

Religious Sect Swings Support To Anti-Red Viet Nam Premier

Saigon, Indochina — (U.P.) — The commander-in-chief of the Cao Dai religious sect ordered his 25,000 Buddhist warriors today to join Premier Ngo Dinh Diem in his battle to retain control of free Viet Nam.

The surprise move by Gen. Nguyen Thanh Phung assured a victory for the American-backed premier over the rebellious Binh Xuyen sect of former pirate leaders who rose against Diem with a series of attacks that plunged Indochina into a brief civil war.

Phung's move deprived the rebellious sects of more than half their armed strength and

cracked the so-called unified Nationalist front. Until today the Cao Dai was allied with the Binh Xuyen and the Hoa Hao religious sect.

Phung summoned Diem's representatives to his headquarters today after an uneasy night in which government troops and Binh Xuyen warriors agreed to a truce after the first round of hostilities killed 26 persons and wounded 112.

Phung told Diem's representatives:

"The sects should keep out of politics. Today I and my 26,000 men rally behind Premier Diem. I support him totally."

The sudden about-face by the Cao Dai, a mixture of Buddhism and Christianity, dealt a blow to Saigon's large Communist underground which had expected the growing war to make free South Viet Nam fall into Communist hands without a struggle.

Saigon remained calm. There were reports of "some firing" during the night despite the truce, but no serious hostilities were reported. The French High Command had warned that the truce might not be respected.

Joseph Pulitzer Dies 10 Days After Seventieth Birthday

St. Louis — (U.P.) — Joseph Pulitzer, editor and publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, died last night, 10 days after his 70th birthday anniversary.

The world famous editor, whose newspaper sponsored the annual Pulitzer prizes for excellence in the field of journalism, had not suffered a long illness.

Pulitzer, apparently in excellent health except for long failing eyesight, attended a party honoring his birthday March 21.

Pulitzer died at 11:45 p.m. last night at Barnes Hospital here. Death was attributed to a ruptured blood vessel in the abdomen.

Pulitzer set exacting standards for Post-Dispatch editors and reporters.

Politically Independent

The newspaper was fearlessly independent politically. It supported Democrat Adlai Stevenson in the 1952 presidential campaign, but only yesterday came out in vigorous defense of President Eisenhower.

Pulitzer is survived by his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Pulitzer, his second wife, two sons, Joseph Pulitzer Jr., vice-president and associate editor of the Post-Dispatch, and Michael E. Pulitzer, a lawyer, Beverly Farms, Mass., and two daughters, Mrs. Elwood R. Quesada, Los Angeles, and Mrs. Louis Hempelmann, Rochester, N. Y. There are eight young grandchildren.

Military Pay Raise Bill Waits Signature

Washington — (U.P.) — Only a Presidential signature was needed today for some 2,000,000 military personnel to start drawing bigger pay tomorrow.

There was no question that President Eisenhower would sign the \$745,000,000 annual pay increase bill whisked through by the Senate and House Wednesday. But the big question in servicemen's minds was when.

If the President signs the measure today, the pay increase will go into effect Friday. If he delays a day, the servicemen will have to wait until May 1 for the increased pay.

The measure contains an average 6.7 per cent pay increase for career servicemen.

Washington — (U.P.) — The Army will draft 10,000 men in May, 2,000 more than in April, the Defense Department announced today.

The May draft call will bring to 1,898,430 the total of men drafted since the Korean War started.

'Bad Check Artist' Warning Given Here

City police warned today that a bad check artist who has been working in the Grants Pass area is believed to be heading for Medford.

Local authorities have no description of the man, but report that he is young. His method of operation is to go into a service station, wearing an apron and claiming to be from a nearby store.

The man then uses the identification with the market to cash worthless checks. The Josephine county sheriff's office reports the trick was used successfully in Grants Pass on at least two occasions.

Nationalists Renew Battle Predictions

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — Chinese Nationalist military authorities renewed their prediction today that fighting will flare in the Formosa Strait with the coming of good weather within the next two weeks.

At the same time a high Nationalist source said Red China would not attack the Matsu or Quemoy islands if the United States gave clear indications it would defend the two island groups. He said the Reds would not risk a clash with the United States at the present time.

Internal Difficulties In Russia Believed Motivation for Talks

London — (U.P.) — Diplomatic sources said today that Russian internal troubles and the growing solidarity of the West had led the Kremlin to favor a four-power conference now.

The diplomats discounted talk of any shift in long-range Soviet strategy.

They said the Soviet leaders were preoccupied with a power struggle among themselves and were anxious to avoid any external trouble until that struggle is resolved.

Moscow also is anxious to divert the attention of their satellite nations to the outside world and away from the fight within the Kremlin, the sources said.

The Russians, bargaining for more time, want to broaden the talks into a global review in which Communist China can participate, the diplomatic sources said.

FARM PLAN TOLD

London — (U.P.) — Moscow Radio today announced a plan to shift thousands of top Communist

Administration Tax Bill Passed, Signed

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower signed last night a bill continuing corporation and excise sales taxes at present rates for another year.

The House Wednesday afternoon gave its final congressional approval and rushed it to the White House. The bill cancels a scheduled drop at midnight to one-half of taxes on corporation income and liquor, beer, cigarettes, gasoline and automobiles.

House approval was by a roll call vote of 366 to 8.

The Senate already had approved, at President Eisenhower's request, the one-year extension of the present tax rates to avert a \$2,830,000,000 loss in revenue.

The House originally voted to include in the extension bill a Democratic-sponsored proposal to cut income taxes by \$20 per person. But this was killed by the Senate and its sponsors Wednesday weren't in a mood to fight about it.

The measure extends for the second time the higher tax rates imposed on business and sales in 1951 to help pay for the Korean war. It will keep corporation income taxes, scheduled to drop to 47 per cent, pegged at 52 per cent through March 31, 1956.

Portland — (U.P.) — A possible strike at the mail order house of Montgomery Ward and Company in Portland was averted today by a nation-wide agreement between the AFL Teamsters and the firm.

Squirrel-Lovers Outnumber Ike-Lovers In Talley of Dick Neuberger's Letters

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Squirrel lovers ran better than 2-to-1 ahead of President Eisenhower's defenders in conveying their reaction to Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) after a week's developments in Neuberger's "Save the White House Squirrels" crusade.

The senator's mailbag of letters and telegrams showed that Americans got hot under the collar over the issue after Neuberger touched it off by calling on Eisenhower to stop the trapping operation of White House squirrels that had been kicking up dust in the president's putting green—some getting burned up at Neuberger and some at Eisenhower.

A reporter's count of Neuberger's mail this week showed 190 correspondents on the side of Neuberger and the squirrels and 84 on the side of the president and his golf game.

Neuberger was addressed by some bitter opponents as "Dear Squirrelly" or simply told "Nuts to you!" A Cottage Grove constituent sent him a cellophane sack of nuts labeled, "Squirrels of the World Union."

But a Portland voter who said he voted for Eisenhower and would do so again, declared in

party members to farms in a massive attempt to improve the Soviet's seriously lagging agricultural production.

The author of the plan is party boss Nikita S. Khrushchev. The Moscow broadcast outlined the "new look" Soviet agricultural plan which Khrushchev unveiled yesterday at Voronezh in Russia's soil-rich "black earth" region.

Khrushchev lashed lagging farm production and served blunt notice that a whole new cadre of leaders was on the way to run Russia's sprawling collective farms.

NEHRU SEEKS TALKS

New Delhi, India — (U.P.) — Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru said today the international situation is "growing worse," and called for big power talks to avert a catastrophe.

"We have been hearing for a long time about such talks," he said. "Therefore I suggest they must negotiate at the earliest possible time."

He said the only alternative to co-existence was destruction.

"I am interested in the peace of the world," he said in a major foreign policy address to Parliament. "I tell you plainly we will not go to war whatever may happen."

Nehru said India could not escape the consequences of a war and "therefore I am interested that there must be peace in the world."

Sanitary Districts Subject of Meeting

One of a series of meetings on a metropolitan sanitary district proposed for this area will be held at 8 p.m. today in the public health office in the county courthouse.

Among those to be present will be A. D. Harvey, Medford engineer who was the originator of the metropolitan sanitary district plan. Copies of Senate Bill 434, sponsored by Jackson County Senator Philip Lowry, which would provide for sanitary authorities, will be available at the meeting.

Assault Charge Filed Against Minister

Oregon City — (U.P.) — A charge of assault with intent to commit rape was on file today against the Rev. David Schulheer, 37, Newberg.

Police said several women had identified the minister as the man who several months ago called at their homes, and after asking to use the telephone forced some of them to disrobe. Bail was set at \$2500.

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Berlin Aiding Traders in Red 'Cold Blockade'

2 Water Resources Bills Pass House; Adverse Vote Small

Cigarette Tax Gets Committee Approval

Salem — (U.P.) — Major revisions in Oregon's water laws won approval in the House today after Rep. C. Allen Tom (R-Rufus) told members they would remember their votes on the two bills before them as the mileposts of their legislative careers.

The two water resources bills attracted only scattered opposition on the floor and one passed with six dissenting votes and the other with four.

The water package, which now goes to the Senate, would establish a seven-man board with comprehensive powers over water uses in the state and would eliminate the present Willamette River Basin Commission and the Upper Columbia River Basin Commission.

The proposed board would take over some of the functions of all other state boards and commissions now dealing with water use problems.

Bills Said Constitutional

Tom predicted the bills would become a model to other state governments in attempting to conserve dwindling water supplies and ground water tables. He promised the board would function with a small staff, utilizing administrative machinery already available.

Rep. Walter Pearson (D-Portland) raised the question of constitutionality of some of the powers that would be granted to an appointive board but voted for the bills after Rep. Harvey De Armond (R-Bend) assured him attorneys had eliminated all constitutional questions from the first draft of the bill.

Rep. Maurice Neuberger (D-Portland), in explaining her adverse vote, said she was opposed to such strong powers for a state board and that the bill was so long she had been unable to become conversant with it.

Cigarette Tax Ok'd

Salem — (U.P.) — The House Tax Committee voted 8 to 1 yesterday recommending passage of the 3-cent cigarette tax measure despite the threat of a referendum if the legislature should pass such a bill.

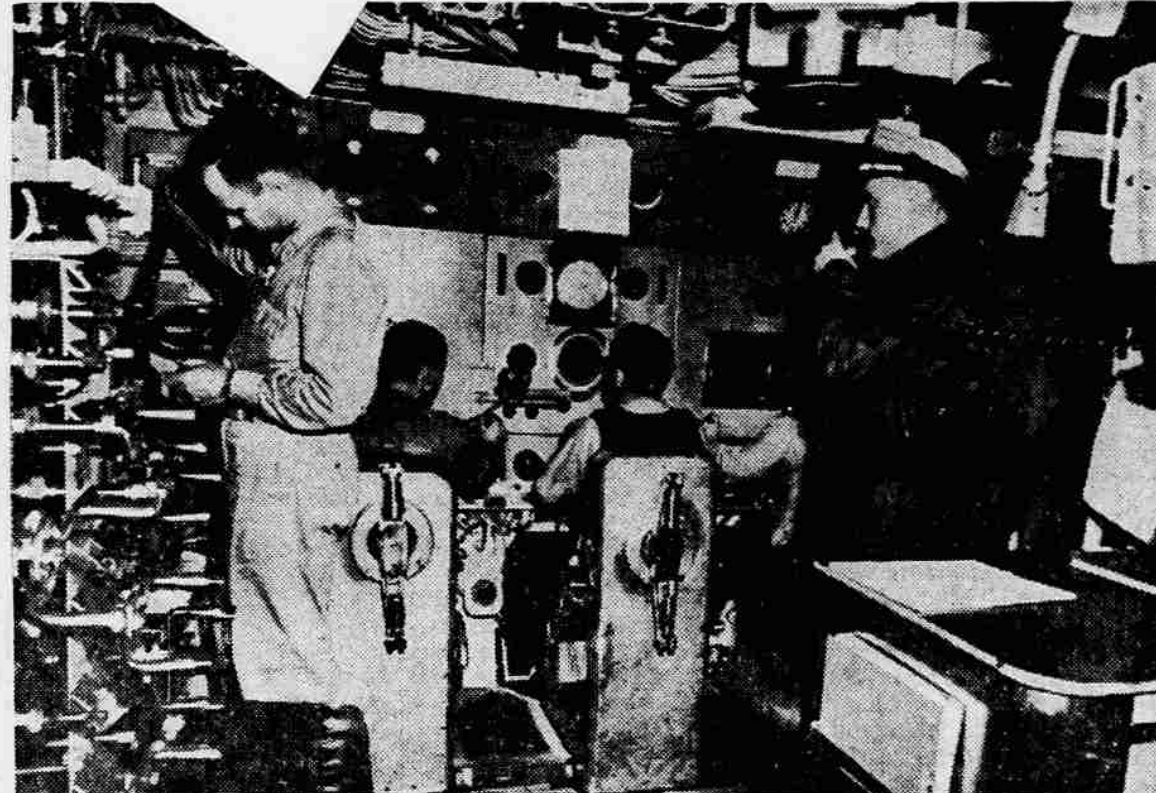
Only member to vote against the bill was Rep. Walter Pearson of Portland.

R. A. Bradley of the Oregon Wholesalers Association said three large retail dealers had informed him they favored a referendum on any cigarette tax measure.

The cigarette tax bill is one of the largest single revenue bills in the House Tax Committee's tax package. It is designed to produce more than \$10 million.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 409.70 off 0.43; 20 railroads 150.32 up 1.10; 15 utilities 63.57 up 0.19 and 65 stocks 153.15 up 0.31. Sales today were up about 2,680,000 shares compared with 3,410,000 shares traded yesterday.



ATOMIC SUB'S INTERIOR—Shown above is one of the first pictures released by the Defense department of the interior of the new atomic-powered submarine, USS Nautilus, which has successfully completed her initial trials. The picture shows crewmen in the control room. At left is an Oregon man, Chief Electrician's Mate Robert R. Dunn, Manzanita.

(U. S. Navy photo.)

Salaries Paid DAs Hearing Subject; Local Men Attend

District Attorney Walter Nunley and County Judge Rodney Keating appeared before a subcommittee of the legislative joint ways and means committee in Salem yesterday on behalf of House Bill 132, according to Nunley.

The proposed measure deals with compensation of district attorneys and the number and compensation of deputy district attorneys in counties throughout the state.

The two Jackson county officials appeared before the subcommittee to request that Jackson county be given two state-paid deputy district attorneys at an annual salary of \$4,200 each. The state now provides one deputy for Jackson county at a salary of \$3,000, while the salary for a second deputy is paid by the county.

No increase was requested in Nunley's salary.

Salem — (U.P.) — A pay raise for district attorneys was recommended at a hearing conducted by a ways and means salary subcommittee yesterday.

It was pointed out that at present district attorneys of some of the smaller counties are receiving salaries as high as those in much larger counties.

District attorneys present at the hearing emphasized population increases which during the past few years have brought increases in criminal cases and other activities.

They agreed that any salary under \$4200 a year was inadequate and would fail to attract competent attorneys. Two or three speakers declared they were opposed to the present system under which some district attorneys, mostly in smaller counties, were compelled to engage in some private practice in order to make a living.

Vacation, Hearing Draws Congressmen

Washington — (U.P.) — Easter recess and a Hells Canyon hearing will draw most of Oregon's members of congress west this weekend.

Sens. Wayne Morse and Richard L. Neuberger and Rep. Edith Green will participate in the Hells Canyon hearing in Portland April 6. It is on a bill to authorize federal construction of the proposed dam.

Reps. Harris Ellsworth, Walter Norblad and Mrs. Green plan to be on hand for atomic tests at the Las Vegas proving grounds.

Ellsworth will then come to Oregon to arrange hearings on his partnership bill for Cougar and Green Peter dams. Norblad will return to Washington. Rep. Sam Coon plans to remain in the capitol during the recess.

Pasadena, Calif. — (U.P.) — Seismographs of California Institute of technology recorded a major earthquake today estimated at 7000 miles distance from here.

Officials at the laboratory said the quake was timed at 10:35 a.m. PST and had a magnitude of 7.5. Direction was not immediately known.

President Gets Demo Support for Islands 'Guessing' Policies

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower picked up some Democratic support today for the idea of letting the Communists guess where we might begin to fight in the Far East.

He stood a good chance of getting even more at a White House lunch with the most powerful members of the Senate.

Chairman Walter F. George (D-Ga.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said Mr.

Senate Committee OKs German Arms

By UNITED PRESS

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today approved the West German rearmament agreements.

The Senate is scheduled to take up the pact tomorrow. Quick approval is expected.

The committee vote was 94 to 1. The dissenter was Sen. William Langer (R-ND).

Chairman Walter F. George (D-Ga.) said he hopes the Senate will ratify the pact before starting its Easter recess this weekend.

He said if action is not completed tomorrow, the Senate will meet Saturday.

The United States is prepared to rush arms to build up West Germany as a bulwark against Communist aggression in Europe.

Youngster Uninjured When Hit by Auto

A four-year-old boy was uninjured yesterday when he was struck by a car at the intersection of Sixth and Bartlett sts., according to city police.

The child, Stephen Russell Fowler, 504 Austin st., was hit by a car operated by Edward Kriss, 1206 Stewart ave., police said. No charges were filed against the driver. The accident occurred at about 1:15 p.m.

Ronald J. Martin, 33 Lincoln st., was the driver of a pickup truck involved in a one-vehicle accident on Summit st., between Clark st. and McAndrews rd., at about 1 a.m. today, police said. No injuries were listed.

Three Persons Jailed For Liquor Violations

Two men and a woman who were arrested Tuesday by state police on charges involving liquor appeared in district court yesterday.

All three pleaded guilty to the charges and were jailed in lieu of payment of fines.

Alfred Joseph Hardy, 35, of route 2, box 241, Medford, and Robert Harry Farnsworth, 36, of the same address each were fined \$20 and court costs on charges of being drunk in a public place.

Betty Mae Cannon Hardy, 36, of route 2, box 241, Medford, was fined \$15 and costs on a charge of being drunk on a public highway.

Weather

FORECAST: Partly cloudy tonight and Friday. Possibility of a few light showers late tonight or early Friday. Low about 35. High Friday near 60. Temp. Highest Yesterday 52. Lowest this Morning 34.

Prohibitory Taxes Threaten Supplies To Isolated City

Allies Seek Ways To Counter Action

Berlin — (U.P.) — The West Berlin city government authorized loans of \$250,000 today to truckers to keep supply trucks rolling to isolated Berlin despite a Communist "cold blockade" threatening the city's lifelines.

In retaliation for prohibitory taxes imposed by the Reds on trucks supplying West Berlin, the West German government broke off trade talks with the East Germans this morning.

New Communist taxes on Berlin's truckers who supply nearly half the city's food go into effect at midnight tonight, seventh anniversary of the start of the crippling Soviet blockade of 1948.

Trucks Said Vital

The city's Executive Council, or Senate, voted a grant of \$250,000 as a "temporary measure" after the West Berlin mayor said the city's 850 truckers must get through "no matter what the cost."

But it is only enough to pay the Communists exorbitant tolls for two weeks.

The action came as Allied High Commission officials met West German officials in Bonn in a search for urgent measures to smash or circumvent the "cold blockade."

Senior Western Allied High Commission officials met at the West German capital in Bonn to decide what action to take to combat the \$15-million-a-year tolls demanded by the Communists for trucks supplying food to West Berlin.

May Draft Protest

It was reported they might draft a stiff protest note to the Russians charging them with violating the 1949 four-power agreement guaranteeing free access to this cold war battle-ground 110 miles inside East Germany.

The West Berlin Executive Council, or Senate, met in an emergency session to discuss the highway situation. Council members already had appealed to the Western Big Three for measures to ease the economic blockade.

February Traffic Toll Lowest Since 1950

Chicago — (U.P.) — The nation in February scored the lowest traffic death toll for any month since 1950, the National Safety Council said today.

The toll was 2270, seven per cent lower than for February, 1954. It was the lowest toll since February, 1950, when 2258 deaths were recorded.

The toll for the first two months of 1955 was 5170, three per cent below the total for the same period last year, the council said.

The council said that among states showing decreases in the toll for the first two months of 1955, as against the first two months of 1954 were: Arizona, 21 per cent, and Oregon, 20 per cent.

The council said 307 cities had records of no fatalities for January and February, the largest of which was Seattle.

Bulletin

Detroit — (U.P.) — Seven-year-old Barbara Gaca, who disappeared a week ago while walking to school, was found dead today in a field in neighboring Oakland county, state police reported.

Importance of Tax Problem Cited; Forum Set Tonight

A large turnout is hoped for at tonight's public tax forum at the Medford high school auditorium, according to Elwood Hedberg, of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce forum committee.

"With Oregon facing a multi-million dollar deficit, the problem of taxation is one of vital importance to all residents of the state," Hedberg said.

Both state and local taxes are to be discussed at tonight's forum, which will start about 8 p.m.

Principal speaker will be State Sen. Lee Ohmart, Salem, who will describe efforts being made by the legislature to solve

Oregon's tax problems. Ohmart is a member of the state senate tax committee.

The problems of taxation on a local level will be discussed by five county residents who have been named to serve on a panel for the forum.

They are Bob Root, Jackson county orchardist and former state representative; Al York, of the Carpenters union; E. H. Hedrick, Medford superintendent of schools; L. B. Nutting, manager of Medford Corporation, and Moore Hamilton, Medford postmaster.

Moderator will be Jennings Pierce.