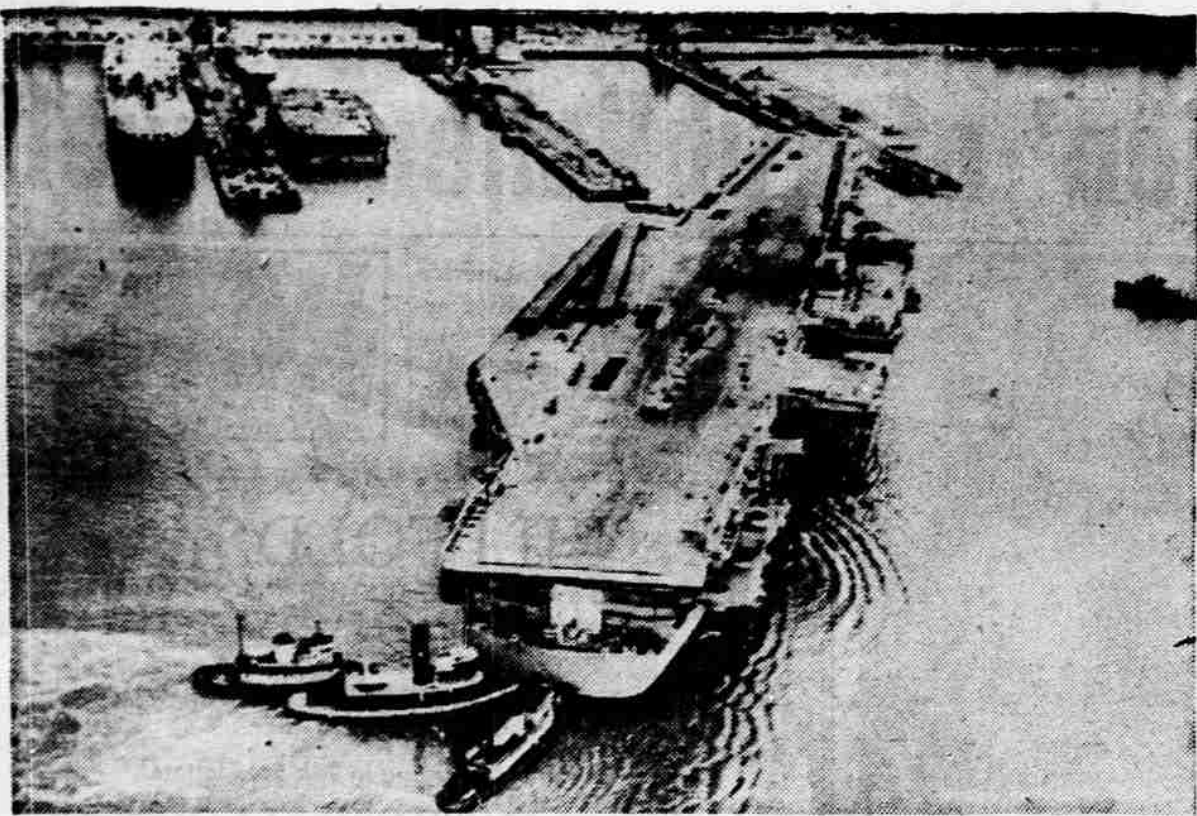




LARGEST CARRIER—At Newport News, Va., the USS Forrestal, largest aircraft carrier in the world, is eased into an outfitting dock by tugs where it will be fitted with electronic and ordnance equipment.

Medford Armory Due For Completion Late Next Year, Is Report

The new Medford armory building will probably be finished some time in late fall next year, one of the architects told a chamber of commerce group here yesterday.

Jack Edson, of the firm of Keeney and Edson which holds the architectural contract for the building, said that planning is about three-fourths completed. It will be finished probably by mid-January or early February, he said, and then must be approved by the National Guard bureau in Washington, D. C.

After this it will take about three more weeks to obtain bids, and construction will take about eight months, Edson estimated.

Describes Structure
In describing the structure as now planned, Edson said it will have some 37,000 square feet, with about 30,000 available for all purposes. National Guard training as well as general public use. The rest of it would include office and storage space for Medford's two guard units.

The building will be centered around a 100 by 120 foot multiple-purpose "assembly area," which is being designed to provide the greatest possible flexibility of use. Basketball, dancing, convention assemblies, displays and other gatherings could make use of the area. Folding bleachers will accommodate upward of 3,000 persons, he said, depending on its use.

It is planned to have maple floors. Balconies, also with folding bleachers, will add to the seating and display space.

Plan Classrooms
Adjacent to the assembly area will be National Guard classrooms which can be expanded or made smaller through the use of folding partitions for committee room use, or for a dining area, or which can be opened into the main area.

Edson said that the possibility of its being used for conventions has been kept in mind in the design, and a snack bar, lounge, toilets and a big kitchen are part of the plan. Some of the areas will be used by the National Guard, and others both by the Guard and by others. A rifle range is incorporated into the basement, as are dressing rooms for possible use by athletic teams.

The building will be largely of reinforced concrete construction, with wood and plaster used also.

May Be Changes
Edson, who spoke at the weekly "Roundtable" gathering of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, said there may be

Weather

FORECAST: Generally cloudy through Wednesday with occasional rain beginning tonight. Low tonight 40, high Wednesday 48-50.
Highest Yesterday 44
Lowest this Morning 37
Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today .01

United Fund Drive Reports Only 2 Per Cent From Goal

The United Medford Crusade is within about 2 per cent of reaching its \$102,000 goal, it was reported today.

UCA officials issued an appeal to all who have not yet contributed to send their contributions to Post Office Box 500, so that the goal can be achieved. A total of \$98,629 has been given or pledged, leaving only \$3,371 to be collected.

Proud of Showing
Bill Prentice, chairman of the UMC drive, said today that he is proud of the showing made in Medford this year, and credited both his volunteer workers and the generosity of Medford residents with a record of giving which he said compares well with many others on the Pacific Coast.

He pointed out that the United Fund drives in other cities

have concluded short of 100 per cent, but that it is still the ambition here to have a completed drive.

Those who gave amounts smaller than they did last year are being asked to increase their gifts to equal last year, he said. If this is done, and if those who have not yet given will do so, the drive will go over the top.

Report Made
Since the last report about two weeks ago, the UMC has received the final report from the employees and management of Bear Creek Orchards, which brought the total to 98 per cent.

Benefiting from the drive are the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Camp Fire Girls, the Salvation Army, the Medford YMCA, the Red Cross, the Oregon chest, and a number of health agencies.

Labor Decision Not Announced

Seattle — (U.P.) — A decision has been made on unfair labor practices charges filed against the Red Blanket company of Eagle Point and Prospect by the National Labor Relations board, it was announced today.

But NLRB officials said the decision will not be announced until later in the week. The formal decision has not been written as yet, and until an NLRB attorney can draft it formally it will not be made public, the announcement said.

The charges were filed last summer by Local Union 6-122, International Woodworkers of America, CIO, in connection with a strike at the company's plants.

The strike ended this fall after most company employees had returned to work.

Natural Gas Pipeline To Be Launched Soon

Vancouver, B.C. — (U.P.) — A \$100,000,000 pipeline to transmit natural gas from the Rich Peace river country to West Coast markets will be launched early in the new year, Premier A. C. Bennett announced yesterday.

A statement by the Premier and Robert E. Somers, provincial minister of mines, disclosed that agreement has been reached between three huge natural gas concerns for joint development of the Peace River market.

Frank McMahon, president of West Coast Transmission Ltd., Ray Fish, president of the Pacific Northwest Pipeline Corp., and Paul Kayser, president of the El Paso Natural Gas Co., reached the agreement in Tulsa, Okla., the statement said.

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Ex-actress Cathy Downs said she plans to file suit in January to divorce Joe Kirkwood Jr., the "Joe Palooka" of television.

Demos Want More Foreign Policy, Defense Details

Washington — (U.P.) — Democratic congressional leaders said after a bi-partisan legislative conference with President Eisenhower today that they wanted more details before committing themselves to support the administration's foreign policy and national defense programs next year.

The Democrats described the White House meeting as cordial and constructive.

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.) said the Democrats recognized the need for action at the next session of Congress on a long-range foreign trade program, improvement of the defense manpower situation and a pay raise for the military.

Johnson also indicated Democratic sympathy for some form of economic aid to Asia, but he said Mr. Eisenhower and his advisors had reached no decision on such a program.

In such a situation, Johnson said, the Democrats would have to await further information.

Republican and Democratic leaders of both houses, plus ranking members of the Foreign Affairs, Armed Services and Appropriations committees, conferred with the President, key Cabinet members and the White House staff from 8:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.

'Some Improvements'
Johnson, speaking for the Democrats, said the administration of 1955 legislative needs in the foreign and national defense fields was in such general terms that he felt that congressional committees would require much additional detailed information.

Johnson said he thought the administration plans discussed today were constructive and would be received by Congress in that light. But he added that some of the administration plans "may require some improvement."

Farm Bureau Head Resigns From Office

New York — (U.P.) — Allan B. Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, announced his resignation from the leadership post today for reasons of health.

Kline has been president since December, 1947. He said at the conclusion of his annual address to the Farm Bureau meeting here that his doctor had told him to get away from the pressure of his presidential office duties.

A successor will be elected Thursday.

Kline, whose home is in Vinton, Ia., had been living recently in the Chicago area where the Farm Bureau headquarters are located.

Stepfather Confesses To Beating of Girl

San Bruno — (U.P.) — The stepfather of a young Negro woman, found dying in a roadside ditch with her throat slashed and her clothes afire, admitted to police today he had beaten and stabbed her last night following an argument.

But longshoreman S. J. Curry, 40, the stepfather, denied he poured gasoline on her and set fire to her.

(See story on Page 4)

Central Point Girl Flown to Portland

Cindy Herndon, five-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Herndon, route 2, box 157A, Central Point, was taken to Portland today by Mercy Flights air ambulance. The child was the 305th patient carried by the non-profit air ambulance service.

The little girl is scheduled to undergo treatment at Doernbecher hospital for spinal meningitis. The plane was piloted by Lee Flink and George Mulligan.

Handicapped Students To Give Away Presents

Children in one of the rooms for handicapped children in a Medford public school will mail Christmas presents to children in Fairview home. Salem. In past years the children have exchanged presents — this year the presents will be sent to Fairview instead.

The plan was made in response to a plea from Mrs. W. P. Stevens, Portland, chairman of the Christmas present project of the Oregon Mental Health association. Her appeal was for gifts for inmates of all of the state's mental institutions.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES
New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrial 387.03 off 2.76; 20 railroads 136.58 up 0.13; 15 utilities 61.37 off 0.01, and 65 stocks 143.49 off 0.52. Sales today were about 2,650,000 shares, compared with 2,750,000 shares traded yesterday.

U.S. Not To Make Deal For Release of Prisoners

Peiping Hints at Consideration of Possible Trade

Detention of Students Claimed Law Violation

United Nations, N.Y. — (U.P.) — The United States will not enter any "deal" with Red China for the release of 11 American airmen jailed as "spies," diplomatic sources said today.

Peiping Radio hinted that it might consider trading the 11 Americans, principal subjects of a United Nations' demand for the freeing of illegally held war prisoners, in exchange for 35 Chinese students refused exit permits by the United States.

Return Refused
The United States has refused to let the 5 students, who were in the country when Communist China entered the Korean war, return to their homeland because they are experts in electronics, chemistry and physics. All three fields are important in development of atomic energy.

The American position was disclosed shortly after a statement by Gen. Mark W. Clark, former supreme commander for the United Nations in Korea, in which he said that he knew the Chinese Reds were holding at least 844 Americans as hostages.

Claimed Law Violation
Radio Peiping called the detention of the students "a flagrant violation of international law."

The Red broadcast appeared to observers to be a possible effort by the Communists to form a parallel case because the United Nations has condemned Red China as a Korean truce violator for jailing the uniformed airmen as spies.

Diplomats speculated that the Red Chinese would dwell on this subject before replying to U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's cabled bids for a meeting in Peiping on the fate of the imprisoned fliers.

Most of the Chinese students who have been refused exit permits do not wish to leave the United States. The others are not being permitted to return to Red China at this time because of valuable scientific knowledge they have acquired in their studies and research.

Request Ignored
The Peiping broadcast again ignored the Hammarskjöld cabled request for a meeting in the Red capital with Premier Chou En-Lai. The message left New York last Friday at 2:08 p.m. (PST) and arrived in Peiping four hours later, but it was not known whether it was delivered to Chou.

U.N. officials refused to be discouraged by the lack of a quick reply from Peiping. They reasoned that if Chou were going to reject Hammarskjöld's proposal outright, he probably would have acted by now.

Instead, these diplomats believed Red China was framing a conditional reply to Hammarskjöld.

Salem — (U.P.) — A last-minute appeal to motorists to take it easy on the highways tomorrow but to report any accidents immediately was made today by Secretary of State Earl T. Newby on the eve of S-D day.

Newby urged motorists to file reports either at a city police department, county sheriff's office or branch office of the secretary of state, in the county in which the accident occurs.

Immediate reports are necessary so that Oregon's part in the national Safe - Driving day proclaimed by President Eisenhower can be quickly evaluated and forwarded to national agencies.

ly, reported that S-D day would be the beginning of a concerted year-round effort to reduce accidents on county highways.

A number of local groups have announced they will participate fully in S-D day here tomorrow.

Robert A. Shaw, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local Union 962, said the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL, is cooperating in the attempt to make the day accident-free throughout the United States.

Medford and Ashland employees of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company who drive vehicles also have been urged to make an extra effort toward safety on the highways Wednesday, according to Jack Creager, local company manager.

Medford lodge No. 83, IOOF, announced that it has joined with the President in his safe driving campaign and urged all its members to join in keeping S-D day free from accident.

H. A. Vincent, noble grand, and Tom Banks, secretary, are directing the local safety campaign for the lodge.

Other firms and groups have also pledged cooperation.

Highway Chief Here
James A. Pryde, chief of the Washington Highway Patrol, was a Medford visitor yesterday and today, speaking on traffic safety. He was a guest of the Medford Rotary club today, following a meeting with the Highway Lifesavers group.

A story on Chief Pryde's Knife and Fork club talk appears on page 2 of today's Mail Tribune.

By UNITED PRESS
Midnight tonight will be H-hour for S-D Day — a day when the President has challenged the nation's motorists to get through 24 hours without a single traffic accident.

Safety experts, police, and city and state officials aimed new appeals to drivers throughout the country to face up to the presidential challenge and set an

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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SAFE DRIVING APPEALS VOICED

Accident-Free Day Throughout Nation Asked by President

Chief Asks Medford Drivers To Cooperate

Jackson county authorities today called upon all drivers to make the 24 hours of Safe Driving day, December 15, tomorrow, accident-free.

In a special appeal, Medford Police Chief Charles Champlin stated that he wants to see Medford "get up there with the best" in proving that it can go one day in a year with no accidents.

He added, "S-D day is being observed all over the country. It is sponsored by the President's action committee for traffic safety and hundreds of other local, state and national organizations."

Average Two Daily

In requesting particular driving caution tomorrow, the chief said that in Medford on an average week-day the city has about two traffic accidents of all types.

For Jackson county, the goal for tomorrow is six less than Dec. 15 of last year. This was the number of accidents in the county on that day.

Jennings Pierce, president of the Jackson County Highway Lifesavers committee, which coordinates highway safety local-

ities, said that actual construction plans are still in the "doodling stage" and no architect has yet been retained to lay out detailed designs. As described by the company spokesman, the development may extend over a long period of time, 5 to 10 years, with additional units of the final shopping center or district being added from time to time.

Pope's Progress Declared Halted
Vatican City — (U.P.) — A team of doctors found today that Pope Pius XII is weaker and his recovery was halted.

Five specialists consulted at the bedside of the ailing 78-year-old Pontiff in an atmosphere of urgency resulting from a recurrence of the hiccups which have plagued him repeatedly for many months. It was the third examination in five days.

The Pope was suffering from a mild case of anemia in addition to the new attack of hiccups, it was disclosed. The process which brought him back from a brush with death 12 days ago had halted, doctors said.

His pulse was reported fluctuating slightly.

Authoritative sources said the doctors decided during a 45-minute conference at the Pope's bedside this afternoon to speed up efforts to take x-rays for diagnosing his ailment.

Polio Workers' 'School' Scheduled
A one-night "school" for Jackson county volunteer workers in the January March of Dimes campaign will be held at the Jackson hotel tomorrow night, starting at 8 o'clock, it has been announced. The "school" will be under direction of Bob Smith and Van Purdy, co-chairmen of the county campaign.

Mrs. Frederick Young of Portland, state adviser on women's activities, will be the principal speaker and a film on polio work will be shown. Various phases of the anti-polio fund raising program will be discussed and the workers will be given opportunities to ask questions regarding various problems expected to be faced in their communities.

Mrs. Earl Leever, Medford, who last year directed the city's most successful "Mothers' March" campaign, will speak on that activity.

all-time safety record Wednesday.
S-D Day — short for Safety Day — was thought up by a man who almost died in a traffic accident last March — Albert J. Veglia, registrar of motor vehicles for the state of California.

Common-Sense Rules
It was sponsored by the President's Action committee for Traffic Safety and Mr. Eisenhower told the nation's drivers that if they practice common sense rules, Wednesday "can be a day without a traffic accident in all America."

Safety experts doubted if the record will be spotless. But they hoped for a dramatic demonstration of how safe the nation's highways can be with a little special effort.

On the comparable day last year — Wednesday, Dec. 16 — there were 4,907 traffic accidents in the United States. Sixty persons were killed and 1,807 were injured.

Best Yule Shopping Season Ever Reported in Medford

The Medford area appears to be headed for the best Christmas shopping season it has ever experienced.

That is the consensus of a number of leading retail merchants and bankers in the city, queried this week by the Mail Tribune. Each one indicated that business is good; most of them said it is the best Yuletide season Medford has ever had.

Here is the gist of some of their comments:

Department store — There has been no change in the business trend, which is generally up every year. It still is up. People are buying with an eye toward utility and sensible direction, principally clothing.

Women's wear store — Medford people started shopping early this year, about three weeks earlier than usual. Sales have been very good. Shopping started earlier and is holding up; compares favorably with 1953 and is a little better, if anything. Selections are better this year, and people are buying better merchandise of a more practical type.

Banker — Reports to him show that the shopping season is good, ranging from a low of 4 to a high of 8 or 10 per cent better than at the same time last year. A good volume of business is anticipated between now and Christmas.

Gift shop manager — Business is good; heading for a record year.

Photography studio — Business about the same as last year. People started shopping for photographs a bit later than last year. Customers from some areas (particularly Yreka and Central Point) seem to be spending more freely than others.

Another photography studio — Business this year about 15 to 18 per cent greater than last year. Last year had to stop taking Christmas pictures on Dec. 10; this year had to do so a week earlier to permit them to be finished on time. Retail sales on cameras, projectors and other equipment are high; lots of it sold before it arrives for sale.

The average photographic order this year about 5 or 8 per cent bigger than last year's average. Prices are about the same.

Jewelry store — Not as many big items being sold as last year, but overall volume is about the same as in 1953. Diamonds and watches are the big items this year; last year it was costume jewelry and silverware.

Banker — Banking activity is brisk, and deposits are increasing as they usually do at this time of year, although in greater proportion than usual. Not so many requests for credit. Things seem pretty busy, although no comparison made with last year.

Men's clothing store — Customers seem to be looking for quality merchandise, and don't mind spending money for good items.

Jewelry store — Silverware, diamonds and costume jewelry are moving well, and customers seem to be spending more money than last year. Christmas shopping started earlier than usual.

Gift shop — Business about the same as last year. People seem to be working harder at shopping, with more emphasis on utility.

Road Conditions
Chains were required for driving over the Diamond lake warned.

On the Siskiyou mountain pass there were spots of ice, well sanded, and ice also was springs route.

160 More Blood Donors for Tomorrow's Visit Said Need
One hundred sixty more blood donors are needed by tomorrow, it was announced this morning.

The monthly visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile here will be tomorrow, and 300 persons are needed to give blood to furnish the quota needed, workers in the blood program said. Only 140 have made appointments to give blood so far, they said.

'Drop-Ins' Welcome
The blood donation operation will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Elks temple, and "drop-in" donors will be welcome, in addition to those who have made appointments. The telephone

