

Christmas Tree Sheds Its Lights

The 72-foot tree on the Marlon county courthouse lawn shed its Christmas lights Wednesday, perhaps for the last time.

The tree, which gained nationwide recognition in 1913 when it was the first living Christmas tree to be lighted, has become so large that stringing lights on it is hazardous, and the Salem Chamber of Commerce, in charge of decorating the tree, have indicated that the tree may not be lighted again.

Members of the courthouse planning commission, who met Tuesday to discuss plans for a proposed new courthouse, expressed sentiment for the traditional Christmas tree. All commission members were anxious to determine whether or not the construction of a new courthouse would necessitate the removal of the tree.

Pietro Belluschi, architect designing the new courthouse, said that the fate of the tree would depend on whether or not the new courthouse would be set in the exact center of the block.

Railroad Bridge Threatened

Richland, Jan. 4 (AP)—River ice is threatening another structure just a few miles from the spot where the 900-foot army pontoon span was ripped loose yesterday.

Earth levees were constructed in the Yakima river this morning to protect temporary pilings from ice floes.

The wooden pilings were driven to support equipment constructing a railroad bridge over the river. The bridge is part of a \$1,000,000 contract held by J. A. Terteling and Sons, Boise, for construction of a railroad spur into the atomic city.

Last winter ice, despite use of dynamite and heavy equipment, snapped several wooden pilings of a highway bridge a few yards downstream from the railway span site. The atomic energy commission, which built the trestle bridge, was forced to remove a section of the span. The section later was replaced with an army Bailey bridge.

Terteling officials admitted this morning that if the present freeze-up continues there is a good chance they will lose the railroad structure.

Portland-Oakland Air Record Claimed

Portland, Jan. 4 (AP)—A commercial flight record of 1 hour, 36 minutes between Portland and Oakland, Calif., was claimed today by Western Airlines.

The company reported the flight was made Monday on a southbound trip of a Convair pressurized liner flying at 19,000 feet altitude. Capt. Ed Schuster of Los Angeles reported the

Appointments Open For Infant Clinic

Woodburn—A well baby and pre-school children clinic will be held at the Woodburn library Tuesday January 10, at 12:30 p.m., according to Mrs. John Hooper, local health chairman.

Railroads Ask More Mail Pay

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—The nation's major railroads today asked the government to nearly double their pay for carrying the mails compared with levels at the start of 1947.

The petition was filed with the interstate commerce commission. The rail carriers have been pressing the ICC for higher mail pay for the last two years. They contend that mounting operating costs over the last several years make a permanent adjustment in mail pay rates necessary.

Railroad sources estimated that if today's revised petition is approved it will yield the carriers more than \$100,000,000 in excess of what they now get for hauling mail.

The original rate boost petition was filed in February, 1947. That requested a 45 per cent hike in rates. The ICC temporarily granted a 25 per cent increase while studying the matter. The original plan has been amended several times to ask even higher rates.

Today's amendment asks that compensation be fixed at 95 per cent above the January, 1947, rates.

N. Y. World-Telegram Buys Rival Paper

New York, Jan. 4 (AP)—Purchase of the New York Sun by the New York World-Telegram was announced today. Both are afternoon newspapers.

The two papers will be published under a joint title beginning with tomorrow's editions. The Sun's outstanding features and columns will be added to those of the World-Telegram.

Announcement of the transaction was made simultaneously by Roy W. Howard, president and editor of the World-Telegram, and Thomas W. Dewart, president and publisher of the Sun.

The purchase included the name, good will and circulation list of the Sun. No plant facilities, physical equipment or real estate was involved in the transaction, and no purchase price was announced.

The plane averaged 360 miles an hour and hit a top of 450 in clipping 59 minutes from the regular scheduled time. The pilot reported he had taken advantage of a tailwind.

Plan Coastal Rail to Alaska

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—Senator Magnuson (D-Wash.) said today he has been told that President Truman has asked the secretaries of state, defense and interior to take steps leading to negotiations with Canada for a proposed coastal rail line to Alaska.

Magnuson said the state department had informed him that Mr. Truman had asked recommendations for:

1. The timing and method of carrying out negotiations with the Canadian government for a location survey for the proposed railroad.
2. Members of a commission to carry on the negotiations with a Canadian commission.

Magnuson said the commission would act as an arm of the state department in the negotiations. He told a reporter the plan is to hook up the Pacific and Great Eastern railroad owned by the province of British Columbia and the U. S. Alaskan railroad.

"I'm very pleased that negotiations are beginning," Magnuson said. He said the proposed railroad, running about 1,400 miles through northern British Columbia and the southern Yukon would be a "great thing" for Alaskan defense and open the "last great frontier" on the continent for economic development.

Zink Files Suit For \$27,500

A suit for a total of \$27,500 damages resulting from a freak auto accident a year ago was filed in the county clerk's office Tuesday afternoon.

Plaintiff in the complaint is Delmas F. Zink, who at the time of the accident was an employee of the Oregon state highway department. The suit was filed against George E. and Bernice K. Conant.

The accident occurred on January 4, 1948, on Highway 31 in Lake county, Oregon. Zink was adjusting the sanding equipment on a snow plow truck parked in front of another snow plow vehicle.

A car operated by Bernice K. Conant struck the rear of the rear vehicle, causing it to crash into the snow plow ahead, crushing Zink between the two vehicles.

Zink sustained a broken leg, which he alleges has developed into permanent injury. The plaintiff seeks \$2750 medical costs, \$2500 salary loss and general damages for \$20,000 for the disability he incurred in the injury, a total of \$27,750.

The complaint was filed by Ray H. Lafky, Zink's attorney.

Cut Marshall Funds \$1 Billion

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—The Marshall plan nations of Europe have been asked to slash almost \$1,000,000,000 from their American aid requests for the next fiscal year, it was announced today.

Richard Bissell, Jr., deputy administrator of the program, said that all the recovery nations with the exception of Greece have been asked to reduce their aid requests by 25 per cent from the \$3,778,000,000 they requested for the current fiscal year. This would bring their requests to approximately \$2,832,000,000 for the 1951 fiscal year.

Bissell told a news conference that an exception was being made in the case of Greece because recovery there was slower than in other countries. He said that aid to Greece in the past two years had been mostly for relief after her protracted civil war.

Last year, Greece was given between \$155,000,000 and \$180,000,000 in Marshall plan aid, and Bissell said about the same amount would be recommended next year.

Earl Coe to Speak

Portland, Jan. 4 (AP)—Earl Coe, Washington secretary of state, will be the principal speaker at the annual Jackson club dinner sponsored by the Oregon democrats here next Saturday.



Airmates—R. Marlin Perkins, director, Lincoln Park zoo, holds chimpanzee Heinie II, and stewardess Ellie Roman holds orangutan Ling-Wong as the zoo additions arrive by air in Chicago.

Is Governor McKay Angling After the Norwegian Vote?

By STEPHEN A. STONE
Governor Doug McKay onker at faa det Norske folks stemme ved neste valg.

Here at this print shop there is no o with two dots over it. But if you can put your own dot over it the above sentence says that Governor Doug McKay is going after the Norwegian vote at the next election.

What other meaning can you give the governor's extra-official activity? He's author of an article under a two-column headline appearing in Morgenbladet, big daily newspaper published at Oslo.

"Norway and Oregon Have Much in Common," says the headline. And the by-line is "By Douglas McKay, Oregon."

The story is printed in English with the Norwegian translation beside it. The editors don't explain which one Governor McKay wrote. It is assumed he wrote the English version. But maybe not. Doug has learned a lot of things since he became governor and it would be no surprise if he's learned Norwegian. The Sons of Norway, and the daughters, too, are strong hereabouts and most of them are naturalized citizens.

The governor mentions ethnic ties between Norwegians and Oregonians, and perhaps he's thinking of political ties come election day.

Anyway, it's a good booster story for Oregon and Norway and extends Oregon's greetings and congratulations.

"Norway and Oregon," he says in part, "in their agriculture, their timber, their fishing and their people, have so much in common. There are strong ethnic ties between Norwegians and Oregonians. The physical vigor, industry and initiative of the many Norwegians who settled in Oregon have been forces of incalculable good in the building of this commonwealth to a position of world importance.

"And even better relationships lie ahead, to be fostered and strengthened by such constructive facts as your great new ship, the Oslofjord, and similar vehicles, both material and spiritual, for drawing our two peoples together."

Midget Market to Open Center Branch

The Midget market, which has operated for many years on State street between Commercial and Liberty, announced today a second market will be opened on North Capitol street.

The location is on the west side of North Capitol across from Capital Shopping center. It will be known as the Capitol branch of the Midget market.

The operation will be on the same basis as the downtown market. Opening date is to be announced.

Shattuc's Chateau Closed 'Til Jan. 17

HOLLYWOOD STARTS TODAY — OPEN 8:45

Paramount presents
ALAN LADD · BETTY FIELD
WARDENHALL WITH CAREY · HUSSEY
SULLIVAN
DA SILVA
IN A SCOTT FITZGERALD'S
'The Great Gatsby'
WITH SHELLEY WINTERS
SECOND FEATURE
'RUSTLERS'
Tim Holt, Martha Hyer

Gold Reserves Jump in Britain

London, Jan. 4 (AP)—Sir Stafford Cripps announced today Britain's vital gold-dollar reserves jumped \$263,000,000 in the last quarter of 1949.

This is \$348,000,000 above the dangerous low point of last September, just before the pound was cheapened from \$4.03 to \$2.80.

The reserves now stand at \$1,688,000,000, the chancellor of the exchequer told a news conference. This is still well below what the treasury considers a safe minimum—\$2,000,000,000.

Cripps cited three reasons for the increase:

1. A flow of dollars from importers of British goods who had held up payment until the pound was devalued.
2. Release of a backlog of orders from importers who had anticipated a cheaper pound.
3. "An improvement in the basic sterling area balance of payments with the dollar area."

Cripps said he figured each reason had been "of roughly equal importance in reducing the deficit."

Scullum Talks Bee Industry

The bee industry of the state is in somewhat of a sick condition, reported Prof. Herman A. Scullum of Oregon State college as members of the Salem Rotary club listened to a discussion on the subject of honey production and pollinization Wednesday noon.

The Rotarians learned a number of things they had never heard of. For one thing, Prof. Scullum told them that the bee keepers had introduced artificial insemination in their efforts to produce better queens. Then, too, the drone is entirely useless except as a mate for the queen and since the latter's usefulness is extremely short, there is every effort to eliminate the drone.

"The bee, from a honey production angle in Oregon is 'pretty small potatoes,'" said the speaker. However, from the point of pollinization the insect is most valuable. Much of our fruit and seed would disappear if the bee were to become extinct.

He spoke of the importation into Jefferson county of from seven to eight thousand colonies of bees for the purpose of pollinizing ladino blooms. Those who hire the bees pay from \$3 to \$5 a colony.

Death of 2,000 colonies out of 10,000 inspected by the state bee inspector constitutes a serious threat, warned Prof. Scullum.

Lowden Promoted To Regional Position

Portland, Jan. 4 (AP)—The promotion of Merle S. Lowden, supervisor of the Fremont National forest since 1946, to assistant regional forester here was announced today.

Lowden, who has been with the U.S. forest service since 1934, will succeed John C. Kuhns, retired.

Walter W. Wetzel, who has been in charge of postwar planning, will be transferred from forest headquarters here to San Francisco.

Cache of \$38,725 in Auto

San Pedro, Jan. 4 (AP)—A routine police check of an old automobile uncovered a cache of \$38,725 in government bonds, jewelry, burglar tools and guns. Detectives identified the driver as William J. Nelson, 33, former inmate of McNeil Island, Wash., federal penitentiary.

The Department of Agriculture says veins visible on a cow's udder do not necessarily indicate the amount of milk she will give.

Soviet Stirs-up Strike in Finland

Helsinki, Finland, Jan. 4 (AP)—Premier Karl-August Fagerholm's government, harassed by Russian charges of peace treaty violation, today faced an additional battle for its life over trade union demands for a general wage increase.

A trade union federation heaped more trouble on the social democratic government of this tiny Baltic country with a demand for a 10 percent general wage raise.

A special session of parliament has been called to discuss the wage question. Fagerholm is expected to support the trade union demands, but rightist parties oppose them. The session, demanded by the rightists despite Fagerholm's opposition, is expected to begin January 10.

The agrarians, strongest party of the rightists, threaten Fagerholm's leadership. If Fagerholm is defeated in parliament on the wage issue a caretaker cabinet will be appointed until after the next presidential elections February 15.

The social democratic candidate is the current president, Juho Paasikivi. Strongly opposing him is the rightist agrarian candidate Dr. Urho Kekkonen.

Russian Takes Walk in Tokyo

Tokyo, Jan. 4 (AP)—Russia's member of the allied council for Japan took another walk today. He thus avoided hearing an American charge that 378,000 Japanese war prisoners still are in Soviet hands—or dead.

Lt. Gen. K. N. Derevyanko's walkout duplicated his performance of two weeks ago today. Then also he refused to discuss Russia's failure to complete repatriation of Japanese captured in World War II.

When the burly Russian stalked out of today's special council session, American Chairman William J. Sebald went ahead with the charge. It was in the form of a note from U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson to the Soviet ambassador in Washington.

The other members of the four-power council—British and Chinese—heard the note recall that Tass, the Soviet news agency, had announced last May 20 that only 95,000 Japanese prisoners remained in Russian hands.

To the contrary, it said, Japanese government figures of "substantial reliability" showed an additional 376,929 still were being held by the Soviets.

Feed the Birds During Snow

Feed the birds. This necessity, says Mrs. Emma Kuhlman, must be called to the attention of Salem people. If they aren't fed, she says, they are going to suffer when snow is on the ground.

"We think of everyone and everything but the birds," says Mrs. Kuhlman. "Even the cats. And you've got to look out for the cats, or they will get the birds."

She advises that it isn't good to scatter food for the birds on the snow, because the cats will get them. Some safer way must be used.

Mrs. Kuhlman is feeding the birds at her home, 455 South 12th street.

"Why throw remnants of holiday dinners into the garbage can?" she asks, "when it could better be given to the birds?"

69 Degrees in Capital

Washington, Jan. 4 (AP)—The capital's temperature broke a 76-year record for Jan. 4 today with an all-time high of 69 at 11:30 a.m.

CAPITOL NOW

Jennifer Jones
Van Heflin
Louis Jourdan
in
"MADAME BOVARY"
— and —
Wayne Morris
Janis Paige in
"THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET"

WIT the ROAD

LIBERTY

Bob Hope
"SORROWFUL JONES"
— and —
Judy Canova
"SINGIN' IN THE CORN"

WARNERS EL SINORE

★ STARTS TODAY ★
The New Year's Top Double-Hit Program!

So you're in the RED... don't feel so HOT... things look mighty BLUE...



Drop the frown, Louie! 'Cause Hutton's here in the funniest, zingiest hit of the year!

"RED HOT AND BLUE"

A JOHN FARRON production with WILLIAM DEMAREST · JUNE HAVOC

• Plus This Grand Companion Hit! •
The Picture You'll Love to Remember!
THE GREEN PROMISE

Starring Marguerite Chapman
Walter Brennan
Robt. Paige · Natalie Wood

TO TAKE OFF A POUND OF FAT

66% MILES WALKING	10 1/2 HOURS SAWING WOOD	4 3/4 HOURS FOOTBALL	20% HOURS MILITARY DRILL
17 3/4 HOURS TABLE TENNIS	14.731 BRICKS BRICK LAYING	93.34 HOURS VIBRATOR	= 12 HOURS

An AP Newsfeatures Photograph (UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS FIGURES)

NOW OPEN—THE NEW CHINA CAFE
(JUST BEFORE YOU GET TO THE HOLLYWOOD STOPLIGHTS)
We Serve Chinese and American Dishes
"ORDERS TO TAKE OUT"
Open 4:30 P.M. to 2:00 A.M.—Saturday 'Til 3 A.M.
WE CLOSE MONDAYS
2055 Fairgrounds Road Phone 2-6596

DANCE TONITE
CRYSTAL GARDENS
Modern Ballroom
Modern Music
TWO FLOORS — TWO DANCES
Modern and Old-Time
Bill DeSouza Pop Edwards
ONE PRICE **74c** Includes Tax