

Conant Defiantly Drives Into East Berlin

Faure Dismisses National Assembly

Nation Prepares For Elections on New Year's Day

Move Ends Threat To Unseat Premier

Paris — (U.P.) — Premier Edgar Faure disbanded the French National assembly today in a controversial political stroke that abruptly ended its threat to unseat him as premier.

The assembly ceased to exist at 7 a. m. (1 a. m. EST) with publication of the decree in the "Journal Officiel." France immediately prepared for elections on New Year's day.

Faure called a press conference today to explain his move which was condemned by his political enemies as a "coup de force" — riding roughshod over the will of Parliament. Hurried Session Called

The Council of State, France's supreme constitutional court, called a hurried session to try to find a loophole to prevent the elections falling on such an unpopular date — the morning after 40,000,000 Frenchmen.

The council hoped to set the elections for a week later.

French voters have been perplexed for a week by the rapid-fire political moves that exploded into one of the gravest crises since 1877 when last a Parliament was dissolved by such a decree. And their reaction to possibilities of a New Year's election was varied.

French Woman Above All "Above all I'm a French woman," said Marcelle Joubert, 45, a blonde tradeswoman. "I'll vote."

"To hell with it," said taxi driver Henri Terrine, 65. "I'm not going to spend the best day of the year voting."

Dissolution of Parliament was the second time in two days Faure had left the hostile deputies gasping. They voted no confidence in his government Tuesday and went home to bed, confident he would resign.

But Faure looked up a constitutional provision which said he could fire Parliament if two premiers were voted out of office in 18 months. So he announced his decision.

The angry assembly members held a series of meetings Thursday and the powerful Socialist party began a move to recall the chamber and pass a vote of censure — which would mean Faure would have to resign.

And although he realized how unpopular the New Year's day election would be he ordered President Rene Coty to prepare the decree abolishing Parliament.

Bitter Enemies Agree Faure and Pierre Mendes-France, his most bitter political enemy, agreed for once that the decree is issued by the President "but it is the premier who decides."

That was probably the last area of agreement for the two men, once the best of friends, now mortal enemies. Mendes-France called a meeting of the Radical Socialist party and its leaders decided by a vote of 19 to 8 to expel Faure from the party. That action is not final until the entire party membership votes on it.

Eisenhower Confers With Top Advisers

Gettysburg, Pa. — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower bid a cheerful "good morning" to newsmen today and then ducked into his tiny downtown office to confer with his top advisers on national defense.

Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson and Adm. Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were two minutes late for their appointment. The weather forced them to drive here from Washington instead of flying.

There was no indication of what the President and his defense chiefs discussed. It was considered likely, though, that they talked about such things as the new military budget and defense strategy in view of the failure of the Geneva foreign ministers conference.



Hedberg Elected Vice President Of 1st National Here

Elwood Hedberg, manager of the Medford Branch of First National Bank of Portland has been elected vice-president of the bank. C. B. Stephenson, president of the bank, announced today.

Hedberg has been a banker for 33 years, and manager of the Medford branch since 1952.

Active in community affairs, Hedberg was recently reelected a director of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce after completing a term as treasurer; is a vestryman of St. Marks Episcopal church, and a member of the choir; is a director and treasurer of the Medford Public Library board; and recently was appointed county treasurer for the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc.

Other Activities He is on the Jackson County Housing Authority, is chairman of the advisory committee of the Southern Oregon Bankers association, honorary life member of the Jackson county chapter of American Red Cross which he has served for over 15 years, and is a past exalted ruler of the Ashland Elks lodge.

Hedberg joined the First National bank of Ashland as a bookkeeper and clerk in 1922. In 1937 the bank was purchased by First National of Portland. In 1939 he was named assistant cashier and operations officer.

In 1942, he came to Medford branch as general loan officer, and was named assistant manager in 1946 and manager in 1952.

Salem — (U.P.) — Oregon passed Safe Driving day, 1955, without a traffic death and slightly improved on last year's SD day record, the State Traffic Safety division said today.

Ten persons were reported injured in 79 accidents compared to 12 injuries in 80 accidents on Safe Driving day, 1954, which was held Dec. 15.

Indications Point To Big Christmas Package Volume

Advance indications are that the mail volume this Christmas season will be the heaviest in history. Medford Postmaster Moore Hamilton has urged residents to "mail early and avoid the rush," and he noted that many residents already are mailing gifts going long distances.

Hamilton said a recent ruling, effective on a trial basis, allows senders of parcel post to enclose a letter inside the package. Previously, if a letter was inside a package, the whole package went at first class rates. Under the new ruling announced by Postmaster General Arthur Sumnerfield, a letter may be enclosed and the package marked "First Class Mail Enclosed." An extra charge of three cents is levied.

Properly Wrapped Hamilton urged residents sending packages to wrap them properly, especially during the Christmas rush. Parcel post is often piled high in mail terminals, he said, and packages at the bottom of the pile often are damaged unless well wrapped.

68 Safe Driving Day Deaths Disappointing To Safety Experts

By UNITED PRESS The figure represented a sharp drop from the 81 persons killed on the comparable Thursday last year, Dec. 2. But it was well above the 51 persons killed in the first S-D Day on Dec. 15 last year.

A United Press count listed 68 persons killed in traffic during the 24-hour period which ended at midnight last night. Two weeks ago, when a sample count was taken on an ordinary Thursday, 69 persons were killed.

Jackson county was not without a fatality on Safe-Driving Day yesterday, but the life lost was not a human one. A car driven by Gilbert David Milford of Portland, going north on Highway 99 near Blackwell hill, struck a deer crossing the highway about 6:30 p. m. yesterday. Police said Milford was passing another car when the deer jumped onto the highway. They estimated Milford's speed about 50 miles an hour at the time of impact.

A patrolman disposed of the deer, which suffered a broken neck. Milford's car, which sustained a damaged radiator was towed to Grants Pass.

Two other minor accidents were reported to state police. W. E. Honeycutt of Grants Pass reported his car and one operated by Keith Edward Schroeder, route 3, box 195, Medford, bumped on Highway 99 south of Phoenix yesterday morning. Ernest Thompson, 108 Queen Anne st., Medford, reported his car was involved in a slight accident in Rogue River yesterday.

There were no accidents reported within the Medford city limits yesterday, and Police Chief Charles Champlin said he was proud of the cooperation of residents in eliminating accidents.

Adm. H. B. Miller, director of the President's Committee for Traffic Safety, termed the results "disappointing." He said in a prepared statement: "Disappointing as the S-D Day toll was, we must not lose sight of the fact that 10 days still remain of the 21-day period that constitutes the S-D Day campaign."

"It is our hope that the impact of S-D Day on the public will be reflected in the 21-day toll when the three-week period and three each in Michigan, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, which usually posts a top safety record.

Across the nation, there were fatal traffic accidents in 21 states, while death took a holiday in the 27 others and the District of Columbia.

Sanitary District To Open Bids Tonight

Bids will be opened at 7:30 p. m. today in the office of Harvey and Watkins, consulting engineers, for construction of a trunk line sewer in South Bear Creek Sanitary sewer district. Contract for the project will not be awarded until after elections Dec. 5, when voters in the district vote on a \$40,000 bond issue for additional funds for trunk line and lateral sewer lines. Bids also will be tabulated and checked prior to awarding a contract.

The trunk line will be installed from Barnett rd. south to the southern boundary of the district near Phoenix if the bonds are approved.

Portland — (U.P.) — David C. Duncan has been elected president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce to succeed R. L. Clark.

Dulles Confident Chiang Will Yield

United Nations, N.Y. — (U.P.) — Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was reported confident today that Nationalist China will not block admission of 13 free nations to the United Nations by refusing to admit Communist Outer Mongolia.

A highly responsible U.S. diplomatic source in Washington said Dulles was convinced that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek ultimately will yield to two personal pleas sent him by President Eisenhower.

Nationalist China has threatened to use its all-powerful veto in the Security Council to bar Outer Mongolia because of fears its admission might ultimately lead to a U.N. seat for Chiang's hated enemy, Red China.

Juarez, Mexico — (U.P.) — Actress Linda Darnell is expected to file suit for a quick divorce today from Philip Liebmann, a New York brewery owner.

WEATHER FORECAST: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain showers in valleys and snow showers in mountains tonight and Saturday. Rain Saturday afternoon and night. Low tonight 35. High Saturday 45. TEMPERATURE: Highest Yesterday 49, Lowest this Morning 36, PRECIPITATION: To 10 a.m. Today .04

Caudle To Demand 'Wide Open' Probe Of Indictment

St. Louis — (U.P.) — T. Lamar Caudle said today he will demand a "wide open" congressional investigation of why he was indicted along with another Truman administration figure on bribery and perjury charges.

The federal Grand Jury indictments returned yesterday linked Caudle, onetime chief of the Justice Department's Tax Division, with Matthew J. Connelly, former White House appointment secretary, and Kansas City attorney Harry I. Schwimmer.

Pellis N. Slack, a former Caudle aide and now a Justice Department official, was named as a co-conspirator but not as a defendant. In Washington, Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell Jr., said Slack has been relieved of his duties "pending proceedings looking to his removal."

In New York, Connelly, now a public relations counsellor, denied that he had violated any law of the United States.

Caudle, Connelly and Schwimmer were accused of conspiring to defraud the government through perjury and bribery in the case of Irving Sachs, a St. Louis shoe broker charged with income tax evasion.

The three men conspired to fix the charges against Sachs and his firm, it was alleged. They were also accused of planning to conceal the facts of the conspiracy if the attempt to suppress the charges failed.

Caudle, who was fired from his Justice Department post following a widely publicized investigation in 1951, protested he is innocent.

Number Not Identified In Courtesy Program

Thursday's "Courtesy Driver of the Day" license number was not identified by noon today. Prize money will be added to today's courtesy driver number: 5A1845

Total prize for identifying today's license number will be \$15. There was a \$10 prize for Thursday's number because yesterday was Safe Driving Day.

If today's number is identified before noon tomorrow, the campaign will end, but if the number is not identified, another courtesy driver number will be picked.

Identification may be made by calling 2-2441 or 3-5643 before noon Saturday.

Ward Spaatz Wins Horticulture Trophy

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Ward Spaatz, Medford pear grower, was announced yesterday as winner of their Hartman trophy for outstanding service to horticulture at the annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society here.

Spaatz is past president of the society.

Bob Root, Medford pear grower, said wood waste materials were the cheapest fuel with which to heat orchards to control frost. He said the cost was \$2.16 an hour using Pre-to-logs compared with \$3.54 for oil.

Beaten Longview Woman Said Slightly Improved

Portland — (U.P.) — Mrs. Calvin Rickard, Longview housewife found brutally beaten in her backyard Wednesday morning, was in improved condition at Providence hospital here today but attendants said she was still unconscious.

Police are continuing their search for her assailant.

WOLF HEARING DELAYED Portland — (U.P.) — A hearing to decide degree of guilt and set punishment for Victor Laurence Wolf, confessed bomb slayer of attorney Kermit Smith today was postponed from next Monday until Tuesday.

Rio Grande Bridge Falls Into River; 40 Persons Hurt

Temporary Section Collapses on Workers Eagle Pass, Tex. — (U.P.) — A 300-foot temporary section of an international bridge across the Rio Grande collapsed today and Police Dispatcher Pedro Marquez reported that 40 persons were hurt, two critically.

Marquez said he knew of none dead. He said nearly all of the injured were Mexican braceros. They were standing on that section that collapsed.

Braceros came across from the Mexican side daily and stood on the bridge, waiting to be hired.

The temporary span was being torn down today and workmen were under the bridge. It plunged the Braceros and the wreckage of the bridge down upon the workmen on the bed of the river, 30 feet below.

Marquez said he believed that all of the injured had been removed and taken to a hospital.

The bridge connects Eagle Pass with Piedras Negras, Mexico.

Aspects Of County Taxes Discussed By Chamber Group

Various aspects of county revenues and budgeting were reviewed by members of the Jackson county court at a chamber of commerce breakfast today.

The session was the second in a series of tax study meetings being conducted by the legislative committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Chairman Frank Van Dyke presided.

Commissioner Chester Wendt listed the principal items of the county budget for this year, explaining briefly the reasons for increases or decreases. Generally, he indicated, increases were the result of higher costs of doing business, of adding personnel necessary to conduct the county's business, and salary increases to obtain and retain personnel.

The largest increase was in the county's road funds, Wendt explained. It was brought out during the discussion that the total county tax levy this year, totaling more than \$690,000, was almost double that of last year. But three years ago, the levy totaled nearly \$600,000. The higher figure this year was used so the county could take advantage of the 6 per cent increase allowed, and not lose its tax base, the officials explained.

One of the largest budgeted items is the courthouse construction and maintenance fund, it was stated, which provides the county with a fund on which it can draw for improvements as they become necessary.

County Judge Rodney Keating outlined sources of income which the county has in addition to tax levies. The largest of these are monies received from the Bureau of Land Management as the county's share of receipts from income off the O&C lands.

Others include various receipts and fees, and in all the non-tax receipts total \$3,212,762, Judge Keating said.

Commissioner L. G. Morthland pointed out that a large portion of the taxes collected inside the 6 per cent limitation are turned over by the county to other governmental units, over which the county has no real control.

Other Meetings Scheduled Later meetings of the group will hear city officials discuss tax problems of the cities of this area, and county assessment and appraisal officers discuss their duties in relation to the tax situation here.

Van Dyke explained the aim of the committee is to gain a broad background and picture of the entire situation before coming to any specific conclusions regarding taxation. A number of additional meetings will be held on a regular basis, he said.

Vehicle Registration Increases in Oregon

Salem — (U.P.) — Motor vehicle registration increased nearly seven per cent in Oregon in the first nine months of 1955. Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry said today.

There were 657,733 vehicles registered with the secretary of state compared with 615,096 during the first nine months of 1954.

Passenger cars totaled 575,027; busses, 1432, and trucks, 76,025.



Hank Girl Said Alive Three Weeks After Disappearing

Portland — (U.P.) — Two University of Oregon co-eds yesterday backed up testimony of Sally Irwin, 19, who told the Sherry Fong murder trial jury Wednesday that Diane Hank had been alive three weeks after her disappearance early in 1954.

Claudia Lee Dudley, Sweet Home, and Joyce Louise Larvik, Lebanon, said Miss Irwin had told them of seeing the Hank girl in a Portland store on Jan. 26, 1954.

A murder indictment against Sherry Fong accused the woman and her husband, Wey Him Fong, of murdering their 16-year-old part-time babysitter the night of Jan. 6, 1954.

The trial resumed yesterday afternoon at a 10 a. m. Multnomah County Circuit Judge Alfred P. Dobson ordered it suspended Wednesday to investigate Miss Irwin's surprise testimony.

The young witness yesterday under cross-examination by Howard Lonergan, deputy district attorney, admitted that a date book sought as evidence in the trial contained no direct reference to Miss Irwin's contact with Diane Hank.

The book, however, verified that Miss Irwin had had her foot treated by a Portland doctor on Jan. 26, 1954. The witness said she saw Diane while on her way to the doctor's office.

Plywood Mill Closes Due To Market Slump

Empire Plywood company at White City closed operations today because of a slump in the market price of sheathing.

The company, which normally employs about 47 men, will remain closed until some time in January.

The price drop in plywood sheathing may be partly attributed to overproduction and a regular seasonal slump, according to company officials.

Avalanche Knocks Out Lolo Pass Road Section

Portland — (U.P.) — A section of Lolo pass road, scenic route around the north side of Mt. Hood, has been knocked out by an avalanche from Sugarloaf mountain, Lloyd Olson, Mt. Hood forest supervisor said today.

The route was opened for the first time last summer but has been closed by snow. Olson estimated damage at \$6,000 and said repairs would have to wait until spring.

As possible causes, firemen listed a cigarette or a frayed electrical extension cord which extended under the chair to a table lamp.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 Industrials 482.72 up 1.33, 20 rails 165.45 up 0.17, 15 utilities 65.87 up 0.03, and 65 stocks 173.04 up 0.32.

Navy Diver Rescued After Being Trapped Eight Hours

Solomons, Md. — (U.P.) — A Navy diver recuperated today from the ordeal of being trapped for eight hours in frigid, pitch-black waters 130 feet below the surface of Chesapeake Bay.

Fellow divers succeeded after frequent setbacks in freeing Joseph T. Tallarico, 35, early Thursday night as he was about to collapse because of cold and pressure.

Lines Become Tangled Tallarico had become trapped at 11:15 a. m. (EST) when swift undercurrents tangled his lines around a dummy mine he was trying to recover. The mine contained scientific instruments and a photographic equipment used in underwater research by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in Washington.

But later he complained of cold and soreness and suffered sharply during the slow and painful ascent to the surface.

Stars and Stripes Flown as Proof Of U.S. Interest

Soviets To Be Held Responsible by West Berlin — (U.P.) — U. S. Ambassador James B. Conant drove defiantly into East Berlin flying the American flag from his car today, shortly after he had declared that "we will remain in Berlin" until it is reunified.

During a tour of this divided city, Conant drove far into the Communist-held sector showing the Stars and Stripes to give "visible proof of the continuing interest of the U. S. government in the welfare of this brave and important city."

Determination Reaffirmed After his drive in which he showed the flag, Conant held a news conference in which he reaffirmed the American determination to protect Berlin.

He repeated his statement that the West will hold the Soviets responsible for maintaining the present four power system in their sector despite East German defiance of occupations regulations.

Conant told a news conference in the divided city that the United States will "continue to hold the Soviets responsible for the proper treatment of U. S. nationals."

He said he traveled to Berlin from the Embassy at Bonn yesterday "to give visible proof of the continuing interest of the United States government in the welfare of this brave and important city."

Protests Delivered The ambassador said his presence in Berlin "further underlines" U. S. determination to remain in the city, a stand which was set forth in a stiff note Conant presented to Soviet Ambassador G. M. Puskin yesterday.

The note, similar in tone to notes presented by Britain and France, reaffirmed four power occupation of the entire city. It denied East German claims to control of the city by virtue of their "sovereignty" by insisting that Russia still is responsible for control of the Eastern sector.

Conant served notice today that the United States would not deal with the East Germans.

Fire Damages Home Here Early Today

An overstuffed chair was destroyed and the ceiling floor and a wall were damaged by fire this morning at the Charles Clifford Cowan residence, 509 Austin st.

Firemen said the fire alarm was their first in five days. They were summoned about 9:55 a. m. by a neighbor. Mr. and Mrs. Cowan were at work at the time.

In addition to the fire burning a hole in the floor under the chair, a hole in the wall beside it and another in the ceiling, heat damaged other furniture in the room, firemen reported. They said there was extensive smoke damage throughout the house.

On arrival, firemen were told there was a dog in the house. They found the animal under the bed. It was probably the only place the dog could have been and survived, according to firemen.

As possible causes, firemen listed a cigarette or a frayed electrical extension cord which extended under the chair to a table lamp.

The 20 divers who took part in the rescue were hampered by strong tides, and by the darkness at the depth where Tallarico was trapped.

When freed, Tallarico was brought slowly to the surface to prevent him from suffering an attack of the dread divers' disease known as "the bends," which results from a too-sudden change in pressure.

Smiles Despite Numbness The diver emerged from the chilled water smiling despite his numb arms and legs and told rescuers he was "glad to be out."

During the early hours of the ordeal he maintained good spirits.

But later he complained of cold and soreness and suffered sharply during the slow and painful ascent to the surface.