

THE WEATHER HERE

CLOUDY WITH rain tonight; becoming partly cloudy with showers Wednesday. Slightly warmer. Lowest tonight, 32 degrees; highest Wednesday, 40.

Maximum yesterday, 34; minimum today, 30. Total 24-hour precipitation, traces for month, 2.91; normal, 4.04. Season precipitation, 12.48; normal, 14.81. River height, 4.7 feet. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

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2701 Loans to Veterans Since August, 1948

State Made 1000 More Than During Past 3 Years

By JAMES D. OLSON Almost 1000 more state veteran loans were made from August 1, 1948 to November 31, 1949 than were made during the previous three years, according to W. F. Gaarenstroom, director of the department of veteran affairs Tuesday.

From the time that the first loan was made to an Oregon World War II veteran in September, 1945, until July 31, 1948, a total of 1746 veteran loans were completed.

From August 1, 1948 to November 31, 1949, the total number of loans made totaled 2701, Gaarenstroom said.

Details of Loans

Out of the proceeds of \$18 millions of bonds sold by the department, \$17,583,490 had been loaned out on farms and homes as of November 30, 1949. Loans made by the department average \$4180 although the legislature has authorized loans up to \$6,000.

A block of \$3,000,000 of veteran bonds will be offered for sale on December 28. The interest on the bonds has been running between 1 1/2 and 1 3/4 percent.

Federal Loans Taper

Increase in veteran applications for loans came after G. I. government loans began to taper off and also after the department was granted authority to loan up to \$6000. Gaarenstroom said another indication of the increase in loans made was shown by the fact that the department paid out \$215,000 in taxes in the tax year of 1949-50 as against only \$98,000 in the previous tax year.

Taxes on property on which loans are made are included in the monthly payments made by the veterans. The department then pays taxes on all property on which loans have been made, getting the benefit of the three percent cash discount as well as preventing any of its properties going on the tax delinquent rolls.

Payment on Principal

A total of \$2,002,915.84 has been received in payment on principal on loans up to November 30, 1949, the director said. (Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

250,000 Pieces Mail Stamped

The cancelling machine of the Salem post office stamped 252,000 pieces of mail Monday—the highest total in the history of the office, reported Postmaster Albert C. Gragg. While he did not reveal the gross receipts, they, too, constituted an all-time high mark.

In spite of extremely heavy mailing, incoming as well as outgoing, the post office has been able to clear its daily handle of parcels and greeting cards each day. This has been accomplished by working around the clock and by employing 74 extra carriers and clerks.

The mailing of hundreds of state income tax statements as well as many automobile license plates have placed an added burden on the post office facilities. However, these are being handled in stride, the postmaster states.

Two full carloads of incoming mail reached Salem Monday and it is expected the peak in this connection will be reached Wednesday or Thursday.

Dallas Police Car Crashes City Truck

Dallas, Or., Dec. 20—What Dallas wants for Christmas is an accident-proof police car.

Driving in an alley Monday Officer R. A. Cruzean was unable to stop in time to avoid crashing into a city sanitary service truck which backed into the alley. Damage to police car was around \$200.

Three weeks ago Officer Cruzean was struck at an intersection by an automobile driven by a Sheridan man who failed to heed the siren on the police car. Result, the police car was so badly damaged that it was deemed cheaper to turn it in on a new one—the same car that was damaged this week.

Woman's Club Protests Zone Change Asked

Hearing Scheduled On Price Cottage Street Application

The Salem Woman's club will have a strong representation before the city planning and zoning commission on Tuesday night to back up a written remonstrance against a zone change adjoining the club's property on North Cottage street. A public hearing is scheduled.

The application is by O. L. Price, who asks for a change in zone classification from Class II residential to Class III business. The Woman's club will ask the commission to delay its recommendation to the council. Some objection to the application would be removed, it was said, if the whole immediate area were changed, since that would give the club a chance to sell its property for business purposes.

Involved in the application is property at the northeast corner of Center and North Cottage streets, extending northerly along North Cottage to the Salem Woman's club premises where the club house is located.

Four-Foot Strip Involved

Involved in the argument is a four-foot strip of property on the north side of the property line. With a Zone II classification buildings can't be set up closer than four feet to the line without consent of the adjoining owner. Under a Class III zone provision construction can be to the property line.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 7)

New York City To Tap Hudson

New York, Dec. 20 (AP)—City officials ordered "full speed" today on plans to tap the Hudson river for 100,000,000 gallons of water a day to help out in the shortage which threatens to last for years.

The Hudson tapping project—which normally would take a year to complete and cost \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000—is counted on to supply somewhat less than one-tenth of the city's normal consumption of well over 1,000,000,000 gallons a day.

Formal city, state, and federal authorizations for the undertaking are required.

The plan—announced yesterday—is to run Hudson river water into the Delaware aqueduct at Chelsea, N. Y., about 15 miles south of Poughkeepsie. The water would be purified chemically at its source, and made "ultra-safe" by routing through reservoirs.

The New York City board of water supply announced the start of plans to tap the Hudson, about 50 miles north of where it empties into New York bay.

Similar plans were suggested after a conference at Albany yesterday between Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and state officials.

The governor accused the city of neglecting its water needs despite repeated warnings.

Vandenberg Doesn't Want to Try Frat Case

By DON UPJOHN

Judge David R. Vandenberg, circuit judge from Klamath Falls in Salem on trial of another case, advised attorneys in the case of Lebold vs. Salem high school district and others, involving suspension of 18 students of alleged secret society affiliations, that before he decides whether he will accept an assignment from the supreme court to try that case, he wants them to know where he stands on the question of secret societies.

While he made his attitude clear to Ralph E. Moody, guardian ad litem for the high school student plaintiff, and George A. Rhoten, one of the defense attorneys, he had an appointment for Tuesday afternoon with Donald A. Young, also a defense attorney, to explain his stand to him.

Judge Vandenberg told Attorneys Moody and Rhoten in the morning that while he had never belonged to a secret society in his life he had no objection to any man belonging to a secret society, as long as it was not in violation of the law.

"I do not want to try this case," Judge Vandenberg told the attorneys, "but if by any chance I should, I want you to be advised just where I stand as to these certain matters."



55,000 Jobless On December 1

Unemployment this winter this winter probably won't reach last February's peak of 93,000 jobless.

This prediction came from the state unemployment compensation commission today.

The commission said there were 55,000 jobless in Oregon on December 1, but that layoffs now are much fewer than they were a year ago.

The commission said that in most sections of the state, the number of employed is about the same as a year ago.

Of the 55,000 unemployed as of December 1, 22,900 were in the Portland area.

Figures for other districts having more than 1,000 out of work are:

Salem 5,000, Eugene 4,650, Astoria 2,100, Coos Bay 2,020, Oregon City 1,950, Roseburg 1,730, Klamath Falls 1,650, Medford 1,400, Lebanon 1,200, McMinnville 1,200, Grants Pass 1,150.

Totals for other districts: Toledo 950, Corvallis 780, La Grande 750, Pendleton 725, Ontario 685, Albany 635, Baker 625, Bend, Freewater, Hood River and Tillamook, 600 each; The Dalles 525, and Lakeview 275.

Christmas Tree Lighted Tuesday

Salem's living Christmas tree on the courthouse lawn will be lighted tonight by the Salem Cherrians at 7:30 o'clock.

The tree, the first living Christmas tree in the world to be lighted and now the tallest living Christmas tree in the world, was first lighted by the Cherrians back in 1913. With the exception of war-time years it has been lighted every year since.

Ceremonies for the lighting of the Christmas tree will be opened by County Judge Grant Murphy and a program of music and a historical talk by Judge Rex Kimmell is to follow. After this will come the children's part of the program, when those children present are to be presented treats by the Cherrians.

Members of the committee planning the ceremonies for tonight are Fred Starrett, Judson Bressler, Robert M. Fischer, Jr., Marty Boesch and Douglas Yeater.

Winter Strikes Blow At Entire Northwest

(By the Associated Press)

Winter struck its sharpest blow at the Pacific Northwest in the early morning hours today.

Temperatures skidded below the zero point at many places and sub-freezing marks were general.

Scattered skiffs of snow fell in eastern Washington and northern Idaho adding hazards for motorists traveling highways already coated with snow and ice in many places.

The threat of more snow appeared today as a cold wave froze Oregon all the way from the usually mild coast to the chill reaches of eastern Oregon.

The unofficial low was a reading of 18 degrees below zero at Bly in the Klamath basin. Austin reported an unofficial 8 below. Burns and Baker had an official 7 below.

The forecast was for increasing cloudiness with snow certain for much of eastern Oregon and in the higher elevations of western Oregon.

Rain, probably turning to snow tonight, was the outlook for many western Oregon cities, including Portland.

Only slightly warmer temperatures—scarcely enough to be noticeable—are expected. The change will not be more than a few degrees, the weather forecaster said.

A foot of snow on high ranges in central Oregon drove hundreds of deer to lower elevations. Ranchers complained many were moving into farm fields and eating haystacks. Many ranchers began baling their haystacks and hauling them away in order to save them.

The storm moved slowly northeastward to the upper Missouri valley and Mississippi valley but temperatures were expected to moderate. Colder air also has moved into the north Pacific states and there was light snow in the extreme northern Rocky Mountain states.

The weather bureau reported considerable fog early today over most of the southeastern part of the country. The fog halted or reduced air travel and cut highway travel over most of the area from the Carolinas to Mississippi.

Drizzle was reported over parts of Wisconsin and Minnesota but temperatures in those areas and other parts of the north central states were above normal.

Armistice on A Bombs Asked

Lake Success, Dec. 20 (AP)—Carlos P. Romulo, president of the United Nations assembly, today proposed a temporary armistice in the production and use of atomic weapons.

Romulo said his proposal was made in the hope of halting a costly race between the United States and Russia for atomic supremacy. He stressed that his plan was intended only as an interim measure to give more time for the working out of a permanent atomic control plan.

The Philippine diplomat handed his proposal to Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton of Canada shortly before a secret meeting of the six permanent members of the UN atomic energy commission. McNaughton is this month's chairman of the six conferees, which also include representatives of the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China.

Romulo's proposals followed closely those set forth in an appeal by him November 3, but this time they were offered as a concrete plan.

O'Dwyer Weds Miss Simpson At Stuart, Fla.

Simple Ceremony at Catholic Church—Then Leave on Yacht

Stuart, Fla., Dec. 20 (AP)—Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York, tanned and happy, was married today to radiant Elizabeth Sloan Simpson in a simple ceremony at St. Joseph's Catholic church.

A rainbow arched in the sky as the couple entered the flower-bedecked wooden church for the rites. Rainclouds hovered near the town.

The Rev. Timothy J. Geary performed the ceremony which he described as "very simple and very beautiful."

The ceremony lasted eight minutes.

Both O'Dwyer and his bride were deeply moved and exchanged vows in voices hardly above a whisper.

O'Dwyer's voice could not be heard in the first row as he answered after Father Geary, "I, William O'Dwyer, take thee, Elizabeth Sloan Simpson, for better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part."

Miss Simpson repeated the same words in a slightly firmer voice.

She stood erect and looked at the priest as he blessed the ring, first in Latin, then in English.

Places Ring on Finger

Best man David Martin, general manager of the New York Athletic club, handed the ring to O'Dwyer, Miss Simpson turned and the ring was placed on her finger.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 8)

Sackett Buys Seattle Radio

Seattle, Dec. 20 (AP)—Entry of Sheldon Sackett of Coos Bay, Ore., into the Seattle radio field was announced here today.

Robert E. Priebe, one of the three owners of station KRSC, reported the station's sale to the Sackett interests, subject to federal communications commission approval. KRSC has operated as a non-network station since 1926.

Priebe said all of the stock was sold for an undisclosed price. It will be the fourth Sackett radio station. He operates stations now at Vancouver, Wash., and Oakland, Calif. (KROW) and a radio station and newspaper at Coos Bay. Fred Chitty of Vancouver was here to carry on the negotiations for Sackett.

The sellers are P. K. Leberman of New York, Attorney John Ryan, Jr., of Seattle and Priebe. They have been the owners since the station was opened in 1926 as a pioneer in the independent field, Priebe said.

He said an application for transfer will be filed with the FCC next week. Sackett would take over within 20 days after FCC approval.

KRSC pioneered television in Seattle but later sold its television operation to another Seattle station.

Complete Plans For Annex to City Hall

By STEPHEN A. STONE

It will be police headquarters, but won't look like it. That is the desire of City Manager J. L. Franzen for the City hall annex recently authorized by the city council on the manager's recommendation.

Plans for the annex had been completed today by Frank Struble, architect. Construction is to be immediate, and Franzen said that if money is available he hopes in another year to build a similar structure on the north side of the City hall front steps.

The annex now authorized will be on the south side of the steps as previously announced. It will be 20 by 24 feet.

The present double doors at the entrance to police headquarters will be moved out to the entrance of the annex. The doors will be at a line four feet from the line of the bottom of the steps, with a marquee four feet wide overhead. The present heavy stone wall and arch at the entrance will not be torn out, but the arch will be altered and the wall will form a partition

NLRB Hearing Independence Bridge Dispute

Whether the teamsters' union shall be the bargaining agency for employees of Valley Concrete company of Independence is the issue in a hearing being held Tuesday by Robert Tillman of the Seattle office of the national labor relations board.

The hearing is being held at City hall, with James Landya, of Green & Landye of Portland, attorney for the labor organization and Pat Blair representing the concrete company.

The employing company petitioned for the election. Tillman said that before the board can decide the issue it has to determine whether the company operates in interstate commerce, and testimony was being taken Tuesday forenoon on that part of the case.

If it is not in interstate commerce, Tillman said, the board is not interested. If it is, then the board may or may not order an election.

Maragon Probed By Grand Jury

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—A grand jury today began looking into the case of John Maragon, one-time frequenter of the White House, who is accused by senators of lying to them under oath.

For the grand jury, the question is whether there should be an indictment for perjury. That is a crime carrying a possible penalty of two to 10 years in jail on each count.

Maragon is the former Kansas City bootblack who had a friend in presidential Military Aide Harry Vaughan. He has been accused of lying when he denied to senate "five per cent" investigators that he never got any money for handling business deals with government agencies.

The first witness before the grand jury was Gilbert Halasz, a shorthand reporter who recorded some of the hearings at which Maragon made his appeal.

Waiting to appear as witnesses were Harold Ross, president of Allied Mollasses Company, Inc. of Perth Amboy, N.J.; Milton Pollard, Milwaukee Life Insurance agent; and William P. Rogers, and Carmine S. Bellino, counsel and accountant for the senate investigators.

Pollard testified to the senate investigating committee that he paid Maragon more than \$1,000 in an attempt to obtain cancellation of an order suspending the sugar ration of the Allied Mollasses company.

Mr. Truman has called a full-scale cabinet session at the White House for 10 a. m. (EST) Thursday to discuss these and other problems.

Then, he flies to Independence, Mo., Friday to remain until Dec. 28 to spend the Christmas holidays with his family.

Diana Barrymore's Furs Burglarized

New York, Dec. 20 (AP)—Robert Wilcox, motion picture actor, was found bound and gagged today in the apartment of Actress Diana Barrymore, daughter of the late John Barrymore. Police said he was tied up by two men who ransacked the apartment.

Police said Wilcox told them he was alone in the apartment when two men appeared at the door at 9:30 a. m. and said they wanted to leave flowers for Miss Barrymore, who is confined to Roosevelt hospital from the effects of a fall.

Truman Back From Vacation Looking Rested

President in Fighting Trim to Do Battle For 'Fair Deal'

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—President Truman returned today from a three-week Florida vacation, looking fit and rested for the weeks of hard work ahead of him.

His plane, the Independence, landed at National airport about 12:30 p. m. (EST) after a three hour, 46 minutes flight from Key West.

A large crowd, including several cabinet members and other government officials, turned out to greet him. He waved cheerfully as he started to leave the plane.

He was in fighting trim—except for the waistline—to do battle in congress for his "fair deal" and stump for it in the 1950 congressional elections. In Good Health

Tanned, relaxed and cheerful, he looked in good health in spite of the "bay window" which apparently was of less concern to him than to his physician, Brig. General Wallace H. Graham.

The big DC6 presidential plane, the "Independence," was ordered warmed up for a take-off at 8:45 a. m. (EST) from the nearby Boca Chica airport on a flight estimated to require from three and a half to four hours.

Mr. Truman is going down the line in his "state of the union" message for virtually every measure congress denied him last year.

The measures include civil rights proposals—topped by the fair employment practices bill—the national health program, expanded social security and additional power and reclamation projects, among others. No Turning Back

Aides emphasized there will be no "turning back" from the course he advocated in his 1948 speechmaking campaign and that he is ready to take the stump again next year to help elect candidates to congress who think along his lines.

Final decisions are yet to be made on whether to seek elimination of war-time excise taxes and to advocate higher taxes on profits to offset them and attempt to balance the budget for the fiscal year starting next July 1.

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Then, he flies to Independence, Mo., Friday to remain until Dec. 28 to spend the Christmas holidays with his family.

27 Nazi War Criminals Freed

Landsberg, Germany, Dec. 20 (AP)—Twenty-seven smiling German war criminals were freed today from the U. S. army's Landsberg prison for good behavior during confinement.

They had served the greater part of three and five-year sentences given them by U. S. military courts for war crimes. All their sentences would have expired next June 30.

None was a big-name nazi criminal. These were the men who commanded nazi concentration camps, who served as camp guards or mistreated captured American airmen.

The oldest was Friedrich Katz, 60, a former Wiesbaden policeman, convicted of taking part in the murder of American fliers.

Col. Walter R. Graham, the prison commander, said that 27 others probably will be released tomorrow. One other prisoner eligible for release is ill in the prison hospital.

The U. S. high commission announced yesterday that five top nazi criminals, convicted by American courts at Nuremberg, also will be released. They include Ernst Wilhelm Bohle, English-born SS general who was head of the nazi party's foreign organization.

Colonel Graham, whose home is in Bozeman, Mont., said however, that he has not yet received an order for their release.

Pope on Radio Friday

Vatican City, Dec. 20 (AP)—The pope's Christmas message in response to greetings by the college of cardinals will be broadcast over Vatican radio at 11 a. m. (2 a. m. PST) Friday, the newspaper Osservatore Romano announced today.