

Existence of Narcotics Ring Suspected by Police

The possible existence of a narcotics ring in the Salem area was seen Thursday in a police report dealing with an attempt to smash into the Physicians building at 1280 Center street.

Employees who opened the building in the morning found that one of the doorknobs had been hammered in such a manner that the lock was broken and the knob remained in an open position.

Despite the smashed knob nothing was disturbed inside the building, leading to the belief that the criminals had been frightened off, possibly by a passing car.

The case took on added significance in view of a drugstore burglary in Silverton last week. Some \$500 worth of narcotics was taken in that raid.

County, state and local authorities were continuing an investigation into the Silverton case when the attempted burglary took place in Salem.

At the moment, there was nothing beyond suspicion which would tie the two cases together, but in view of the fact that addicts or dope peddlers usually select doctors' offices as a target for securing supplies, it was believed that both cases would be under further scrutiny.

Nationwide assaults on the narcotics trade recently may have cut off normal channels of supply for the suspected rings.

Ex-Teacher at Chemawa Dies

Cornelius S. Aaron, Sr., former staff member at Chemawa Indian school near Salem, died in a Salem hospital. He was 50 years old. Aaron, a Mohican Indian, was born at Red Springs, Wis., June 23, 1899. He was educated in mission schools there and at St. John's college at Winfield, Kas.

Aaron first worked in Wisconsin where he established three Indian missions and taught school 12 years. In 1933 he entered the U.S. Indian field service and served at Ft. Berthold agency in North Dakota, and at Carson agency in Nevada before coming to Chemawa at the end of World War II. At Chemawa he was boys' advisor.

Aaron is survived by his wife, Mrs. Vera Aaron of Salem; a daughter, Johanna Aaron of Salem; two sons, Cornelius Aaron, Jr., and Larry Aaron, both of Salem; and a brother, Grady Gardner of Sacramento, Calif.

Funeral services will be held at the Howell-Edwards chapel Saturday, January 21, at 3 p.m. with Rev. G. B. Rundstrum officiating. Interment will be in the City View cemetery.

Reynolds Sues Pegler For \$500,000, Libel

New York, Jan. 19 (AP)—Quentin Reynolds, the foreign correspondent and author, filed a \$500,000 libel suit today against Columnist Westbrook Pegler.

Reynolds based his suit on Pegler's column of last Nov. 29, which criticized Reynolds' review of a biography of the late Heywood Brown.

Named as defendants along with Pegler were King Features Syndicate, Inc., and Hearst Consolidated Publications, Inc.

In another libel action, Pegler and his co-defendants are being sued by Columnist Drew Pearson for a total of \$1,200,000.

Falling Sandbag Barely Misses Actress

New York, Jan. 19 (AP)—Actress Ethel Waters was taking her curtain calls last night after her performance in the Broadway show, "The Member of the Wedding."

Suddenly, the audience gasped. Plummeting down from the stage figures over Miss Waters' head was a big sandbag. The

Gorge Traffic Blocked by Drifts

Portland, Jan. 19 (AP)—Snowdrifts in the Columbia gorge blocked both the Union Pacific railroad mainline and the highway today.

A heavy drift of snow froze across the rail line at Oneonta tunnel near Troutdale, and forced the railroad to reroute its trains over Spokane, Portland & Seattle tracks on the Washington side.

The westbound Portland Rose, which had reached Bonneville before the line became blocked, had to back up all the way to The Dalles to cross the river, and was expected to arrive here nine hours late.

Airline traffic was disrupted too. No planes could land at the icy Portland airport. A General Airways plane arrived over the airport at 7:15 a.m. after a flight from Annette Island, Alaska, and was diverted to Pendleton.

A freight train derailment near Oakland, Ore., delayed Southern Pacific trains on the Ashland-Eugene run, but did not affect the main route to California.

Truman Silent On Super Bomb

Washington, Jan. 19 (AP)—President Truman today left wide open the possibility that he will order production of a hydrogen superbomb.

With the United States reported to be going ahead full blast on preliminary work leading up to production, Mr. Truman was asked at his news conference:

"Do you have under consideration production of a hydrogen bomb?"

The president replied that he could not comment on that.

Mr. Truman also told inquirers that he is not considering direct negotiations with the Russians on the hydrogen bomb.

The phrase "direct negotiations" was the one used by the questioner.

In giving a negative reply Mr. Truman did not rule out the possibility of some less immediate approach to the Russians.

For example, negotiations within the United Nations were not flatly ruled out.

The chief executive was asked "has David Lillenthal offered to go to Russia?"

Mr. Truman said flatly that he has not.

Lillenthal is the retiring chairman of the atomic energy commission. There have been reports, so far without substantiation from Lillenthal or the president, that the AEC chairman is opposed to development of a hydrogen bomb unless the United States first makes a new effort to work out an international atomic energy agreement with the Russians.

Republican Sens. Joseph R. McCarthy, Wis., and Karl E. Mundt, S. D., both members of the subcommittee, said that the president should fire Vaughan if he continues his "political activities." Mundt said the general should stop being a "political hatchman" or get out of uniform.

"Will there be any change in the status of Gen. Vaughan?" the president was asked.

With Vaughan standing behind him, the president said that there would be none.

30-pound bag—counterweight used for scenery that had become unfastened—missed the actress by inches.

Miss Waters, 50, turned the incident aside with a line from the hymn she sings in the play as a negro servant:

"His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me."

Where the Big Pictures Play!

ELSSINORE
NOW! Shelley Winters in "SOUTH SEA SINNER" And—"Highway 13" STARTS SOON

It's the answer to who wears the pants!
SPENCER TRACY-KATHARINE HEPBURN

THE PURPLE HEART
THRILL CO-HIT!

LIBERTY
NOW! OPENS 6:45 P.M.
Red Skelton "FULLER BRUSH MAN" Phil Harris "I LOVE A BANDLEADER"

GUADALCANAL DIARY
LLOYD NOLAN PRESTON FOSTER

ALIAS THE CHAMP
GORGEOUS GEORGE ARMY LOVE



Stranded Autos Retrieved—Autos in a long curving line are driven cautiously off Lake Winnebago ice and onto solid land near Calumet Harbor, Wis., after being abandoned by fishermen when the ice cracked and the floe moved out from shore along a 30-mile front at Oshkosh, Wis. Some 250 autos had been trapped on the ice. The fishermen were rescued by small boats when the ice cracked. (Acme Telephoto)

Senate Probers Castigate Maragon as 'Brazen Fixer'

Washington, Jan. 19 (AP)—Senate investigators today described John Maragon as a "brazen outright fixer" whose friendship with Maj. Gen. Harry H. Vaughan made possible his " nefarious activities in dealing with government officials."

In a 36-page report to the senate on its five percent investigation, the senate investigating subcommittee said that it is "incredible" that the Greek-born Maragon, now under indictment for perjury, could have operated as long as he did.

But the fact that Vaughan, President Truman's military aide, "personally interceded with government agencies on behalf of Maragon" it said, were among factors that "made it possible for Maragon to use the great prestige of the White House for his own personal advantage."

The report sharply criticized Vaughan for calling government agencies and giving them the impression he was acting on behalf of the president.

"The subcommittee recommends that the practice be discontinued," it said.

The group said it could not discuss Vaughan's relations with Maragon in detail because of the impending perjury trial against the one-time bootblack and White House intimate.

The report was signed by all seven members of the subcommittee—four democrats and three republicans. It was the subcommittee's first official conclusion on last summer's hectic inquiry into Washington's influence industry.

Maragon and Vaughan were key figures at the hearings which included revelations that a Chicago perfume manufacturer who employed Maragon sent valuable deep freeze units as gifts to Mrs. Truman, Vaughan



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White River Ice Jam Holds Firm

Tygh Valley, Jan. 19 (AP)—The White River ice jam still held back part of the swift stream today, but little damage was in prospect unless there should be a sudden thaw.

Army engineers blasted the jam yesterday and in late afternoon enough of the water was flowing through to lessen immediate fears. This morning the backed-up level was slightly higher than yesterday but not enough to arouse concern.

One house was evacuated early yesterday when ice cakes pushed near it and the water reached the floor level. Only three other houses in the same low area were threatened and today their situation was no worse.

Bevin Urges No Swap in Horses

London, Jan. 19 (AP)—Labor chancellor of the exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps urged British voters last night not to change horses in "the middle of what is still a pretty tough stream of world events."

In a major labor party campaign speech, the director of Britain's economy said a return to Winston Churchill's conservatives would constitute "the death warrant of democracy."

He also attacked the extreme left, accusing the communists of being "merely a sabotage party," and appealed to Britons to take the middle road of his labor party's "socialist democracy" when they vote in the national elections February 23.

Cripps continued the labor strategy of wooing middle class shopkeepers, businessmen and professionals.

Meanwhile, Lord Balfour said in his annual report as chairman of Lloyd's Bank, Ltd., that the British worker "sheltered by mounting subsidies by an inflationary wages spiral and by secure employment even in the least essential occupations" was laying down on the job. Individual production, he said, has dropped under prewar levels.

army facilities there January 26 and will confer with National Guard and reserve officers in that city that day. That evening he is to be honored at a dinner being arranged by Gen. Rilea at the Multnomah hotel.

January 27 Gen. Wedemeyer will come to Salem and will confer with Gov. Douglas McKay. He also will confer with National Guard and reserve officers here during his stay in Salem.

Oregon January 26 and 27 is to have its first visit from Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer since the general took command of Sixth army last fall.

Word of the general's visit was telephoned Thursday by Oregon's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea, Rilea, who stopped in San Francisco for a Sixth army conference en route back from Washington, contacted his office here.

Wedemeyer plans to visit the Portland air base and inspect

Fraternity Case Set February 20

Salem's high school fraternity case will be heard here February 20 before Circuit Judge Dal M. King of Coquille.

The case involves the expulsion of 19 high school boys who were accused of belonging to a secret society. The boys appealed to the court. They now are attending school under a temporary court order.

CVA Opposed By Don Walker

Enactment of the Columbia valley administration as proposed by President Truman would not be government by law but government by men, charged Donald C. Walker, Portland attorney as he attacked the measure during Thursday's Lions club luncheon.

The proposed legislation has no recognized boundaries, stated Walker, therefore those who are charged with the responsibility of administration could do just about as they pleased. The three men who would head the administration could compete with virtually all types of business in the district without hindrance, stated Walker. He declared the bill was "full of loopholes," adding that if members of congress were to give it diligent study they would not hesitate to reject it.

Measures such as CVA, Williams stated, tend to centralize government under the executive branch, an unhealthy situation. He asked a thorough study of the proposal by all citizens.

Showdown Fight On Rules Friday

Washington, Jan. 19 (AP)—Speaker Sam Rayburn predicted today that administration leaders will win their fight to keep control of the house rules away from the southern democratic-republican coalition.

The coalition expressed equal confidence it will win.

Rayburn also predicted at a news conference that the showdown battle will be fought out tomorrow. It will come when the house votes on a resolution to give its rules committee power to bury legislation.

The rules committee had this power for years, but in the last session the house took it away. The house set by-passing machinery which limited to 21 days the time the committee could hold up bills without action. Southern democrats and republicans on the committee adopted a resolution to abolish that machinery.

Vets Seek Bonus By Initiative

A preliminary petition for an initiative bill for an Oregon bonus for World War II veterans was filed with state elections Chief Dave O'Hara by the Oregon departments of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The proposal will be put to the people in the November election, provided 25,482 valid signatures are placed on petitions by July 6.

The proposed bonus would be at the rate of \$10 a month for domestic service and \$15 a month for overseas duty with a maximum of \$600. The bonus would be financed by a state bond issue.

Clyde Dickey, Legion department vice commander, said the referendum petition would provide Oregon citizens "the opportunity to reward those veterans who entered the armed forces from Oregon and served honorably during the emergency."

V. A. McCarty, state VFW commander, said the proposed constitutional amendment "is not in reality a bonus in the sense of a hand-out; it is in effect an adjustment in pay for the veterans of Oregon who served in World War II."

Bonuses for World War II veterans have been provided so far by 18 states.

Military Cop on Shooting Spree

Fort Lewis, Wash., Jan. 19 (AP)—A heavily armed soldier's 100-mile ride over icy highways in a commandeered taxi, after a shooting escapade at Fort Lewis, ended early today at Castle Rock.

Fort Lewis authorities said the soldier, a military policeman, fired four shots into an arms room floor before setting out on the wild ride. No one was hurt.

Military authorities and arresting officers in Cowlitz county identified the M.P. as Pvt. Howard R. McKeever.

State Patrolman Meredith Jevne of Kelso and Town Marshal George Eaton of Castle Rock, who arrested the soldier, said he was from Seattle and gave his age as 21. Jevne and Eaton said he was carrying five loaded .45 caliber automatics when he was arrested outside Castle Rock after falling asleep in the Tacoma taxicab.

The soldier, in his regular duties, was entrusted with keys to the arms room. He was off duty when the incident occurred. Military authorities said his previous record was entirely one of good conduct. They said he apparently had been affected abnormally by drinking.

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THE PURPLE HEART
THRILL CO-HIT!

LIBERTY
NOW! OPENS 6:45 P.M.
Red Skelton "FULLER BRUSH MAN" Phil Harris "I LOVE A BANDLEADER"