

THE WEATHER HERE

INCREASING CLOUDINESS tonight, Wednesday with light rain spreading over valley, Wednesday. No important temperature change.

Maximum yesterday, 78; minimum today, 57. Total 24-hour precipitation: 0; for month: 0; normal, 27.61. Season precipitation: 25; normal, 27.61. River height: -3.7. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)

Capital Journal



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HOME EDITION

Baldock Plan Adopted After Stubborn Fight

Mayor and Four Aldermen Cast Winning Vote for System

The city council Monday night climaxed a public controversy that has run over a period of many months by adopting the Baldock plan of street and traffic control and bridge construction.

The action was taken by the passing of three ordinance bills and adoption of a resolution authorizing the signing of a contract with the state highway commission.

Voting for the plan were Mayor Robert L. Elstrom and Aldermen Nicholson, Jorgensen, Maple and Armstrong. Against it were Gille, Fry and O'Hara.

The council acted regardless of a letter from the state capital planning commission requesting that action be delayed until the commission could make a recommendation on the issue.

The council recognized that, as far as the plan involves traffic in the capitol area, the commission has authority to recommend, but that it has only advisory authority.

Telephone Consultation

This letter, signed by Chairman Robert W. Sawyer of Bend, said that "It is my understanding that North Summer street and Chemeketa street are proposed as units of that plan."

"The type of use made of those streets will have considerable influence upon the future appearance and dignity of the capitol setting."

"A telephone conversation with a majority of the members of our commission developed that they were of the opinion that no final action should be taken towards the adoption of the Baldock plan, especially in so far as it relates to the capitol area, until our capitol area planning committee has had an opportunity to complete their study to the point where it may be determined to what extent the use of the streets mentioned would affect the overall capitol area development."

(Concluded on Page 8, Column 3)

60 Foot Roads For New Plats

The county court enunciated a policy Tuesday that hereafter all county roads laid out in plats must be at least 60 feet wide and directed County Judge Grant Murphy to see that an order be prepared to that effect.

In fact, the order will be more extensive as it will require all plats or roads to be submitted to the county engineer for his approval and the engineer in turn will take what policy he pursues from the county court.

This will apply not only to roadways in the plats themselves, but also as to adjacent existing county roads and plat-makers will be compelled to yield the necessary land from their holdings to enlarge existing and adjacent county roads if necessary to bring them up to the 60-foot width.

The question arose when a plat for a subdivision to be known as Oakdale was submitted for approval of the court by W. F. and Clara Weddle. The roadways inside the plat itself are all surveyed for a 60-foot width but the adjoining market road No. 39 which is now a 50-foot road is left as a 50-foot road where it adjoins the new plat. The court held that it will not approve the plat until the property owners grant a five-foot strip the entire length of their subdivision. When land across the road is platted the same requirement will be made to widen the road to the full 60-feet.

The Oakdale plat includes 50 tracts and lies on the Talbot-Jefferson market road about a mile northwest of Jefferson.

The new policy announced will conform with one used by the Salem city planning and zoning commission which extends, however, to a radius of only six miles in the country outside the city limits and is given legal sanction by state law. Under this policy the planning commission may require 60-foot roadways in all subdivisions in the area covered.

Action Urged by Governors

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—Twenty-two state governors appealed to the senate today for prompt action on revising the displaced persons law.

Forests Ablaze From Quebec To San Diego

Thousands of Fighters Struggle to Control Hundreds of Fires

(By the Associated Press) Thousands of men struggled today to halt the spread of forest fires in the United States and Canada.

Flames licked at timberland in Maine, in western and far western states and in Quebec.

Scores of persons were evacuated from their homes, hundreds of livestock perished and thousands of acres of brush and timberland were burned over.

Officials in San Diego county declared an emergency condition when one new fire broke out and other minor blazes were reported.

California Fires

The new fire raged in Deluz canyon, north of Fallbrook, Cal. Scores of settlers fled before the flames. Three small ranches were burned and hundreds of livestock perished. The fire swept over more than 1,000 acres in mountainous country.

In Quebec, army and civilian fighters won a battle against a five-mile wide fire and saved the Laurentian mountain villages of Terrebonne Heights and Pincourt from threatened destruction.

A shift in the wind contributed to their efforts. The two villages are 25 miles north of Montreal.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 7)

New Drive to Cut Excise Taxes

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—A new drive for a slash-by-Christmas in wartime excise tax rates was launched in congress today. It developed in the face of a forceful statement by Chairman Doughton (D-NC) of the tax-framing house ways and means committee that he sees no prospect for such a tax cut this year.

Doughton said the threat of a federal deficit of \$5,000,000,000 or more in the present fiscal year virtually forecloses hope for such a slash now.

But House Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts, author of an excise-cutting bill, said: "Maybe if we bring enough pressure we'll still get something done."

Two democrats—Reps. Muller of New York and Davenport of Pennsylvania—took the house floor to demand a reduction in the wartime rates. These amount to 20 per cent of the retail price of many items such as furs, cosmetics, jewelry and luggage.

Still, the best bet right now is that Doughton is right—that there will be no slash before perhaps sometime in 1950.

"I believe it is important," said Doughton, the No. 1 congressional spokesman, "to make this clear so that consumers will not postpone the purchase of goods subject to tax in the hope of an immediate reduction."

However, Doughton did hold out some hope for excise tax relief in 1950.

New Bridge Survey First Program Step

First step to be taken by the state highway department in development of the Baldock plan, adopted by the city council Monday night, will be surveys relative to the one-way grid and the proposed new bridge over the Willamette.

A survey is necessary for footings of the bridge which presumably will be built at Marion street. Surveys for the grid system will include descriptions of the necessary right of way.

It is estimated that it will take until next summer to get the surveys completed.

Some time ago the highway department said it would take until next spring to make the drawings for the bridge. With the surveys finished the foundations can then be poured during the low-water period.

The desire to get this preliminary work done by next summer was one reason the city council wanted to get the legislation completed reasonably early. Otherwise the pouring of the foundation would have been delayed a year.

The by-pass east of the city will be established as soon as it can be fitted into the highway program, it was learned today



Western Fires Blaze Uncontrolled—Two men on the fire lines in Yellowstone National park, Wyo., battle one of the uncontrolled forest fires raging there. Reinforcements for the weary fire-fighters are being recruited in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming to help combat the blazes. (Acme Telephoto)

House Passes Flood Control

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—A billion dollar flood control and water navigation bill, carrying \$106,031,100 for projects in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, was passed by the house last night.

Senate action this session is doubtful.

The omnibus measure appropriates no funds, but makes the projects eligible for appropriations in future years.

The house adopted several amendments providing for surveys of additional projects and modifications of projects previously authorized. One of them would authorize building of school facilities in connection with the construction camp at Chief Joseph dam on the Columbia river, down stream from Grand Coulee dam.

There was only one dissenting vote in the standing count, despite the necessity of bringing the measure to the house floor over the objections of the rules committee. The committee had refused twice to clear it for consideration.

The bill authorizes expenditures of \$1,114,000,000 increases authorization for many multimillion dollar projects already under way, makes future appropriations in order for 62 new projects, and authorizes the army engineers to survey the merit of additional projects.

Among the northwest projects listed in the bill were \$14,722,000 for flood control on the lower Columbia river; \$31,070,000 for the Albeni Falls, Idaho, dam and reservoir, and \$4,900,000 for lower Columbia river bank improvement.

Emergency Board To Meet Friday

The state emergency board will meet in the state capitol Friday morning to consider a number of budgets of new state departments created by the 1949 legislature.

In addition, the board will also consider several department budgets of old departments that were not included in the printed budget and therefore did not receive approval of the legislature. William Walsh, president of the senate, is chairman of the board.

President of Panama Dies

Panama, Panama, Aug. 23 (AP)—President Domingo Diaz Arosemena of Panama died today. He was 74.

In failing health for several months Diaz obtained a six months leave of absence from his post on July 28. The first vice president, Dr. Daniel Chavis, Jr., was sworn in at that time as acting chief executive.

Diaz was elected president May 8, 1948, and assumed office the following October. Chavis, 75-year-old surgeon-politician, was his running mate on the liberal party ticket.

Diaz's request for a leave of absence was signed by his wife. It was accompanied by a medical certificate which stated that Diaz was unable to sign the paper himself.

Florida Neared By Hurricane

Miami, Fla., Aug. 23 (AP)—The Atlantic hurricane swirled 300 miles at sea off Jacksonville today and hammered at the steamship Mormac Surt with 90-mile winds and mountainous seas.

At the same time a new storm was generating in the Atlantic about 300 miles east of Puerto Rico. Winds in this disturbance were mounting swiftly and at 12:30 p.m. (EST) were blowing at 50 miles an hour.

Grady Norton, chief storm forecaster in the weather bureau here, summarized the two tropical disturbances thusly: 1. The Atlantic hurricane, moving at an accelerated pace, pushed past Jacksonville at midday and probably will brush Cape Hatteras late tonight with its center offshore. Storm warnings are flying at Cape Hatteras. It will move through the North Atlantic shipping lanes, and may pass rather close to Cape Cod, Mass., but there again its center should remain offshore.

Senate Group Approves Arms Aid to Near East

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—The combined senate committees on foreign relations and armed services today approved \$239,010,000 of arms aid for Greece, Turkey, Iran, Korea, and the Philippines.

The committees delayed until later this week a decision as to how much military assistance shall be given European members of the Atlantic pact under President Truman's arms aid program.

Chariman Connally (D, Tex.), of the foreign relations committee announced that the combined groups approved \$211,370,000 for Greece and Turkey, and \$27,640,000 for Iran, Korea and the Philippines.

Similar amounts have been approved previously by the house, which cut in half the \$1,160,990,000 asked by the president for European members of the Atlantic alliance.

Connally told reporters that the committee also approved amendments by Senator Smith (R-NJ) pledging the United States to exert maximum efforts to provide the United Nations with armed forces and to obtain an agreement for universal regulation and reduction of armament.

The combined committees acted as Senator Wherry (R, Neb.), came out flatly in opposition to any foreign arms program at this time.

Connally said the committees approved another amendment by republican Senators Vandenberg (Mich.), and Dulles (N.Y.), intended to give congress, as well as the president, power to terminate foreign arms aid at any time.

The Vandenberg-Dulles amendment provides for termination of arms assistance to any nation if such aid would be inconsistent with the obligations of the U. S. under the United Nations charter.

Woman Suffers Zipped Eyelid

Wichita, Kas., Aug. 23 (AP)—The case of the zipped eyelid—Wichita's most unusual hospital emergency—was reported today.

A Wichita woman, clad in a dresscoat and with a tangled mess over her head, came to the hospital by taxi.

Her eyelid became caught in the zipper as she was slipping the dress over her head, she explained. Would they please get her out?

Board Votes \$1,243,000 State Prison Improvements

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Herman Feldman acknowledged today that he gave James V. Hunt information on army buying plans in 1947 but declared it was not confidential and he did not know of "Hunt's position as a so-called five percent."

In the witness chair of a senate investigating committee, the suspended army quartermaster general swore: "At no time have I abused my position or misused the influence of my office."

The short, balding officer said, too, that he welcomed the inquiry and prepared to "justify every action I have taken and every decision I have made."

Feldman had a long prepared statement, the gist of which was that he had done nothing wrong and was motivated at all times by what he believed to be good for the service and for the country.

Immediately after he finished reading it, the hearing was recessed until tomorrow when he will take the stand for questioning.

The committee had set the stage for his appearance by developing from documents that he sent the buying information to Hunt and also advised an army purchasing officer to get in touch with Hunt. He told the officer that "Hunt has ready entree to the White House."

Board Votes \$1,243,000 State Prison Improvements

New Cell Block Major Item to Cost \$625,000

Expenditure of \$1,243,000 for improvements at the state penitentiary was approved Tuesday by the board of control. A new cell block with 400 single cells, to replace an old one, is the largest improvement on the approved list, estimated to cost \$625,000.

In addition the board approved the construction of a new administration unit to include offices, a chapel, library and school rooms. This building is estimated to cost \$400,000.

Funds for these two projects will be taken from the \$2,000,000 state building fund authorized by the 1949 legislature.

Provides New Laundry

In addition to the two major buildings the board approved an outfit of \$218,000 to cover the cost of a new laundry building, \$40,000; a bath house, \$25,000; garage, \$25,000; a food storage building, \$30,000, and a receiving warehouse, \$50,000.

Also included in this approval was additional funds for a wall extension now under construction and a wall gate.

All of the projects approved Tuesday must be submitted to the state emergency board for final approval.

Lighting Bids Delayed

The board took under advisement for a week the question of whether bids will be requested for furnishing the state with light globes. The year's expenditure on globes runs between \$36,000 and \$50,000. For the past 29 years the globe business has been alternated between General Electric and Westinghouse dealers. It was said that many states and cities are now calling for bids and allowing other manufacturers to submit bids.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

Prison Suicide To Be Probed

Gov. Douglas McKay today said the Oregon board of control will make "a full and impartial investigation" of the death of Oren A. Brownlee at the state penitentiary.

Brownlee, 24, of Lane county, committed suicide in his cell block, prison officials said. He slashed his wrists in a successful suicide attempt one year to the day after he was committed for car theft on March 17, 1948. They added that he had tried several other times to take his life.

The investigation was partially inspired by unconfirmed complaints that Brownlee did not get immediate and proper medical attention after he was found bleeding to death by a cell-mate.

Warden George Alexander told United Press the proposed investigation was a surprise to him. He remembered very little of the details. He had "no comment" until he had time to "recheck the records."

Gov. McKay said he will ask Attorney General George Neuner for advice and the board of control will proceed with the investigation in line with Neuner's suggestions.

State Pay Checks Issued September 2

State employees will receive pay checks for August on September 2, three days in advance of the normal pay day, it was announced Tuesday by Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry.

The advanced pay day was decided upon because of a three-day holiday for state employees over Labor day, including Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Harold Phillippe, manager of the accounting department said that the checks will probably be issued on the afternoon of the second of September. To do this members of his staff as well as some members of the civil service department must work Thursday night, September 1, to check the payrolls and prepare the pay vouchers.



Sir Harry Lauder

Famed Scottish Comedian Said Near to Death

Strathaven, Scotland, Aug. 23 (AP)—Sir Harry Lauder, 79, is in "very serious" condition, his doctor said today.

They disclosed that the bandy-legged Scottish comedian, whose antics delighted the entire English-speaking world, is suffering from uremia and blood-clots on the brain.

The thrombosis (clots) was reported yesterday to be in his legs.

B-36 Bombers Cost \$1 Billion

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—The air force gave congress an estimate of \$1,022,000,000 today on the cost of the B-36 bomber program.

The figure came out in testimony by Lt. Gen. Edwin W. Rawlings in the house armed services committee investigation of the giant atomic bomb carrier.

Rawlings followed other high-ranking air force witnesses who chorused denials that political influence of corruption had anything to do with orders for more B-36's. The subject of cost has come up repeatedly in the investigation, which was set off by complaints of connections between high armed forces officials and the Consolidated-Vultee company, makers of the huge plane.

Rawlings is comptroller, or finance man, for the air force. He explained that the air force uses two standards for computing the cost of aircraft.

One, he said, is the "flyaway cost" which includes virtually everything in the plane's manufacture but spare parts and ground handling equipment.

The other, he went on, is the "total program cost" which covers everything.

Under these definitions, he continued, he estimated flyaway cost of the first 95 B-36s, before they were modified, as \$2,275,133.

House Wants a Rest

Washington, Aug. 23 (AP)—The senate blocked a move for immediate adjournment today but house leaders drafted a resolution to give their members a four-week rest from Aug. 25 to Sept. 21.

500 Killed in Canton Blast

Canton, Aug. 23 (AP)— Approximately 500 persons were killed or injured in the explosion of an ammunition ship in the harbor of Takao, southeast of Formosa, the official Chinese central news agency said today.

The agency said ammunition was being unloaded from the Chinese steamer Chungli. There was a huge explosion, which was followed quickly by others.

The whole port city was shaken by the blast, which broke nearly every window in Takao and caused much other damage, the agency reported.

Terror spread throughout the city.

Shortly after the first blast ripped through the ship the city was darkened by the smoke arising from the waterfront.

The wharf area was a scene of destruction, the agency said.

The official account said about three-fourths of the 3,300-ton Chungli's explosive cargo had been unloaded when the blasts came.

Takao was a big Japanese naval base during the war.

(Takao is one of the most important ports for the Chinese nationalist government on Formosa, which has been converted into a fortress.)



Truman Addresses VFW—President Harry Truman puts on his Veterans of Foreign Wars cap with the symbolic Missouri on the side as he arrives in Miami, Fla., to address the VFW convention. Senior Vice Commander Clyde A. Lewis watches. (Acme Telephoto)