

The Weather
 Forecast: Fair tonight and Tuesday; rising temperature Tuesday.
 Temperature
 Highest yesterday 82
 Lowest this morning 56

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RADIO CALLS RAISE HOPE FOR AMELIA



By H. R. BAUKHAGE
 (Copyright, 1937, by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.)
 WASHINGTON, July 5.—The country is about to be treated to a unique phenomenon: In a few days, a group of civil service reformers is going political and a group of politicians is going reform.

And for the first time in many an administration, there seems to be a chance that a step will really be taken to check the spoils system.

The plan of strategy which has been pretty definitely, but privately, decided upon is as full of perplexing paradoxes as Pennsylvania avenue is of Boy Scouts.

All this will take place at the hearings on the government reorganization bill. This newly-framed measure is a good political bill, carved by a good politician out of the more idealistic magnum opus of the president's committee on administrative management of the federal government.

The new, realistic document sweeps a great many smaller jobs right off the pile counter and into the classified civil service. But in the same breath it creates nearly 2000 fresh political plums by taking this number of bureau chiefs out of the service and making them appointive.

Point number 2 likewise looks strange and out of place in a bill to further the merit system: The president would appoint, without examination, a civil service administrator.

(Of course, all these appointments would be subject to confirmation by the senate.)

How can the reformers swallow all this?

Well, here is their explanation: "If we don't get some reform in government now, with public opinion at least to some degree awakened, when will we ever get anything?"

"We are approaching the hearings with the assumption that the purpose of the bill is to strengthen the merit system. We will point out that if this is the case, certain amendments will improve it."

They will, for instance, urge that the civil service administrator be required to pass an examination.

Attempts will be made to straighten out some highly ambiguous language in the bill, and to limit the exemption.

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NAVY SHIPS SPEED TO HOWLAND AREA FOLLOWING SIGNAL

Garbled Messages Continue to Cause Confusion — Flier's Husband Accepts Faint Words Encouraging

HONOLULU, July 5.—(AP)—Hopes for the safety of Amelia Earhart and Frederick Noonan, navigator of her lost plane, alternately rose and fell today as the first of several United States navy rescue ships neared the South Pacific area of search.

The government boats Itasca and Swan started speeding to a point 281 miles north of Howland Island after receipt of a message which officials believed to be the Amelia Earhart plane.

The naval minesweeper Swan, dispatched with other vessels from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to aid in the hunt, was 300 miles from Pearl Harbor, or within 200 miles of Howland Island, at 8 a. m. P.S.T. today.

Rescue Hope Bolstered
 Garbled radio messages continued to cause confusion but seemed to increase belief among navy and coast guard listeners that definite contact had been established with the Earhart plane.

One series of messages, intercepted variously as meaning the plane was sinking, located on a reef or running out of gasoline with which to operate the radio transmitter were among dozens picked up by scores of stations.

The battleship Colorado, meanwhile reported it was nearing tiny Howland Island, the dot on the Pacific for which Miss Earhart and Noonan were heading when they became lost Friday.

Three planes on the battleship, the commanding officer reported, may take off late today for an air search if weather conditions are favorable.

The messages, which some navy officials said might indicate the plane was sinking, was interpreted more hopefully by other listeners.

Messages Fragmentary
 Coast guard listeners at San Francisco and George Palmer Putnam, husband of the missing flier, said the

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Raft Trip Resumed After Towing Row

CLATSkanie, July 5.—(AP)—The giant log raft of the Benson Timber company resumed its tow trip to San Diego today following settlement of a controversy which held the 5,000,000 feet of logs off the southern Oregon coast for more than a week.

W. T. Eason, Benson official declared the tug warfare was at an end and a "satisfactory adjustment had been made with the underwriters."

The sea rafter, which took over the towing after the tug Burnham had broken a crankshaft, will take the raft south, Eason said.

Jail Is Preferred To Cracker Noise

PORTLAND, July 5.—(AP)—Maud Leach, 70, preferred jail to exploding firecrackers.

The woman appeared at the police station in a highly nervous state and asked to be "locked up." She said the noise sent her on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Her request was granted.

WPA Worker Confesses Strangling Three Girls

New Judges Take Bench



Two new judges took their places on the Ninth U. S. circuit court of appeals bench at the court opened its first summer session. The new members are (left to right) Albert Lee Stephens, 62, of Los Angeles and William Healy, 55, of Boise, Idaho. The court sits in San Francisco.

Although the desultory popping of firecrackers by stay-at-home youngsters continued to disturb the peace of Medford, streets and homes of the city were still largely deserted today as residents observed the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

All business of the city was suspended as employees and owners took a vacation. County offices remained closed as did other business establishments.

Record and near-record throngs were reported from nearby resorts yesterday and today. Forests, lakes and streams attracted large numbers for camping, fishing and other outdoor recreation.

Community celebration in Ashland, Rogue River, Klamath Falls and Crescent City, most of them extending over the three-day week-end, played to large crowds of visitors and residents. One-day excursions to scenic spots of southern Oregon found many enthusiasts.

A minimum of the usual holiday traffic accidents was reported. No major injuries marring southern Oregon's observance of the day. Cool, cloudy weather yesterday afternoon failed to keep Medfordites at home and a constant stream of autos filled all highways until late last night.

The large number of Medford residents spending the week-end out of town are expected to return to their homes tonight in time for resuming normal activity tomorrow morning.

JERSEY GOVERNOR IN YACHT BLAZE

ASBURY PARK, N. J., July 5.—(AP)—New Jersey's governor, stabbly Harold G. Hoffman, today called his close escape from death at sea aboard a flaming 475,000 yacht "just one of those things that happen."

The 41-year old state executive took lightly his rescue with his wife, two small daughters, and 16 other persons from the 50-foot Manchoncock a short time before she burned and sank four miles offshore. No one was injured.

Scarcely had the governor dropped a line overboard or a try at tuna fishing after the parade when an engine room explosion shook the yacht.

In commemorating the period, he added, "We shall affirm our debt to those who ordained and established the constitution in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

He said it was appropriate that during the period "We shall think of the founding of our government under the constitution, how it has served us in the past, and how in the days to come its principles will guide the nation ever forward."

The president spent a quiet fourth surrounded by members of his family and friends.

Roosevelt Reaffirms Faith in Constitution

HYDE PARK, N. Y., July 5.—(AP)—President Roosevelt, after reaffirming his faith in the constitution to meet present day needs, turned his last hours at Hyde Park today to a 90-mile auto drive to help an up-state country church celebrate a fund-raising drive.

He planned to leave for Washington late tonight after attending a late late in the day given by the little Dutch Reformed church at Mt. Marion, on the west shore of the Hudson.

A communicant of the church, Mrs. Warren Myers, extended the invitation last February. Her letter made such an impression on the chief executive that he readily accepted. White House officials said.

CIO FORCES GIRD FOR ADVANCE ON TWO NEW FRONTS

Troops Moved Into Cleveland to Preserve Peace When Republic Opens Four Big Plants Tuesday

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 5.—(AP)—CIO's strike legions, popped by Fourth of July oratorical fireworks that terrified strikers could not dream, reformed their lines today on the last two remaining strike battlegrounds—Cleveland and Indiana Harbor, Ind.

Troops were moved into Cleveland to preserve the peace when Republic Steel opens its four large plants here tomorrow.

There were no troops at Indiana Harbor where the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company is awaiting guarantees of safety for its men before reopening; but there were pleas for troops, and a prediction that "there will be bloodshed if protection is not supplied immediately."

The union's crack orators sought at Fourth of July rallies to put new iron into their men's determination "to fight it out" (as Philip Murray, strike chairman, put it) "a week, a month, a year—yes, ten years."

Pennsylvania's "new deal" governor, George Earle, flew through a thunderstorm to reach a rain-soaked rally at Johnstown, Pa., and tell the cheering strikers and sympathizers: "You don't need acts of violence when you have Franklin Delano Roosevelt in Washington, a liberal congress, and a governor like me."

A committee of six ministers of Indiana Harbor told the governor "the situation is entirely out of control," and "there will be bloodshed if protection is not supplied immediately."

With the reopening of steel plants here tomorrow, only the Calumet area will remain with strike-closed plants, and the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, the only cooperation still affected there, is expected to open possibly by mid-week.

BOY'S BROKEN ANKLE RESULT OF PLAYING WITH FIRECRACKERS

Medford's first firecracker injury occurred yesterday when George Terrill, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Terrill of 320 South Ivy street, sustained a broken left ankle as he backed away from a firecracker he had lighted, extending his leg into the street where it was run over by an automobile.

The car, according to state police, was driven by Mrs. Clara A. Young, of 518 South Oakdale avenue.

Lyle Terrill, 16, brother of George's, told state police that George had lighted the firecracker against a tree on the parking directly opposite their home on South Ivy street. He then backed away, Lyle related, with his right foot on the curb and his left extended into the street. The Buick sedan, moving slowly, passed over the youth's left ankle, breaking both bones.

Mrs. Young told state police she was driving very slowly because she was going to stop at 304 South Ivy street. She said she didn't see the boy's leg in the street, merely the two youths playing on the parking strip. She also told state police she didn't realize she had run over George's leg, she thought they had set off a firecracker under her automobile.

George was taken to Sacred Heart hospital following the accident. Hospital attendants reported this morning that he was resting easily.

FRENCH SANITY TRIAL SCHEDULED TOMORROW

ALTURAS, Calif., July 5.—(AP)—Members of the jury that convicted Harry French, 30, of first degree murder in the "newspaper feud" slaying of Claude L. McCracken, 46, Alturas editor, were ordered to return to court tomorrow to try him on his plea of innocent by reason of insanity.

Three court-appointed psychiatrists are expected to testify.

The slaying of McCracken last March 25 climaxed a long rivalry between McCracken's newspaper and a paper published by French's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bard French.

323 Holiday Death Toll; Auto Displaces Cracker As Main July 4th Hazard

The lives lost during the nation's celebration of its 161st independence anniversary stood at 323 today with not a single death directly attributed to fireworks. Automobile accidents were responsible for 192 of the deaths, drownings 70 and miscellaneous causes accounted for 48.

The Independence Day casualty list, the third largest since 1930, was slightly above the average for the past eight years. From 1930 to 1937, the July Fourth death toll was 2,117, an average of approximately 264 deaths for each year.

Although the holiday passed without a single fireworks death, an Associated Press survey showed hundreds were treated for injuries from explosives. Thirty-six firecracker victims were treated in Chicago alone.

New York Leads
 New York, with 28 deaths, led the holiday mortality roll. California followed with 19, all except two the victims of automobile accidents.

All but four of the 48 states—Delaware, Nevada, Vermont and Wyoming—reported fatalities.

Four persons were killed and three others injured last night when their automobile was struck by a train at a grade crossing near Paynesville, Minn. Three other persons, a man, his wife and a child, were killed last night when their car was struck by a train near Williamstown, Ky.

Five persons were drowned near Valparaiso, Fla., when a motor boat, carrying 42 passengers, capsized. Fishing boats rescued the survivors.

1,000 See Pilot Killed
 Three were killed in a grade crossing accident in Rhode Island. An explosion of a gasoline stove in Wisconsin took two lives and two died of mine accident injuries in Indiana. Before a holiday crowd of 1,000 persons, Arch N. Nutter, 35, an airplane pilot, crashed to his death at a Clarkburg, W. Va., airport.

It was the first time in a decade no deaths had been attributed to the use of fireworks. It recalled the "safe and sane Fourth" movement started 30 years ago by James Keely, Chicago editorial writer, as he sat at the bedside of his sick daughter and saw how much she was disturbed by the barrage of explosions that resounded in her room.

Keely died in June, 1934, but meanwhile thousands of others took up his campaign, selling America the idea of celebrating the day in less dangerous pastimes.

A chill wind and partially overcast skies late yesterday proved a deterrent to many outdoor parties and picnics planned in celebration of the greatest national holiday of them all, the Fourth of July.

Warm, sunny weather prevailed during morning and early afternoon, the mercury rising to 82 degrees. Clouds obscured the sun later in the day, bringing a threat of showers which failed to materialize. Home-celebrants shivered and moved indoors during evening hours. Minimum temperature was 56 degrees.

Warmer weather was scheduled to return tomorrow. This morning's forecast was: Fair tonight and Tuesday; rising temperature Tuesday.

WARMER WEATHER TUESDAY PROMISE

ACCIDENTAL SHOT BLAMED IN DEATH

EUGENE, July 5.—(AP)—Boyd Owen, stock raiser of Richmond, Ore., was shot and fatally wounded by Brady Potter, a sheep herder, in camp on Warner mountain in the extreme southeastern corner of Lane county yesterday morning.

Investigating officials believed that the shooting was accidental. According to the story told the officers by Potter, the two, in the camp alone, were getting breakfast when Potter was cleaning a .22 calibre rifle when the gun was suddenly discharged. Potter said he ran to the Logger Butte lookout station several miles distant, where he notified officials of the Willamette national forest.

He then returned to the camp, he declared, where he stayed with the wounded man until his death.

In the middle ages dancing the tarantella was thought to cure insanity induced by the bite of the large European spider. Hence the name tarantula.

COMPLETE STORY ATTACK-SLAYING IS GIVEN POLICE

Little Girls Throttled One by One Is Alleged Admission — Wife and Father of Victim Doubt Confession

LOS ANGELES, July 5.—(AP)—Safe from possible mob violence, but with prosecutors determined to ask his death, a 32-year-old WPA worker paced a cell in the hall of justice today after confessing, Detective Lieutenant Leroy Sanderson said, to the shocking attack-slaying of three little girls.

By his own words, Albert Dyer branded himself, Sanderson said, as the strangler responsible for the deaths of Madeline Everett, 7; her sister, Melba, 8; and Jeanette Stephens, 9, whose violated bodies were found last Monday in a ravine of Baldwin hills, near suburban Inglewood, where they had disappeared from Centinela park the previous Saturday.

To Ask Death Verdict
 "We shall, of course, ask for the death verdict," said District Attorney Byron Pitts when Dyer's purported confession was obtained last night.

Dyer, employed by the WPA to guard children at a street crossing, broke down after nearly 11 hours of constant grilling. A threat to take him from the hall of justice to Inglewood, where enraged citizens had milled about the small police station during questioning of suspects last week, finally shattered the suspect's composure, Detective Sanderson reported, and he gasped: "Well, I did it."

In a few minutes his wife, Mrs. Isabelle Dyer, reached his side. "He never did it! He never did it!" she cried.

His voice hardly above a whisper, Dyer told a ring of official questioners, Sanderson said, that "I had no other motive than sex—it wasn't revenge."

For a year, the suspect was declared to have admitted, he was acquainted with the three young victims and had developed "more than a liking" for them.

On the morning of the fatal Saturday, he played with the girls in Centinela park. Detective Sanderson asserted the guard laid plans for the lustful crime at this time, persuading the childish trio to "hunt rabbits" and "hide hills" after he finished work at noon.

"They said their mothers didn't want them to, but I kept telling them how much fun it was and finally they agreed that they would meet me," the 138-pound, five-foot-five suspect was quoted as confessing.

At the appointed hour, his story continued, "I watched the three girls coming down the road. They were dressed in bright colored clothes and looked fresh and nice."

Killed Youngest First
 Their route lay through a bean field and down a steep-sided dry

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AERIAL CIRCUS GIVES BAKER THRILLS TODAY

BEND, July 5.—(AP)—Oregon's touring aerial circus swung north over the eastern Cascade mountain country yesterday to add color and thrills to Bend's annual Independence Day celebration.

Ten thousand persons saw the sky circus wing into central Oregon after visiting Medford and Klamath Falls. The planes will go to Baker for a stop this afternoon.

BASEBALL

American	R. H. E.
Chicago	5 10 1
Detroit	5 8 1
Kennedy, Galin and Sewell; Pottemberger and Bolton.	

First game:	R. H. E.
Washington	5 9 0
Philadelphia	3 8 0
Deukering and R. Perrell; Caster and Brackner.	

National	R. H. E.
Philadelphia	3 9 0
Brooklyn	1 4 1
Johnson and Grace; Hoyt, Kirk-offer and Phelps.	

Amelia's Relatives Hold Strong Hope

MEDFORD, Mass., July 5.—(AP)—Mrs. Muriel Morrissey, sister of Amelia Earhart, believed forced down in the Pacific ocean on her world-grinding flight today clung to the hope the famous aviatrix and her navigator would be found.

"I just refuse to believe everything won't turn out all right," she said.

Mrs. Morrissey's seven-year-old son, David and his five-year-old sister, Amy anxiously awaited a letter from Amelia. She had promised the children she would obtain postmarks at all stops she made and mail the letter to them.

SIDE GLANCES

Crater club members being surprised when Karl Janouch sounded as though he knew what he was talking about when he imitated a Russian flier in a high-jinks act, they not being aware that Karl actually was talking real Bohemian.

Observer O. Ken Anderson politely denying use of the weather bureau roof to gentlemen of the press during the sky show, Ken averting the delicate meteorological instruments might collapse or something.

Rollin H. Stehl giving his first public speech at the Rogue River celebration, and doing quite nicely, too.

Ralph Sweeney declaring he would spend the holiday at a quiet family picnic so as to be fresh for his job as county treasurer tomorrow.

Mary Virginia Wait begging to be allowed, even just one more firecracker after her quota for the day had been exhausted, but finally having to content herself with a milder form of celebration.