

Benson's Resignation Demanded at Agriculture Committee Hearing

Gift Presented To Longtime Worker

Fellow employees of William R. Callender at California Oregon Power company presented him a typewriter and pen to use in his continuation of a business administration course. Callendar, a linesman for Copco, received a broken back while working for the company at Days Creek, Ore.

He was presented the gift by Dale Jefferson, assistant superintendent of the Medford district; Claude C. Haggard, director of safety, and Donald R. Rutter, assistant safety director. The presentation was held at the Robertson School of Business. Callendar enrolled there at the beginning of the fall term. Leslie B. Robertson of the school assisted.

Callender is a long time employee of the firm who returned to the Rogue valley recently from Days Creek where he had been assigned for a five-year period.

Callender and his wife live at Central Point, with their two sons, Richard and William Callendar, Crater high school students, and their daughter, Patricia, a third grade student at Central Point.

McKay Receives Honorary OSC Degree

Corvallis—(U.P.)—Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay was the recipient of an honorary doctorate of law degree yesterday at Oregon State college's 87th Charter Day observance.

Luang Suwan of Kasetsart university in Thailand was also awarded an honorary doctorate degree.

Charter Day speaker Chancellor Clifford M. Hartin of University of Nebraska told the audience that increased college enrollments were providing a test of the country's traditional commitment to broad and equal educational opportunities.

Gov. Paul Patterson also spoke briefly.

Farmers Said Due For More Equitable Land Ownership

Minot, N. D. — (U.P.) — The touring Senate Agriculture Committee today heard new calls for the resignation of Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson and a warning that "we are due for some land reform which will distribute the ownership of land more equitably."

Oswald K. Ophaug, a spokesman for the Nelson county chapter of the Farmers Union, told the committee in a prepared statement there will always be a "farm problem" while farmers are divided into classes by the size of their farms.

Interest Said Not Served

"We ask for the resignation of Ezra Taft Benson because of his attitude toward the farm problem, which we feel does not serve the general national interest," Ophaug added.

Ophaug testified at the fifth in a series of Senate farm hearings scheduled to gather "grass roots" advice before the committee writes a new farm price law next year.

The Farmer's Union is strong in this state and many witnesses scheduled today were local officers of the organization. They echoed its attack on the administration's flexible price support program and demanded rigid farm price props at 90 or 100 per cent of the "fair income" parity level.

Complains of 'Benson Blues'

Under the administration program, wheat and four other major crops are supported this year at 82½ to 90 per cent of parity. Next year the range will be 70-90 per cent and Benson has already set the 1956 support level for wheat — a major crop in this northern Plains area — at 76 per cent of parity.

Robert E. Lee, a Larimore, N.C., farmer and Farmers Union leader, said in prepared testimony he "highly recommended" Benson's removal.

"My take-home pay is down to the point where I'm not making expenses. I've got a bad case of the Benson blues," he said.

Benson is scheduled to go into Minnesota today to speak before the Farmers Day observance of the Moorhead Chamber of Commerce.

Harry Bloom, a Taylor, N. D., farmer and county leader in the more conservative Farm Bureau Federation, criticized planting reductions forced under present support and control laws.

Democrat Wants to Testify

Acresage has been cut so far that farms of less than 640 acres "are no longer economical and efficient units," he said. Bloom recommended that price support premiums be offered for high quality milling wheat.

He suggested that low grade, "spoiled" wheat now in government surplus storage be dumped and destroyed.

George Mikkelsen, a Garske, N. D., farmer, told the committee neither rigid, high supports nor flexible props have solved the wheat problem. He advocated a two-price plan — a guaranteed high price for the portion of the crop used as domestic food with the rest moving at free market prices.

Raymond Vendsel, a 3,000-acre farmer and Democratic Party leader, told reporters he hoped to testify to "counter Republican propaganda against high price supports."

North Dakota farmers are "disgusted with the administration of the present farm law" and may put this solidly Republican state in the Democratic column in 1956, he predicted.

Rice supplies the major food requirements for about one-half the world's population. It is 70 to 80 per cent of the entire food intake in many countries.

Benson Takes Defense of Farm Policies Into Minnesota; Denies Some Cabinet Members 'Are After His Scalp'

Washington — (U.P.) — Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson took the farm problem to the people today.

He flew to Moorhead, Minn., center of a big wheat, corn and hog area, to make a vigorous defense of his farm policies before a farmer audience at a Chamber of Commerce dinner tonight. Much criticism of the farm program has come from the corn belt area.

No Split in Cabinet

Before he left Washington, Benson in an unusual gesture Thursday called in press association reporters in an attempt to scotch reports that some cabinet members were after his scalp. He said flatly there is "no split in the cabinet" over farm policy.

The White House immediately backed him up. Assistant White House Press Secretary Murray Snyder also denied there is a cabinet split. He said in a statement that "the entire administration is working with the secretary of agriculture toward the objective of assuring the nation's farmers a fair share of America's prosperity."

"I'd like to set the record

straight," Benson told the reporters.

He said the Oct. 7 cabinet meeting had on the agenda a "full and frank discussion" of the farm problem "at my suggestion."

He said he discussed the farm situation for 45 minutes and "then there was a free and frank discussion as we always do in the cabinet. Everyone spoke without fear."

"There was no division on farm policy," he said. "There was complete support for the program. We all expressed concern over the price squeeze and talked

about what we could do that would be sound and helpful to the farmer.

"No one suggested that we turn back from the flexible support principle . . .

"That's the story. There was not a word of criticism of the farm program and there hasn't been since."

'Phone Company Liquidation Starts

Central Point — Final liquidation of assets of the former Central Point Mutual Telephone company will be started late this week when checks totaling \$56 will be issued to stock holders.

W. B. Kincaid, former director and a liquidation trustee, said about \$33,872 would be paid to former holders. In addition to payments to stock holders, government tax agencies will receive final payments to complete liquidation.

The local company ceased operation April 2, this year after the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company dial system went into operation. Equipment and other assets of the local company have been sold, and a portion of the Central Point firm was purchased by Pacific Telephone and Telegraph.

40 Per Cent of Phoenix Graduates Attending College

Phoenix — More than 40 per cent of Phoenix High school graduates last spring have enrolled in institutions of higher education. Some 17 students of the 40 who were graduated are enrolled in colleges.

Registered at Oregon State college are Nancy Hammers, Robert Webster, David Kelson, Martin Heitkamp and Larry Brown. Several of them, according to information from OSC, ranked above the median in the aptitude test for college work given all freshmen.

None of those attending OSC from Phoenix were required to take freshman English, and were qualified to start regular college composition. In mathematics placement, four of the five students from Phoenix were enrolled directly into college level math, with one placed in a course of reviewing second year algebra. Three of the boys are planning an engineering course.

Attending SOC

Entered at Southern Oregon college at Ashland are Raydene Chisum, Kay Fisher, Barbara Hendrickson, William Garner, Audrey Hite, Doris Maesse and Brison Stovall. Audrey Hite ranked among the top five freshmen in entrance examinations, and four Phoenix High school graduates ranked above the median.

Kay Fisher was one of three freshman girls elected on the executive committee of the associated student body.

Other students who have continued onto universities and colleges include Janice Stevens, Pacific university, Forest Grove; Donna Davis, San Jose Bible college; Fred Oldham, Oklahoma Baptist college; Ronald Vreeken, Pierce Junior college in California; and Dieter Trost, California State Polytechnic college.

Ten of the 17 former Phoenix students are attending higher education institutions under tuition and fee scholarship from various sources. Scholarships were applied for last spring, and awarded at graduation.

Eight Married

Of the remainder of the graduating class eight girls have married and several are working. Five boys are in the military service and four are working.

E. R. James, superintendent of Phoenix schools, who compiled information on high school graduates, said records of progress of graduates will be maintained to evaluate the high school testing and guidance program. The program was initiated four years ago, and is presently under the supervision of William E. Ruck, vice-principal.

The program provides valuable information concerning the individual student's aptitudes and interests, through which student counselors may direct students into fields in which they are capable of making a success.

PHOENIX Couple Back From Trip

Phoenix — Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cobleigh returned the first of the week from a vacation trip of 11 days. With their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Coggins, Medford, they went to Idaho Falls, Ida., and visited with another daughter and son-in-law and their children, Mr. and Mrs. George Wehmann. From there they went to Yellowstone park, Wyoming, Utah, Virginia City and Reno, Nev., and back home by way of Ft. Klamath. While in Utah they visited the largest open pit copper mine in the United States and watched the operations.

John Whitman is very ill at the Community hospital in Medford after suffering a heart attack. He has been making his home with his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Whitman.

Mrs. Lesley Feris' mother, Mrs. Grey, Woodland, Wash., came last Friday to visit with the Feris family for a few days.

Mrs. Olen Barlow visited her sister, Mrs. Olena Martin, at Monroe, Ore., last week. While there her son Bill, who is at Corvallis, came to see her and her daughter Barbara came

from Longview, Wash., to visit. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bissegger and daughter Avis visited with friends at Madras last week.

Phoenix grade school youngsters are being asked by the Phoenix Lions auxiliary to share their Halloween "Trick and Treat" this year by collecting old eyeglasses with metal frames. These metal frames are melted and redeemed for cash, and the funds used to secure new prescription glasses for persons financially unable to afford them. The need for optical scrap is greater now than ever. (Lenses without frames cannot be used.) When the children turn their collections in at the Phoenix Community club on Halloween evening, they will be served refreshments.

The auxiliary also asks that anyone having discarded eyeglasses with metal frames that are not picked up on Halloween leave them at Gier's Drug store or the Triangle market in Phoenix before Nov. 10.

It is hoped that the response to this request will enable the Phoenix Lions auxiliary to make a substantial contribution toward providing glasses to the visually handicapped.

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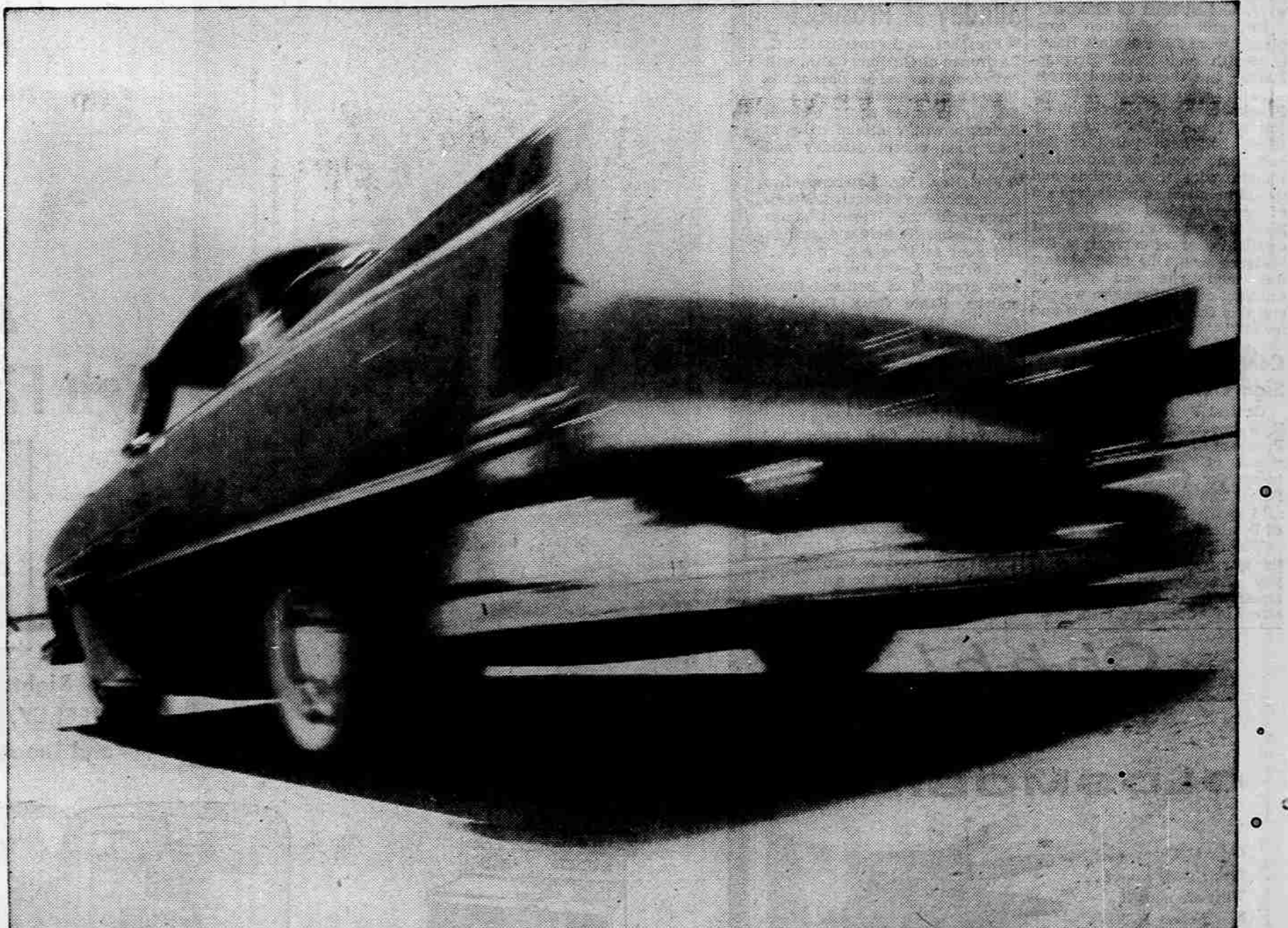
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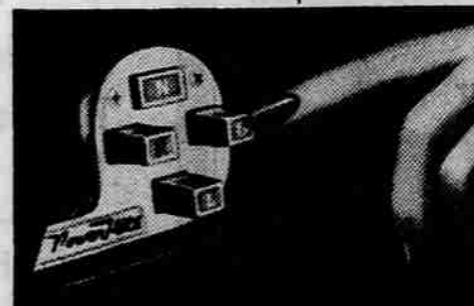
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