

# Orchardists Ask Writ in Tree Assessment

## Jury Selection Nearly Completed In Bombing Death

Jurors Challenged in Marjorie Smith Case

McMinnville — (U.P.) — The jury which will decide the fate of Marjorie Smith of Portland, accused in the car-bomb death of her attorney husband, was expected to be completed today.

Defense and prosecution attorneys were rapidly using up their quotas of peremptory challenges and when court recessed this morning, eight more prospective jurors were excused, five for cause and three on challenges without cause.

Against Capital Punishment

Of the five excused for cause today, three said they were against capital punishment while the other two admitted opinions about Mrs. Smith's guilt or innocence.

Except for white gloves, Mrs. Smith was dressed in black. Only a tentative 12-member panel was seated at the first day of the trial.

Prosecutor Willis A. West yesterday indicated the state would seek the death penalty for the woman when he asked prospective jurors about their feelings toward capital punishment.

During the first day of the attractive, 35-year-old widow's trial for complicity in the bomb-slaying of her husband, 27 prospective jurors were excused, six of them on peremptory challenges.

Preconceived Opinions

Of the 21 veniremen excused for cause, most of them expressed preconceived opinions generated by the slaying's widespread publicity. This was also the basic reason for the change in venue which brought the case from Multnomah county to Yamhill county.

Mrs. Smith was implicated in the slaying of her husband, Attorney Oliver Kermit Smith, by 45-year-old Victor Laurence Wolf. Wolf has confessed attaching a homemade dynamite bomb to the starter mechanism of Smith's car, saying he did so at Mrs. Smith's bidding to gain her love.

## Dinner Honoring Hedrick Planned

Salem — (U.P.) — A dinner honoring E. H. Hedrick, Oregon educator who retired from the Medford school system in August, will highlight the annual fall conference of the Oregon Association of District Superintendents Oct. 27 in Erb memorial building on the University of Oregon campus, the State Department of Education said here today.

Leonard Mayfield, superintendent, Medford, will represent the superintendent's association on the dinner program and D. A. Emerson, deputy superintendent of public instruction, will represent the State Department of Education. Harold Beall, superintendent, Springfield, is in charge of arrangements.

The conference opening at 9 a.m. Thursday will be concerned with findings of the governor's conference on education. R. E. Jewell, superintendent, Bend, will preside at the business session.

Presentation of the panel topic will be made by Owen Sablin, superintendent, Milwaukie.

## Faure Calls for December Elections

Paris — (U.P.) — Premier Edgar Faure's Cabinet tonight called for general elections in December to try to rid the National Assembly of cliques and splinter groups undermining government authority.

The Cabinet introduced a bill by title only in the Assembly this evening. The title calls for new elections in the first half of December and demands urgent consideration of the measure.

A committee of ministers will fill in the text of the bill tomorrow.

The decision is up to Parliament. The call for December elections is a break with French tradition. In the past, elections have been held in the warm months to make it easier for voters in rural areas to get to the polls.

## Lumber Shippers Receive 57 Per Cent of Car Needs

Salem — (U.P.) — Public Utilities Commissioner Charles Heltzel said today lumber shippers were only able to receive 57 per cent of cars they ordered from Southern Pacific railroad last week, lowest percentage for the year.

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Weather  
FORECAST: Partly cloudy through Saturday. Valley fog patches mixed with smoke in morning. Little temperature change. Low tonight 46. High Saturday 72-74.  
Temp. Highest Yesterday 73. Lowest this Morning 48. Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today, Trace



IN GOOD HANDS—An unidentified fireman carries an injured man to waiting ambulance after rescuing him from fire which swept through the Adams Hotel on Chicago's Skid Road. Two persons died and 10 others were injured in the blaze. Damage was estimated at \$20,000.

## County Court Gives Approval to State's Road Financing Plan

State-proposed plans for financing a new Medford-Klamath Falls highway were accepted today by members of the Jackson county court in conjunction with Paul Rynning, county engineer.

Construction on the new road, which will provide an easy grade route to Klamath Falls by way of McAllister Soda Springs and Lake of the Woods, will not start until 1957. It would cost an estimated \$900,000.

Meets with Baldock

Rynning and County Commissioner Chester Wendt met yesterday in Salem with R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, to discuss plans for financing the road.

Plans adopted are for Jackson county to furnish 60 per cent of the cost, which would be taken from secondary highway funds received from the federal government.

## McCall Out of Race As State Secretary

Portland — (U.P.) — Tom Lawson McCall last night took himself out of the race for Republican nomination for secretary of state and declared his support for State Sen. Mark Hatfield, dean of students at Willamette University.

McCall, who opposed Rep. Edith Green for Congress in the last general election, told a meeting of Multnomah county Young Republicans the GOP must accept candidates who have progressive ideas and scored those who would oppose Hatfield because of his liberal views. McCall had been mentioned as a possible candidate for the job.

McCall also urged Young Republicans to adopt a resolution calling upon the state not to send its employees through picket lines in legitimate labor disputes.

## UO Students Fined For Burning Turf

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Six University of Oregon students who admitted burning the letters "UO" in the turf of Parker stadium at Oregon State college today were fined \$50 each in Corvallis district court.

The students were formally charged with entering the property of another with intent to injure grass. They were temporarily suspended at the University of Oregon.

## City Council Clears Way for Annexation Elections

### Site of Proposed Hospital, RVCC Included in Area

### Church Property Annexed by City

The Medford city council last night directed City Attorney Frank Farrell to prepare and submit ordinances calling for elections on annexation of several hundred acres of land south-east of Medford.

The council accepted a recommendation from the planning commission that the area be annexed.

The proposed area includes the Rogue Valley Memorial hospital 20-acre site, Rogue Valley Country club, two cemeteries, and an extensive subdivision plat around Barneburg hill.

Two Elections

Two elections would be held. One would be in Blocks seven, eight, part of nine and block ten of Siskiyou Heights addition extension, and the other would be in an area east of Bear creek and west of Murray rd. A separate election in Siskiyou Heights addition is necessary, City Manager Robert Duff pointed out, because those blocks are now a county "island" surrounded by city limits.

The "island" was completed last night when the council adopted an ordinance annexing property owned by First Church of Christ, Scientist in block six of the addition extension. The island includes property between Richmond and Barneburg rds. on the east and west, and Keene Way dr. and Oakwood dr. on the south and north.

No one appeared at a public hearing opposing annexation of the church property. John Pletsch spoke in favor of annexation.

The area southeast of Medford, exclusive of the three-block island in Siskiyou Heights addition extension, generally includes an area within the following boundaries:

From the southwest corner of Hillcrest rd. and Pierce rd. east along a line south of Hillcrest rd. to just west of Foothills rd.; then south along the western edge of Foothills rd. to a line north of Country club dr. extension; then westward to just west of Murphy lane; southward to just south of Barnett rd. From there the line follows the old Barneburg property line south, west and north around Barneburg hill to just east of Ellendale dr.; then north along the east edge of Ellendale dr. to a point 300 feet south of Barnett rd.; then west to Bear creek.

The line then follows Bear creek to the present city limits. Opposes Cemetery Annexation

Manville M. Heisel, attorney representing Siskiyou Memorial park association, opposed annexation of the cemetery, pointing out that the non-profit organization would be unable to finance its share of street improvements. He pointed out that if the area is annexed, the cemetery would be surrounded by city streets, but that the association would not have control of more than 50 per cent of the front footage of these streets.

Improvements are made on requests by petitions representing at least 51 per cent of the front footage. Petitions are submitted by residents desiring improvements.

Heisel pointed out that the

## Dulles Holds Geneva Cards

Washington — (U.P.) — Secretary of State John Foster Dulles today held a strong hand of diplomatic cards to play at next week's Big Four showdown meeting at Geneva on key East-West problems.

Dulles, in a whirlwind finish to preparations for the conference, has lined up support of President Eisenhower and a group of congressional leaders of both parties for U.S. strategy on the twin problems of European security and German unity, disarmament and lowering of East-West barriers.

Additional support for Dulles' Geneva strategy came late Thursday from the secretary's own State Department. It suddenly made public an 88-page record of many of Mr. Eisenhower's and Dulles' statements at the earlier Summit meeting at Geneva last July.

Strong Determination Shown

The document showed the strong determination of the United States to link European security and German unity together—a tussle the President won from Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin. It also brought out Mr. Eisenhower's flat pledge to Russia that "under no circumstances is the United States ever going to be a party to aggressive war—against any nation." This was coupled with the President's pledge that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is "purely defensive."

Dulles met Thursday with 14 key congressional leaders to acquaint them with U.S. strategy and to shore up any weak spots in bipartisan backing. The Secretary of State was reported pleased by the reception his views received from the lawmakers who met with him for nearly two hours.

Several Points Made

According to legislators who attended the meeting, Dulles made these points: The Allies plan to offer Russia security guarantees based on a five-nation pact which could be expanded to many other nations on each side of the Iron Curtain. The plan is designed to prod Russia into a German reunification program.

On disarmament, the United States will stand solidly behind Mr. Eisenhower's plan to build trust and confidence by exchanging military blueprints and aerial reconnaissance rights with Russia.

Dulles has high hopes that major accomplishments will be reached on the third and final Geneva problem — lowering of East-West barriers. There is no prospect of easing Western bars on strategic trade with the Iron Curtain countries at this time. (See Story on Page 12)

## Parsons To Speak For Advisory Group

Capt. Paul Parson, head of the Medford district of state police, will speak at a meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Jackson County Juvenile Court on Monday, it was announced today.

The meeting will be at 8 p.m. in the circuit court room. After his talk, Captain Parson will ask questions from members of the committee. In addition, it is expected that a report will be made on progress in securing a site for a county juvenile detention home.

The advisory committee is composed of representatives of many of the county's civic, service and fraternal organizations, and is designed to be of assistance to the juvenile court judge, the juvenile office staff and to police authorities.

## Bulletin

Salem — (U.P.) — Southern Pacific today filed suit for a declaratory judgment against an order of the public utilities commissioner directing the railroad to continue passenger train service between Portland and Ashland. The case will be heard Oct. 31 by Marion County Circuit Judge Val D. Sloper.

## County Group Seeks To Have Tax Deleted From Roll

### Writ of Mandamus Asked of High Court

Salem — (U.P.) — A group of some 180 Jackson county orchardists have asked the Oregon Supreme court for an alternative writ of mandamus commanding Jackson County Assessor Robert G. Fowler to deliver the assessment roll for fiscal year 1955-56 to the sheriff of Jackson county and to delete from the rolls all increases in assessments on commercial orchard property.

The demand stems from increases in assessments which followed a reappraisal of all property in Jackson county by the State Tax commission. The orchardists contend their properties are discriminated against, compared to other farm lands of the county.

The Supreme court, which received the petition late yesterday, directed both sides to submit arguments by noon Monday why the high court should or should not accept jurisdiction in the case instead of the usual procedure of having such action started in Circuit court.

Should the court accept jurisdiction, the petition asks that it direct the assessor to compute a rate per cent of levy upon the legally assessed valuation of Jackson county "and the subsequent divisions thereof for said fiscal year, or in default thereof to appear in this court at a time to be named in said alternative writ and then and there show cause why he has not done so."

Elsewhere in Salem, State Tax Commissioner Sam Stewart said that 190 parcels of Jackson county land will have their tax valuation reduced as a result of hearings held there last week. Owners of 473 pieces of land appealed previously-set valuations.

Stewart said mailing of notices to orchardists, telling them of the findings following the hearings, started Tuesday. County Assessor Robert Fowler has been ordered to change the individual valuations to conform with those found by the commission.

Stewart said the tax commission has done everything in its power to assure a correct and valid assessment roll.

## Commercial Pear Picking Nears End

Commercial pear picking and packing are nearing completion in Jackson county according to County Horticultural Agent, C. E. Cordy.

Many orchards have finished picking and others are nearing completion. Pears left to be picked are mainly winter nelsis. No figures are available on the size of the pear crop but it is "big," Cordy says.

Some orchardists are starting to plant cover crops now. Pruning will begin as soon as the leaves are off the trees, according to Cordy.

## Roseburg Pilot Hurt In Crash in Japan

Tokyo — (U.P.) — A Roseburg, Ore., Air Force pilot was one of three men injured today when a B-47 jet bomber crashed during takeoff in northern Japan. One man was killed.

The Oregon man, 1st Lt. Charles W. Clark, was co-pilot of the bomber, which crashed about 300 or 400 yards off the end of the runway at Misawa air base on the northern tip of Honshu, Japan's main island.

Clark and the other two injured men were reported in "good condition."

Officials at Mountain Home Air Base in Idaho identified the man killed as 1st Lt. Edward C. Dow of Bishopville, S. C., an observer aboard the jet bomber.

Spokane — (U.P.) — Marilyn Gould of Corvallis, Ore., has been crowned homecoming queen at Whitworth college.



TIPS IT OUR WAY—Tommy Kono of Sacramento, Calif., flexes his muscles during the Mr. Universe contest at Munich, Germany, now an official part of international weightlifting championships. Five points he won here tipped the victory to the U.S. over Russia, 30-29. Kono also won the light-heavyweight (181 pounds) lifting title.

## Eight Arrested For Questioning In Chicago Deaths

Chicago — (U.P.) — Police disclosed today that eight persons have been arrested for questioning about the slaying of three young boys, but none was regarded as a "good suspect."

Lie detector tests were scheduled for at least two of the eight Edward Rohlfes, 47, and Michael Chupick, 22.

Rohlfes, a former railroad worker, volunteered the information that he spent all of last Monday night and most of Tuesday morning in a forest preserve parking lot near the ditch where the nude and battered bodies were found.

Sent To Laboratory

Crime laboratory technicians found a crowbar, a clawhammer and a sweatshirt, stained as if it had been used to wipe up something, in Rohlfes' truck. The articles were sent to the laboratory for analysis and to determine whether human hair could be found on the hammer.

If the bodies had been there then, he said, he would have seen them. They were discovered by a liquor salesman at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Rohlfes said he saw three men in a battered old Ford drive into the parking lot at 10:30 a.m., just as he was leaving. Detectives said these men could have been the slayers, about to dispose of the bodies.

Rohlfes said he had withheld his information because he did not want to get a forest ranger in trouble for letting him sleep in his parked truck in the forest preserve.

He said he formed the habit of sleeping there because of marital discord at home. He now is divorced, he said.

Tape in Auto

Chupick was held for a lie test after police found copper wire and masking tape in his car. Tape of some sort was used to bind the victims' eyes and mouths, and Chupick said he frequented a bowling alley where the boys were seen Sunday night.

The slain boys, Robert Peterson, 13, John Schuessler, 13, and his brother, Aton Jr., 11, last were seen alive Sunday night.

Sheridan, Ore. — (U.P.) — The McCormick Lumber and Manufacturing Company, Sheridan's largest industry, has halted operations, idling 70 men.

# Russia Doublecrossed Japan Before Yalta, Tojo Prosecutor Claims

Tokyo — (U.P.) — Russia double-crossed the Japanese in the spring of 1945 and went to the Yalta conference secretly knowing Japan was willing to surrender to the Allies, one of the Allied prosecutors in the Japanese war criminal trials said today.

In an exclusive interview with United Press, this story was told by Roy L. Morgan, who was associate prosecutor during the trial of war premier Hideki Tojo. Morgan was in charge of investigations for the international prosecution section. "Shigenori Tojo, foreign

minister of Japan in the spring of 1945, discussed with me Japan's attempts to make peace in the spring of that year, after the big March 10, 11 and 12 raids on Japan," Morgan said.

Tojo was sentenced to 20 years in prison where he died. "Realizing Japan's inability to carry on the war against the United States further," Morgan said, "Tojo with other members of the cabinet met and decided to seek peace.

which had two years to run and because of Russia's position in relation to the Allied power, Russia should be approached as mediator.

"The Japanese ambassador in Moscow was instructed to approach the Russian foreign office for the purpose of getting Russia to act as mediator.

Terms of the Potsdam declaration, with three exceptions. These exceptions were: 1. The emperor system should be retained. 2. There should be no Allied occupation of Japan. 3. There should be no prosecution of Japanese leaders.

"Several months passed and Japan got no answer from Russia as to the progress of its mediation efforts.

"Finally the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and the Japanese ambassador in Moscow was again contacted by Tojo. Tojo wanted to ascertain the de-

velopments of Japan's offer of peace.

"The reply to the Japanese ambassador in Moscow by the Russian government was 'Russia is now at war with Japan. Troops are crossing the Manchurian frontier.'

"Tojo told me that up until the end of the war, Russia—who had accepted the role of peacemaker—never advised Japan as to its mediation efforts.

"Tojo indicated that Russia had played a most ignominious role in world history in accepting the role of peacemaker and