

THE WEATHER

GENERALLY FAIR tonight and Saturday, except for patches of morning fog. Low tonight, 45; high Saturday, 72.

Ott Death Not From Violence

Linn Jail Escapee Drowning Victim, Autopsy Shows

By MIKE FORBES
Capital Journal Valley Editor

Mystery Friday still shrouded the drowning of Dan Congdon Ott, 46, one of four convicts who escaped from the Linn county jail two weeks ago. His body was found floating in an eddy in the Willamette river Thursday by George Workman.

At the same time the last chapter of Ott's troubled life was closed with private funeral services at the Howell-Edwards Funeral Home followed by cremation. Only a sister from Eugene was present.

Reconstruction of the manner in which the escaped prisoner met his death remained solely a matter of conjecture for no evidence has been found indicating that anyone witnessed the drowning.

Money in Wallet

The fact that Ott had approximately \$15 in his wallet led Sheriff George Miller of Linn county to discount the theory that he might have been thrown into the river by his companions. No marks of violence were found on the body by Coroner Leston Howell, and an autopsy established the cause of death as drowning. Identification was made positively by a tattoo on an arm and an amputated thumb on the right hand.

Sheriff Miller inclines toward the belief that Ott was drowned while attempting to swim the Willamette river near Independence to avoid crossing a bridge and possible detection. It was at Independence that the four escapees abandoned their getaway car, which belonged to Lou Andrus, county jailer at Albany.

Search in Wyoming

Meanwhile the fugitive trail of the three other escaped convicts led farther eastward to Rock Springs, Wyo. Recently a stolen automobile was found at Idaho Falls containing a revolver and sap belonging to Andrus. More recently another car stolen at Idaho Falls the same day was found at Rock Springs leading to the belief that the escapees are in that area.

The three fugitives, all facing possible life sentences like Ott, are James Patton, 38; Earl Johnson, 31; and Ernest Gibson, 29.

Food Decline Turns Living Costs Lower

WASHINGTON (AP)—Consumer prices dipped two-tenths of one per cent last month from the all-time high recorded in July, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday.

Ewan Clague, BLS commissioner, said a sharp seasonal drop in fresh food prices caused the decline. Other items in the index generally rose.

Clague said an expected rise in meat, apparel, automobile and other prices may offset the still-lagging fresh food prices in the September index, and added:

"The September index could equal the all-time high."

The August consumer price index stood at 116.3 per cent of the 1947-49 average and was about 2 per cent above a year ago chiefly because of steep rises in May, June and July.

Despite the slight decline last month, about 100,000 workers in aircraft factories will receive a 2.5 per cent or three cent hourly wage increase under sliding scale contracts which call for adjustment of wages in line with three-month fluctuations of the price index.

Fair Weather Will Resume

Some fair weather is back in the picture for the valley regions, the forecast calling for good conditions tonight and Saturday except for patches of early morning fog.

The five-day forecast out Friday morning says there may be scattered showers at the beginning of the period, otherwise little or no precipitation until after Wednesday. Temperatures are to be near seasonal normals with a warming trend in the early part of the week.

And so the valley welcomes the official arrival of autumn tomorrow with near normal fall weather.

The daily weather forecast says moderate fire danger will increase over Saturday and Sunday because of the warming and drying trend.

Belongings of River Victim Inspected



Deputy Coroner C. C. Edwards, left, and Deputy Sheriff Richard Roehlinger, right, inspect meager possessions of Dan Congdon Ott, 46, whose body was pulled from an eddy in the Willamette river nine miles north of Salem Thursday. Ott's shrouded body can be seen in right background. (Capital Journal Photo by Mike Forbes)

Jury to Probe Sex Parties in Silverton Area

Over 30 Marion and Clackamas county youths are being summoned to testify before a special grand jury session, called for next Friday, relative to three sex parties reported in the Silverton community recently.

District Attorney Kenneth E. Brown said the ages of the persons being subpoenaed range from 12 to 25.

About two weeks ago a Silverton boy, 17, was arrested on a charge of rape involving an Oregon City girl, 12 years old. The youth is held in the Marion county detention ward, and his arrest led to the investigation that has apparently revealed other offenses involving a large number of youngsters.

Most of those being summoned are from the Silverton district, but others are from Salem, Woodburn, Mt. Angel, Molalla and Oregon City. Investigation so far has indicated three parties at homes in the Silverton area where drinking and sexual offenses allegedly took place. It is reported by the officers that other girls of 12 or 13 years were implicated.

The grand jury will attempt to trace the source of liquor obtained by the juveniles, responsibility for the parties, and whether others besides those now being summoned are involved.

Early Freeze Sets Records in East U.S.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Low temperature records tumbled in the eastern third of the nation Friday.

New marks for the date were written into the books in many cities. Freezing weather brought heavy coats out of storage.

Bardley Field, Conn., with 32, and Providence, R.I., with 34.9, had the lowest readings ever recorded so early in the season.

Mt. Washington, N.H., had a temperature of 15 above and an inch of snow on the last full day of summer.

The cold snap ruined many gardens in Maine, and it killed late maturing tomato and sweet corn crops near Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Harry Bridges Beaten Up in Bay Area Cafe by 2 Seamen

SAUSALITO, Calif. (AP)—Longshore leader Harry Bridges was beaten savagely early Friday by two assailants in the men's lounge of Sully Stanford's plush Valhalla restaurant in this city just across the Golden Gate from San Francisco.

In the ensuing melee, Miss Stanford was kicked and slugged and her maitre d'hotel and bartender were cut and bruised.

Police Chief Louis Moutanos said it took him and two officers to subdue and jail the two attackers.

He identified them as merchant seamen from San Francisco, Donald R. Hansen, 28, and Fred Ripplini, 35.

Bridges said he never saw the men before. He said robbery

GOP Keeps Big Lead in County Voter List

Registration Lags, Both of Parties Below 1954

By JAMES D. OLSON
Capital Journal Writer

Latest tabulation of registered voters in Marion county shows about the same percentage of Republicans and Democrats are registered as were registered for the 1954 elections.

And unless quite a few more voters are registered before the October 6 deadline, Marion County could come up with fewer voters in 1956 than two years ago, the figures show.

Complete totals take Thursday by the county clerk's office show that 448,000 persons are eligible to cast ballots in the November elections. In 1954, a total of 482,355 voted from the county, or 1.285 more than are registered at present.

Republicans, usually strong in Marion county, still hold a substantial lead in registration. To date 23,971 Republicans have signed up as against 18,639 Democrats. Four hundred others have registered as Prohibitionists, Independents, and others.

The total of all parties shows only about a 600 increase since the May primaries, when 47,349 were registered. Since then, the Democrats have increased their figures by 354 and the Republicans have added 312 potential voters.

United Fund's Total Reaches \$41,862 Today

Salem United fund collections rose to \$41,862 as the campaign moved into the second day, reports at Friday's luncheon showed.

This total is an increase over the \$35,260 reported on opening day Thursday and figures out to be 18 per cent of the goal of \$227,800.

UF officials said they expect a huge increase in the total by next Tuesday's report luncheon, next on the agenda. This will be brought about by a report from the governmental division, which is bolstered by state employees, they said. No state report has been given as yet.

J. C. Penney company set a high standard in the Mercantile division, leaders said, by subscribing an average of \$21.20 per worker in an incomplete canvass report. This is one of the highest averages from a business house in the three year campaign history, chairman William Hammond said.

WSC Turns Back Grid Talent 'Raid'

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP)—Six youths identified as University of Washington freshmen were grabbed and threatened with a "head shaving" Friday by Washington State college students who claimed they were trying to lure WSC football talent.

Don Faris, athletic news director at WSC, said the "raiders" took five Cougar freshmen to breakfast at a downtown cafe and tried to get them to switch to Washington.

More than 25 WSC students met them as they left the cafe and loaded the visitors into a car for a trip to the campus for a head shaving, Faris said.

Jim Sutherland, WSC coach, and Athletic Director Stan Bates heard of the incident and arrived to stop it.

Faris said Bates and Sutherland told the visitors to get out of town.

The six from Washington were identified as Carver Gayton, freshman fullback from Garfield High of Seattle; Gordon Johnson, Seattle center; Lee Shellman, Teke; Dave Enslow, Lake Washington tackle; Bob Echols, Hoquiam, and Don Vizari, Seattle.

Faris said they were after Lee Rogers, Great Falls, Mont. halfback; Myke Lindsay, Missoula, Mont. end; Bob Harrison, Gilroy, Calif. tackle; Willie Jones, Spokane halfback, and Gail Cogdill, Spokane end.

Harrison said the invaders told him and the others that things were better at Washington.

"We just told them," Harrison said, "that we liked it here and planned to stay."

Faris said the six arrived on the campus early Friday morning, went to a dormitory where the freshmen players are staying and invited five of them out to breakfast.

Maximum yesterday, 71; minimum today, 47. Total 24-hour precipitation: trace; for month: 8.1; normal: 32. Average precipitation: 33; normal: 35. River height, 1.7 feet. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

Britain Hangs 3 More Greek Cypriot Rebels

By ROBERT B. TUCKMAN
NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—Three more Greek Cypriot rebels were hanged today as fellow prisoners shouted and sang to protest Britain's rule over this Mediterranean island colony.

A general strike by the island's Greek Cypriot residents went into its second day, PEKKA, a new nationalist underground organization circulated leaflets saying the strike would continue three days "in tribute to three more heroes."

Fresh anti-British violence flared.

Hanged behind the walls of Nicosia's central prison shortly before 2 a. m. were Michael Koutstas, Andreas Panayides and Stelios Mavrommatis. Their deaths brought to eight the number of nationalist extremists hanged since Greek Cypriots 18 months ago began a campaign of violence to end British rule and join Cyprus to Greece.

Koutstas and Panayides, both 22, were convicted of the slaying of a Royal Air Force corporal, Mavrommatis, 23, was convicted of shooting at two RAF cyclists.

In the tense hours just before the hangings, the nearly 400 other prisoners in the central prison raised a deafening clamor in their cells. They shouted "Long live EOKA," and sang the Greek national anthem and hymns.

Keef Stops in Salem Briefly On State Tour

Senator Estes Kefauver made his second appearance in Salem a brief one Friday afternoon. He had been here in late July while campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination.

A tight campaign schedule allowed the popular Tennessee solon only a 10-minute talk at the airport. He arrived about 2 p. m. and left for Albany at about 2:25 p. m. With him in a chartered DC-6 airliner, was a party of 40 including former Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, a Truman administration standby.

Kefauver was scheduled to address a Democratic rally at the Linn county courthouse in Albany at 8 p. m. He spoke again at the Corvallis hotel at 4:30 p. m. His evening schedule calls for a press conference at Eugene and a speech at Springfield.

State Senator Robert D. Holmes, Democratic candidate for governor, introduced Kefauver at the airport. Jason Lee, Democratic candidate for congress, introduced him in Corvallis.

School Evacuated as Earth Sags in Dakota

ELK POINT, S. D. (AP)—This small Missouri River community, its high school already partly evacuated because of shifting ground under its foundation, Friday waited to learn what the peculiar forces of nature hold in store.

Gradual settling of the earth beneath Elk Point, in the southeastern corner of South Dakota, has been causing basements to crack and foundations to shift over the past two years.

Gravity of the situation became apparent this week when 167 high school students were jarred in their classrooms as the school building settled 2 1/2 inches on the foundation.

Most of the school was closed and the students transferred to classrooms in the adjoining grade school building. Elementary pupils will attend classes in the basement of the city auditorium.

Four separate rumblings opened a wide crack in the wall of the high school, built 42 years ago. The grade school, built in 1938, suffered lesser damage. Donald Jacoby, school superintendent, said the grade school building also would be unusable if the settling continues another three or four weeks.

Charles Sloan, a Sioux Falls architect, who laid aside his plans for a school addition, told school and city officials Thursday that they are facing a "situation of disaster proportions."

Gov. Joe Foss has authorized E. P. Rothrock, state geologist to make a survey of subsoil conditions at Elk Point. Jacoby said the town may have to ask for state and federal aid if the settling of the earth becomes more serious.

France in Balk Over Suez Plan

Won't Sign Due to Change in Aims Of Project

LONDON (AP)—The 18-nation Suez conference ended Friday night with France—one of its sponsors—refusing immediate approval of the projected canal users' association.

Foreign Minister Christian Pineau told the conference's final session France could not sign up at the moment because of changes made in a document setting out the association's aims. These aims are primarily to seek by peaceful means to share with Egypt in control of the Suez Canal.

Too Much Latitude
Pineau said if France finally decides to take membership in the association it will make a reservation that the existing document gives "too large a degree of latitude" in payment of canal tolls.

The United States—which with Britain and France sponsored the original scheme for a users' association—announced it would adopt the scheme.

As the conference ended, a high American source said it had been "reasonably successful."

Pineau made clear the latitude to which he objected principally was concerned with methods of paying canal dues. France and Britain have refused to pay dues to the Egyptian Canal Authority set up after Egypt's July 26 nationalization of the international waterway.

Pakistan May Join
The association project apparently would allow members to pay dues to Egypt if they wish. The Americans and West Germans have in fact been paying transit dues to Egypt.

Pakistan, long a holdout, hinted that it might join.

Italy and Britain announced formal adherence.

Conference officials said the first meeting of the users' association will be in London Oct. 1. They said they expected the Suez dispute will be put to the United Nations almost immediately.

Cities Reports Forecast High Fall Business

SPOKANE (AP)—Northwest business activity is high and "promises to hold at a favorable level" for the rest of 1956, the Pacific Northwest Advisory Board was told Friday.

Reports from 23 "representative communities" were compiled for the forecast given by the board by Hamilton Owen, industrial manager of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce.

"Employment has been uniformly good, so good in fact that more people are at work in this region now than in any previous time in history," he said. "Some communities reported a shortage of skilled and experienced employables."

"This high level of employment lends strong support to the optimistic prospects reported for retail trade and a holiday volume of record-breaking proportions."

"Some communities have been hit by the loss of fruit crops, although generally these losses have turned out to be less severe than appeared likely earlier in the year."

Higher prices and higher quality also are offsetting factors. Some of the principal field crops were of better than average yield. Livestock prices have strengthened.

Jailed For Aiding Red
TAIPEI, Formosa, (AP)—H. C. Jen, a former commissioner of finance in Formosa's provincial government, was sentenced Thursday night to seven years in jail for harboring and abetting a Communist agent—his uncle.

Estes 'Honesty' Policy to 75,000 at Newton

Estes Rejects Nixon Demand for Apology In Pendleton Speech

NEWTON, Iowa (UP)—President Eisenhower today said his farm policy might seem "crazy" to some farmers of the Middle West, but he felt sure that even his opponents realized that his proposals were conceived in complete honesty.

Mr. Eisenhower spoke informally before the massive audience attending the National Plowing Contest and National Field Days about 20 miles west of Des Moines. The chief executive said he did not consider his brief remarks as a speech or as political.

Merrill Anderson, chairman of the program, estimated the President's listeners at 75,000.

He reserved until his appearance in Peoria, Ill., next Tuesday night a major statement on special farm problems and his ideas for meeting these problems.

Symbol of Peace
"Many of you," he told his audience here, "won't agree with me. In fact, some of you will think I am crazy."

The President said he was confident, however, that no one would doubt his honesty.

This produced a cheer from the crowd. Mr. Eisenhower who hailed the plow as the symbol of peace, said if all problems, including world peace and the problems facing American farmers, were approached "in a spirit of conciliation and give and take, we shall find the right answers."

The President chose to sidestep the opportunity to lay down his farm program in detail, just one day in advance of Democratic presidential nominee Adlai E. Stevenson's visit to the National Field Days.

He said the main point of his speech at Peoria "will be the special problems of the farmer and the special treatment they should receive."

For the most part, during a motor trip of 60 miles from Boone to the site of this huge Olympics of the farm belt, Mr. Eisenhower was greeted by thousands and in a friendly fashion.

But when he arrived here, the President's car passed a somewhat grisly exhibit which hit at Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson.

"Benson's Blunders"
The exhibit consisted first of a small iron stove and pot, representing 1928; the next exhibit was a large modern tractor which another sign said represented "Roosevelt and Truman's prosperity."

Then there was a final exhibit, it appeared to be a bloody boot thrown over a small bale of hay and topped by a sign which said "trapped by Benson's blunders."

One of the first persons Mr. Eisenhower met after his arrival on the contest grounds was Henry J. Steenhoek, a Republican farmer who has announced his intention to vote against Mr. Eisenhower this fall because of Benson.

It was on Steenhoek's farm that Mr. Eisenhower ate lunch in a huge tent, and spoke informally later in the afternoon.

If Mr. Eisenhower knew Steenhoek's background, he did not acknowledge it, but merely smiled broadly and shook hands. Steenhoek did later, when asked if he (Continued on Page 5, Col. 5)

Nixon Lashes Out at Keef's 'Low' Tactics

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Gresham Man Crash Victim

PORTLAND (AP)—An automobile crashed into a utility pole east of the city limits early today, killing a 26-year-old Gresham man. Olan K. Thornley, alone in the car, apparently lost control of the car on a curve, county police reported.

Cheering Iowa Crowds Hail President

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