

# Hoover Commission Calls for Senior Civil Service of 1500 Politically Neutral Officials

Washington — (U.P.) — The Hoover Commission called today for a "senior civil service" of 1500 politically neutral executives to keep the government running at top efficiency regardless of switches in party power.

## Motel in Ashland Damaged by Blaze

Ashland — Fire Friday afternoon damaged the living quarters and office of the Best in a West motel on Siskiyou boulevard.

Damage to the motel was estimated at \$10,000 by owner Gordon LeManquais, who said the loss is partly covered by insurance. The blaze destroyed the furnishings and personal belongings in LeManquais' home and office.

Ashland firemen said the blaze apparently started from an unattended blow torch being used in a plumbing operation under the house. It made great headway inside the building before it was discovered at about 3 p.m.

## Bill Would Make Alaska, Hawaii Part of States

Washington — (U.P.) — Rep. Craig Hosmer (R-Calif.) planned to introduce a bill today to make Hawaii a part of California and Alaska a part of Washington as an alternative to statehood for the two territories.

Hosmer is a member of the House Interior Committee which is considering legislation to give statehood to the two territories.

He said neither territory so far has come up with "a clear and convincing argument for statehood, but each has shown that continued territorial status is not to their advantage." Incorporating the territories into existing states, Hosmer said, would give their people "a measure of the self government they seek."

er, made the recommendation in the first of a series of reports to Congress on its year and a half government reform study.

**Additional Executives**  
In addition to the "senior civil service," the commission also proposed an unspecified additional number of administration-picked executives to carry out and defend official policies.

At the same time, a "task force" created by the commission denounced the practice by present and past administrations and members of Congress of both parties requiring political clearance for federal jobs. It accused the Eisenhower administration of weakening the civil service program and urged abolition of the patronage or "spoils" system of giving federal jobs as political rewards.

**Security Program**  
The same task force called

for creation of a "distinguished panel" to investigate the administration's personnel security program. It said the program has "raised many questions" and "depressed morale."

The commission itself did not allude to the task force charges in its report but sent them along to Congress without comment.

The commission and its task force split on the issue of veterans' federal job rights. The task force, headed by President Harold W. Dodds of Princeton university, called for heavy reduction or outright abolition of most veterans' privileges. The commission recommended much less severe trimming.

Informed sources said the 12-member commission, which includes four members of Congress refrained from stronger recommendations on this score because it knew Congress would not adopt them.

**Ask Pay Increases**  
The commission was created in mid-1953 to study and make recommendations for reorganization of the executive branch of the government. It is a second edition of a commission, also headed by Mr. Hoover, that made a series of government reform proposals during the Truman administration. Many now are in effect.

In today's recommendations, the commission called for higher pay for top-level government managers; placement of more jobs under civil service; elimination of political clearances for some 32,000 rural mailmen; and an end to political appointment of U. S. marshals and field officials of the Customs Bureau and U. S. mints.

It also urged a review of "conflict of interest" laws that forbid men to hold government jobs while they still have certain business and other interests. It said "competent men" may be willing to take a temporary pay cut to work for the government but are reluctant "to give up their lifetime accumulations of investments and pensions and other rights."



**CAN SHE FILL THEM?**—Shirley MacLaine measures the shoes she'll try to fill while playing part originally scheduled for actress Betty Grable on the Hollywood TV show "Shower of Stars" Feb. 17. Miss Grable seriously sprained her ankle and had to cancel her appearance. Shirley will do all of Betty's dances.

# Many French Families Live in Ancient Homes Others Have No Homes at All

Paris—(U.P.)—So you think you have a housing problem. Well, take a look around France:

More than 2,000,000 French families live in houses built before the battle of Waterloo (1815).

About 175,000 families live in houses built under the reign of Francis I (1515-1547).

Only one-third of the 20,000,000 rural population of France live in homes with running water.

An estimated 180,000 Parisians live in dwellings officially declared "unfit for habitation." They have no running water, no toilets, no gas, no electricity.

Another 2,000 Parisians have no homes at all. They sleep on subway gratings which throw up a continuous draft of warm air.

These facts are a startling reality behind the elegant boulevards, restaurants and fashion houses of Paris.

Thanks to the foresight of Napoleon III, Paris still ranks as the most beautiful city in the world. But Paris has rested on its laurels too long. The average age of its buildings is 83 years. In the provinces of France the average age of buildings is 120 years.

As far as building is concerned, Paris has let the rest of the world go by. For every seven housing units built in France since World War II, the British have built 21 and the Germans 24. A report to the National Assembly on the housing problem says France ranks 15th among modern nations in building activity. Why?

Frenchmen, according to the economists, spend too much money for food. They lavish 60 per cent of their income on it. They just aren't willing to cut down food bills to pay more rent.

The government froze rents after 1945 in an effort to keep down the cost of living. But food prices were allowed to soar. Landlords with fixed-rent apartments say they can't afford repairs, much less put up new buildings.

Most desperate is the plight of newlyweds. The National Assembly was told:

"Twenty-five per cent of all couples who married in 1948 are still looking for shelter. They either live with their parents or they are forced to stay in hotels or furnished rooms without kitchens."

Newlyweds wanting to build a "dream house" are forced to dream a long time. They can ask for a government loan to build it, but they have to figure on a 15-month wait while the application goes through a dozen departments.

If their dossier isn't lost altogether, they may finally get their loan. Then the real wait starts. The smallest building project is carried out through a multitude of sub-contractors.

It may take two and a half years to get their house com-

## Fight Promised on Airline Decision

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) promised a congressional fight today if Pan American World Airways is authorized to fly the "Great Circle" route between Seattle and Tokyo.

"If the President puts Pan American in he will step into a real hornet's nest on Capitol Hill," Magnuson said.

Northwest Airlines has been the only American carrier serving the Orient via Alaska, and the President recently ordered the Civil Aeronautics Board to continue its authorization for seven years.



## Youngster Survives Strychnine Tablets

The Dalles — (U.P.) — A 3½ year-old boy today appeared to be fully recovered from the effects of swallowing strychnine poison which killed two dogs.

Doctors here credited the quick action of the parents of little Dale Kielborn for saving his life.

The boy was visiting with his parents at the home of relatives Friday night when he found a bottle of strychnine tablets kept to kill gophers. He swallowed a handful and fed some more to two pet bulldogs.

Moments later, his mother, Mrs. Norman Kielborn, saw her son with the bottle. She poured an antidote down his throat and called a doctor.

Within 10 minutes the boy was at The Dalles hospital having his stomach pumped. Five minutes later, the two dogs died. The boy was dismissed from the hospital Saturday afternoon.

## More Liberty Ships Will Store Wheat

Astoria — (U.P.) — Seventy-five more Liberty ships in the reserve fleet mooring basin at Cathlamet bay will be loaded with surplus wheat, the U. S. Maritime Administration announced today.

Capt. Elmer E. Thorne, reserve fleet superintendent, said the project would be only slightly less in scope than the operation a year ago when 87 ships were loaded with surplus Pacific Northwest grain.

Thorne said dredging to accommodate the ships would begin immediately so that loading could start in May. A total of about 15 million bushels of grain will be loaded on the 75 ships. Value of the grain will be about \$35,000,000.

## Umpqua Plywood Mill Shifts To Sheathing

Myrtle Creek — (U.P.) — The Umpqua Plywood corporation mill here will be idle today as the plant starts a shift from the production of finished plywood to sheathing.

Company officials said the changeover would mean a reduction in the ranks of some 400 workers currently employed.

Management said the quality of logs in the South Umpqua forests were suitable for sheathing and unfinished grades of plywood. Whether the plant would continue in production at all, officials said, would be determined by the mill's ability to compete in the production of sheathing.

The mill is the largest single operation in Myrtle Creek.

**OMITTED FROM LIST**  
The name of Mann's Department store was inadvertently omitted from a story in Sunday's issue which listed Medford firms cooperating in the annual luncheon and style show given last Wednesday by Reames Social club. The store provided children's clothing for the show.

# WINSTON changed America's mind about filter cigarettes!



WINSTON TASTES GOOD!

LIKE A CIGARETTE SHOULD!



There's no effort to puff! Thanks to Winston's finer filter, Winston's finer flavor comes through to you easily and smoothly. The full, rich flavor is all yours to enjoy!

## WINSTON — the cigarette that brought flavor back to filter smoking!

It didn't take America long to make the great discovery about Winston! It's got real flavor — the full, rich, tobacco flavor real smokers want. No wonder Winston's getting the warmest welcome of any new brand in cigarette history!

Besides bringing flavor back to filter smoking, Winston also brings you a finer filter. The exclusive Winston filter works so effectively, yet lets the flavor come right through to you! Easy-drawing — that's Winston!

Smoke WINSTON the easy-drawing filter cigarette!

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

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Snap your engine to life at the touch of the starter with Chevron Gasolines. What a difference! ... and you get these "extras," too:

**Faster engine response**—Chevron Gasolines specially blended for winter driving, give your engine more pep, sharper acceleration.

**"Detergent-Action"**—cleans out carburetor deposits while you drive—ends the biggest single cause of engine trouble. This is why it gives you smooth idling, stall-free performance in tough stop-and-go driving.

**Money-saving mileage**—you're rid of gas-wasting carburetor deposits... and that means you get more miles per gallon!

New cars stay new, older cars act like new with "Detergent-Action" Chevron Gasolines. Why not start your car with a tankful today!

We take better care of your car



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