Capita1 Journal

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher
Published every afternoon except Sunday at 444 Che-
meketa St., Salem. Phones: Business, Newsroom, Want-
Full Leased Wire Service of the Associated Press and
The United Press. The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of oll news dispatches
credited to it or otherwise credited in this paper and also


An Atrocious January
The present cold snap at a time when rose bushes are usually trimmed and camelias in bloom, has Salem, the
Willamette valley and most of Oregon in the deep freeze class, perhaps another gift from Major General Vaughan,
that needs congressional investigation. The thermomete has dropped down to the lowest level since in Decembe
1919, when similar temperatures were recorded and wid pread damage to fruit trees resulted
degrees icial McNary airfield sors than the mometers in the city itself recorded. But the airport located in a draw some distance from the city and consist
ently has lower temperatures in winter and higher in The same ${ }^{f}$ condition exists
month-end protest from the
from a publicity standpoint:
"When an airport minimum reading is 8 degrees above, read-
nsss in the city proper, even in the northeastern suburbs,


$\qquad$
$\qquad$ of the valley's fruit and nut trees as well as cane fruits,
The 10 degree below zero temperature was fatal to peach, some apple, pear, prune and walnut trees, damage from which they never recovered. Many old trees were so irre-
pairably injured that they had to be pulled out and new
ones planted-and in some instances the owners aftercplanted at once. radual or sudden as is the usually the case with winter killing and the sap was still in the trees and the sunshine split

In Salem the principal loss wirbe to reside tial gardens A temperature of 15 degrees above is usually fatal to came 1919 the 17 -year-old camellia trees at the state hospita Zero temperatures are fatal to many shrubs, such a
Mexican orange, Portuguese laurel, daphne and some ever greens, natives of tropical countries. Many rose bushe
are also killed below the grafts though the briar roots
urvive. Many other shrubs will also have to be replantel

Shivering temperatures have prevailed since January every day but four in Januua
every day but four in January, a total of 35.8 inches, a rec
ord for one month in Salem. It has been a most disagreenble month, with every vari-
ety of weather winter can offer, blizzards, gales, fog, rain,
soggy and powder snow, sleet, silver thaw, and then slush have contributed their misery to a country used only to
alternate rain and sunshine. We are glad it is over and
wait for the ground hog to

The Quiet Before the Announcement There is a strange quiet preceding a decision by the pres-
dent as to whether or not the United States will build an ident as to whether or not the United States will build an
H-bomb.
The quiet does not indicate a lack of interest in what the decision will be. Nor does it cover the deep concern
over the consequence of putting the nation's top scientists
to work figuring a way to put together a bomb 1000 times The usual loud-mouths in congress have been strangely
silent about the momentous question before Truman. The flag-wavers have been too impressed with the consequences
of a "go-ahead" signal to break into a patriotic demonstra-
tion. The leftists have been rather stunned by the terror of the decision that puts aside all consideration of cradleAs mentioned by General Wedemeyer. Sixth army con
mander who was in Salem last week, the next war, if backyard
David Lilienthal, atomic energy commission chairman,
s correct in his implied complaint against the H-bomb as being a poor use of the nation's resources, scientific skills
and money. But, regretably, the question of the H-bomb has now resolved itself into the mere question of surviv.
of the nations believing in the freedom of the individual.
Those western democratic nations would be helpless if
Soviet Russia were to put out an ultimatum a few year hence that the western democracies would have to give into olely by Russia.
Trend of events since World War II still verifies the con--bomb kept Russia in check. With the Soviets now build ing a supply of A-bombs, the period of freedom
tack because of a monopoly is no longer present.
As reluctant as Truman was to order the A-bomb use
against Japan, the president obviously has an even greate reluctance to make the same type of decision-only of even
reater importance. When the decision is made, he should pectfully quiet during the waiting period.


## Kiss on Willamette Campus Was Absolutely Shocking



His Reelection No Surprise


## MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Conflict Between Commies and West to Continue Indefinitely



Capital ${ }^{\text {d }}$ Journal


Your Ad Will Get Resulis, Too. Dial
Result Number 22406

