

## 35 Local Students Will Visit OSC on Senior Week End

Corvallis—Thirty-five seniors from the Medford area will visit Oregon State college this week end for a preview of college educational opportunities and student activities.

The program gives graduating seniors a chance to explore career possibilities in the various fields of study and to get acquainted with college life. Talks with staff members in the various schools on job prospects are part of the program.

The senior week end is part of the program conducted by all state system schools. Seniors are guests in the OSC living groups.

Special events include student entertainment shows, a style show, dances, boxing and track and baseball contests.

Local seniors who have notified OSC they will participate are listed below. Others may be included, since all seniors have been invited.

They include Frank Bash, Larry Brown, Jon Clifford, June Couey, John Day, Charles Kanehl, Darlene Kraening, Lanora Kyker, Henry Owen, Betty Naylor, Glen Peterson, Guy Parker, Suzanne Reichstein, Dorothy Rhymes, Elaine Sorum, Lloyd Shreeve, Jack Terzenbach, Sally Walker, Donald Weber, and Mary White, all Medford High school.

Eagle Point High school students include Kenneth Bitterling, Bill Caldwell, Pat Dickenson, Kay McCorkle, Amy Johnson, Eldon Mason, Carla Ragsdale, Jerry Tuttle, William Wayman, Alice Wilson and Marcia Woodward.

Other students are Jim McAbee, Dale Walter and Jay Wood, Talent High School; and Carl Garner, Phoenix High school.

## Song Writer Pays Dad's Old Debts

Savannah, Ga. — (U.P.)—When band leader-song writer Johnny Mercer was 18, his father's real estate and insurance firm here went on the rocks, leaving investors high and dry to the tune of approximately one million dollars.

Prior to his death in 1940, George A. Mercer used all his talent and personal property in an effort to pay off the indebtedness and reduced the amount to \$300,000.

Yesterday, the late Mercer's son Johnny, sent a check for \$300,000 to the Chatham Savings Bank, the liquidating agent for the former G. A. Mercer Company.

Bank President George W. Hunt said today that letters to all certificate holders of the defunct firm are being prepared. The check from Mercer, he said, is sufficient to pay off all claims.

"This deed on the part of Johnny Mercer can be attributed to the bigness of his heart, his love for his father and his desire to clear the company's name," Hunt said.

The Mercer company folded in 1927 when it was unable to liquidate assets rapidly enough to meet the demands of certificate holders.

Meanwhile, young Johnny went on to success in the music world, achieving wealth along with fame.

## Railroad Fined \$200

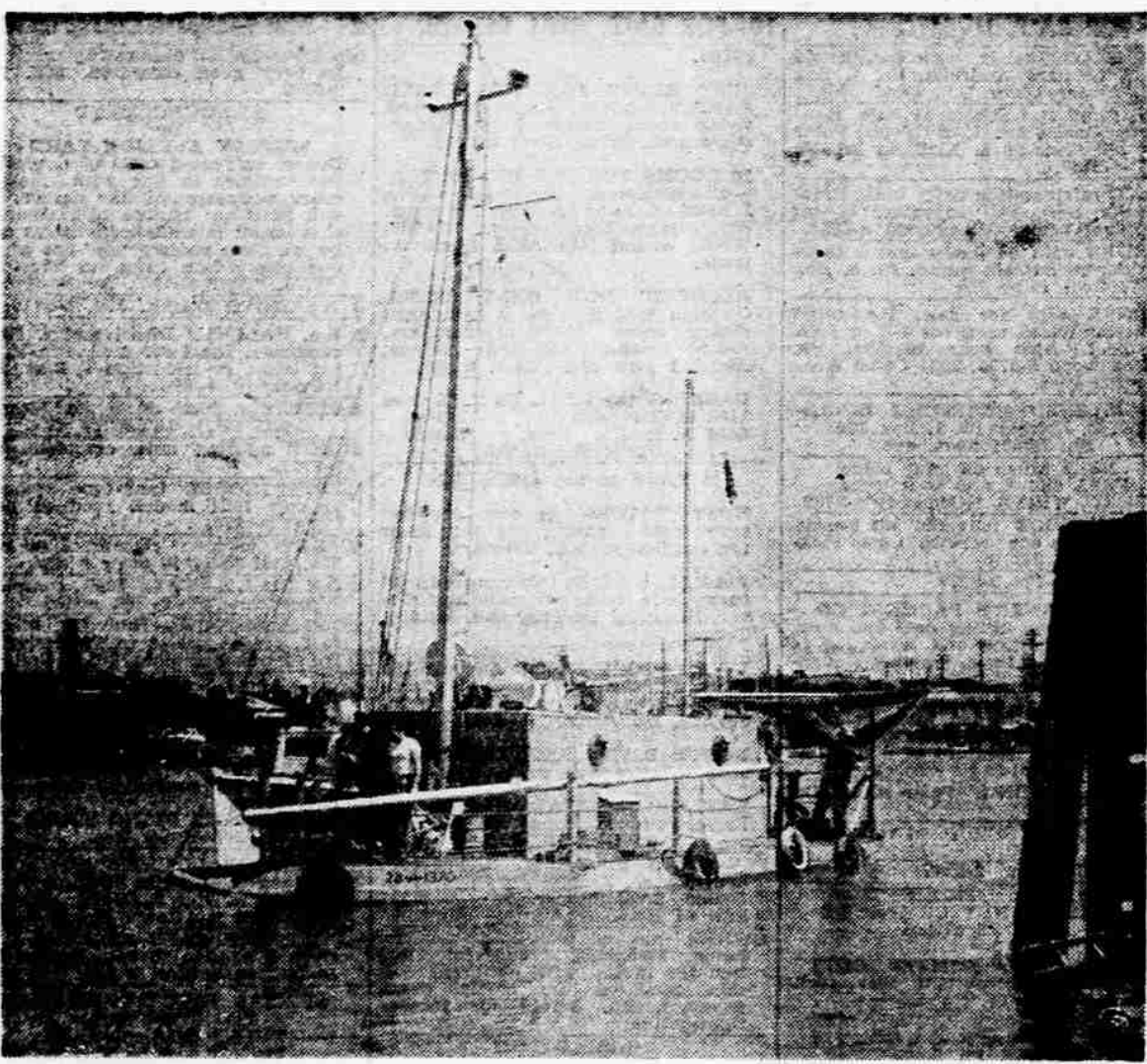
Portland — (U.P.)—The Southern Pacific Company has been fined \$200 by U. S. Judge Claude McCulloch for improper mixing of cars containing explosives with other cars in the train. The railroad company pleaded no contest to a four count information.

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INHERITING TRADITION of ill-fated predecessor, raft Lehi II is taken over by Coast Guard to satisfy judgment of \$820 in fines levied because of deficiencies in Lehi I which was abandoned in Pacific last summer after trouble-filled voyage. Departure for Hawaii is delayed. (International)

## Measures in Oregon Legislature

Salem — (U.P.)—The so-called "balanced plan" for electing state senators has been introduced at a hearing here as a compromise to opposition to a bill to have each country represented by one senator.

Under the plan, which was defeated in the 1950 general election, each of the 18 counties west of the Cascades would be represented by one senator, while the eastern counties would divide 12 senator seats.

Opponents to the compromise amendment said it was, in essence, the same as the plan defeated soundly in 1950.

Under present membership based on population there are 24 senators from western Oregon and six from eastern Oregon.

The resolution would leave the House apportioned by population.

Opponents to the measure introduced by Reps. Giesy and Stunz included Mrs. Ronald K. Campbell of Corvallis, president of the League of Women Voters of Oregon; Elmer McClure, master of the state Grange and Ken Reinke, chairman of the Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee.

Speakers for the bill included Giles French, Moro publisher and former state representative; George Dewey, secretary of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation; Sen. John P. Hounsell (R-Hood River) and Rep. Joe Rogers (D-Independence).

Salem — (U.P.)—A building program recommendation has been stalled in the House Ways and Means Committee and consideration did not get beyond the first item in the 26-project proposal.

Sen. Gene Brown (R-Grants Pass), in discussion on the proposed Portland mental hospital, said he feared the state was trying to provide the best in mental treatment when it should be content with lower standards in proportion to its wealth. Oregon now ranks 24th in the standards of treatment offered to mental patients in the nation.

Two hours of discussion revealed some opposition to the \$14,900,000 building program.

## CAB Opens Hearing In Crash of Airliner

Seattle — (U.P.)—The Civil Aeronautics Board has opened a hearing into last month's crash of a Pan American airplane en route to the Pacific.

The crash took the lives of two crew members and two passengers. There were 19 survivors of the crash which occurred March 26.

Thirteen of the survivors were among the 33 witnesses who were summoned to testify at the hearing here. It is expected to continue for two or three days.

Presiding over the four-man CAB inquiry panel was Robert W. Christ, chief of the board's hearing and reports division, bureau of safety investigation.

The airliner, a Boeing strato-cruiser, crashed about 25 miles west of North Bend, Ore., after one of its four engines had torn out of the wing.

## Coos Bay Youth Pleads Guilty To Watch Theft

Portland — (U.P.)—Jackie D. Maxey, 20, Coos Bay, has pleaded guilty to theft of five government owned wrist watches from a Marine Corps store in San Diego and U. S. Judge Claude McCulloch imposed a one year probation. Maxey was discharged from the Marines last February after combat service in Korea.

among members of the joint committee and a meeting of the Senate Taxation Committee brought out other objections that the total was too high.

There was no mention of financing plans. Senate Taxation Committee members said they would be unable to complete work on their revenue measure until they knew whether the proposed building program was to be financed out of current appropriations or by a bond issue.

Sen. Rudie Wilhelm (R-Portland), chairman of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee, told members he would expect a final decision on income tax increases by Thursday.

Sen. Phil Lowry (R-Medford), indicated he would prefer a sales tax over an income tax increase that might go as high as 60 or 70 per cent. He said he would rather delay action on the income tax bill until the house sales tax proposal had been studied.

Salem — (U.P.)—The Senate has approved a budget of \$5,777,390 for the State Unemployment Compensation Commission.

The measure, House bill 656, provides for \$4,422,617 for salaries and wages; \$259,228 for other personal services; \$1,029,529 for materials and services, and \$66,016 for capital outlay.

The bill now goes to the governor.

The Senate also passed a House approved appropriation of \$183,783 to the State Board of Education for the Indian education and training program.

This is to finance the program from the first of this year to June 30, 1955.

Salem — (U.P.)—Authorization for the use of \$174,000 in welfare funds for the case of welfare patients at the University of Oregon medical school outpatient clinic has been approved by the House.

Members also voted for an



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## Around Hollywood

Hollywood — (U.P.)—Recipe for a comedian: George Gobel started being funny when he was a boy because his school-mates teased him about his size. "A good many comics start out with a complex when they're small," is the theory he advanced today.

"I was the smallest kid in my class (He's only 5'5" today). You figure out some defense for this—and you start getting laughs."

The chuckles George won helped mold his personality. He was, and is, quiet but with a pixie-ish expression, when he talks, the slow, dry humor and relaxed quip work easily into his conversation.

Though Gobel's success appears sudden, he worked 20 years to reach the top.

### First Job at 12

His first job was at the age of 12. He was a boy soprano in an Episcopal church in Chicago, where his father ran a neighborhood grocery store. One day the choir sang on a Chicago radio station. The program director invited George to sing alone on other shows.

He graduated to the famed "National Barn Dance" network program as "Little George Gobel" with a guitar. He earned \$15 a week. Later he toured county fairs with that show, working with such stars as Gene Autry and Pat Buttram. During that period George developed his Midwestern drawl and simple, folksy approach.

"Things were pretty tough then and I was able to help my folks," he said. "I was too old to start learning anything else."

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent  
I was kinda stuck with show business. I kinda drifted into it." After high school he sang and strummed his guitar on the radio in Chattanooga and St. Louis. Then he formed a trio and played cocktail lounges in the Midwest.

It was the GIs who made a comic out of Gobel.

**Comic Emerges**  
During the war he instructed B-29 pilots at Frederick, Okla. He also entertained at post parties and the students roared at his jokes. Thereafter he did more talking and less singing.

George wanted to be a pilot after the war, but the only offer was with a charter service at \$275 a month. He decided to be a comedian. He worked at conventions and hotels, first in small towns and gradually in big cities in the Midwest and South. It took eight years of strenuous stands before his agent got him guest spots on the Gary Moore and Ed Sullivan TV programs. When he was appearing at the Statler hotel here, an NBC executive signed him for the Hoagy Carmichael summer show.

Gobel won his own program which started a year later, on Oct. 2. On Oct. 3 he was a star finally at the age of 34.

"Every time you move up a step you get a little more confidence," he says. "This is what I need more than anything else. I'm glad it took years to get there. I would have been unglued completely if it really had happened to me overnight."

About nine-tenths of all the people of the U.S. were living in family units during the 1950 federal census.

## Accountants Planning Post Tax-Season Meet

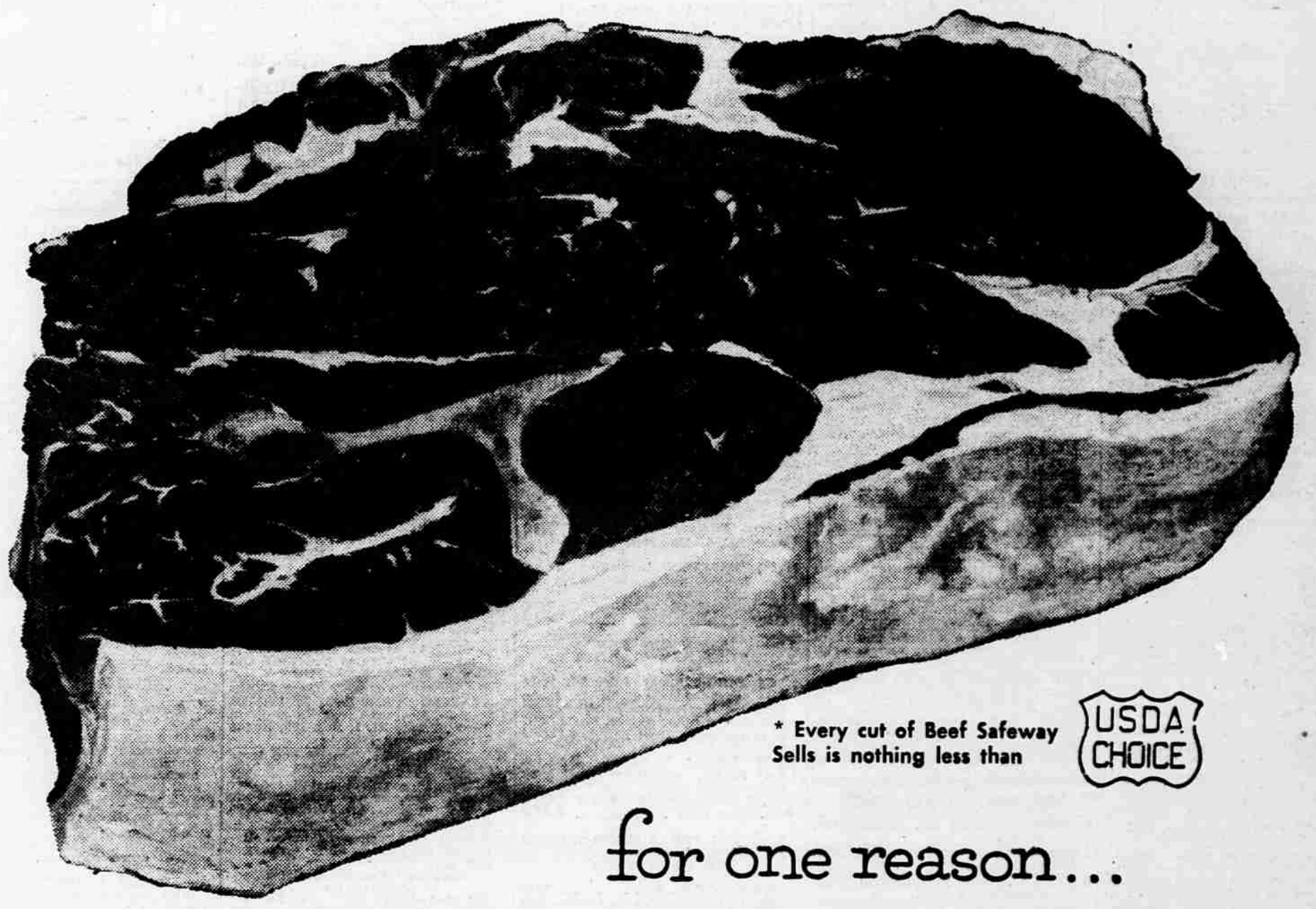
The post-tax season meeting of the board of governors of the Oregon Association of Public Accountants will be held in Eugene Saturday, according to R. A. Brewer, Medford, a member of the board.

A sizable southern Oregon delegation will be in attendance, he said. Among topics on the agenda will be the 1955 Southern Oregon-Northern California Tax conference, which has been sponsored by the three chapters of the OAPA in this area.

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