

THE WEATHER

CLEARING TONIGHT and fair Friday. Little change in temperature. Low tonight, 43; high Friday, 62.

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Nine Interim Committees to Make Studies

Highways, Taxation, Retirement, Welfare To Be Studied

By JAMES D. OLSON

In addition to the usual interim committees on taxation and highways, the 1953 legislature authorized seven other important committees for interim study of the retirement system, public assistance, amendment of the state constitution and other subjects.

Supplementing federal social security to the state retirement plan was accomplished by the recent legislature but it was recognized that in so doing there were a number of complex problems that could not be resolved during the session.

Therefore a committee composed of one senator, two representatives and two citizens to serve as advisory members was authorized.

Retirement Study

This committee is charged with the duty of studying the new retirement system as it applies to employees of fire and police departments of the various municipalities, public career employees, disability benefits as well as the scale of wages paid to public employes.

Welfare Listed

Public assistance both at the state and county level will be studied by legislative interim committee composed of two senators to be appointed by the president of the senate and three representatives to be named by the speaker of the house.

(Concluded on Page 5, Col. 7)

Abandoned Plane Crashes

Olympia, Wash. (AP)—A large military airplane, wandering over Southwest Washington after being abandoned by its crew, crashed about 25 miles south of here Thursday afternoon.

The State Patrol said the crew bailed out after the landing gear would not lower. It was described as a C-97 Stratofreighter.

Most of the crew were reported to have parachuted in the Tacoma area. The Coast Guard said it dispatched boats for possible pick-ups of men from Puget Sound, if necessary. The crash scene was described as east of Chehalis.

The patrol said the plane had crashed in the Hanford Valley northeast of Chehalis.

Cut Funds for Reclamation

Washington (AP)—Oregon and Washington reclamation projects would receive \$24,003,000 if congress accepts recommendations of the House Appropriations Committee.

The recommendations, submitted to congress Thursday, eliminated money requested for the Klamath Project on the Oregon-California border and pared requests which the budget of former President Truman had contained for the Columbia Basin, and the Roza and Kennewick divisions of the Yakima project in Washington. The Truman figures had totaled \$27,146,000.

The committee report gave no reason for the cuts except in the case of the Roza division where it eliminated \$778,000 asked to begin work on a power plant for pumping.

Plans in Making for Memorial Day Event

Members of the Salem Federation of Patriotic Orders at a meeting held Wednesday night at VFW hall made preliminary plans for the observance of Memorial Day here.

The group voted to have a parade this year, rain or shine, and plans were made for a memorial service honoring veterans and servicemen who have died the past year, which will be held the evening of Sunday, May 24, at one of the Salem churches.

Representatives of ladies auxiliaries of the various veterans organizations will meet next Wednesday night at the VFW hall at 8 o'clock to make plans for a memorial service.

House Slams Interior Dept's Power Policy

Competition With Private Companies Brings Budget Slash

Washington (AP)—The House Appropriations Committee said Thursday the Interior Department should quit competing with private enterprise in the field of power.

To put force into its recommendation, it asked the House to cut the department's budget for the fiscal year 1954 by slightly more than one-third of the amount former President Truman asked.

The recommendation was embodied in a bill carrying \$404,863,239 to run the department for the year starting July 1. This is \$202,473,161 less than Truman requested in January and \$137,874,262 less than the department received this year.

Deep cuts were made in funds requested for transmission lines and power plants. Lays Down Future Policies

The committee laid down a general policy for future guidance of the department. These instructions could be eliminated or revised by the full House.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 4)

Klamath Power Line Half Built

Klamath Falls (AP)—The Bonneville transmission line from Redmond to Klamath Falls on which the House Appropriations Committee Thursday directed an immediate halt, already has been built south 33 miles from Bend.

The right-of-way for the rest of the route has been obtained and equipment such as transformers are now in storage here and at Chiloquin.

The other local project affected by the appropriations cut-backs is the Klamath reclamation area on the Oregon-California line. E. L. Stevens, project manager, said some of the new construction funds—all of which were eliminated—had been intended to make some of the reclaimed land available to homesteading. Interior Secretary McKay some weeks ago had directed that this be done.

Lebanon Man Pleads Guilty

Portland (AP)—The second of three defendants in the Indian timberland fraud case pleaded guilty Thursday, changing his former plea. It was Fred M. Marsh, Lebanon timber buyer, who admitted his guilt.

Tuesday Clyde Flinn, ousted Indian Service aide, had taken the same step.

The only defendant still to be tried is John C. Blanford, 57, of Milwaukie, an employe of Marsh.

Marsh, 54, entered his guilty plea before Federal Judge Claude McCulloch in a voice that was barely audible.

All three men were indicted on charges of giving false information to the government and with conspiring to defraud in connection with purchase of Indian-owned timberland.

House Group Slashes Funds for Bonneville

Washington (AP)—The House Appropriations Committee Thursday recommended that Congress appropriate \$43,300,000 for the Bonneville Power Administration during the 12 months beginning July 1.

The figure is \$19,300,000 below the amount recommended in the budget sent to Congress by former President Truman.

Bulk of the committee cut came in construction items, reducing \$16,900,000. The remaining \$2,400,000 slash was taken in operation and maintenance.

The committee report, sent to Congress Thursday, expressed concern "about the vigorous efforts which have been put forth by the Bonneville Power Administration in recent years to sell its program and its power anywhere that it might conceivably build a transmission line."

It said the committee "cannot read into the Bonneville Act anything directing the ad-

GATES OF FREEDOM OPEN FOR REPATRIATES



This was the scene at Freedom Village near Munsan, Korea, during the second day's exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war as repatriated United Nations soldiers walk from ambulances to processing tents. In front of each tent is an arched sign "Welcome Gate To Freedom." (AP Wirephoto)

Mystery Man Worked for FDR

Washington (AP)—Henry W. Grunwald testified Thursday he had conducted an investigation for the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He refused to tell what it was about, because "I don't think the President would want it done."

Grunwald, a 60-year-old Washington mystery man who had influential contacts in the capital, also told a House ways and means subcommittee that he:

1. Deposited almost \$96,000 in 1949, all of which he said was race track money.
2. Installed an elaborate \$10,000 private telephone set-up in his Miami winter home giving him direct communication with various offices in Washington.

Grunwald volunteered the information about investigative work for President Roosevelt when he came under questioning about the telephone installation.

Jury Selected For Trial of Reds

Seattle (AP)—Six men and six women were selected Wednesday for the jury which will hear the trial of six men and a woman accused of conspiring to advocate overthrow of the government by force.

The last juror was the 77th examined from the panel called when the trial opened April 15. Four more will be seated as alternates who will serve if a regular juror is incapacitated during the trial which is expected to last from three to six months.

Government and defense attorneys agreed on the final juror after Federal Judge William Lindberg had excused a juror who had been a target of charges brought by John Caughlan, an attorney representing six of the defendants.

Mrs. Leona Whitchurch of Everett was excused at her own request.

Plows Clear Pass of Celery

Eugene, Ore.—Snow plows were called out in Oregon's Willamette Pass yesterday—but there wasn't any snow.

State police said a truck loaded with celery overturned and the snow plows were needed to clear the celery from the road.

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Freed POW Tell of Torture and Epidemics

Freedom Village, Korea (AP)—Freed United Nations soldiers told today of fiendish Communist tortures, of epidemics that swept through prison camps—and of an ammunition shortage on the Western Front.

A south Korean whose fingers rotted away while his hands were tied behind him, who was hung up by his heels while his guards shook pepper in his mouth and nostrils was one who told his story.

Another South Korean saw 1,000 men die in one camp. Woman Repatriated

The first U. N. woman prisoner repatriated, a South Korean Army cook, said the Chinese Reds beat her on two successive days with a steel stick after her capture.

Colombian Cpl. Oscar Duran, 20, told of the ammunition shortage, speaking as one foot soldier fighting from a bunker against overwhelming enemy strength.

Durna's unit was attached to the U. S. Seventh Infantry Division.

The battle had been going on for 14 days, Durna said, when one morning at 4 o'clock his little group in a bunker started running out of ammunition.

"That march was terrible. There were some 705 American GI's and something like 60 to 68 civilians when we started. Among the civilians was a French priest over 80, several others over 70, women and children, while the Americans were sick and wounded.

"The only food we had was one ball of millet cereal in the morning and another one in the evening," the bishop said.

Nichols to Head Reclamation

Washington (AP)—Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay has picked Marvin C. Nichols, a Ft. Worth, Tex., democrat, engineer, to head the U. S. reclamation bureau.

If his choice is approved by President Eisenhower, as expected, Nichols will replace Michael W. Straus, who resigned several weeks ago. Senate confirmation is not required.

Nichols, 56, is a partner in the consulting engineering firm of Freese and Nichols, which specializes in public problems such as city water systems. Former president of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, he calls himself a "basically conservative democrat" who voted for Mr. Eisenhower last November.

Rent Controls To End July 31

Washington (AP)—The house Thursday passed a bill calling for an end to the bulk of federal rent controls on July 31.

The bill was passed by a standing vote of 187 to 69 after the house trounced two moves by a few democrats to extend ceilings, to October 1, and for one year.

Controls over some 5,600,000 housing units in 32 states will die April 30, one week from today, unless extended by congress.

The senate banking committee has approved an extension to October 1, but the senate has not acted yet.

The compromise bill would continue all present rent controls until July 31, to give local governments time to replace federal ceilings with local control if they wish.

Bishop Tells of Terrible March

London (AP)—Dr. Cecil Cooper, Anglican bishop of Korea recently released by the Communists said today he took part in a nine-day forced march in North Korea with 700 American soldiers and 68 civilians.

The 71-year-old bishop told a press conference that 98 of the war prisoners died on the march.

"That march was terrible. There were some 705 American GI's and something like 60 to 68 civilians when we started. Among the civilians was a French priest over 80, several others over 70, women and children, while the Americans were sick and wounded.

"The only food we had was one ball of millet cereal in the morning and another one in the evening," the bishop said.

He held up his hands to show only one thumb remaining. His North Korean captors kept his hands tied behind his back with telephone wire for two weeks, he said, until the fingers rotted away. A doctor amputated eight fingers and one thumb, he said, and dabbed mercurochrome on the stumps.

M. Sgt. Kim Ka Sung of the South Korean army told the grimmest story yet of Communist cruelty.

He held up his hands to show only one thumb remaining. His North Korean captors kept his hands tied behind his back with telephone wire for two weeks, he said, until the fingers rotted away. A doctor amputated eight fingers and one thumb, he said, and dabbed mercurochrome on the stumps.

"The only food we had was one ball of millet cereal in the morning and another one in the evening," the bishop said.

93 Wet Backs To Be Deported

Klamath Falls (AP)—Ninety-three Mexican nationals were in the county jail here Thursday morning as U. S. immigration service agents continued their round-up of illegal entrants.

A special railroad car took part of them south Thursday morning. In the past they have gone to Portland for processing but this year a hearing agent came here to check legality of their presence in this country.

Most of them, called wet-backs because of their habit of swimming across the border, were with railroad work gangs.

The current round-up has been in two northern California counties and Klamath, Lake and Jackson counties of Oregon.

Grand Jury Clears Police in Shooting

Roseburg (AP)—Sheriff Cal Baird and 13 other police officers were, in effect, absolved of any blame in the Burgoyne shooting after a three-day Douglas County Grand Jury investigation.

The jury completed its work Wednesday without recommending that any action be taken.

Sheriff Baird, who earlier promised a statement, said Thursday he had changed his mind and would make no comment.

Ike Says No Reaction From Reds on Peace

U.N. to Charge Reds Cheated in POW Deal

Panmunjom (AP)—The United Nations Command indicated today it may formally charge the Communists with cheating on their agreement to return all sick and wounded Allied war prisoners.

U. N. officials gave high priority today to the careful assembling of all evidence of bad faith by the Reds despite a communist announcement that more than 805 men originally listed would be sent home.

An authoritative source said a United Nations protest probably will be made after officials have interviewed all returning prisoners.

Ambiguous Promise

The unexpected and ambiguous communist announcement that additional men will be returned was interpreted here to apply principally to men recently wounded and captured.

Allied officials said they are inclined to believe, on evidence supplied by the early exchanges, that a considerably larger number of sick and wounded men captured early in the Korean war should be coming back.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 3)

Germ Charges To Be Probed

United Nations, N. Y. (AP)—The U. N. General Assembly Thursday voted overwhelmingly for an impartial investigation of communist charges that American troops waged germ warfare in Korea.

The vote, 51-5 (Soviet bloc) with four abstentions came immediately after the U. S. accused Russia with "utterly and completely iniquitous" behavior for spreading the charges and called Soviet opposition to the investigation "reprehensible in the extreme."

The tense atmosphere cleared for a moment shortly afterwards as both Russia and the U. S. joined in support of a Mexican resolution calling on all countries to help Burma get rid of 12,000 Chinese Nationalist guerrillas who have been operating on her soil.

The vote was 59-0 with Nationalist China abstaining.

Fair Weather for Friday Predicted

Fair weather is expected for Friday, reports the weather bureau, clearing due to start in tonight.

Skies remained threatening much of Thursday following 15 of an inch of rain measured in the 24-hour period ending at 10:30 a.m.

Some high wind came with the light rain through Wednesday and the night in western Oregon, but temperatures were comparatively mild.

Westside Scores Again With Industrial Show

The aggressive and prosperous community of West Salem had its third annual Industrial Night Wednesday with a dinner, display of its products and some other very interesting features.

It was held at the West Salem school and was attended by 250 or more persons of both the west and the east sides.

Clyde Everett, manager of Oregon Flax Textiles, was program chairman and master of ceremonies at the banquet. He gave the audience some significant figures.

The annual payroll on the westside, said Everett, is \$2,600,000, which is paid to 2,332 men and women who are employed in factories and packing plants of the community. And the annual output of the

5 Sabrejets Score on 3 Red Mig 15s

Seoul (AP)—MIG-killing American Sabre jets scored their first victories in five days over the Red air force today, while South Korean raiders slaughtered or wounded 100 Communists in their trenches.

The Sabres probably destroyed one MIG and damaged two others in roaring dogfights only five miles southeast of the Communists' Yalu river sanctuary in Manchuria.

Two pilots asked not to be identified. The third, 1st Lt. George W. Jensen of Tacoma, Wash., got a damage claim.

The South Koreans moved silently into the enemy trenches at four points, surprising Chinese Communist units.

They killed or wounded 63 Chinese in two raids south of Panmunjom and wrecked fortifications with grenades and satchel charges.

NATO Warned By Eisenhower

Paris (AP)—U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said Thursday night the NATO Council of Ministers has "unanimously agreed that they could not assume at the present time there has been any change in basic Soviet policy."

Dulles' statement followed a message from President Eisenhower warning America's allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization not to relax their rearmament efforts because of the Soviet peace campaign.

Eisenhower said that "until the conditions for a genuine peace have been firmly established, it would be foolhardy for us to delude ourselves about the dangers confronting us."

Action taken by the ministers on the first day of the meeting underlined this attitude toward the Soviet Union. The ministers signed contracts for 350 million dollars for planes to be turned out in European factories to bulwark NATO's air arm.

Indonesia Reds Push on Capital

Hanoi, Indochina (AP)—A communist spearhead pushing down from the north reached within 60 miles of the Royal Laotian capital of Luang Prabang Thursday. It ran into stiff French-Laotian resistance at Muongngoi in the Laos Kingdom's mountain territory.

A French communiqué said the communist-led Vietminh was maintaining pressure at Muongngoi but after repeated attacks had failed to smash the defending forces. The invading column had pushed south from Dienbienuh in the Thai mountain country, 180 miles from Hanoi.

French and Laotian defenders clashed with a patrol of the enemy on the Plain de Jarres in the heart of Laos, killing seven of the invaders and capturing one.

Sees Something Wrong in Sick PW Treatment

Washington (AP)—President Eisenhower said Thursday he is ready to do anything and confer anywhere to bring about peace in Korea.

The president told a news conference, however, that like every one else he is simply waiting now to see how developments go in Korea.

His statements were in response to a question as to whether he felt the chances are good for a prompt truce in Korea.

In reply to another question the president said he has had no reaction from the Kremlin to the world peace and disarmament plan he set forth a week ago.

Studying POW Exchange

He said the government is studying and analyzing the prisoner exchange situation, and that obviously, from news stories of atrocities, something is wrong.

He added that he as yet has no full and complete report on the matter and so can't determine what the actual facts are.

On other matters, the president:

1. Said he is confident defense spending will be cut for the fiscal year starting July 1, but that he is not ready to estimate how much the savings will be.

(Concluded on Page 5, Column 3)

Defense Budget Can Be Trimmed

Washington (AP)—President Eisenhower said Thursday he believes the defense budget can be cut but isn't prepared to say yet by what amount.

The chief executive also told his news conference plans will be sent to Congress very soon for reorganization of Defense Department and the State Department. He said these would be in line with discussions he held earlier this morning with congressional leaders and administration officials.

Sen. Taft R. Ohio, told reporters after the White House meeting that there was general discussion covering such possibilities as:

1. Removing the Voice of America and associated information programs from the State Department and making them an independent agency.
2. Transfer of the Point Four aid program from the State Department to the Mutual Security Agency. This program aims at spreading technical knowledge to underdeveloped areas of the world.
3. Reorganization in the Defense Department to eliminate certain boards and give these responsibilities to civilian assistant secretaries. Taft said this included the munitions board.

Atomic Training For Key Officers

Washington (AP)—The United States will give training in atomic warfare to key allied officers in Europe starting April 28, the Defense Department announced Thursday.

A statement from the headquarters of Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, Supreme Allied commander, said that the courses are designed to acquaint Allied officers with the "use of atomic weapons in tactical situations."

The brief announcement said the courses will exclude any information classified as "restricted" in the Atomic Energy Act.

U. S. officers will conduct the courses, which will be given in the U. S. zone of Germany.

Weather Details

Maximum yesterday, 61; minimum today, 47. Total 24-hour precipitation: .15 for month; 241 normal; 1.23 excess precipitation; 27.18; normal, 24.94. River height, 1.8 feet. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)