



**SHORT ON LONG DISTANCE**—Some long distance telephone service from Chicago was interrupted when the C. I. O. operators refused to cross the picket lines of striking Western Electric Co. employees. Picketing activities like this shown in Chicago's Loop resulted in half the long distance operators remaining off the switchboards.

**Federal Officials Plan Flood Damage Studies This Week**

Washington—(U.P.)—Agriculture Department officials will meet again this week to study flood damage on Midwestern farms and consider possible action to aid stricken areas.

Heads of eight department agencies will meet with Undersecretary of Agriculture Clarence J. McCormick to discuss reports that have been coming in from agriculture mobilization committees in 10 midwest states. They will also consider first-hand information gathered by McCormick last week in a tour of the flooded area.

**Made Food Available**  
 The department already has made government stocks of food available to persons in stricken areas. The Farmers Home Administration has declared flooded counties in South Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa eligible for disaster loans.

A spokesman indicated that unless additional funds are obtained by other department agencies, these FHA loans may be the only aid the department can offer.

The FHA, with a revolving fund of \$75,000,000, currently has about \$32,000,000 in cash remaining for further loans. These loans are made to farmers whose crops, livestock, or property suffered damage in the disaster and who are unable to receive credit from local sources to continue production.

**March 15 Living Cost Up From December**

Washington—(U.P.)—The government reported Tuesday that the cost of living rose, for the first time this year, in the month ended March 15.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a one-tenth of one per cent increase in living costs, the first rise since December 15.

The new consumers price index figure stands at 188 per cent of 1935-39 price, 1.9 per cent above a year ago and 10.5 per cent over prices before the Korean war.

**Affidavit Supports Hiss Retrial Movement**

New York—(U.P.)—Chester H. Lane, an attorney for Alger Hiss, has filed a third affidavit in support of a motion for a new trial for the convicted perjurer.

Hiss was sentenced to five years in prison after being found guilty of lying when he denied supplying Soviet agents with secret government information.

Arguments on the motion for a new trial will be heard June 2.

**Eight Valley Men Enlisted in Navy**

Eight young Rogue valley men have enlisted in the U. S. Navy during the month of April so far, it was reported today by Chief L. L. Mauer, Navy recruiting non-commissioned officer here.

They are Ernest L. Beer, route 1, box 236; Thomas M. Barnes, 1545 Camp Baker road; William C. Smith, 526 North Front street, and Allen Dale Lane, route 2, box 244, all Medford; Jerry J. Bandy, route 1, box 482; Allen F. Harris, route 1, box 48; Oscar A. Sheppard, route 1, box 153; and Robert Geyer, route 1, box 602, all Central Point.

Mauer said that he has had a letter from Gerdal Dean Orndoff, who enlisted here last December 20, and who is now serving aboard the USS Everett in Japan. Orndoff formerly lived at 1317 South Peach street.

There are now 315,000 miles of natural gas pipe line in the United States.

**Apple Growers Advised To Check Frost Kills**

Rogue valley apple growers who use spray thinning in blossom time should check the blossoms for frost kills, County Horticultural Agent C. B. Cordy said today.

If the heavy Sunday frost has killed many blossoms, the growers should reconsider their spraying program, he said, and pointed out that if only king buds were killed, the full-bloom spray should be replaced with a hormone spray shortly after the petals fall.

Cordy noted that the warm overcast weather is "a good growing time," but that if the weather clears there will be frost danger, and any rain would bring on the danger of blight and scab.

**SAFETY RECORD SPOILED**

Carrollton, Ill.—(U.P.)—John Jouett, section foreman, was making the final inspection of an abandoned trestle when his motor car went out of control, injuring three men in his six-man crew. It was the first accident in his crew since 1942.

**VA Will Discontinue Insurance Receipts**

The Veterans Administration announced today it will discontinue sending out receipts for insurance premiums that fall due on and after August 1. The VA said the elimination of the receipts is an economy measure that will not affect service to veteran policyholders.

Notice of the discontinuance of premium receipts will be mailed to all veteran policyholders.

The VA said a preliminary estimate of the savings likely to accrue to the government as a whole from this order is approximately \$1,000,000 annually.

Policyholders who wish to maintain a record of their premium payments are advised by the VA to make payments by check or postal money order and to keep the cancelled checks or postal money order stubs as evidence of such payments.

The VA will continue to maintain an official record of premium payments for the protection of policyholders.

**Washington Farm Takes Aberdeen Show Honors**  
 Klamath Falls, Ore.—(U.P.)—A Washington farm Tuesday held top honors in the Pacific Coast Aberdeen Angus Association cattle show here. The reserve champion bull was consigned by Dale West of Elleenmere Meadow Lad 7th, Merrill, Ore.

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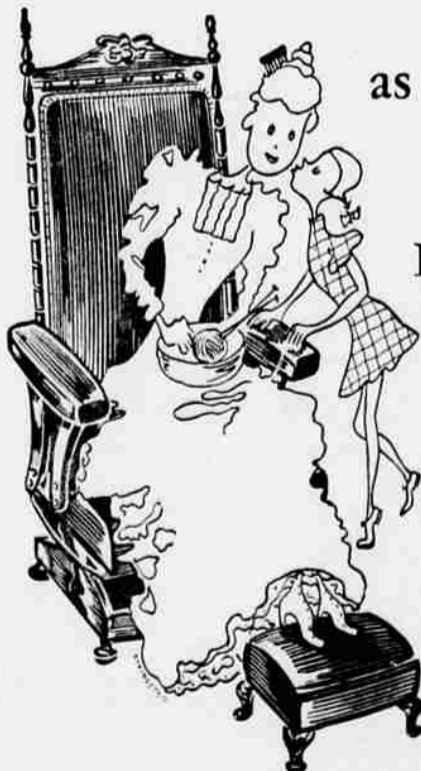
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