

## Negotiation Prepared In Telephone Strike

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Top leaders of the striking telephone workers union prepared today to confer with a federal mediator if it appeared likely such a step would help settle a strike against the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company.

A. T. Jones, vice-president in charge of bargaining for the CIO Communications Workers of America, arrived here yesterday to direct union strategy in the two-state walkout.

Three thousand CWA members in San Francisco were to attend an "information meeting" today to hear a progress report on the strike.

The strike began Monday morning when the telephone company refused to give in to

wage demands of the CWA and two other unions, the United Brotherhood of Telephone Workers and the United Brotherhood of Telephone Workers of northern California and Nevada.

## Substitute Clerk Exam Slated for Phoenix PO

Phoenix—Federal Civil Service has announced an examination to fill the position of substitute clerk at the Phoenix post office. The position pays a salary of \$1.71 an hour.

Applicants for the job must reside within the Phoenix post office delivery area or be bona fide patrons of that office.

Further information and application forms may be obtained at the Phoenix or Medford post offices. Applications must be filed with the Director, Eleventh U.S. Civil Service Region, 302 Federal Office Building, Seattle 4, Wash., not later than Oct. 31, 1955.



**HANDSHAKE MARKS END**, for this year at least, of plan by 40 and 8, American Legion's fun-making group, to form separate organization. J. Earl Simpson (left), Chef de Chemin of 40 and 8, extends his vote of confidence to National Commander Seaborn Collins at Miami Beach, Fla. (International)

## Skunks Prefer Peace But Capable When Riled

Washington — Take it from Melvin R. Ellis, who learned about skunks the hard way, a truly ornery "polecat" probably never lived.

Moreover, labeling contemptible people as "skunks" is libeling one of Nature's least offensive creatures.

That's the way Mr. Ellis sizes up Mephitis mephitis (the animal's scientific name taken from the Latin for "a pestilential exhalation from the ground.")

**Takes Different View**  
In an article entitled "Skunks Want Peace—or Else!" the author shows he holds no sympathy for the attitude expressed in the old French-Canadian epithet for the animal as "child of the devil."

Mr. Ellis had his "own hard lesson" with Mephitis as a small boy. "Evening shadows were on the pasture when another youngster and I vaulted a stone fence into the middle of a family of skunks," he relates.

"Time stood still. A meadow lark on a near fence post stopped singing. The cows we had come to bring in lifted their heads as if in anticipation. It was a moment of great decision, and we made the wrong one.

"Instead of remaining motionless and permitting the skunks to amble off, we turned to flee. We might have come off only faintly scented had we turned in opposite directions. As it was, we turned in upon each other,

smacked our heads together, and went down dazed.

"The six skunks, a mother and five half-grown youngsters, switched their sterna about, and then all 12 guns belched salvo after salvo of malodorous fluid over our inert forms."

Semiblinking, sick, almost suffocated, the boys found that time was to be their only real salvation. At home they were scrubbed with lye soap. Today, Ellis says, they would probably get a tomato-juice rubdown or an ammonia rinse, both considerably more effective.

**He Learned Later**  
It was years before the author learned the facts of skunk life: that each animal can fire, almost from birth, both guns at once or one at a time, and that a mature skunk is capable of from four to six successive discharges accurate from 8 to 15 feet.

However, the skunk takes little joy in inflicting such indignities upon its adversaries, real or imagined, for mostly it wants to be alone. By nature, writes Ellis, it is aloof, uninterested, indifferent to all—except other skunks.

All animals, save man and sometimes foolish dogs, respect the skunk's desire to avoid trouble. Only in rare emergencies, when starvation stalks the land, will coyote, cougar, and mink risk the skunk's noxious barrage.

## X-Rays May Show Heart Ailments

Chest x-ray clinics being conducted in Jackson county serve as a screening device for some heart conditions as well as for tuberculosis and lung cancer, it was pointed out today by local physicians.

The x-ray clinic is open each Thursday from 2 to 5 p.m. at Sacred Heart hospital. Those going to the clinic are asked to use the main entrance to the hospital on the ground floor at the south side of the building.

"Although experts disagree on borderline heart problems, 60 to 70 per cent of cardiac abnormalities picked up by screening films are real and need attention," according to Dr. T. L. Badger of the Harvard Medical school, in a recently published article.

Enlarged hearts can be recognized on the x-ray films, according to Dr. Earl Lawson, radiologist who reads the films taken at the x-ray center.

The clinics are provided through use of Christmas seal funds in cooperation with the Jackson County Medical society, Sacred Heart and Community hospitals, the Jackson County Public Health association, and the county health department.

## Deposits, Loans Up At Rogue State Bank

Deposit and loan figures of the Rogue Valley State bank, 1109 Court st., have increased since last June 30, it was announced today. The figures were issued in response to a call from the comptroller of currency for banks' statements of position.

Deposits as of Oct. 5 totaled \$2,648,118.56, compared to the June 30 figure of \$2,015,775.50. Loans totaled \$842,638.34 on Oct. 5 compared to \$796,740.84 the last of June.

Officers of the bank, the only independent one in Jackson county, said they are extremely pleased with the growth of the institution since it moved to Medford from Eagle Point a number of months ago.

Despite its yen to go its own way in peace, it makes a reasonably good pet if handled while young enough. Deodorized, it becomes as docile and amiable as a kitten.

But facing danger in the wild, the striped skunk stamps its feet. Its cousin, the spotted skunk, throws its body and hind feet into the air, stands on its front paws and bristles its tail. Then watch out. Attack is imminent.

Wednesday, October 12, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

## Control Board Inspects State Hospital Building

Salem—(U.P.)—The five-story \$1,500,000 new patients building at the Oregon State hospital was inspected today by the State Board of Control prior to its expected opening later this week.

Facilities will house about 675 patients and help cut down congestion in other departments. Funds for the building were appropriated by the 1953 legislature.

## Time Beats Answer To Video Question

New York — (U.P.) — Baseball fan Patrick (Paddy) Keough made the agonizing decision to risk the \$16,000 he already has won on a television program and try for the \$32,000 question, only to have the clock run out on him before the question was asked.

The pudgy Irishman from St. Louis returns next week to the program, "The \$64,000 Question," to take up where he left off when the show ended last night, with Keough in the isolation booth waiting for the \$32,000 question.

Another contestant on the program, the Rev. Alvin Kershaw, Oxford, O., won \$8000 by answering difficult questions about jazz. The boyish-looking 35-year-old rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal church of Oxford will have a chance at the \$16,000 question next week.

If Keough successfully answers his question he will have the option of taking the money or answering an even tougher question the following week for \$64,000.

## Steel Producers Face Worry on Expansion

New York—(U.P.)—The nation's steel producers are facing a new worry: How to finance much needed expansion.

Iron Age, metal working weekly, said today the problem is "a tough one." Expansion underway or planned was largely predicted on continuation of the government's fast tax write-off program, Iron Age pointed out, "and the government has closed the door to further rapid amortization for steel ingot expansion."

"With the domestic market about as tight as it has ever been, some steel people and industrial economists believe the economic picture would support higher prices," Iron Age declared.

Higher prices would insure a continuing supply, as contrasted with intermittent shortages, the publication added.



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