

THE WEATHER HERE

MOSTLY CLOUDY with few snow flurries tonight; cloudy Tuesday with mixed snow and rain in late afternoon. Slightly cooler. Lowest tonight, 22 degrees; highest Tuesday, 34.

Capital Journal



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Census to Show Phenomenal Salem Gain

Growth Expected to Fall Short of the 231 Percent of 1910

By STEPHEN A. STONE While the 1950 census will show a phenomenal growth for Salem in the last 10 years, it will fall far short of being the biggest 10-year jump for the first half of the century.

Official figures show that Salem's population in 1900 was 4258. When the census of 1910 came along the figure had increased to 14,097. That was a gain of 231 per cent, doubtless the biggest in Salem's history.

During the next 10 years Salem was sold but not spectacular, and the 1920 census showed 17,879 people, a gain of 25 per cent, which wasn't at all bad.

Good times were ahead, and by 1930 there was a sufficient influx of new population, besides the normal increase, to show a census of 26,266 in 1930, or a gain of 49 per cent.

Most of the next 10 years were depression years, dating from the fall of 1929, and there was an increase of only 4507. That brought the 1949 census up to 30,773, a gain of 17 per cent.

But in the last decade, from 1940 to 1950, now just around the corner, there has been another surge in population. Salem has gained mainly by an influx of people that has been felt throughout the State, and also by several annexations. The 1950 census for Salem should show something like 58,000, which would be a gain of 88 per cent since 1940.

Trading Area Jumps Similarly the population of the Salem trading area has grown. In 1920 it was placed at 35,000, and no higher in 1930. In 1940, however, it was estimated at 45,000, and the present estimate now is around 75,000. That is not to be confused with the metropolitan area which will center at Salem, according to official announcements. Since the population now exceeds 50,000, Salem becomes a metropolitan center.

The method of taking the census has changed greatly in 50 years, with a fairly larger office personnel and smaller district areas to count. In 1910 and 1920 the district had the boundaries of the first congressional district. It covered everything west of the summit of the Cascade mountains and north of the California line, except Multnomah county.

Court Review Promised for Picketing Ban

Three Way Attack on Curbing Non-Union Places of Business

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—The supreme court today agreed to consider a three-way attack on a Washington state law which curbs union picketing activity.

Three unions—two of them ordered to pay a total of \$750 damages—appealed to the tribunal in an effort to upset the law's ban against picketing when there is no immediate employer-employee dispute.

The unions claim this violates the free speech guarantees of the federal constitution. In one of the three cases which the court agreed to review for later decision, a Bremerton, Wash., local of the Building Service Employees International Union was ordered to pay W. L. Gazzam, owner of the Enetel inn, \$500.

The state supreme court in upholding the damage award found that none of Gazzam's workers was a member of the picketing union and none had expressed a desire to join the union.

The state court held that the organizing drive which prompted the picketing was a coercive effort to compel the hotel owner to ask his men to join the union.

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\$55 Million for Power Co-ops

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—The rural electrification administration said today it has authorized loans of nearly \$55,000,000 to 10 borrowers in the last 90 days for the formation of super power cooperatives.

These cooperatives are combinations of a number of small co-ops. They are formed for the purpose of building their own generating plants. Before, most had their own transmission lines but bought power from private companies.

These federations have obtained more than 50 per cent of all re-loans this year, the agency's records show. Until just after the war, such loans accounted for only 10 per cent of REA's total.

"There are several reasons for this trend toward large federated systems," explained Clyde Ellis, executive manager National Rural Electric Cooperative association.

"Farmers are geared to electricity now," he said. "Much of their work is done by electrical appliances or machinery. They can lose a whole year's profit as a result of one day or night without electricity."

The REA program started out primarily to set up power distributing systems to serve farmers, with most of the power supply coming from private utilities. However, since 1935, REA has loaned more than \$315,000,000 for generation and transmission.

20th Blast Victim Dies Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 19 (AP)—Mrs. Alice Hammond, 25-year-old Sioux City bookkeeper, died at a hospital today of injuries suffered in an explosion at the Swift & Co. packing plant here last Wednesday. Mrs. Hammond was the 20th person to die as a result of the blast. Thirty-eight of the injured still remained hospitalized today.

County Clash Looms Over Retirement Issue

By DON UPJOHN Storm warning signals were up Monday for a possible clash between the Marion county court and the public employees retirement system over retention of employees past retirement age on the county payroll.



Syrian Regime Ousted by Army

Beirut, Lebanon, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Syrian army moved in on the government today in the nation's third political upheaval this year.

The army arrested its chief of staff and foreign office head, occupied key government buildings, and surrounded the home of President Hushem El Atassi. Early reports indicated it was a bloodless coup. Official announcements on the Damascus radio left its aim and extent somewhat obscure.

"The army does not intend to intervene in the affairs of the constituent assembly nor any legally constituted bodies which will continue their functions as usual," an army spokesman said.

Col. Adebek Chickakli, key figure in two previous coups this year, announced on the radio that the army had arrested Gen. Sami El Hinnouli, the chief of staff, and Hinnouli's brother-in-law, Assad Talass, secretary general of the foreign office.

Also arrested for treason, he said, were an unspecified number of "other political figures."

800 Get Clothes From the Elks Salem's Elks lodge in the two and a half days that it has been distributing clothing to the needy has already given clothing to between 750 and 800 persons.

The distribution of clothing, an annual Christmas project of the Salem Elks, was begun Friday and will be ended this Monday night.

In the clothing distribution, as with the Christmas party for the children, the Salem lodge covers a much larger area than Salem. The area extends from Hubbard to Jefferson, north and south, and from Mill City to Falls City, east and west.

Saturday the Elks will have their annual party for the children with tickets for those attending the party to be distributed through the schools.

The children, all of them from needy families, will go first to the Capitol theater for a picture show at 10:30 a.m. From the theater they will be escorted to the Elks club for treats and presents. Children from 49 schools will be in attendance and those outside of Salem will be brought here for the party by the Elks' community chairman in each community.

Truman Starts Back on Tuesday Key West, Fla., Dec. 19 (AP)—President Truman took a last dip in the warm waters of the Gulf today before heading back to Washington for a hot fight for the "fair deal."

He flies to the capital at 8:45 a.m. (EST) Tuesday to make a quick survey of the legislative outlook and meet with his cabinet at 10 a.m. Thursday.

He'll talk over with the cabinet the all-important "state of the union" message to be delivered personally to a joint senate-house session Jan. 4 or 5, as well as the budget and economic messages.

Final decisions are yet to be made on whether to recommend repeal of war-time excise taxes and the levying of new taxes on corporation profits to offset an anticipated deficit.



Coldest Spell of Season Brings Ice and Snow

The lowest temperature of the season to date, icy streets and a few snow flurries gave Salem notice Monday morning that winter chill is really here—although some quaintly referred to it as Christmas time weather.

Monday morning's minimum temperature dropped to 24 degrees, the lowest mark since last February 13 when it was 21 degrees.

Even colder temperatures are predicted for Tuesday, the low tonight forecast to go around 22 degrees, the maximum for Tuesday at 34.

Some snow flurries are forecast for tonight with mixed rain and snow late Tuesday. Snow was in evidence on higher elevations around the city, Monday, but down town only a few flakes fell.

Following heavy rains during the late week the Willamette river came up considerably, being measured at 4.7 feet here Monday morning, but the weather bureau said the river was to recede during the next few days, the cold wave moving in to check the rains.

Portland, Dec. 19 (AP)—Most of the nation has temperatures within normal ranges today. The coldest spot is in Montana, where the mercury dipped to 12 below zero at Cut Bank, and to 8 below at Lewistown.

Nationalists Retake Kunming Hong Kong, Dec. 19 (AP)—Reports from Yunnan province said today that the Chinese nationalists had captured the provincial city of Kunming, key city of west China and U.S. military base in wartime.

The reported recapture of Kunming came a week after turncoats had handed it over to the communists. The provincial governor, Lu Han, announced that Kunming had joined the communist camp after a political coup.

Now, the reports said, Lu had been forced to flee after the nationalists again assumed control of the city. They said Gen. Li Mi, garrison commander who had been imprisoned by Lu, was freed.

The nationalist government announced that all ports on the China coast would be mined effective Wednesday to prevent British and American ships from trading with the Chinese communists.

CIO Leftist Union Ignoring Ouster Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Officers of the California state CIO council and the United Office and Professional workers, accused of adhering to communist programs rather than CIO policy, failed to appear today for hearings on their ouster from the union.

Two special committees met any way to take the charges and consider the recommendations they would make. The office workers union, headed by James Durkin of New York, faces expulsion if the charges are upheld.

The California state industrial council leadership is under fire of locals seeking reorganization and a new charter.

Vatican Stamps Due Vatican City, Dec. 19 (AP)—L'Osservatore Romano announced today the Vatican State will issue a series of eight stamps commemorating Holy year. The issue will go on sale Dec. 21.

Russia Adds to Naval Strength With Warships

Ultra-Modern Rocket-Firing Battleship Being Constructed

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—While Britain and the United States are scrapping or mothballing many of their warships, Soviet Russia is reported to be building up her naval strength with rocket-firing battleships and long-range submarines.

Jane's Fighting Ships, the authoritative naval publication, said today the Russians are believed building three ultra-modern, 35,000-ton battleships, equipped with radio-controlled aerial torpedoes and rockets. Two others were said to be in the blueprint stage, and possibly in the shipyard stocks.

Russia already is known to possess two battleships. The Soviet union also envisages, as part of its five-year naval building program, a fleet of from 750 to 1000 long-range submarines by 1951, Jane's said.

Shipyards throughout the USSR and in the Soviet zone of Germany were reported working day and night in three shifts turning out smaller war vessels such as motor torpedo boats and mine sweepers. Jane's, regarded as the last word on the world's navies, emphasized that its information on Russia was presented "with all due reserve."

Moscow does not publish details of its defense program. The new figures were included in Jane's 1949-50 edition which appeared today. The publication is unofficial but authoritative.

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Ask Amnesty For Conscies

Philadelphia, Dec. 19 (AP)—President Truman has been asked to grant Christmas amnesty to thousands of conscientious objectors.

The central committee for conscientious objectors said yesterday that 70 eminent Americans had written the president asking Christmas amnesty for the objectors.

The request, the committee said, was made in behalf of those whose convictions as objectors not only resulted in their imprisonment but classed them permanently as felons deprived of civil rights.

"Men who already paid heavily for their beliefs with long prison terms still suffer the disabilities which follow the loss of civil rights," the signers wrote.

"Surely men who have endeavored literally to follow the teachings of the sermon on the mount should not therefore be permanently relegated to second class citizenship."

The consul general related it all again today at the pier for Japanese newsmen. He said his group was treated "very, very poorly—most inhumanly."



Ward Returns From Mukden

Yokohama, Dec. 19 (AP)—Consul General and Mrs. Angus Ward came back to fellow Americans today from a year's virtual imprisonment by the Chinese Reds and got a rousing welcome for their 30th wedding anniversary.

The wards and members of the consulate staff at Mukden, Manchuria, arrived here aboard the Lakeland Victory to complete the first leg of their journey back to the United States.

The consul general, who was kicked out by the Chinese communists, said he was overwhelmed by the greetings of some 200 Americans waiting at Yokohama's South pier when the ship docked.

Mrs. Ward said she was, too—so much that "it's hard to speak."

Behind them—but fresh in memory—was what Ward called the "hellish" treatment at the hands of the Reds in Mukden, months of bickering to try to leave the country, and finally his arrest and a month in jail before a "peoples court" ordered him expelled.

The communists accused him of beating two Chinese employees in a wage dispute. The U.S. state department said the charge was "trumped up."

The consul general related it all again today at the pier for Japanese newsmen. He said his group was treated "very, very poorly—most inhumanly."

Known throughout Australia as a public speaker, broadcaster and champion of women's rights, she will preside at council meetings when Menzies is absent.

Sworn in with Menzies were 13 members of his own liberal party and five members of the country party. They had campaigned successfully on the same anti-socialist platform against the labor party which had controlled the government since 1941.

Arthur William Fadden, leader of the country party and a former prime minister, was sworn in as deputy prime minister and treasurer, next to Menzies in rank. Fadden's party won 20, perhaps 21, seats in the house of representatives; Menzies' liberals captured 53, perhaps 54 seats, to labor's 47. Final returns are still incomplete.

Berserk Elephant Wrecks Freight Car Blackpool, England, Dec. 19 (AP)—A three and a half ton elephant named Punched went berserk in a railway freight car Saturday.

He wrecked the car and held up main-line traffic for five hours before soldiers killed him with rifles and machine-guns.

The 50-year-old Punched went mad aboard a circus train taking him from Blackpool to Birmingham. He splintered the sides of his freight car "Cage" and hurled a keeper from the train with his trunk, then snapped three of the four chains holding him.

Circus officials summoned an army firing squad from nearby barracks. The soldiers boarded another freight car which was pushed along a parallel track until it was opposed Punched's car. The squad fired one volley, and Punched fell dead.

3 Allies Agree To Standardize Arms, Armies

Britain, United States, Canada to Perfect Military Machine

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Britain, the United States and Canada announced today a plan for standardizing their arms and military training.

The program is aimed at correcting and eliminating technical differences which interfered with easy cooperation of the three powers in two world wars.

Its purpose is to permit swift integration of their men and arms into a smoothly-functioning military machine in event of another international conflict. (A similar announcement was made in Washington.)

Leftist forces in Britain opposed their cooperation, and in parliamentary debates called the move toward arms standardization an aggressive weapon aimed at Soviet Russia.

Cooperation Practical In connection with the standardization studies there have been frequent exchanges of military personnel between the two nations on operational levels.

American pilots have been assigned to fly and study Britain's jet bombers. At the same time British and Canadian officers have worked in developing and flying many American planes. Similar exchanges have been made in the other branches of the armed services.

"These arrangements will insure that in time of necessity there will be no material or technical obstacles to full cooperation among the armed forces concerned and the greatest possible economy in the use of combined resources and effort will be obtained," the ministry of defense said.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

Anti-Socialists Rule Australia

Canberra, Australia, Dec. 19 (AP)—The anti-socialist coalition today took control of Australia's government with a cabinet including a woman member for the first time in the commonwealth's history.

Premier Robert Gordon Menzies, Dame Enid Lyons and 17 other cabinet ministers were sworn in by Governor-General William J. McKell, representing King George VI.

Dame Enid, widow of former Prime Minister Joseph A. Lyons and first woman member of the house of representatives, became vice president of the executive council.

Known throughout Australia as a public speaker, broadcaster and champion of women's rights, she will preside at council meetings when Menzies is absent.

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