



WILL SHOW MURALS—Miss Maccine Titus, an assistant librarian at the Medford Public Library, is shown above putting the finishing touches on murals in the children's department of the library, on which she has been

working for some two years. The staff of the library is sponsoring an open house and showing the murals Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. (Brainerd photo.)

Japanese Ferry Collide; 150 Perse Dead, Missing

Visibility Cut By Fog; Rescuers Save 680 Others

Disaster Second Worst in History

Tokyo — (U.P.)—A crowded ferryboat rammed another ferry in the early morning fog of Japan's scenic Inland Sea today and sank within two minutes.

More than 150 persons were reported drowned or missing. The government owned Japanese National railways, which operated the two vessels, said at least 76 passengers were dead and 75 others missing.

Quick rescue work saved at least 680 other persons. Fifty-one were injured.

Didn't Have Chance

Officials said the boat went down so fast passengers didn't have time to put on life belts.

Two of the survivors were an American missionary and his wife. They are Willie and Bernadine Adams, in Japan since 1950. Authorities said Adams is from Kansas and his wife from Wisconsin.

It was the second worst disaster in Japanese maritime history. Last September more than 1,300 persons, including 73 Americans, drowned when a ferry sank in a typhoon off Northern Japan.

Today's victims were aboard the Shiun Maru, which was carrying nearly 800 passengers through the island dotted sea between Shikoku and Honshu islands. It collided with the Iko Maru.

Many Were Children

Many of the Shiun's passengers were children on an excursion. Both vessels are equipped with radar designed to prevent such accidents.

The captain of the Iko said visibility was about 50 yards. He said he had tracked the Shiun with his radar two miles away.

"But the Shiun suddenly turned to the left," the captain explained, "and before we could act, we had collided."

Adams said all he could remember was a dull thud. "I realized immediately there was a collision. A sailor was shouting something but I could not understand what he was saying. We were thrown overboard and swam to the Iko Maru."

One Coast Guard vessel alone picked up 200 survivors.

Portland Tavern Receives Bomb Threat

Portland — (U.P.)—Police today reported another extortion bomb threat note here, this one to a tavern.

Mrs. John A. Smith, co-owner with her husband of the tavern, told officers she was cleaning up the premises early today when she saw a square of paper near the front door.

She said it contained a handwritten note which said in part: "Follow directions or we bomb your store and shoot you. This is not a joke. We have two bombs that are twin brothers of the two that exploded at Meier and Franks."

Equalization Board Reconvenes Tomorrow

The Jackson County Board of Equalization adjourned for one day today, but will reconvene tomorrow to continue hearing complaints on the amount of assessed valuation placed on individual pieces of property in the county.

The hearings are being held before a three-man board in the county clerk's office. Members of the board are Judge Rodney Keating, Arnold Bohnert and Ralph Cook.

Kellington, Van Dyke, Get Judge Pro Tem Assignments

Two Medford attorneys have been named as judges pro tem to circuit court service in Multnomah county, it was announced here today.

G. W. Kellington, Perrydale ave., a partner in the firm of Roberts, Kellington and Branchfield, is now serving the second week of a two-week period as circuit judge pro tem on the Multnomah county bench, under assignment by Chief Justice Harold J. Warner of the state supreme court. He is to return here next Monday.

Frank J. Van Dyke, Modoc ave., of the law firm of Van Dyke and Dellenback, was named today to serve a similar 13-day term in Portland starting May 16.

Other circuit judge assignments announced by the supreme court included John Gordon Gearin, Portland, to Lane county; Barnett Goldstein, Portland, to Marion county; Judge Goldstein has served in Jackson county on a pro tem basis this year; William W. Bartle, Eugene, to Multnomah county, and Judge E. H. Howell, Canyon City, to Polk county.

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Waitress Promises To Quit Distracting Tavern Customers

Memphis, Tenn. — (U.P.) — Shirley Reynolds, 22-year-old waitress, promised Judge Beverly Bousche to dress more formally when she enters taverns from now on.

She was hauled into court Tuesday by police Lt. J. M. Agee who said her scanty shorts and halter distracted several bar patrons so much that they missed their mouths and poured beer all over themselves.

Foreign Ministers Of NATO Call for Formosa Cease Fire

Further Hostilities Said Danger To Peace

Paris — (U.P.) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Council of Foreign Ministers called today for a cease-fire in the Formosa area, warning that further hostilities there would "clearly endanger the peace of the world."

The council wound up its historic three-day meeting here with a final communique which issued the warning about Formosa and gave its official blessings to a proposed Big Four conference "at the summit" with Russia this summer.

The council's recognition of the Far Eastern situation came after Secretary of State John Foster Dulles warned that Red China was a greater menace to peace than anything in Europe.

In the final communique, the foreign ministers said: "The council expressed the hope that there would be a cessation of hostilities in the Far East and no further resort to force since this would so clearly endanger the peace of the world."

The communique also hailed West Germany's new place in the Western alliance even as the Soviet Union organized an "Eastern NATO" in Warsaw. Soviet Plan Intensive

Speaking in the name of the council, Canadian External Affairs Minister Lester Pearson called a new Soviet peace plan "interesting and perhaps important."

At the same time, the council expressed the hope that the proposed meeting between the heads of government of the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union would lead to progressive disarmament.

Air Incident Seen Hazard To Talks

Washington — (U.P.) — The United States today protested strongly against the "unwarranted and illegal attack by Chinese Communist planes" against U. S. Sabrejets over international waters off Korea Tuesday.

Tokyo — (U.P.) — Diplomatic sources today expressed concern that the battle between U.S. and Chinese Communist planes Tuesday may have jeopardized chances for early Washington-Peking talks and release of American airmen imprisoned in Red China.

They feared the incident would increase tensions in the already explosive Far East.

The U. S. Air Force said that two and possibly three Communist MIGs were shot down by American F86 Sabrejets in the clash off North Korea Tuesday.

The announcement said a flight of 12 to 16 MIGs attacked a flight of eight Sabrejets "over international water" and that the Americans returned the fire.

But Communist China had a different version. It claimed the American planes violated Chinese territory and that the Red planes shot down one U.S. plane and damaged two others.

It was the third aerial clash between Americans and Communists in the same general area in the past 16 months. But it was the first in which Red China admitted its planes were involved.

Legislation Signed For Civil Defense

Salem — (U.P.) — Gov. Paul Patterson yesterday signed a legislative bill which gives him authority to evacuate citizens, distribute food and medical supplies and to take over utilities in case of enemy attack.

A measure requiring civil defense workers to swear they never belonged to any organization advocating overthrow of the government also was signed.

Eisenhower Ready To Test Sincerity Of Russian Moves

Ike Prefers Talks In Neutral Country

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower said today that he is ready to attend a Big Four chiefs of state meeting to test Russia's sincerity on relieving world tensions.

Mr. Eisenhower said he preferred that such a top level meeting be held in a neutral country and that the meeting last about three days.

The United States, Great Britain, and France yesterday sent Russia an invitation to such a meeting. Most guesses were that the meeting would be held around July, perhaps in Switzerland.

Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin said today his government will study carefully the Western invitation to a Big Four conference "at the summit" with President Eisenhower and the British and French chiefs of state.

Mr. Eisenhower said he preferred that such a top level meeting be held in a neutral country and that the meeting last about three days.

Mr. Eisenhower at a news conference repeated his previous statements that he would go anywhere any time if he believed any good could come of a top level meeting.

Hitherto, however, the President has not believed much good could come of such a meeting.

The President said today that he finally agreed to issue the invitation to Russia because it seemed so important to clarify the issues facing East and West. It no longer seemed that one could just be stubborn in refusing to attend a conference, the President said.

Mr. Eisenhower said there had been a growing sentiment throughout the world that something might come from a chiefs of state meeting which would define areas to be investigated later by lower level diplomats. But the President cautioned that no one should expect that in a few hours, days or weeks, the world would be turned around. He said he would not go to a chiefs of state meeting believing that was possible.

Test for Russians

The President said the invitation was issued to Russia in order to try to discover if there is any hope of relieving tension. If there is basis for this hope, the President said, he is prepared to try to find out what the Russians are willing to do.

Referring to Russia's recent willingness to sign an Austrian treaty, the President said that was one indication that the Russians, on the surface at least, were trying to show conciliation.

Mr. Eisenhower then said that he was going to try to find out if the Russians sincerely want to ease world tensions.

Indochina War Erupts In Mekong River Area

Saigon, Indochina — (U.P.) — Strong rebel forces attacked government troops in the southern "rice bowl" of free Viet Nam today, ending a week-long lull in the civil war.

The fighting erupted in the rice-rich Mekong river delta between the armies loyal to American-backed Premier Ngo Dinh Diem and the rebel troops of the Hoa Hao Buddhist religious sects.

Official French and Vietnamese sources said casualties were high among civilians in the area but that chaotic conditions in the war zone slowed an accurate count.

Rescue Effort Fails; Man Drowns in River

Portland — (U.P.) — A man identified by police as Anton Kurozak, 68, leaped into the Willamette river from the Hawthorne bridge and drowned today despite heroic efforts of a 23-year-old bank teller to save him.

Fay J. Barker, Clackamas, said he was walking to work when he saw a figure thrashing in the water under the center span of the bridge. He removed his suit coat and shoes and dived into the river from the seawall. But his rescue attempt failed.

Highway Employee Hospitalized After Car-Truck Accident

Frederick W. Hayden, 54, a state highway department employee, was hospitalized with back injuries yesterday afternoon after the state truck he was driving collided with a car on the Sams Valley road about a mile west of Dodge bridge.

State police said the dump truck started to turn into a gravel stockpile when a sedan driven by Raymond Leigh McComb Jr., 22, Rogue River, started to pass the truck, struck it on the left front side and knocked it across the highway.

Car Rolls Over

The car rolled over several times before it wound up in the ditch 177 feet away, officers said. Another highway employee, Gerald Arthur Roberts, 26, a truck passenger, was shaken up but otherwise unhurt. McComb escaped injury, officers said.

Medford ambulance service took Hayden to Community hospital where his condition this morning was listed as satisfactory.

A trailer house owned by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd H. Shepperd, North Bend, was destroyed yesterday afternoon when the car driven by Mrs. Shepperd, towing the trailer, went out of control on Highway 99 south of Ashland. The investigating state police officer said skid marks indicated the trailer was "whiplapping" behind the car for some 633 feet before it jackknifed and turned over, causing the car to nose into the bank.

Driver Treated

Other than the loss of the trailer, damage was listed as minor and there were no injuries.

Oliver Guy Moore, 58, Camp White, was taken to the Camp White infirmary for treatment of shock yesterday evening, after a pickup truck he was driving swerved over the center line of Highway 62 and hit head-on a car driven by Edna Earl Kilburn, 58, of 1412 Oak st., Central Point, officers said. Both vehicles were towed away. The accident occurred at about 10:20 p.m. near the Antelope rd. junction.

Grants Pass Man Named By Police Officer Group

Astoria — (U.P.) — Lt. Patrick R. Carr of the Portland police department yesterday was elected new president of the Oregon Association of City Police Officers.

The association concluded its three-day convention here last night.

Other new officers elected were Chief Ralph R. Bond, Pendleton, first vice-president; Patrolman William E. Schoenleber, Grants Pass, second vice-president; Sgt. Oakley V. Glenn, Eugene, secretary-treasurer, and Robert Moulter, University of Oregon, executive secretary.

THEFT REPORTED

Sheriff's officers have reported the theft of about \$162 from the White Fir Lumber company, A. St., Ashland, last Saturday night. Entrance was gained by breaking a window and opening a door, officers said. The money was taken from a file cabinet, the drawer of which was pried open.

County Court Orders Distribution of O-C Moneys to Districts

The Jackson county court late yesterday issued an order distributing \$685,859.07 in O and C funds to the county's 23 school districts for retiring bond indebtedness.

The court, in a resolution attached to the order, said funds will be distributed on an equitable basis to "each school district with an amount in the same proportion that the number of enrolled students in a district bears to the total number of enrolled students in Jackson county."

Money Available July 1

County Treasurer R. E. Sweeney is notifying school districts of the amount available to each district, and that the county is crediting the district sinking fund with money available for expenditure at the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, 1955.

Districts which have no bond indebtedness, the court said, will be credited with their share of the funds for use in retiring bonds and the interest on bonds when districts become obligated in the future.

The court said the funds will be distributed to the districts because it will "be in the best interests of the taxpayers in Jackson county."

Medford's Share Largest

The Medford district will receive the largest share — \$215,617.62 — and Ashland will receive \$109,807.69.

Other districts and the amount they will receive are, Jacksonville, \$18,942.67; Griffin Creek, \$15,953.69; Ruch, \$7,696.63; Phoenix, \$36,241.39; Central Point, \$84,027.73; Eagle Point, \$29,889.81; Lone Pine, \$13,263.60; Talent, \$22,492.08; Dewey, \$4,221.94; Rogue River, \$20,250.35; Applegate, \$4,707.65; Trail, \$7,733.99; Prospect, \$14,048.21; Evans Creek, \$7,733.98; Oak

Eagle Point Bond Vote Polls Open to 8 p.m.

Eagle Point — Polls will remain open until 8 p.m. today in the Eagle Point school district election on authorization of \$150,000 in school construction bonds.

The poll is in the high school gymnasium. Planned for construction, if the bond issue is approved, are a new multi-purpose building and a vocational agriculture building.

Oregon Delegation Split On Statehood Measure

Washington — (U.P.) — The Oregon delegation in the House was split two-to-one yesterday in the vote on Hawaii-Alaska statehood.

Rep. Edith Green, Democrat, joined with Republican Rep. Sam Coon to oppose sending the measure back to committee. Rep. Harris Ellsworth, Republican, favored the referral and in effect voted against statehood. Rep. Walter Norblad, Republican, did not vote.

Unander Will Receive French Legion of Honor

Salem — (U.P.) — Oregon State Treasurer Sig Unander will fly to Paris next week where the French Legion of Honor will be conferred on him by Marshal Alphonse Juin, marshal of France.

The decoration is for Unander's service in North Africa and France during World War II.

He will be accompanied by Mrs. Unander.

Judge Denies Plea Change Requests

Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna today denied motions by Claude Richard Day, 23, and Jack LeRoy Day, 19, Portland brothers, to change a guilty plea to an innocent plea.

The Days, extradited from California, entered guilty pleas last Wednesday and the cases were continued for sentencing.

Charges of failure to stop at the scene of an accident grew out of an accident April 14 in which Mrs. Ruby May Bartley, 55, of Talent, was seriously injured on Highway 99 near Talent.

Berkeley Wayne Keller, 33, Cascade Gorge, pleaded guilty to grand larceny in connection with the theft of \$970 taken from the Prospect Shopping center Saturday. Sentence was continued pending receipt of Federal Bureau of Investigation reports. He was released on \$1,000 bail.

Parnell Belmont, 34, Princeton, Ind., was sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary for obtaining money under false pretenses.

Belmont was charged with obtaining \$184 from an insurance company after faking an accident on a Greyhound bus here. District Attorney Walter Nunley said Belmont told him he obtained more than \$2,000 through fake accidents during the past three years.

Pendleton Police Hold Young Burglar

Pendleton, Ore. — (U.P.) — Police here today were holding a 17-year-old youth who they said admitted burglarizing seven safes in Pacific Northwest cities during the last seven months.

He was captured last night by Patrolman Ernie Gallaher who caught the boy in the act of cracking a safe in an insurance firm office.

Police said the youth admitted cracking two safes in Walla Walla, three in Olympia, and one each in Coeur d'Alene, Ia.; Billings, Mont., and Ashland, Wis. He estimated his total loot at \$2,000.

Officers said the youth was released from the Wisconsin state reformatory on Nov. 4, 1954.

SP Freight Derailed On Coos Bay Line

Florence, Ore. — (U.P.) — A Southern Pacific locomotive and seven gondola-type cars loaded with logs were derailed east of here early today near Rainrock on the Coos Bay line.

The Southern Pacific dispatcher said the train struck a rock two feet in diameter that had rolled onto the track from the hillside above.

Washington — (U.P.) — C. Girard Davidson, Portland attorney, will represent the United States at a 10-day seminar in Rome on the problems of city life in the modern world.

Weather

FORECAST: Mostly cloudy late tonight and early Thursday. Clearing in afternoon. Low tonight 43. Cooler Thursday with high 70.

Highest Temperature 82
Lowest this Morning 47