

THE WEATHER HERE

PARTLY CLOUDY tonight and Saturday. Slightly cooler tonight. Lowest temperature tonight, 47; highest Saturday, 70.

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Interim Group Probes Truck Transport Tax

Complaints Allege 1949 Law Subsidizes High Mileage Vehicles

By JAMES D. OLSON
Complaints that high mileage trucks are substantially subsidized by the 1949 transportation tax law, passed by the last legislature, were under investigation by the legislative highway interim committee.

Opening a meeting at the Marlon hotel Friday morning, Representative Ralph Moore, chairman of the committee, pointed out that H. B. 188, providing for the amended motor transport tax, was a stop-gap measure and purely temporary.

"This bill," Moore said, "was framed with the objective of bridging over the coming biennium so that further study could be made prior to enactment of a permanent measure."

Cites Discrimination
It was pointed out that under the new act, which becomes effective on January 1, 1950, a small pick-up truck paid \$86 in fees in 1948 and would be \$158.30.

It was also shown that a truck-trailer combination operated in fixed termini service, with annual mileage of 35,000, and combined weight of 62,000, and \$1,872.50 in 1948 and for a like operation in 1950 the total tax would be \$1,569.10.

The charges were countered by A. F. Harvey, superintendent of transportation for the public utilities commission, who pointed out to the commission that heavy duty trucks, although paying tax on the weight of the vehicle together with the potential pay load, frequently traveled with less than a full load and many times empty.

Small Trucks Pay Most
Harvey, in reply to a question by Senator Paul Patterson declared that he believed that the small commercial vehicles operating in congested centers should pay at a higher rate of tax than the long distance haulers.

Members of the committee were told by both Harvey and William Healy, assistant secretary of state, that the motor transport tax and the increased gasoline tax would bring in greater revenues for highway construction than were estimated at the time of the legislature.

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Gervais Youth Killed by Train

Riverside, Calif., Sept. 16 (AP)—The body of a Gervais, Ore., youth was here today after shifting steel girders on a railroad flat car crushed him fatally at Indio yesterday.

He was Ray Dean, 17. The flatcar was in the railroad yards at Indio when the accident occurred yesterday. Young Dean was reported to have come from Winterhaven, Ariz.

The coroner took charge of the body and brought it here after notifying the youth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen S. Dean of Gervais, who are on the way here to claim the body.

New Zealand to Dety Harry Bridges

Wellington, N.Z., Sept. 16 (AP)—Prime Minister Peter Fraser told the house of representatives today that the longshoremen's union leader, Harry Bridges, had threatened to tie up Pacific shipping and that amounted to a declaration of war on New Zealand.

"Let them try," he said. "Let anyone in this country try. We will deal with them with the utmost rigor of the law, and if that law is not sufficient, we will make it so."

Opposition Leader S. S. Holland said his party would help pass any legislation needed to deal with such a situation.

Snow in Crook County

Prineville, Ore., Sept. 16 (AP)—Snow fell in Crook county today, blanketing mountains of the Ochoco national forest about 60 miles southeast of here near Paulina. Rangers reported most of the snowfall on Wolf mountain.

Rajk on Trial Admits Plot to Seize Hungary

Former Minister Implicates American in Conspiracy

Budapest, Hungary, Sept. 16 (AP)—Alaszlo Rajk, once Hungary's No. 2 communist, told a people's court today he plotted with Americans and other westerners to overthrow the communist government and make Hungary a "colony of Yugoslavia."

Rajk, former interior minister and foreign minister in the communist government, went on trial for his life with seven others against a background of a seething war of nerves between communist Yugoslavia and the Soviet-led nations of the cominform.

Rajk Pleads Guilty
The former boss of Hungary's police pleaded guilty to all charges in the indictment. One of these was that he plotted with Marshal Tito's Yugoslav government to assassinate leading Hungarian officials.

Rajk quickly named two Americans as accomplices. Heaping guilt upon his own head in a long recital to the court, he freely—almost eagerly—testified to contacts with British, French, American and Yugoslav intelligence agents.

(The trial was following a familiar pattern. As in the case of the convicted Roman Catholic prime minister, Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, the defendants went on trial with the presumption that they were guilty until proved innocent. This is the opposite of most western procedure.)

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Fall Opening Treasure Hunt

Salem merchants participating in Fall Opening, set for Tuesday, Sept. 20, have begun distribution of tickets for the treasure hunt, which for several years has been a feature of both Fall and Spring openings.

By Friday morning at least 75 merchants, most of them in the downtown area, had signed up for participation in the annual fall event and over 165,000 tickets had been distributed to the merchants by the Salem Retail Trade Bureau. One large firm has 10,000 tickets for distribution.

Prizes for the tickets will be found the night of Fall Opening in the windows of participating merchants and will range from ready-to-wear to hardware and household items.

Opening event of Fall Opening will be a revived feature, not held for a number of years, a display of new models of automobiles by local dealers. This display is to be arranged in Court street between North Commercial and North High streets.

As in the past, there will be a window display contest with merchants divided into a number of classifications for the event and windows judged for unveiling at 7 p.m. Stages for the contest will be three out-of-town window decorators. Already selected as judges are John Mock of Bedell's and J. R. Ness of Nudleman's in Portland.

Eugene Plans Purchase Of Baseball Franchise

Eugene, Ore., Sept. 16 (AP)—A San Jose, Calif., businessman appeared likely today to buy the Bremerton franchise in the Western International league and establish a W.I.L. ball club here.

The Eugene school board voted last night to negotiate for lease of the Civic stadium to Frank Burrell, San Jose. And Burrell, contacted by long-distance telephone, said he would be in Tacoma, Wash., Monday and Tuesday to discuss buying the Bremerton franchise.

Burrell said he hoped to establish a "first division ball club" for Eugene. The general belief in sports circles here was that the club would be in operation by next spring.

The school board did not definitely decide upon a lease, but agreed to talk the matter over with Burrell. An arrangement would have to be worked out so that W.I.L. games do not conflict with high school athletics on the 8,000-seat stadium.

Burrell expressed confidence that he could arrange a contract satisfactory to the school board.

Tacoma, Sept. 16 (AP)—Western International league directors—past, present and prospective—



World's Largest Bomber Crashes

Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 16 (AP)—A giant B-36, world's largest bomber, crashed into a lake last night, taking three or more lives.

Air force officers said they were mystified by the 326,000-pound giant's plunge into Lake Worth. An unexplained power failure was blamed.

One member of the crew of 13 was killed in the crash. Bodies of two other crewmen, caught in the submerged wreckage of the huge craft, were recovered today.

Two airmen still were missing. Eight of the crew survived. The six-engined giant roared down Carswell air force base's long runway just after dusk last night, rose only a few feet and fell into the lake at 100 miles an hour.

Maj. Gen. Roger Ramey, Eighth air force commander, said: "After questioning all of the men in the B-36 involved in last night's accident, we are more in the dark than ever as to its cause."

Ramey said that when the pilot called for emergency power "the emergency power was indicated on the instruments, but the plane was not delivering it."

First Lt. Richard L. English, flight engineer from Sartell, Miss., said he stood on the fuselage of the cigar-shaped ship after the plane hit and took a hasty roll call. He said every man answered.

Crash boats picked up survivors from the wings, fuselage and the water as the six-engined air monster stayed partially afloat.

The eight known survivors were rushed to the base hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

Final Plans for "Soil Conservation Day" Program

Key figures check final plan for Oregon's "biggest land use show," which opens Saturday morning on Irvin Bartels farm, one mile north of Shaw. Standing, left to right, Irving Bartels, owner of field day site and Bob Schmidt, general chairman. Kneeling, at left, is Vernon Jette, supervisor of Santiam soil conservation district, co-sponsor of the event with the Oregon State Grange and W. M. Tate, local arrangements chairman.

Soil Conservation Day Saturday at Bartels

A farm which has just about everything wrong with it from a soil conservationist's point of view will get a free face-lifting tomorrow by soil engineers in a big public demonstration. Irvin Bartels' farm, near Shaw, 10 miles east of here, was chosen for the Willamette valley conservation day program from 847 farms in the Santiam soil conservation district. It has red soil hillside lands subject to erosion, poor lowland drainage, and about everything else to give a chance to let conservationists show their stuff.

Farmers from all over the state were expected to show up for the all-day spectacle. Gov. Douglas McKay will speak to the group at noon on the value to the state of conservation methods.

U. S. and Santiam soil conservation technicians have mustered more than 100 pieces of equipment to do about two years work in one day. They will bulldoze, demonstrate terrace cultivating, sub-soiling, and strip cropping, and will lay ditches and ponds for drainage.

They plan to make it into a model farm of its type. Bartels, whose family has watched production slowly decline over the past 60 years because of erosion, thinks it's "a fine idea."

Cyclists Tie-up River Highway

Motorcyclists, mountain climbers and sightseers are just about driving the state highway commission crazy. They are tying up traffic on the new Columbia river highway east of Troutdale every week-end.

Last Sunday, a dozen hill-climbing motorcycle riders wrecked a bank which the commission had just seeded with grass. On the same day, the mountain climbers scaled Rooster Rock, and cars were lined up for more than a mile to watch.

The sightseers, about 10,000 carloads of them every Sunday, go only 20 miles an hour. And the road can't handle so many cars going that slow. The commission asked the state police to straighten all this out, but the cops said that's in the domain of Multnomah county Sheriff Mike Elliott.

Now the commission is appealing to Elliott to help. Furniture Workers Sign-up
Seattle, Sept. 16 (AP)—A contract granting improved working conditions but no wage increase was signed yesterday by 2,500 furniture workers union (AFL) workers in 57 Washington and Oregon plants. The contract provided better seniority rights, one week vacation with pay after one year, two weeks after three years and six paid holidays.

Lewis Stops Welfare Doles: US Intervenes, Steel Strike

Mediator Sets Joint Meeting Next Monday

Washington, Sept. 16 (AP)—The government today called steel companies and the CIO Steelworkers union to a mediation meeting Monday morning.

Cyrus S. Ching, federal mediator and conciliation service director, called on both sides in the steel dispute to meet with government conciliators Monday at 9:30 a.m.

Ching said in a statement there is a "good possibility" that the failure of steel firms and the union to begin bargaining on the basis of the president's fact finding board report "springs not from irreconcilable fundamental differences in views, but from the meaning of words."

Murray Appeals

Pittsburgh, Sept. 16 (AP)—The CIO United Steelworkers today appealed to the steel industry to accept the presidential board's peace recommendations to avert a strike September 25 and at the same time summoned its top strategists to plot the union's next move.

Union President Philip Murray sent this telegram to the 57 steel producing companies which appeared before President Truman's fact finding board.

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Union Rejects Peace Plan in Hawaii Strike

Honolulu, Sept. 16 (AP)—A new territorial government peace plan for Hawaii's 139-day dock strike foundered today on union rejection.

Gov. Ingram M. Stainback had proposed that the 2000 striking dock workers go back on the job at a 14-cent hourly wage increase. Meanwhile, union and employers would negotiate a new two-year contract.

Fred T. Low, chairman of the CIO International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union strike committee, said "no" to that.

He said his committee would give "immediate and serious consideration," however, to any concrete proposal made by the seven struck stevedoring companies.

The union has accused Stainback of "strike-breaking" with territorial operation of the docks.

Senate Delays Minton Action

Washington, Sept. 16 (AP)—Senate action will be delayed a while on President Truman's unexpected nomination of Sherman Minton to be a supreme court justice.

Although there was no apparent opposition to the appointment, Chairman McCarran (D-Nev.) of the judiciary committee, said the nomination will "take the routine course." That usually takes about three weeks, a committee aide said. There is a speedier procedure often used in cases where opposition is lacking.

Senators who would comment on the appointment praised Minton, a former democratic senator from Indiana, a thorough-going new dealer and now a judge on the U.S. circuit court of appeals at Chicago.

The president nominated him yesterday to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Justice Wiley Rutledge last Saturday.

Many senators declined comment. While some privately expressed disappointment at the president's choice, they said they knew of no reason to attempt to block the nomination.

McCarran, now en route to Europe for a three-week trip, has been at odds with the administration over displaced persons legislation and other matters recently.

Senator Kilgore (D-W.Va.) told a reporter that McCarran telephoned his instructions on the appointment from his ship.

Storm Warnings Fly

Portland, Ore., Sept. 16 (AP)—The weather bureau today continued small craft warnings until sunset on the Strait of Juan De Fuca and inland waters of Washington for southwest winds 18 to 28 miles an hour, gusty today and diminishing tonight.

Study Raise in Price of Gold

Washington, Sept. 16 (AP)—Governors of the international monetary fund voted unanimously today to start a study of a proposed higher price for gold. The United States assented reluctantly.

The fund and the \$8,000,000,000 World Bank held closed sessions this morning. Both governing boards approved without dissent every report from their committees and from the management of the global lending agencies.

The bank in its closed session, approved the application of the Republic of Haiti for membership and fixed \$2,000,000 as its share to be subscribed in the bank's capital, March 31, 1950, was set as the deadline for posting the funds and accepting membership.

Since Haiti also would join the fund, its acceptance would raise the membership in both organizations to 49 countries.

The date for Liberia's acceptance of membership was postponed until next March 31.

Camille Gutt, managing director of the fund, who reported the actions within the closed fund meeting, said the consensus among the members is to make a start, however, small, on the removal of world-wide currency restrictions.

Acheson Tells Of Cold War

Washington, Sept. 16 (AP)—Secretary of State Acheson reported to President Truman and the cabinet today on new U. S.-British-French measures to deal with Russia in the cold war.

The report was made at a 45-minute meeting in the White House. Acheson, however, declined afterwards to discuss it with reporters. It was the regular Friday cabinet meeting.

Topping the list was believed to be agreement to give Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito all essential support in his economic and political struggle with Moscow. All the various matters have been intensively reviewed here this week by Acheson and Foreign Minister Bevin and Schuman.

Senate Rejects Carl Ilgenritz

Washington, Sept. 16 (AP)—The senate today rejected President Truman's appointment of Carl A. Ilgenritz, U. S. Steel Corp. official, to head the munitions board.

It voted 40 to 28 to disapprove Ilgenritz for the post.

The opposition was chiefly a protest against White House-approved plans for Ilgenritz to continue drawing a \$70,000 a year salary from the steel company while serving in the government post.

Senator Byrd (D., Va.), who led the fight against confirmation of the appointment contended that would establish a dangerous custom under which big corporations dealing with the government might be allowed in the future to subsidize government officials.

Byrd said he was not questioning Ilgenritz' character or abilities. But he noted that U. S. Steel has an important stake in military orders.

As chairman of the munitions board, Ilgenritz would have had charge of advance planning of wartime industrial mobilization, assigning military buying duties and fixing priorities for such buying.

In a telegram read to the senate before it voted, Ilgenritz offered to give up the \$14,000 salary of the chairmanship. But he expressed doubt that any such action would be legal.

Miners Strike In Wyoming

Rock Springs, Wyo., Sept. 16 (AP)—An estimated 8,000 coal miners in the Utah-Wyoming district of the United Mine Workers walked out of the pits voluntarily today pending a settlement of the current contract dispute.

Houston Martin of Rock Springs, president of district 22 which embraces the two states, said the walkout was purely voluntary and that it had not been called by union officials.



First in Pacific—A squadron of these F-9F Panther jet fighters operated with the Pacific Fleet for the first from the carrier Boxer. The fighter above has just landed aboard the carrier. Pilots enthusiastically voiced the Navy view that the Panthers could outfly and outfight the air force's B-36. (AP Wirephoto from U. S. Navy)