligible bachelors by an-
nouncing he would marry Mrs.
Sears.

Friends of the couple said it
was "ridiculous" to describe the
wedding as a "Cinderella mar-
riage," despite the fact that Mrs.
Sears lived in a fourth-floor
walk-up apartment in a Third
avenue, New York, tenement
building.

"Barbara always has had
enough money to get along,"
they said.

Sleet and Snow Blanket East

Chicago, Feb. 13 (AP)—Freez-
ing rain, sleet and snow pelted
areas from the plains states to
the east gulf region today as
winter's heavy snowfalls and
severe cold prompted the plac-
ing of a partial embargo on rail
freight movement into parts of
New England and New York
state.

There was an absence of ex-
treme cold weather in the chill-
ed north central and New Eng-
land areas today. But federal
forecasters said a mass of cold
air was piling up west of the
Hudson Bay district and ap-
peared headed across the Canadian
border.

Freezing rain and sleet ex-
tended from southeastern Kan-
sas and northeastern Oklahoma
through Missouri, parts of Illin-
ois and Indiana. Highway
travel was reported hazardous.
Snow fell in parts of Nebraska,
Iowa, Minnesota and southern
Missouri.

Most of the south was drench-
ed with heavy rains. Nearly all
of Texas shivered as tempera-
tures dipped far below normal.
In Corpus Christi, on the gulf,
the mercury early today slid to
35, one degree colder than in
far-north Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada.

Temperatures moderated in
eastern states and were slightly
below normal west of the Rock-
ies. There were some sub-zero
readings in Colorado, Wyoming,
Utah, Idaho and also in parts
of New Mexico and Nebraska.
Florida's temperatures topped
the nation's weather map again
yesterday with a high of 78 at
Jacksonville and 77 at Miami.

Britain Freezes Prices on All Commodities

London, Feb. 13 (AP)—The
board of trade moved today to
freeze prices on virtually all
consumer goods.

Sir Stafford Cripps, austere
chancellor of the exchequer, told
parliament last night the freeze,
at December-January 1947 levels,
would be on manufacturers' re-
tail prices and distributors' re-
tail prices. A board of trade of-
ficial estimated the orders would
be applied before the end of
February.

Cripps coupled the new ef-
fort to arrest the cost of living
with a warning to labor and in-
dustry to curb wages and profits
voluntarily or face government
compulsion.

Four-fifths of All Goods
A government spokesman said
the order affected four-fifths of
all goods and services covered
by British controls. Food, cloth-
ing and furniture are among
them. Cripps said he hoped a
"voluntary freeze" would ex-
tend to goods not covered by the
controls.

He opened debate in the house
of commons on a labor govern-
ment proposal to fix wages and
incomes voluntarily. The pro-
gram, offered last week in a
white paper, has stirred revolt
in some powerful British labor
unions, backbone of Prime Min-
ister Attlee's regime.

The French government also
moved against price boosts. It
sent the national assembly in
Paris a bill to outlaw all price
increases since January 15 not
justified by production costs. A
lawbreaker could be jailed for a
year and put out of business.

Unions Defiant
British unions some 5,000,000
strong have been insisting upon
higher pay despite Prime Min-
ister Attlee's hold-the-line plea
in last week's government white
paper. They are in coal mining,
railroading, shipbuilding, en-
gineering and civil service.

Cripps reiterated the appeal
for voluntary measures to stem
wage and profit rises. Then he
asked the house:

"Can we take them in a demo-
cratic way by free choice, or
are we to demand the imposi-
tion of them by force?"
"Unless we exercise re-
straint," he said, "the sheer facts
of the case will demand compul-
sion, which this government is
anxious to avoid."

Sir Stafford asked that wage
negotiations either be postponed
or "conducted in the light of the
principles laid down in the
white paper"—that is, no boosts.

2750 Oculists Face Inclusion in Suit

Chicago, Feb. 13 (AP)—The
federal government has taken
steps to include some 2,750
oculists accused of accepting
rebates in any judgment it may
receive from its price-fixing
suits against two large optical
concerns. Some practice in
Washington and Oregon.

A petition on file in federal
court today asks that the eye
doctors be compelled either to
agree they will be bound by the
verdicts or else contest the
suits as individual defendants.

In the original civil suits
brought more than a year ago
only 52 oculists were named
individually. The remainder
were covered as class defen-
dants.

Defendant firms are Bausch
& Lomb, Rochester, N. Y., and
four subsidiaries, and the
American Optical company.

16 European Recovery Plan Nations to Meet in March

Washington, Feb. 13 (AP)—The
United States has withdrawn ob-
jections to an early meeting of the
European recovery plan nations.
The state department said the
were told that this government
has no objection to a meeting
after the end of February.

A proposal for reconvening
the 16-nation conference was
discouraged last month by the
state department. It took the
view that the European aid
legislation before congress was
not in suitable form for consid-
eration.

Press Officer Robert Tubby
said the two ambassadors were
advised Tuesday that the depart-
ment considered that "a prelimi-
nary draft bill indicating one as-
pect of congressional thought
might be ready by the end of
this month."

He said this was an estimate
that the senate foreign relations
committee might be ready then
with a report to the senate on
the \$6,800,000,000 aid asked by
President Truman.

Work Hurried on Coulee Generator

Coulee Dam, Feb. 13 (AP)—
Workers hastened today to com-
plete installation of the ninth—
and last—generator in Grand
Coulee dam's west powerhouse.
The eighth generator went in-
to production yesterday to in-
crease the giant power plant's
reclamation officials reported
the powerhouse had set a pro-
duction record last week of 150,-
705,000 kilowatt hours. The pre-
vious record was 145,690,000 ki-
lowatt hours, set in February,
1944.

Grain Prices Slide Down Again After Early Advance As Butter Market Takes Violent Downswing

Corn Breaks in Final Hour and Wheat and Oats
Follow—Retail Outlets Show Immediate Re-
action—Stock Market Steadies

New York, Feb. 13 (AP)—Grain prices showed tendencies to slide
down again today near the final hour of trading after gaining a
little strength earlier.

A violent down swing hit the wholesale butter market at the
same time. The corner grocery store reported further and larger
price reductions.

A rally that pushed wheat, corn and oats a few rungs up the
price ladder from opening lows was short lived.
Corn broke as much as 5 1/2 cents a bushel from the day's high
in the Chicago pits near the final hour. It opened down the full
limit, then rallied a few cents.

Wheat and oats joined corn in the late downswing, the former
falling off 4 1/2 cents from the day's best price and oats sliding 1 1/2
cents.

The price of wholesale butter nose-dived 5 to 6 1/2 cents at New
York and as much as 5 1/2 cents
a pound at Chicago.

Retail outlets showed immedi-
ate reaction to the butter drop.
The corner grocery store at the
same time clipped meat prices
considerably.

Buying Is Cautious
Dealers reported both retail-
ers and shoppers buying cau-
tiously in anticipation of further
reductions.

The National Association of
Retail Grocers said key city sur-
vey showed reductions in flour,
bacon, ham, lard, vegetable
shortening, eggs and butter, and
in some cases beef.

Grains showed widely diver-
gent tendencies. Corn swung
down as much as the full limit
at the start, but wheat and oats
deliveries were steady to slight-
ly higher. Corn prices subse-
quently came back from the
lows.

Cotton fell almost \$4 a bale
at New York. Shortly after the
opening, however, mills began
buying and there was a rebound
that brought the price about \$2
above the lows at the start.

Cotton Lower
At New Orleans, cotton was
\$1.25 to \$2.69 a bale lower.

Stocks were irregular and ac-
tivity was moderate. Price
changes were small.

At Chicago, sellers were hold-
ing hogs at about yesterday's
prices of \$23.75 to \$24.25 a hun-
dred pounds. The best bid short-
ly after the opening was \$23.50.

The pits hardly more than
opened at Chicago when soy-
beans were offered at the eight-
cent limit decline from Wednes-
day's prices.

In Right Direction
President Truman saw in the
recent commodity price drops,
a step in the right direction. But
inflationary dangers have not
been removed by the market de-
cline, he said.

The president said he felt as
strongly as ever that congress
should give him legal powers to
curb living costs.

Chairman Walcott (R., Mich.)
of the house banking committee
proposed a two weeks' con-
gressional recess in considering anti-
inflation legislation.

"We cannot legislate on eco-
nomic questions until we know
what is happening," he said. "If
this (price decline) goes too far
we may have to give our
thought to supporting markets."

Representatives of major
grain exchanges were called to
a senate hearing Monday on the
government's requests for pow-
ers to fix margin (down pay-
ment) requirements in commod-
ity purchases.

Gandhi's Assassin Flown to Bombay

Bombay, Feb. 13 (AP)—Mohan-
das K. Gandhi's assassin has
been flown to Bombay from
New Delhi, it was learned today.

The special plane carrying the
assassin, Nataram Vinayak
Godse, arrived in Bombay be-
fore dawn Thursday. Elaborate
precautions had been taken
against attempts at suicide.

Police reported they traced a
Bombay driver engaged by
Godse for visits to friends just
before the assassination.

Woman Plans to Stop Paying Tax

Los Angeles, Feb. 13 (AP)—Miss
Vivien Kellems, Westport,
Conn., manufacturer, said today
her firm will stop withholding
federal income taxes from em-
ployees. She offered to fight the
issue out with the government
in the courts.

"If High Tax Harry wants me
to get that money for him," she
said in an address prepared for
a Los Angeles Rotary club
meeting, "then he must appoint
me an agent for the internal
revenue department, he must
pay me a salary for my work,
and he must reimburse me for
my expenses incurred in col-
lecting that tax."

FDR Worked on Jones Biography

New York, Feb. 13 (AP)—An
examination of the papers of the
late President Roosevelt has
disclosed that he was working
on a biography of John Paul
Jones during his last year in
the White House.
His son, Elliott, said yester-
day that "no one knew he had
been working on it, not even
mother," until Mrs. Roosevelt
found a 10,000-word synopsis of
the naval hero's life among the
president's papers.
"Father's facts are different
from any life story that has
ever appeared on Jones," Roo-
sevelt said. He added that "now,
I'm amplifying all this rare data
into a historical novel."