

Cease Fire Prospects Dim

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Hospital Site Sale Being Considered By City Councilmen

Highland Drive Area Proposed

Proposed sale of city-owned property on Highland dr. to the Medford Hospital association for a new hospital site was referred for study and a report at the next meeting by city councilmen last night.

The site, totaling 21 acres, is adjacent to the IOOF cemetery and Bear Creek. It is now leased to City Sanitary service for vehicle storage.

Mayor Earl Miller told representatives of the association that the area was originally set aside for future park purposes, and that this has to be considered together with the need for a new hospital.

The Rev. George R. V. Bolster was the hospital group spokesman. He described the need for expanded hospital facilities, the desirability of the proposed site. He termed the site "ideal" from the hospital standpoint.

A'torney Otto Frohnmayer added that the site complies with the basic factors of accessibility, and sewer and water availability. He added that "even with a reasonable amount of speed in construction, it would take from two to three years to erect a new hospital." He said the association has close to \$300,000 in funds, and a public campaign for more would open in late spring.

Planners Recommend Site The city planning commission submitted a letter to the council recommending that the council negotiate for sale of the property.

The Rev. Mr. Bolster discussed the growth of medical needs in the Medford area, stating that adequate hospital facilities are "drastically" lacking. He described the area as having a "very great medical center potential, but lacking in treatment facilities."

(See story on Page 10)

Court, Jury View Alleged Crime Scene

The re-trial of LeRoy Starkey, 20, was in its second day today. Curt officials, attorneys and the jury viewed the premises of the alleged crime in Jacksonville this morning, and opening arguments were expected to follow in circuit court, according to the district attorney's office.

Starkey, of Eagle Point, is charged with assault and robbery while armed with a dangerous weapon. The charge involves the stabbing of John Philip Henselman last April at the latter's studio-home.

At the first trial, Starkey was convicted and sentenced to a period not to exceed 10 years in the state prison, but a retrial was granted.

Judge James Bain, Portland, is presiding.

Demos Seek Repeal of Flexible Farm Program

Washington—(U.P.)—Democratic farm leaders in the House today launched their promised attempt to repeal the Eisenhower administration's flexible farm program and restore rigid high price supports for five basic crops.

It looked like an uphill fight. There was little prospect the bill could be pushed through Congress before next year, if then. Moreover, supporters conceded in advance it couldn't muster enough votes to override a possible presidential veto.

Portland—(U.P.)—Directors of the Oregon A Grade Producers Association have approved a proposed state milk law establishing minimum prices of grade A milk.

Tests of Nuclear Weapons Scheduled At Nevada Proving Ground This Month

Washington—(U.P.)—Nine thousand officers and men of all the military services will participate in tests of "new and improved nuclear weapons" starting at the Nevada Proving ground this month.

The tests, originally announced by the Atomic Energy commission last September, will be designated Operation Teapot, a Defense department announcement said.

A highlight will be an assault by helicopter-borne Marines on an "enemy" position following an atomic explosion.

Air Force planes flying from both United States and overseas bases, and Navy and Marine Corps aircraft will participate in the test series. The department gave no indication, however,

that any of these planes will drop atomic weapons. Indications are that most of the shots will be from high steel towers.

The Defense department said its participation in Operation Teapot will be designed "to evaluate the effects of new and improved nuclear weapons and to ascertain factual information required for the maintenance of up-to-date plans vital to the security and defense of our nation."

Only by such tests, the announcement said, can military men be sure "that their plans are based on proven facts rather than theoretical concepts."

The announcement emphasized that "much progress" has been made in developing military organizations and tactics for nuclear warfare.

Twisters Kill 30

New Company Plans Veneer Production In Medford Area

Plans for a big new green veneer operation with the third similar venture to be announced within the past two months, were made known today.

A new corporation, Oregon Veneer company, is being formed

for the purpose. Signing the articles of incorporation will be George Flanagan, vice-president

and general manager of Elk Lumber company; Loren Haugen, president of Medford Veneer and Plywood Corp., and Attorney John Dellenback.

Two Firms Hold Stock

Stock in the new firm will be held by Elk Lumber company and Medford Veneer and Plywood Corp., the announcement said. Elk will undertake to supply the new company with log supplies, while the veneer firm will purchase veneer production from the new company.

Original capitalization will be \$100,000. The plant will cost an estimated \$300,000 to build, and will be located on a site in the vicinity of Medford. Production figures are estimated to be about 12,000,000 square feet of 1-12 inch veneer per month.

The newest and most efficient veneer equipment will be ordered soon, the incorporators said. About 60 men will be employed, operating on two shifts, with an annual payroll of some \$300,000.

In Late Summer

It is planned to be ready to begin operations by late this summer. Flanagan will be president of the new corporation, and Haugen will be vice-president and general manager.

The other major plywood or veneer plants announced recently include those planned by Fir-Ply Co., which has a new plant under construction in the White City area, and another group of unidentified lumber men which announced plans for a \$1,500,000 mill late in December. No further announcement of plans has been made as yet by the second group.

Appointments To Give Blood Being Accepted

Appointments to give blood during next week's visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile are now being accepted, it was announced today.

They can be made by telephoning 3-3813. The donation period will be from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8. As usual, it will be at the Elks temple.

Some 300 or more donors are being sought at this time. The bloodmobile visits here every other month, and 300 pints would be just enough to fill the local blood needs of 100 to 150 pints monthly.

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The installation work is being handled by a seven-member crew under Supervising Wire Chief R. P. Rogers, with Foreman Bill Williams and Earl DeLisle in charge.

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School Buildings, Shanties Levelled In Mississippi

Tunica, Miss.—(U.P.)—Tornadoes left at least 30 dead today in the ruins of school buildings and share croppers' shanties that tumbled down in the storm's rampage across three southern states.

Officials feared the death toll would rise as National Guardsmen searched splintered cabins and flattened schools on Mississippi plantations for more bodies. More than half those found were children.

Hospitals Jammed

The black funnel jammed hospitals with 125 mangled or stunned victims and drove more than 500 persons from their homes before blowing out in Alabama.

Several frightened Negro school children saw the big twister approaching a cotton plantation at Robinsonville, Miss., and crawled to safety in the hollow trunk of an "old tree" that long had been dead.

Bodies Everywhere

Highway Patrolmen Don Spencer and Harold Kidd were among the first to reach the Robinsonville scene.

"Bodies were scattered all over the place," Spencer said. "Two cars had been blown from in front of the school into fields several hundred yards away."

At Least 35 Dead Expected

Chief investigating officer L. C. Hicks of the Mississippi Highway Patrol said it appeared the fatality list would rise to "at least 35 or more."

The tornadoes broke down power lines as they bore down on two Arkansas plantations, leaped the Mississippi river and lashed six more plantations in Mississippi. There were no casualties in Arkansas but eight persons were injured in Alabama, where the storm was dissipated.

Sexy TV Star Fired After Public Protests

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Sexy television siren Voluptua, fired after letters flooded her station and complained she was tearing down Hollywood morals, said today she "just wanted to bring lots of love" to her audience.

"I can't understand why people objected to me," the statuesque blonde sniffed. "I just wanted to bring them lots of love and they didn't appreciate it. I thought sex was here to stay."

Voluptua, whose real name is Gloria Pall, was fired yesterday by local TV station KBAC in the wake of indignant complaints by church groups, the Parent-Teachers association, and similar groups.

ENGINE FAILS

Boise, Ida.—(U.P.)—A twin engined C46 transport plane with 37 soldiers and a crew of four aboard returned safely to Boise early today after an engine failed near King Hill, Ida.

Miami Beach, Fla.—(U.P.)—The AFL Executive Council has accused Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell of refusing to do anything about "chiseling, wage-cutting and law-violating contractors" on defense projects.

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Total Surrender Of Formosa Again Demanded by Reds

Chiang Wants Islands' Defense Guaranteed

United Nations, N.Y.—(U.P.)—Prospects for a Formosan cease fire under U.N. auspices dimmed considerably today.

Red China reiterated her demands for total surrender of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's island bastion, and it was indicated that if the Reds agreed to send representatives to a U.N. debate they would do so only in a role which would brand the United States an aggressor.

In London, India's Jawaharlal Nehru was reported actively seeking a Geneva-type conference, outside the United Nations, to settle the Formosan crisis. Nationalist Demands

On Formosa, the Nationalist Chinese, bitterly opposed both to a cease fire and to the U.N. invitation to the Reds, were reported placing new conditions upon American plans for evacuation of the Tachen islands.

Despite their rapidly deteriorating military position on the small island chain off Red China's mainland, the Nationalists were reported demanding a public guarantee from the United States that Quemoy, Matsu and other islands will be jointly defended.

Nehru was said to have put forward his plan, which still is nebulous, at the current meeting of the British Commonwealth prime ministers.

His thought would not be to confine the conference to Formosa, but also to permit discussion of Korea, Germany and other trouble spots.

Red China Unyielding

Red China's unyielding stand was said to have been made clear late yesterday in a meeting between Nehru and Peiping's diplomatic representative in London.

Reports of their meeting, received from the British capital, said the Chinese diplomat, Huan Hsiang, made it clear in his conversations with Nehru that Peiping will not agree to any "two Chinas" settlement.

U.S. Not To Let Reds Get Formosa

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower declared today that the United States is not going to let the Communists get Formosa.

The President at his news conference said at the same time that American policy in the present critical situation is to try honestly and hopefully to prevent a war.

But he expressed on several occasions U.S. determination to defend Formosa.

He also said that use of American ground forces in this connection has not been considered.

Mr. Eisenhower said that the purpose of administration policy is to make certain that no conflict occurs through a mistake in calculation by the other side regarding our concern for Formosa and our determination to defend it.

North African Debate May Topple Mendes

Paris—(U.P.)—The National Assembly begins discussion today of France's North African troubles in a showdown debate that may topple the government of Premier Pierre Mendes-France.

The critical mood of the assembly was shown Tuesday night when it voted 580 to 34 to shunt aside a minor section of Mendes-France's budget dealing with pay raises for lesser government employees.

The stinging defeat was the second in two days and raised hopes among Mendes-France's political enemies they could get rid of him and his German rearmament policies by the end of the week.

Nixon's Caribbean Trip To Stress Importance

Washington—(U.P.)—Vice-President Richard M. Nixon said today President Eisenhower is sending him to Central America and the Caribbean to demonstrate the "tremendous importance" the United States attaches to friendly relations with its next door neighbors.

Nixon conferred with Mr. Eisenhower at a White House breakfast this morning. The meeting lasted for 70 minutes, and most of the time was devoted to discussing Nixon's forthcoming trip, Nixon said.



OPERATION SNOWBIRD—Troopers of the 503rd Airborne Regimental Combat Team begin a cross-country-march (bottom) on snowshoes following mass parachute drop (top) at Talkeetna, Alaska, which opened Phase Two of the Joint Army-Air Force maneuver, "Exercise Snowbird."

Death and Injuries Reported in Medford

Two deaths, injuries from burns, and a possible suicide were reported in Medford today.

One man died after a fall, an Eagle Point woman was critically burned, a Medford baby died, apparently from natural causes, after attempts at resuscitation failed; and a 16-year-old Medford girl was admitted to a local hospital for treatment of an overdose of sleeping pills after what may have been a suicide attempt.

Edward J. Condon, 53, a former member at the Camp White veterans home, died at a local hospital this morning. He was hospitalized by Medford Ambulance attendants after being found near a boxcar on the siding at the Southern Pacific station. He apparently had fallen from the car, police said, after his foot slipped on an icy surface, striking his head and inflicting injuries which proved fatal. Survivors include a daughter in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Baby Dies

Harold Sliger Jr., the 2-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sliger, 766 Agate st., died yesterday, and his attending physician said the cause apparently was due to a heart ailment. A post mortem examination to determine the exact cause is to be performed today.

The baby had been dead several hours when he was found, the physician said. Police officers and ambulance attendants worked for some time with artificial respiration and a resuscitator until the physician arrived.

Montgomery Ward Wins Damage Suit in Portland

Portland—(U.P.)—Montgomery Ward & Company yesterday was awarded \$10,750 damages against six railroads and 28 motor truck carriers.

The suit was filed in Portland Federal Court Dec. 3, 1942, and originally claimed actual and punitive damages in excess of three million dollars. Damages were sought because carriers refused to cross picket lines during a Ward employees strike here between December, 1940, and July, 1941.

Mayor Issues Plea To City's Dog Owners

Medford's Mayor Earl Miller last night issued a public plea for dog owners of the city to "act on their honor" to keep their animals off neighbors' property during the planting season.

He reported he received numerous telephone calls last week from garden owners, that dogs were hampering their work.

The mayor added that, even though there is no city law requiring dog confinement during the planting and growing season, he was "sure that dog owners would take the matter in hand and police their own situations to avoid neighborhood conflicts."

Prosecution in "extreme situations" can be made under the city's nuisance ordinance, when a complaint is made, he pointed out.

Federal Income Tax Offset Seen To Be 'Dead Duck'

Salem—(U.P.)—Gov. Paul L. Patterson's proposal to eliminate the federal tax offset provision in the Oregon income tax law "is a dead duck," Sen. Rudie Wilhelm Jr. (R-Portland), chairman of the Senate committee on taxation, said today.

He made the observation in commenting on a four-point revenue raising program proposed by the Democratic state legislative policy committee headed by Sen. Robert Holmes of Gearhart.

Surtax Meets Approval

The Democratic tax program, including a surtax on state income taxes instead of removal of the federal tax offset and a boost in liquor prices, met with the approval in general of Rep. Loran I. Stewart of Cottage Grove, House Speaker Edward A. Geary of Klamath Falls, Senate President Elmo E. Smith of John Day, and Sen. Wilhelm—Republicans all. They were unanimous in preferring the surtax proposal as more realistic than removal of the federal tax offset.

Oppose Property Tax

The Democrats expressed opposition to a state tax on real property "because local demands already impose a heavy burden upon property, and because farmers and ranchers in particular, with sagging earnings, must not be asked to take on the additional burden which a state levy would impose."

The committee also opposed a sales tax on grounds that it "is an unfair tax... discriminatory against the people in the low income brackets."

The surtax would range from \$5 on an income of \$3000 a year to \$586 on an income of \$50,000. A person with one dependent would pay: on \$3000 income, present tax of \$18, plus surtax of \$5; with \$5000 income, \$67 present tax plus \$21 surtax; and with \$10,000 income, \$246 present tax plus \$74 surtax; with \$50,000 income, \$1954 present tax plus \$586 surtax.

Weather

FORECAST: Clearing and colder tonight with low near 24. Considerable for Thursday morning. Fair and a little warmer during afternoon with high 45.

Highest Yesterday	Temp.
Lowest This Morning	40
Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today	31
	42

Groundhog Sees Shadow; More Winter Due

Punxsutawney, Pa.—(U.P.)—The Punxsutawney groundhog poked out of his burrow through six inches of new snow today, gave a snort of disgust and scooted underground again to sleep out six more weeks of winter.

The old fellow made only a brief appearance and "was lucky to see his shadow at all," Sam Light, president of the Punxsutawney Groundhog club reported.

Up until almost the very moment the fabled phenomenon occurred at 8:51 a.m., it was still snowing atop nearby Canoe ridge where the "Old Seer of

Gobbler's Knob" makes his home.

If there are any ground hogs in or around Medford, and if they came out of their holes early this morning, they didn't see their shadows.

And if there's any truth to the old superstition about ground hogs, this means there will not be six more weeks of winter.

If anyone believes the superstition, there was a little sunshine this morning, but not until about 10 o'clock, if that makes any difference.

Light, a prominent district