



Close Call—The driver and passengers of this bus climbed unhurt to safety after the bus skidded on ice, crashed through a bridge rail and came to rest against a tree in Schenectady, N. Y. Only the tree saved the occupants from serious injury in the ravine below. (Acme Telephoto)

### Chamber of Commerce To Start Membership Drive

A drive by the Chamber of Commerce to add new members and to recapture those who have dropped out will be started with a dinner session tentatively set for Tuesday night, Feb. 7. The hope of the membership committee, headed by Russell Pratt, is to strengthen the membership roster by at least 200 names, he told a meeting of the board of directors Wednesday night.

The dinner meeting will have a program of entertainment as well as business and an address by Charles Walker of Portland. The chamber is also hoping during this year to establish a stronger relationship with outlying business centers, like Hollywood, East State, Keizer, Four Corners and South Commercial street districts. Most of these communities have their own organization, and their commercial and social value is recognized by the Chamber of Commerce, but an overall affiliation with the chamber is considered desirable, both for the downtown business interests and those in the outlying areas.

Jim Beard, president of the Salem Retail Trade bureau, told the board of plans to form a merchants' association with membership dues and possibly a paid executive secretary. The association would be affiliated with the chamber, as the trade bureau is, but would be a stronger unit with possibly 500 members, Beard said.

Manager Clay Cochran told about progress in efforts by Manganese Products company of Seattle to get the Salem alumina plant into operation again. He said that George K. Hammill, director of General Services agency, successor to war assets administration as owner of the plant, may visit Salem soon. The Seattle concern made an acceptable bid for the plant, but financing hasn't yet been completed.

Cochran said the civil aeronautics board hearing of the case involving uninterrupted operation of United Air Lines in Salem, or a possible substitution of West Coast Air Lines, probably will be held in Salem late in February or early in March. Wednesday was the deadline for the filing of exhibits in the case. Attorneys had the assistance of W. M. (Jack) Bartlett, director of the state board of aeronautics, in preparing the exhibits. Rebuttal exhibits will be due early in February.

A telegram received by Manager Cochran from Rep. Walter

Norblad said in all probability the hearing would be in Salem about February 27. Norblad said he would be notified as soon as details are completed.

Robert England, traffic manager for West Coast Air Lines, spoke to the chamber. He said he wanted a certification for West Coast in Salem, but would also like to have United remain on the schedules. He urged the board to work for both. He said also it would be to Salem's advantage to have Klamath Falls on the West Coast schedule.

The board of directors adopted the report of the aims and objects committee which has set up a program for 1950. The program of nine points is: encouragement of business, both new and already established; highway and traffic improvement; off-street parking progress; continued airport development and support for United Air Lines; all-out support for Willamette valley project; park development, city administration commended for progress made; continuation of farm labor camp; support of long-range planning commission; marking of historic spots and stressing tourist business.

The highway and traffic program stresses in order of im-

### Church Council Asks Extension of DP Law

Forest Grove, Jan. 26 (AP)—The Oregon council of churches closed its annual convention yesterday with an appeal for extension of the displaced persons law.

A resolution said more homeless Europeans should be permitted to enter the country as early as possible.

Other resolutions called for these studies: The proposed Columbia Valley administration, but did not take a stand on the issue; possible use of stored food surpluses for relief in foreign countries; and whether the Portland council and the state group should merge.

The convention asked member churches to cooperate with parent organizations, such as the Parent-Teacher association, and support of the United Protestant radio programs.

portance the new Marion street bridge, improvement of the north approach of Highway 99E to Salem, the Mehama-Mill City highway, Salem-Portland highway and Wilsonville cut-off.

### La Grande Gets Glimpse of Spring

La Grande, Ore., Jan. 26 (AP)—Most Oregonians, shivering from the current intense cold, won't believe it, but the first signs of spring have appeared in eastern Oregon.

Dr. Joseph Gaiser of Eastern Oregon College reports finding a bunch of yellow buttercups just a few inches from a snowbank on Rooster Rock near La Grande.

### VFW Chief Speaker

Tillamook, Jan. 26 (AP)—National Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander Clyde A. Lewis was scheduled to speak here today. He is visiting in Oregon with

his father, J. D. Lewis, at nearby Wheeler. The VFW chief arrived in Portland last night. He plans to speak in Oregon City tomorrow night.

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### Migrant Labor Case Studied

Migrant labor is in need of better housing and better opportunities for education and might well be considered the "untouchables" of this country, Mrs. Ted Gordon, member of the social action committee of the First Congregational church, told members of the church Wednesday night. The committee had charge of a panel discussion on farm labor problems, with Dr. George Martin, chairman.

Present housing conditions in a majority of instances are "terrible," in the opinion of Mrs. Melvin Nettleton, another member of the committee, which visited several camps to learn of

conditions. Most of the buildings were described as worse than those generally erected for poultry and livestock.

Creation of a community concern in order to better living conditions for the migrant laborer and his family was held by John Hakanson, a third member of the group, as one of the leading solutions to the problem. He said that a survey is being made by students of Willamette university and that the results of this would be incorporated in the records of the committee.

### Turkey Production Cut

Portland, Jan. 26 (AP)—Oregon Turkey Growers won't raise so many birds this year as last, the U. S. department of agriculture reported Wednesday.

Oregon growers plan to produce about 1,497,000 turkeys this year: 35 per cent below the wartime average, and 8 per cent below the 1949 rate.

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### TELEX HEARING CLINIC

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