

THE WEATHER

MOSTLY CLOUDY with occasional light rain tonight, Friday; mild temperatures. Low tonight, 36; high Friday, 46.

State Senate Probe Set on Assessments

Public Invited to Protest at 2nd Of Hearings

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR., Associated Press Writer

The Oregon Senate's Assessment and Taxation Committee Thursday ordered a full-scale investigation of assessment practices that have caused home owners to protest loudly against their property tax increases.

First for Listening

At the first one, Samuel B. Stewart, chairman of the state Tax Commission and head of its property tax section, will explain the property tax picture. The public will be invited to listen, but not to speak.

At the second hearing, the committee will listen to any one who wants to protest.

The investigation was sparked by Sens. Walter J. Pearson (D), Portland, chairman of the committee, and Rudie Wilhelm (R), Portland, who was chairman of the committee in 1955.

They said that higher taxes on homes, which have raised a storm of protest in Portland, Lane County and other areas, are the result of action taken by the Legislature two years ago to make home taxes uniform with taxes on utilities and industry.

Interim Group Urges Election Laws Changes

By JAMES D. OLSON, Capital Journal Writer

A constitutional amendment providing for appointment of the state superintendent of public instruction rather than by election was proposed Thursday in a package of bills recommended by the legislative interim committee on elections.

Another proposed constitutional amendment would make all county officers subject to appointment except for members of the county court or board of county commissioners.

Still another tightens up the election code by requiring a majority of the total number of persons voting at an election to pass a constitutional amendment in place of the present requirement for a majority of votes on the measure.

A change in the law allowing filing of absentee ballots up to 5 p.m. of the day before an election in place of five days before the election is also in the package.

All the bills dealing with election law changes were introduced at the request of the legislative interim committee on elections. This committee held a number of hearings throughout the state during the past two years. However, none of the members of the committee is back in the present Legislature.

The house local government committee introduced a bill correcting provisions in the law declared unconstitutional relating to county surveyors. The bill also provides for statutory qualifications for county surveyors in conformity with the constitutional amendment passed by the voters at the last general election.

Prince Goes Into Hospital

WASHINGTON (AP) — Little Prince Masbhar of Saudi Arabia, limping but wearing a wide, disarming smile, entered Walter Reed Army Hospital Thursday for a medical check-up.

The 3½-year-old prince, who came to this country with his father, King Saud, for a state visit, has suffered since birth from partial paralysis of his right hand and leg.

President Eisenhower arranged for some of the country's best military physicians, stationed at Walter Reed, to examine the prince and try to determine exactly what is wrong.

DO YOU KNOW—

That FBI agents arrested a woman who had been in the Communist Party in California? Read The FBI Story

Read The FBI Story

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Retires



Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed resigned today, effective Feb. 25, 1957, a Democrat, served 19 years on the high court. (AP Wirephoto)

Justice Reed Resigns From Supreme Court

White House Has No Comment on Successor

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Thursday accepted the resignation of Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed, effective Feb. 25.

Reed, 72, is a Democrat. He has served on the highest judicial tribunal 19 years.

The naming of his successor will be Eisenhower's fourth appointee on the Supreme Court.

Eisenhower's other appointees are Chief Justice Warren and Associate Justices Harlan and Brennan.

The White House said it had nothing to announce at this time regarding a successor.

Reed turned in a letter of resignation, dated Thursday, saying he wished to retire from active service.

He is taking advantage of a provision of law which allows him to retire at full pay and subject to call for occasional service on the court if this is desired.

Eisenhower in a letter to Reed, said he was taking the opportunity "to tender my congratulations on your long and splendid record in public service."

He also praised Reed's "dedication and devotion that are so much a part of your reputation."

Reed was born in Delaware and served in the military during World War I.

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Ike Seeks Alien Law Revisions

Bids Congress Up Immigration By 65,000

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Thursday asked changes in the immigration laws so it will be easier to give haven to refugees "who have fled or in the future flee" from Communist tyranny.

In a 2,000-word special message to Congress, the President called also for general revisions of the law to allow about 65,000 more immigrants to come to this country each year.

The present annual quota is 154,857 and is based on the 1920 census. Eisenhower asked quotas based on the 1950 census.

Asks Quota Revamping Eisenhower also called for a redistribution of the immigration quota "in proportion to the actual immigration" from 1924 through July 1, 1955.

An effect of this would be to increase the number of southern Europeans and Mediterranean peoples permitted to emigrate to the United States.

This is because the number of immigrants from that area has been greater in recent years than in the earlier period on which quotas are now based.

Eisenhower said, too, that Congress should pool the unused quota numbers for Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific area. These would then be available on a first come, first served basis without regard to where a person was born.

This similarly would open the way for admittance of additional southern Europeans since presently the unused quotas have been those of northern European countries.

Would Admit Orphans Further, Eisenhower said, provisions should be made for the annual admission of orphans since "there are many Americans eager to adopt children from abroad."

A number of other administrative and technical changes were requested. They include:

1. Eliminate inspection of aliens arriving from Alaska and Hawaii.

2. Repeat the law's requirement that aliens must specify their race and ethnic classification when applying for entry permits.

3. Drop "inequitable provisions" concerning the status of "Asian spouses and of adopted and other children."

4. Eliminate the requirement for fingerprinting of aliens on temporary visits. The Russians and other Communist countries have made a propaganda hullabaloo about this provision, contending it insults Europeans, who are fingerprinted only for criminal cases.

Woman Killed In House Blaze At Hood River

HOOD RIVER (AP) — Mrs. Bob Orcutt was killed and her husband and their six-month-old son critically burned early Thursday when a fire flashed through their one-room home near here.

Firemen said the blaze—apparently caused by an exploding oil heater—reduced the little house to ashes.

Ply Mill Will Reopen Friday

DALLAS (Special) — The Williamson Valley Lumber Co. plywood mill will resume operation Friday morning with the day shift at 8 a.m. The mill was closed down at the first of the week by freezing weather.

The renewed operation at first will affect only the green end of the mill. Production on the dry end will be resumed at a later date.

Two hundred and 30 men were laid off when the mill closed.

Planes R... Debris Falls Near Schools; Six Killed

Rackets Probe Help Promised By Teamsters

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new Senate committee empowered to investigate racketeering in labor unions and industry had a promise Thursday of cooperation from Teamsters Union officials who refused answers to a previous Senate query.

Frank Brewster, president of the Western Conference of Teamsters, and Nugent LaPoma, secretary, wired a pledge of full cooperation.

Brewster was cited for contempt by the former committee for refusing to say, among other things, whether he got union money outside his salary. He contended the original group lacked authority to probe labor unions—a power given specifically to the new committee.

Sen. Ives (R-N.Y.) said Thursday the newly created committee will expose crookedness "wherever we may find it," either in labor or industry.

The bipartisan eight-man group is expected to name Sen. McClellan (D-Ark.) as its chairman, and Ives as vice chairman. The Senate voted unanimously Wednesday to place the inquiry in its hands.

Vice President Nixon, who appointed the members, must set the date for its first meeting. McClellan and Ives indicated they expect he will call the meeting soon.

Members said privately they expect the new committee to start its probe with another look at affairs of the Teamsters Union, on which the Senate Investigations Subcommittee already has started hearings.

Street a Canal in Coal Mining Town



WILLIAMSON, W. Va.—Main business street of Williamson, coal mining center of 9,000 population, lies under water at peak of Tug River flood. Estimated 75 per cent of city was under water. (AP Wirephoto)

Flood Relief Speeded Into Appalachians

Numerous towns in the Appalachian Mountain coal mining area lay prostrate Thursday, stunned by floodwaters that took 12 lives, left thousands homeless and caused untold millions of dollars damage.

The floods, sweeping out of the mountains into southeastern Kentucky, West Virginia, southern Virginia and east Tennessee, may be the worst in the region's history.

President Eisenhower has designated flooded eastern Kentucky a "major disaster area" and ordered use of whatever federal funds are necessary for relief.

The President acted in response to a telegram from Kentucky Gov. A. B. Chandler. Gov. Cecil Underwood of West Virginia also joined with Chandler in asking for immediate aid.

Kentucky has a dead, West Virginia 3, and Virginia 1. The Army, Red Cross, Civil Air Patrol and other agencies worked together in ferrying portable generators, water purifiers and typhoid vaccine into stricken areas.

Weather forecasters warned of new rains today or tomorrow and again Saturday or Sunday. Leaden skies stretched from the Kentucky and West Virginia border to Tennessee.

Salem, Eugene Balk On Bus Line Subsidy

Salem and Eugene city officials meeting here this morning to study City Transit Lines future in both cities agreed the bus firm was in financial distress but were not inclined to give the company any aid which might cost the cities money.

The opinion was summed up by Eugene Mayor John McGinty, who presided at the meeting, when he said: "We are not particularly interested in picking up the check."

Mayors and council members of both cities along with their city managers, attorneys and other officials were present for the meeting which began at 11 a.m. and was to continue through the afternoon.

Much of the morning's discussion revolved around the question of a city's responsibility for mass transportation.

Although those present admitted that the transit firm was in dire financial straits, they question the effect on the public.

Salem Mayor Robert White recalled that a public meeting on the cancellation of night service brought a nearly filled council chamber but that only three or four were present when the council actually took action.

"After the night service was eliminated I didn't receive a call," he said.

The Eugene mayor said the complaints regarding night bus elimination there came from about 28 persons.

The idea of the city's taking over the bus line or providing a subsidy also met with a cold shoulder from the council members of both cities.

Salem Alderman E. E. Roth said "I don't like the idea of owning the bus company and I also don't like the idea of subsidy."

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

40-60 Students On Grounds Injured

VAN NUYS, Calif. (AP) — A huge transport plane and a jet fighter collided Thursday on test flights high over the San Fernando Valley, killing five men aboard the planes and at least one schoolchild.

Two or three score more school children were injured by the falling wreckage.

Pieces of the big transport, a DC7, showered down in flames on three schools. Four aboard the airliner and the pilot of the jet were among the dead.

Jet Falls in Canyon The jet came down in a canyon. Both planes were on test flights at the time of the collision.

The schools are all within three blocks of each other in the small community of Pacoima east of here.

Pacoima Junior High, where there are 1,800 students, was worst hit. Parts of the large plane plummeted down on an athletic field where gym classes were being conducted.

75 Boys Playing One observer said it was a flaming main section of the transport that fell on the playing field, where there were 75 boys at games.

"The boys fell as though they were hit with a scythe," one teacher said.

The area was roped off. Police appealed to spectators to stay away.

A number of children were reported laid out on the grass and covered with blankets awaiting the arrival of ambulances.

Terrabella Elementary School, adjacent with 218 students, also was hit by pieces, as was Haddon Elementary School, three blocks away.

The transport, a four-engine DC7, was on a test flight out of Douglas Aircraft Co.'s field at nearby Santa Monica. The company said there were four men aboard, including the pilot, William Carr, and the co-pilot, Archibald Twilchell.

The jet apparently was an F89 Scorpion on a production test flight out of Palmdale Airport in the Antelope Valley, Northrup Aircraft Co. said the plane apparently was one of its craft and two men were aboard.

One man, Curtis A. Adams, 28, of Palmdale, a civilian radar observer for Northrup, parachuted. He suffered face burns and shock and was brought to St. Joseph Hospital in nearby Burbank.

Forest Service To Add Camping Picnic Facilities

PORTLAND (AP) — The U. S. Forest Service Thursday announced plans to increase camping and picnicking facilities in Oregon and Washington in the next five years.

J. Herbert Stone, regional forester here, said that 419 new camping and picnicking grounds, which will accommodate 8,753 additional families are planned for the two states by 1962.

The existing 909 camps and grounds also are to be repaired. He said that recreation visits to national forests of Oregon and Washington hit an all-time high of 24 million in 1955 compared with 3½ million in 1946.

News in Brief

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Twins Share Mumps, Sore Jaws



Jerry and Gary Sloan, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sloan, 395 Smith 16th, were wishing everything didn't have to come in pairs Thursday after both were hit with mumps. Here they (each) show that two cases are worse than one, and (each) those jaws hurt. The twins, 8, have four older sisters but the girls haven't caught the mumps—yet. (Capital Journal Photo by Jerry Clausen)

Weather Details

Maximum yesterday, 39; minimum today, 37. Total 24-hour precipitation, .01; for month, 2.41; normal, 5.81. Season precipitation, 13.75; normal, 23.99. River height, 2 of a foot. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau)

BLUEPRINTS FILCHED

Sweden Reveals Russ Spying on A-Shelters

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Security officials said Thursday a large-scale Soviet attempt to probe the secrets of Sweden's underground defenses against A-bomb attack is involved in this country's latest spy plot.

A 32-year-old Turkish Armenian engineer, Bedros Zartaryan, has been jailed. He is awaiting trial next week for "grand espionage in favor of a foreign power." Two Swedish engineers, described as his employers, have been charged with "gross carelessness in handling secret documents."

Security officers said there is no doubt the foreign power involved is Russia.

They said evidence to be presented at the trial includes 50 minutes of films of meetings between Zartaryan and Soviet embassy officials, taken by Swedish security police.

The engineering firm which employed Zartaryan was engaged in work for the government's fertilization administration.

This is the "government department which is building a country-wide network of underground atomic bomb-proof naval bases and air bases."

Security officers said Zartaryan had handed Soviet Russians blueprints and information of underground military establishments and fortifications of the utmost importance to Sweden's defense against an invasion.

The prosecutor's indictment consisted of one public and one secret part. Most of the trial was expected to be held in secret in order not to disclose the precise extent of the damage done to Swedish security.