

Move to Delay Reapportionment Case Denied

Chief Justice Latourette Sets Hearing on Reapportionment

By JAMES D. OLSON

A surprise move on the part of attorneys of the intervenors who joined the state as defendants to delay the case in which Rep. Dave Baum is challenging the constitutionality of the legislative reapportionment measure was thwarted Thursday by the state supreme court by denial of the motion.

Furthermore, Chief Justice Earl C. Latourette set February 24 as the date in which arguments by attorneys on both sides will be heard by the court, providing all briefs are filed by that date.

More Time Sought

A petition signed by Douglas R. Spencer, Stanley Darling, John C. Beattie, Jr., and Thomas B. Stuel, representing Richard Deich, Olga Freeman, both of Portland and Walter Dodd of Eugene, intervening defendants in the case, filed a motion for an extension of time to Feb. 20 in which to file a new abstract.

Austrian Firm Gets Contract

WASHINGTON (UP)—The Interior Department has announced award of an electric transformer contract to a low bidding Austrian firm which a few hours earlier had been turned down on another bid for similar equipment.

Last week the Austrian government expressed "grave concern" at the "tendency" of the Interior Department to exclude an Austrian subsidiary of an American firm from contract awards for heavy electric equipment for the Bonneville Power Administration.

A Bureau of Reclamation contract for supplying three transformers for the Jamestown-Fargo, N.D., 230-kilovolt transmission line of the Missouri Basin project power system was given to the American Elin Corp., N.Y. It is the American representative of the Elin manufacturing plant at Weitz, Styria, Austria.

The basic contract calls for \$233,800. After adjustment to include evaluation for guaranteed efficiency, maximum price increases, spare parts and a 25 percent differential between foreign and domestic bids, the American Elin bid was set at \$531,099.50.

Can Hike Fares On Trailways

Pacific Trailways, which operates from Portland to Salt Lake City and in Central Oregon, was permitted by Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Helzel Thursday to increase its express rates.

The company will get \$1,500 a month more revenue over its whole system, as the increase also has been approved in Idaho and Utah.

Helzel said the company during 1953 had total operating revenues of \$893,572 and operating expenses of \$894,217, leaving it a very small profit.

Inland Empire '53 Index High

SEATTLE (UP)—The University of Washington's Bureau of Business Research said Thursday that the Pacific Northwest's business activity index was higher in the final months of 1953 than in a year earlier. The Inland Empire was credited with most of the year-end boost.

The index showed the Inland Empire 3.85 per cent above the previous year in November and 11 1/2 per cent higher in December.

For the Puget Sound area the index showed rises of 1 1/2 per cent for November and 4 for December. The Lower Columbia area was up 4 1/2 per cent in November and 1.9 in December.

Ex-Governor Pierce Resting Comfortably

Walter M. Pierce, 92-year-old former governor and ex-congressman, is resting comfortably but is very weak, his wife said Thursday.

"He's had several close calls, but he rallies each time," Mrs. Pierce said.

Pierce has been bedfast for many months.

Hypocrisies of Churchgoing People Played

Dr. Crane Blasts Persons With 'Self-Conscious Pride'

By FRED ZIMMERMAN

"Vicious Virtue," developed in several phases led Dr. Henry Hitt Crane of Detroit, Mich., to dwell upon hypocrisies of people, especially the self-righteous churchman as he gave the last of a series of three addresses before the convocation for ministers and laymen in connection with the Oregon Council of Churches Thursday forenoon.

Dr. Hitt declared during his discourse that the "Master with the most difficulty with the best people where he lived. Not a single drunk ever bothered him; no thug ever waylaid him; but it was the self-righteous Pharisee who caused him the most trouble.

Courage, the one virtue that all people agree is tops in that category, can be "vicious as hell," declared Dr. Crane. War, he explained, that demands courage and the bravest of the brave, is entirely destructive. He put in a plea for the person who is "brave enough to be gentle."

Virtue becomes vicious, continued the speaker, when human rights are forgotten. In this connection the basic test applied by Jesus is "how did you treat people? Did you administer to those who were sick, feed those who were hungry and clothe those who were naked?"

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 4)

4 Cents Postage Gets Approval

WASHINGTON (UP)—The House Post Office Committee voted Thursday to raise the cost of mailing first class letters from three cents to four cents.

The committee action, taken in closed session, is estimated to add 150 million dollars a year to postal revenues, if it finally goes through. It was the first step in a proposed plan of the Eisenhower administration for a quarter-billion-dollar yearly increase in postal rates.

The increase in the first class mailing rate was reported to have been favored by a substantial margin of the committee.

The vote, however, is still subject to possible reversal when the committee completes its section-by-section study of rates and votes on the entire bill later.

The committee is scheduled to consider a proposed increase of \$19,800,000 in publishers' second class rates at another session Friday. This represents a net 38.7 per cent increase over present publication mailing costs, according to the revised post office revenue estimates.

Sewage Plants Ready May 1

CORVALLIS, UP.—New sewage disposal plants at Albany, Corvallis and Eugene will go into operation about May 1, city managers of the three communities said today.

Managers C. G. Reiter of Albany, James O. Conville of Corvallis and Robert A. Finlayson of Eugene met here to discuss plans and for their operations. They said test runs on the three plants would be completed about the same time.

Ralph Roderick, consulting engineer on the three projects, said operation of the plants would end the dumping of untreated sewage in the Willamette river system except at Lebanon where a sawmill disposal plant is expected to begin operations about July 1.

Benson Says Sag in Farm Prices Behind Us

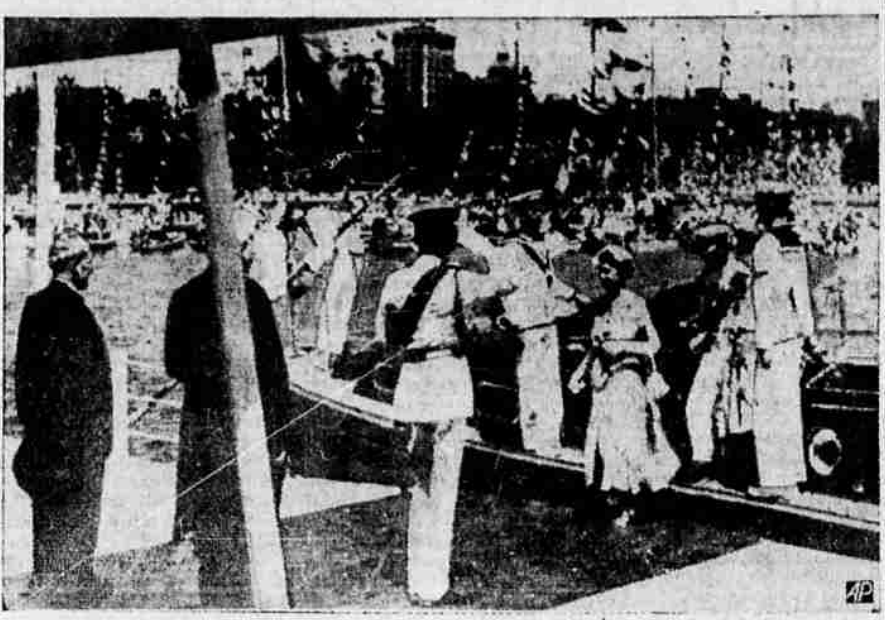
WASHINGTON (UP)—Secretary of Agriculture Benson said Thursday that the long sag in farm income "is largely behind us" and called on Congress to adopt President Eisenhower's middle-of-the-road farm program.

Benson told the Senate House Committee, which is exploring measures to avert recession, that greater consumption of farm products under flexible and gradually lowered price supports would bolster farmers' income.

"The road to economic growth is through expanded production—production that finds its way into consumption and not into warehouses," Benson declared.

"The President's proposals on the agricultural programs will help economic growth in this nation."

QUEEN ELIZABETH REACHES AUSTRALIA



Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain becomes the first reigning sovereign of her empire to set foot on Australian soil as she steps ashore from a navy barge at Fern Cove, Sydney. Saluting is Sir William Slim, governor general, and standing behind him at left, are John J. Cahill, premier of New South Wales, and Robert G. Menzies, Australian prime minister. (AP Wirephoto via radio from Sydney)

3 Die, 4 Hurt In Traffic Crash

HILLSBORO, Ore. (UP)—A head-on collision killed three women and injured four other persons on the Sunset Highway Wednesday night.

Gordon Kemmer, Washington County sheriff's deputy, said the cars were coming from opposite directions when a truck stopped in the highway to make a left turn, a half-mile east of the North Plains Junction.

He said a car driven by Mrs. Anne Josephine Shofner, 53, Portland, veered to avoid the truck, struck its left rear wheel, and crashed head-on with the oncoming car.

Mrs. Shofner and a passenger, Mrs. Emma Norton, 69, Portland, were injured fatally. In the other car Mrs. Myrtle Hedricks, about 45, Rt. 3, Hillsboro, was killed outright.

The injured were in the Hedricks' car. They were the widow, Charles Hedricks, Mrs. Robert E. Baker, 32, Portland, and her two children, Donald 7, and Twyale, 18 months. All were taken to the Jone Hospital in Hillsboro.

The truck driver, Lloyd W. Faull, 45, Rt. 3, Hillsboro, was cited for having an overlength load.

272 Picked for Postmasters

WASHINGTON (UP)—President Eisenhower Thursday sent to the Senate the names of 272 nominees for postmasterships in as many communities in a total of 40 states.

It was one of the largest blocs of postal nominations since the President took office.

In response to questions as to whether all of the nominees are Republicans, Presidential Press Secretary James C. Hagerty replied that all of the selections were recommended by Republican members of Congress and were approved by the Republican National Committee.

Hagerty added that in congressional districts represented by Democrats, the choices were approved by local GOP organizations and by the national committee.

All the nominations are subject to Senate confirmation.

Big Turnover in Oregon State Jobs

The state of Oregon hired 9,639 civil service employees during 1953, and 8,613 others quit their jobs, the Civil Service Commission said Wednesday.

There was a net gain of 1,026 employees during the year, making a total of 13,746 in state civil service jobs at the end of the year.

The increased number was attributed to expansion of state departments and reducing the 44-hour work week to 40 hours in state hospitals.

Plan to Develop Dinosaur Park

LOS ANGELES (UP)—Interior Secretary Douglas McKay said last night the federal government hopes to develop Dinosaur National Monument into a recreational area rivaling Lake Mead and Great Smoky National Park.

The monument overlaps the Utah-Colorado border.

"We have included in the Upper Colorado Report an item for 21 million dollars to develop the area around a proposed Echo Park Dam within Dinosaur National Monument into a recreational facility," McKay told a Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Senate Group Approves Statehood for Alaska

WASHINGTON (UP)—The Senate Interior Committee voted 14-1 Thursday to approve a bill to admit Alaska to statehood.

Chairman Butler (R-Neb.) told reports of a bill report will be delayed for a few days to incorporate amendments to the bill determined upon by the full committee Thursday.

As soon as those amendments can be fitted into the legislation, he said, the Alaska bill will go on the Senate calendar along with the Hawaii statehood bill which was approved by the committee last week.

Committee members said the only vote against the bill was that of Sen. Long (La.).

However, several committee members, including Chairman Butler, reserved the right to oppose the bill when it reaches the Senate floor.

Sen. Gordon (R-Ore.), chairman of a subcommittee which has been working on the Alaska bill for two weeks, declined to discuss the nature of amendments ordered Thursday.

Huge Surplus Of Army Goods

WASHINGTON (UP)—House investigators reported Thursday the military services are piling up billions of dollars worth of surplus equipment faster than they can dispose of it through present "unim-pired" methods.

Rep. Riehlman (R-NY), chairman of a government operations subcommittee, added that the services themselves don't know how much excess military equipment they have but that some estimates reach 10 billion dollars.

The subcommittee in a report to the House scores all three services for showing a "serious lack of concern" for this "critical problem."

Riehlman said in an interview he would have military officials on the carpet within two weeks as the investigation developed.

Say Reds Don't Control Hawaii

WASHINGTON (UP)—Urging prompt Senate passage of the Hawaii statehood bill, the Senate Interior Committee Thursday rejected testimony that Communism in the islands has increased during the past few years.

In its formal report to the Senate on the statehood legislation, the committee said it did not deny that Communist activity exists in Hawaii, just as in the various states, but:

"We do contend (1) that the general public in all strata of society in Hawaii have become far more alert to the Communist menace during the past several years; (2) that Communist power and influence have strikingly declined during the past few years; and (3) that Communism in Hawaii is no more of a threat to the present territorial government or the proposed state government than it is in any of the existing states."

Washington Cuts Traffic Deaths

OLYMPIA (UP)—The state campaign to reduce the traffic death toll showed these figures Thursday.

Traffic deaths since Jan. 1, 1953: 58.

Demands Big 4 Form All German Regime

Russia Offers to Buy \$ Billion in British Supplies

MOSCOW (UP)—(Telephoned to London)—The Russian government Thursday offered to place contracts worth four hundred million pounds sterling, (\$1,120,000,000), with British industries for delivery from 1955 to 1957.

This offer was transmitted in a memorandum handed by Ivan G. Kabanov, the Soviet minister of foreign trade, to a delegation of 32 British private business men who are visiting Moscow.

The offer concerned a large variety of equipment including tankers, small cargo ships, industrial plant equipment, small electric power stations as well as railroad equipment, floating docks, fish carriers and steam boilers.

Accompanying the memorandum the Russians handed over a detailed breakdown of equipment they said they could use.

This was the biggest gesture yet announced by the Soviet government in its widely publicized campaign offering to revive East-West trade.

At practically the same time, an Argentine technical mission spokesman told a news conference that Soviet-Argentine trade is expanding and that a new and bigger trade agreement was expected to be negotiated next year.

The mission has been here for the (Continued on Page 5, Col. 3)

Jimmy's Wife Tried Suicide 6 Years Ago

LOS ANGELES (UP)—Police records indicating Mrs. Roseville Roosevelt attempted suicide six years ago were uncovered today as she prepared for a court battle tomorrow over her demands for \$3,500 alimony and child support from husband James Roosevelt.

Beverly Hills police records showed the former nurse was treated April 16, 1948, for an overdose of sleeping pills and police files contained a note in her handwriting signed "R" which said:

"I am too tired for any other course. Waste no prayers on me, but pray that the children will not be like either Jimmy or me."

The police records said the case was reported by James Roosevelt as an attempted suicide and that after officers went to the Roosevelt home and made an investigation they did not change that report.

Mrs. Roosevelt's physician, Dr. Blake Watson, had reported Mrs. Roosevelt told him she took the pills accidentally, thinking they were headache tablets.

More Guns Sent Indochina Reds

WASHINGTON (UP)—There was a sharp and ominous increase recently in shipments of weapons and war equipment to the Communist rebels in Indochina, it was learned today.

This plus increased rebel activity has prompted the feeling that the Communists may be gearing for an all out drive to force the French out of Indochina and end the seven-year war.

Some strategists believe that one major defeat for the French and native anti-Communist forces could be disastrous. It would coincide with rising demands in France that the French quit the bloody guerrilla war, opening the floodgates for a Communist sweep of all Southeast Asia.

Increased arms deliveries to the Communist rebels are reported to have occurred after the end of the Korean War last July. There had been previous official estimates that deliveries from Red China were running at about 1000 tons a month.

Importation of Mexicans Halt

WASHINGTON (UP)—The Labor Department today ordered that the importation of Mexican farm labor be stopped at the close of business tomorrow.

Department officials testifying before the House Agriculture Committee yesterday said such action would have to be taken this week because of a lack of funds and legal authority.

Under a ruling by the Budget Bureau, the department needs legislative authority to carry on the Mexican farm labor program. The U. S.-Mexican agreement on the program expired Jan. 15.

The department also said it is running out of funds for the program. The House Appropriations Committee has an administration request for \$1,550,000 in supplemental appropriations to carry on the program through the remainder of this fiscal year which ends June 30.

Find Bodies of 341 in Hindu Religious Crush

NEW DELHI, India (UP)—The bodies of 341 dead, most of them women, have been recovered at the site of the Hindu pilgrimage stampede at Allahabad. Newspapers estimated Thursday that in all around 500 were killed and 1,000 injured.

The government radio disclosed the recovered dead included 252 women, 45 men and 40 children. Three million frenzied pilgrims were involved in the crush Wednesday at the junction of the Ganges and Jumna rivers, holy waters to Hindus.

Many were washed downstream. A communique said the stampede developed as a group of naked Naga Sadhus—holy men—headed back to camp with their elephants after bathing.

The Nagas and the pilgrims came together when some pilgrims and one Naga were crushed, along with a row of beggars sitting on the procession route. The statement said.

Reds of East Placed on Par With Free West

BERLIN (UP)—Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov demanded Thursday night that the Big Four get on with forming a provisional all-German government including Communists to handle national elections and achieve unity for the divided nation.

The Russian submitted a five-point plan to the foreign ministers conference to accomplish his aim: Recognition of the Communist East German government on a par with the freely-elected West German government so that the German Reds would be entrenched regardless of popular will.

Molotov's plan was identical with that made public last Saturday night by the East German government in a memorandum to the conference. Even the language was almost the same.

5 Point Plan Proposed

The Molotov plan called for: 1. Formation of the provisional government by the parliaments of the East and West German regions, including the wide participation of the Communist mass organizations such as the youth, the women, the farmers' league and the Red-run unions.

Action Delayed On Bricker Bill

WASHINGTON (UP)—Senate Republican Leader Knowland (Calif.) said Thursday the final Senate decision on the Bricker treaty-power amendment may have to be put off for 10 days or more.

As the Senate pushed ahead with its seventh day of formal debate on the hotly disputed plan, Knowland told newsmen he now was "not too sanguine" about getting a final vote this week.

That would mean putting it off until the week starting Feb. 14 because there is an informal understanding there will be no important Senate business next week when many Republican senators will be out of town to make Lincoln speeches.

Knowland said he would try to get votes this week on all the important alternative proposals.

No Boost in Minimum Pay

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (UP)—Secretary of Labor Mitchell said Thursday after conferring with AFL leaders that the Eisenhower administration probably will not recommend any boost in the federal minimum wage at this session of Congress.

The AFL has called for a top increase in the present 75 cents an hour minimum to \$1.25.

Mitchell came here at the AFL's request to consult with members of the AFL Executive Council at their winter meeting.

Despite advance indication that the AFL chiefs intended to put the labor secretary on the grille about President Eisenhower's policies, Mitchell told newsmen afterward he had a "very harmonious and constructive" conference.

Eisenhower told Congress last week that while a boost in the minimum wage and broadening the number of workers it covered "is desirable," the changes should come when the economy is in better shape.

No Rain Forecast Through Friday

Despite suggestion of haze and high cloudiness Thursday, the weather man says no rain is in prospect for Friday, the ideal midwinter weather to continue.

Another heavy frost came in on Salem and the valley Wednesday night, the Thursday morning minimum again being below freezing, 27 degrees, but one above the Wednesday minimum. A low of around 27 is called for tonight.

So far no rain is registered for February and the normal to this period is .64 of an inch.

Weather Details
Maximum yesterday, 82; minimum today, 73. Total 24-hour precipitation: 0 for month; 0; normal, 2.46. Snow accumulation, 28.83; normal, 74.72. River height, 10.3 feet. (Report by U.S. Weather Bureau.)