

COMMIES' PROPOSAL WOULD BAN NAVAL BLOCKADES

Inequalities in Tax Payments Discussed; Full Reports Sought

Inequalities in the payment of personal property taxes were discussed at length at a meeting in the courthouse last night.

Called by County Assessor C. A. Myers, the meeting was attended by representatives of a number of different business groups, and some 30 or more persons participated in the discussions. They were asked to report on the meeting to their own trade groups.

The fact is, Myers explained, that some merchants are not putting full values on their inventories when reporting them for personal property tax purposes. The result, he said, is that those who do report 100 per cent of their inventory value, are paying more than their fair share of the county's taxes. And something has to be done about it, he added.

Alarming Proportions

The situation, throughout the state as well as in Jackson county, has risen to alarming proportions, Myers said. A recent spot check conducted by the state tax commission revealed that only about 45 per cent of personal property tax returns give the full and true value of the inventories, and the lowest percentage shown in the spot check was one which listed only 4.4 per cent of the inventory's value.

Simply in fairness to merchants who report their full inventories, Myers said, the situation "cannot be tolerated."

The under-reporting of inventories arose out of the 1941 law which permits merchants to report on an "honor system," but it has been increasingly abused in subsequent years, it was explained. Myers said "that the law requires him to maintain equalization, and that he will do so in this case."

Equalization Under Way

He said that work has been done to equalize assessments of lumber mills, packing houses, hotels, motels, apartments, professional offices and restaurants, but that equalization of inventories (considering them on pre-war values for tax purposes) cannot be accomplished until the reporting situation is cleared up. As a result, Myers reported, he has obtained from the county court authority for sufficient staff members to check the inventory returns of each tax state-

ment sent to him, and a full-scale check of the books, or other supporting documents, of all stores will be made.

The meeting was essentially an appeal to mercantile groups for their cooperation, according to Andrew Hawver, deputy assessor. "This thing has mushroomed, and this is a final gesture in an attempt to secure full returns on inventories voluntarily," he said.

Hawver explained that the office has no desire to penalize or accuse anyone, but he said "it is our duty to enforce the law."

Want Cooperation

"If we can get cooperation—wonderful," he said, "but if not, we'll have to carry out the penalty provisions of the law."

The assessor's books will close in May, Myers said, but until then the office will be liberal in accepting amendments to returns already filed. About 10 per cent of the expected number of returns still are not in, he said, although March 2 was the deadline.

As a result of the meeting, Myers said he would send a letter to each firm on its personal property tax rolls, explaining the fact that each would be checked so that they will expect the deputy assessors when they arrive.

Following this, when full inventory values are reported, Myers will meet again with a representative group to discuss equalization, or "rolling back" of tax values on inventory personal property taxes, to offset inflationary values of the past 10 years.

Morris To Testify In Oil Shipments Made for Russia

Washington — (U.P.) — Senate investigators Friday called corruption hunter Newbold Morris to testify next week on shipments of oil for Russia by a Chinese-financed firm represented by Morris' law office.

Chairman Clyde R. Hoey (D., N. C.) said Morris will testify "probably" on Tuesday, before the Senate's permanent investigating committee.

Approval Believed

Hoey made the announcement as David B. Jarvis, New York shipping agent who operated the tankers for the Chinese-backed firm, said he felt that Naval intelligence "rather approved" the oil shipments, made in 1949. Jarvis testified that he also had a verbal okay from the State department. He said he did not know that, as the committee brought out Thursday, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson was protesting strongly to the Maritime commission against the trade.

Six Trips Made

Two tankers, the St. Christopher and Kettleman Hills, made six oil-carrying trips in 1949 and early 1950. They transported oil from Constanza in Rumania to Communist Chinese ports. The tankers were owned by United Tanker Corporation, a Chinese-financed American company represented by Morris' law firm.

Balmy Temperatures Slated for Week-End

By UNITED PRESS

The weatherman Friday promised sunshine and balmy temperatures for the Pacific Northwest during the week-end.

Forecasters said some cloudiness could be expected in southeastern Oregon but no rain was in prospect for either Oregon or Washington through Sunday.

Temperatures in western portions of the two states were expected to range up to 69 degrees with maximums up to 50 east of the Cascade mountains.

Powers Fighting In Korea Would Not Be Included

Reds Probably Alarmed by Reports

Panmunjom — (U.P.) — The Communists moved Friday to place Red China beyond the possibility of a naval blockade or invasion from Formosa by proposing to ban naval blockades the world over among the powers now fighting in Korea.

Chinese staff officer Col. Pu Shan proposed in truce supervision talks that all references to Korea be dropped from the already-approved armistice clause forbidding blockades.

Alarm Believed

It was believed the Reds were probably being alarmed by recent press reports from Washington that the United States was considering military action against the mainland of China if the truce talks fail or if the Reds violate the armistice agreement.

Allied staff officers wrote off the Communist proposal as having no significance other than to stall the truce talks still further.

Meanwhile, Vice-Adm. C. Turner Joy, chief Allied staff officer, returned from Tokyo after conferring with Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, presumably about the progress of the truce talks.

Playing Waiting Game

Since Joy has been in Tokyo, the Communists have played what seems to be a waiting game. Presumably, they hope Joy will be authorized to alter the UN opposition to having Russia as a "neutral" truce supervisor and to voluntary repatriation of prisoners.

In an adjoining tent, Communist delegates agreed to a United Nations proposal for voluntary repatriation of civilian foreign nationals held by each side. But they still insisted on forced repatriation of war prisoners.

Col. Don O. Darrow, UN representative in the truce supervision talks, told newsmen he did not know whether the Reds would try to make a major issue out of their blockade proposal, which obviously was unacceptable to the Allies.

Strike Situation Mostly 'Unchanged'

A hearing in circuit court on continuance of a temporary restraining order sought by Singleton Milling company was resumed this afternoon after a noon recess. The company asks that Local 3030, Lumber and Sawmill Workers union, AFL, be compelled to cease picketing the firm's plant in Central Point.

The hearing, which is being conducted by Judge O. J. Millard, Grants Pass, is expected to be continued tomorrow. Judge Millard has also been assigned to hold a hearing on a permanent injunction sought by the firm.

Elsewhere, the strike situation was mostly "unchanged." At Jackson Creek Lumber company, a crew passed picket lines for the second day to operate the plant. Gene Tedrick, business manager of Local 3030, said 13 men passed picket lines this morning by union court.

At the Central Point plant of the Southern Oregon Planning mill, officials said this morning that employees have been notified by registered mail that the plant will resume operations Monday. The situation at both Jackson Creek Lumber and Southern Oregon Planning is "still deadlocked," Tedrick said.

Wage Board Requests Delay in Oil Strike

Washington — (U.P.) — The Wage Stabilization Board Friday asked oil workers to postpone a nationwide strike threatened for Sunday while the board considers the dispute.

Board chairman Nathan P. Feinsinger telegraphed oil unions and eight companies that a strike would "substantially threaten the progress of national defense."

The unions and companies were expected to comply with the request to maintain "normal work production schedules." Board policy is not to consider a dispute while a strike is in progress.

WEATHER

FORECAST — Generally fair tonight and Saturday. Rising afternoon temperatures. Low tonight 28. High Saturday 58. Temp. Highest yesterday — 51. Lowest this morning — 26.



TESTIFYING before a Senate committee, Mrs. Olga Konow, New York ship operator, tells of working for \$100,000 commission on each of three U. S. tankers which passed to Chinese-controlled interests. (International)

Deputy Mistaken As Robber Slain; Two Others Hurt

Seattle — (U.P.) — A partially-deaf 62-year-old dishwasher shot down a deputy sheriff and wounded two other officers mistakenly here Friday when they were summoned to the Inglewood golf course clubhouse to investigate a \$10,000 holdup by four armed men.

Ralph Bishop, 62, the dishwasher at the clubhouse, told Sheriff Harland Calahan, "I thought they were stickup men I guess and I fired."

Dead was Deputy Norman Silkwash, 26. Wounded were Deputies William Randecker, 27, and Claude Dodd, 43. Both were expected to recover.

The weird shooting took place when the officers received an urgent call from the club's night watchman who said four armed men had just robbed the club's safe.

When the three officers arrived they opened the door and Bishop began shooting.

Randecker said he heard Dodd yell three times, "this is the police." However, Bishop, who wears a hearing aid, said he did not hear what they said.

"I thought they were the stickup men. One looked like an officer, but I didn't know. I fired at him. Then another fellow, Silkwash, ran through the doorway and I shot at him. He doubled over and dropped to the floor."

Officers estimated Bishop had fired 11 to 15 shots at the deputies.

Bishop said he and two night watchmen, Lloyd Cannon Jr., 19, and Cyrus T. Dorsey, were tied up by four armed men after one man came to the door and said he had car trouble. "When we went to give help, three others jumped from the shrubbery and held guns on us. They tied us up and rifled the safe," Bishop said.

J. P. Berron, Inglewood Country club president, said the holdup men got away with about \$10,000 from the safe.

Bishop said he went upstairs to his living quarters at the clubhouse and got his gun, a .45 caliber pistol, "and then I waited," he told officers. When the three men, the sheriff's deputies, bolted through the front door I thought they were the robbers and I started shooting.

No charges have been placed against Bishop but Calahan said there would be a thorough investigation and questioning.

Masked Pair Pulls \$100,000 Robbery

Quonset Point, R. I. — (U.P.) — Two Halloween-masked gunmen robbed a credit union manager of \$100,000 cash at the U. S. Naval air base here Friday and a few hours later two men were seized for questioning as they drove through Cranston.

The robbery, largest in New England since the \$1,219,000 Brink's, Inc., holdup and second largest of the credit union within a year, was so swiftly executed the bandits drove past two armed sentries without a shot being fired.

With police throughout the state patrolling the highways, a green Oldsmobile convertible sedan was found burning on a road in East Greenwich. It was similar to the bandits' getaway car.

Overtaken Chemical Brings Fire Alarm

Two Medford fire trucks answered a general alarm at the Timber Products company veneer plant near McAndrews road shortly before noon today, according to firemen. The blaze at the plant started when a container of carbon disulfide overturned and was ignited by an exhaust, they said. Damage was not reported, but was believed to be minor.

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Court Martial Asked for General Whose Diary Obtained by Russians

Papers Proposed Prompt Attack on Soviets

Washington — (U.P.) — A congressman demanded Friday that Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow, whose diary fell into the hands of the Russians, "be given a general court martial."

Diary Brings Frown

The demand came from Rep. Pat Sutton, D-Tenn., a frequent critic of the military. He said that Grow's diary, proposing that the United States attack Russia "as soon as possible" and "by hitting below the belt," should not have been kept. Especially, he said, it should not have been allowed to fall into Russian hands. "We should not let him off

with a slap on the wrist," Sutton said.

Rep. Robert L. F. Sikes, D-Fla., a member of the House Appropriations subcommittee, demanded that Congress investigate the whole affair.

Army Remains Silent

The Army meanwhile refused to discuss whether any action would be taken against Grow because of his diary, which he kept while serving as U.S. military attaché in Moscow last year. The diary fell into Communist hands and the Reds are now widely advertising its contents, particularly that part which advocates an

attack against Russia.

The Army also said that Grow would not be available for comment.

Sutton and Sikes thought that Grow was "indiscreet" in keeping such a diary.

Favors Questioning

"It was not at all smart of the general to keep a diary, and I think Congress should ask some questions about why he did," Sikes told a reporter. He added that if the House Armed Services committee doesn't investigate, "I think our subcommittee will."

Chairman Carl Vinson, D-Ga., declined to say whether the

armed services committee may look into the matter.

Discouraged State Department officials noted that the publication of Grow's diary coincided with Russian charges that the United States is rearming western Europe with the aim of waging "aggressive" war on Russia.

In an effort to offset this Communist propaganda, President Truman and Secretary of State Dean Acheson have emphasized repeatedly in recent speeches that the western rearmament program is purely "defensive" in nature.

President Sees '52 Critical Year In Security Plans

Washington — (U.P.) — President Truman told Congress Friday that 1952 may be the "critical" year in Western Europe's buildup against Communism.

In his first report to Congress on the mutual security program, the president said Europe has made "marked" and "steady" progress in building "positions of strength" against the threat of Communism. But he added: "Program for Peace"

"For the nations of Western Europe, the year 1952 may well be the critical time in the defense buildup, bridging the period between extreme vulnerability to Soviet attack and effective preparedness."

Mr. Truman, in a letter sending the report to Congress, described mutual security as a "program for peace" despite the large amounts spent on troops and arms.

"Its ultimate success will come when the troops and weapons are no longer needed, and the monies now required for defense can be used to raise the living standards of our own and other nations who are truly devoted to peace."

The mutual security program, administered by W. Averell Harriman, was set up by Congress last year to coordinate all forms of U. S. foreign aid. The report reviewed foreign aid activities from the pre-Marshall plan days to the current buildup of military strength under the North Atlantic Treaty organization.

President To Spend Vacation in Florida

Washington — (U.P.) — President Truman had a date Friday with the sun and sand of Florida.

The Chief Executive, barring a decline in the condition of his ailing mother-in-law, was scheduled to take off in the White House plane for Key West, landing at the Boca Chica Naval Air station at about 3 p.m.

Mr. Truman hoped to stay in Florida until just before the national Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner here March 29, when many politicians expect him to announce whether he will seek reelection.

The President has made no public promise that he will announce on March 29, but since the dinner will be the Democratic party's biggest pep meeting of the year, he is expected to use the spirited occasion to the fullest political advantage.

OLCC Cashier Held In Theft of Money

Portland — (U.P.) — Fred J. Clemo, 58, cashier for the Oregon state liquor control commission, was jailed Friday on a charge of larceny of public money.

An attorney for the commission said Clemo had been missing since February 25 when auditors arrived to make a routine check of his books. Clemo put on his hat, announced he was going to a funeral and disappeared. The check showed the books were short \$4219.65, the attorney said.

A deputy sheriff recognized Clemo on a downtown street and he was held under \$5,000 bail.

Washington — (U.P.) — Robert Leedy, Portland attorney, was admitted to the bar of the United States supreme court Friday.

Three More County Republicans File Major Office Candidacies

Paul Rynning, long-time county engineer, today filed for reelection in a surprise move which few persons knew was necessary.

He revealed today that he, and a number of other county officials and employees "resigned" last December and were reappointed in a move required by technicalities of the state retirement act.

The county court never made public announcement of the "resignations" nor reappointments, and few people outside the courthouse, it appeared today, knew that it had occurred.

It so happens that Rynning's job is the only one affected by the resignation technicality which requires reelection. Among others covered are the county clerk, treasurer and assessor, whose terms expired anyway.

Those who knew the situation were the only ones familiar with the fact that Rynning's term expires this year, rather than in 1954 as listed by the official Oregon Blue Book.

Three more Jackson county Republicans had announced their candidacies for major public office up to noon today.

Robert A. Elliott, insurance man and chairman of the Republican State Central committee, said he is filing today as a delegate from the state at large to the national Republican convention.

Dr. Gerald A. Dierdorff, Medford osteopathic physician and surgeon, will seek the Republican nomination as state representative from Jackson county, according to a spokesman.

And John Henry Tizekker, 2116 East Main street, filed for the Republican nomination for county assessor.

Elliott is formerly GOP chairman in Multnomah county; a Republican precinct committeeman for 10 years; former state chairman and northwest regional director for the Young Republican federation, and was a delegate from the state at large to the 1948 national GOP convention. He has been active in all phases of party work for 17 years.

A native of Oregon, he has lived in Baker, Coos, Lane, Multnomah and Jackson counties. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon, and is a war veteran. He enlisted as a private at the be-

Russ Arms Production Surpasses Free Lands

Washington — (U.P.) — State department officials said Friday that Russia is pouring a far larger share of its money and manpower into arms production than the United States or any other free nation.

They said the Soviet Union's new budget shows it is devoting more than half its entire national income to a great effort to prepare for war.

By comparison, U.S. defense spending runs only about one-fifth of the national income.

Salem — O. Hilding Bengtson, Brookings attorney, filed his candidacy here yesterday for the Republican nomination for state representative from the Seventh district of Coos and Curry counties.

Bengtson, who formerly lived in Medford, still maintains a law office here. He formerly was a member of the legislature from Jackson county.



ROBERT A. ELLIOTT Files as GOP At-Large Delegate

Candidates To Be Plentiful in State Presidential Vote

Salem — (U.P.) — Oregon Friday became a battleground for practically every presidential candidate named so far, except Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio and President Truman.

Deadline for filing for Oregon's May 16 preferential primary was 5 p. m. Friday and names of candidates, eager or reluctant, were pouring into the state election bureau here.

Consent Not Needed

Under Oregon law, consent of the candidate is not needed and once filed the candidate cannot withdraw his name.

On file for the Republican ballot were names of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Gov. Earl Warren of California, Harold E. Stassen and Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon.

Stevenson May File

On the Democratic ticket for the presidential nomination are Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and U. S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas. Petitions to file the name of Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois were expected to be filed before the deadline.

On the Republican side, Gen. MacArthur and Sen. Morse have told backers their names were filed without their desires or consent. Morse said flatly he was not a candidate for president. Justice Douglas also stated he was not a candidate for the Democratic nomination.

Bridges To Remain Neutral In New Hampshire Primary

Washington — (U.P.) — Senate Republican Leader Styles Bridges proclaimed his strict neutrality Friday in the heated GOP presidential primary battle in his home state of New Hampshire.

New Hampshire votes next Tuesday in the nation's leadoff primary of 1952 and the first test between Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Sen. Robert A. Taft, who are considered the chief contenders for the GOP presidential nomination.

Gov. Sherman Adams, Sen. Charles W. Tobey, and other New Hampshire Republican lead-

ers are backing Eisenhower in the hard-fought campaign.

Although he has been described as a Taft supporter, Bridges has never endorsed any candidate.

"I have, still do and shall continue to maintain my neutral position in this campaign," he said. New Hampshire Republicans will choose among Eisenhower, Taft, and Harold E. Stassen in the presidential preference "popularity" contest. Slates of candidates to be delegates to the GOP nominating convention have been entered for Taft, Eisenhower and Gen. Douglas MacArthur.