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WEATHER
FORECAST—Cloudy with intermittent light rain this morning; partly cloudy this afternoon, with increasing cloudiness and rain tonight and in the morning. High today 50; low tonight 36-38; high Monday 46-48.
Temp. Highest yesterday 47
Lowest yesterday 41
Precip. to 10:30 p.m. .14

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Stewart Explains Tax Increase In Jackson County

Some of the large increases in property taxes evident this year are the result of a shift in the tax load from personal to real property, Tax Commissioner Sam Stewart said here yesterday.

At a meeting of the legislative committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, Stewart said that real property in this county is being taxed at a higher proportionate rate than personal property, than is true elsewhere in the state.

'True Cash Value'
This is the case, he reported for the first time publicly, because real property in Jackson county has "true cash value" figured at 100 per cent of market value, as the result of what apparently was an innocent computing error in the county assessor's office. In other counties, "true cash value" is figured at 70 per cent of market value, under regulations of the state tax commission.

The legislature has ordered a gradual increase of this ratio to 100 per cent, but it was not to go to that figure until 1961. Instead, it went to 100 per cent in Jackson county this year, resulting in a disproportionate burden on real property as compared to personal property, which is figured at a different ratio, Stewart explained. The ratio will drop to 80 per cent here next year, he said, and will then be on a par with other counties.

Frank J. Van Dyke, committee chairman, stated that it is becoming increasingly evident to him and to committee members, in the course of their tax study, that there is no single cause for increased taxes this year.

Among the reasons the committee has found so far are increased levies in all or most taxing units of government; changes in assessments; a shift of the tax burden from utilities to other taxable property as a result of an equalization of the ratios under which utilities are taxed, and other factors, some of which may have only an indirect, but nonetheless noticeable, effect on taxes. He also pointed out that in some cases taxes have decreased.

Earlier in the meeting, Stewart discussed in general terms the reappraisal program conducted in the county by both state and county appraisers.

Properties Reappraised
He declared that more than 21,000 properties were reappraised during the project, and as a result, some of the "refinements" of appraisal techniques could not be used. In a mass project such as this, he stated, it is inevitable that some errors would be made.

"Appraisers are only human beings," he said, and pointed out, too, that the business of appraising is not standardized and formalized to an extent where appraisals are exact and uniform. Much of it remains simply a matter of individual judgment.

Some of the factors taken into consideration are improvements and replacement costs, depreciation, land values, sales, production studies, and other criteria, Stewart said. He cited examples of how values within the county are shifting as population grows and as land use changes.

Outmoded Appraisals
The commissioner also reported that some properties had not been appraised for 10, 20 or even 30 years, and had previously been taxed under these old and outmoded appraisals.

He said that it was known before the reappraisal job was undertaken that some inequities would result, but it is the hope that in the over-all picture the majority of inequities would be removed.

He encouraged those who feel errors have been made in appraisal or assessment of their properties to appear before the county board of equalization next spring to point them out, and said in many cases where errors were made, relief could be granted.

Examples Presented
Walter Jones, Medford real estate man and appraiser, agreed with many of Stewart's points, but maintained that as many as 30 per cent of the reappraisals have resulted in mistaken valuations and inequities—some of them one way and some the other. He cited a number of examples taken from his files, saying

Claim To One Acre Of Land On Moon Is Recorded In County

A "general quit claim deed to one acre of land on the moon" was filed in the county recorder's office Friday by Arnel Butler, 28 Barnesburg rd., for his four-year-old grandson, Charles Robert Wirkkula.

The acre, located on the northeast quadrant in the crater Copernicus, was deeded to the youngster by the Interplanetary Development corporation, The Little Museum, Nassau county, N.Y.

It cost \$1.
With the deed go mineral and oil rights, beach rights, access to the Sea of Tranquility, right to fish, dredge and clam in, upon and under the Sea of Nectar, as well as the right to engage in winter sports in the Lunar Alps.

The corporation describes itself as a "profit corporation dedicated to exploration of planets, public education, development of satellites and similar activities—also rockets."

The Butlers' grandson is spending several weeks with his grandparents. His mother, the former Ann Butler, is Mrs. J. W. Higinbotham, Pendleton.

Governor Patterson Urges Support Of Ike's Principals

Boise, Ida.—Gov. Paul Patterson of Oregon called on fellow Republicans Friday night to support the principles of President Eisenhower and his administration regardless of whether or not the president is a candidate for re-election next fall.

The Oregon governor spoke before the Boise "Salute to Eisenhower" dinner, one of 70 held simultaneously in principal cities throughout the nation as a testimonial to President Eisenhower's leadership and the third anniversary of his inauguration as president.

On the credit side of the Eisenhower administration, he listed more than \$10,000,000,000 pared from the national budget; removal of private controls; streamlining while strengthening national defense; halting of inflation and the transition for the first time in history from war to peace without a depression.

He said America faces the most prosperous era in the history of the country.
At Portland, Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield said the most dread disease that can infect a free people was that of "political apathy."

Summerfield addressed some 650 persons at a \$100-a-plate Republican dinner after President Eisenhower's closed circuit television speech.

Summerfield cited three objectives which he said Republicans must work for—integrity in government, political freedom for every citizen and expanding opportunity for every American.

President, George To Discuss Policy

Washington (U.P.)—President Eisenhower has invited Senator Walter George (D-Ga.) to the White House Monday to discuss the foreign policy.

The senator did not comment on the impending meeting but observers felt generally that the invitation was partly a presidential move to soften the intensity of Democratic attacks on Dulles.

The Democrats stepped up their attacks Friday, eliminating any doubt that foreign policy will be a major issue centered around Dulles.

The 42-man civilian crew manned gasoline pumps and righted the vessel through it listed severely when the collision gashed the starboard side below the water line.

Statement Claims Red China Holding 'Threat Of War'

Blames Communists For Progress Lack In Talks

Washington (U.P.)—The State Department accused Red China Saturday of holding "the threat of war" over the Far East in an effort to force the United States to abandon the defense of Formosa.

It also demanded that Red China make good on its "overdue" promise to release 13 American civilians still held in Communist prisons.

The department issued a caustic, 1,200-word statement blaming the Communists for lack of progress in the Far East peace talks which U.S. and Chinese ambassadors have been conducting at Geneva, Switzerland, since last fall.

The American blast was prompted by what the state department called a "misleading statement" about the Geneva talks issued last Wednesday by the Red Chinese ambassador, Wang Pin-Nan. Wang accused the United States of stalling in the negotiations. He said his country had offered to renounce use of force in international disputes, but would not include Formosa in such a declaration because it considers Formosa an internal Chinese problem.

Asserting "it is necessary that the record be set straight," the U.S. statement gave an account of the Geneva negotiations, including:

1. The United States has sought to remove "the threat of war" by proposing a formal agreement in which both countries would renounce use of force in the Far East, and "particularly" in the Formosa area.

2. Red China contended that Formosa is "Chinese territory" and that the United States therefore has no "right of defense" in that area. The state department said this seems to mean the Communists are "willing to renounce force only if they are first conceded the goals for which they would use force"—namely, forcing the United States to abandon the defense of the island now occupied by Chiang Kai-Shek's Chinese Nationalists.

While proclaiming these conditions absolutely "unacceptable" to this country, the department said to persist in the way of Peace. It made clear this country's readiness to continue the Geneva negotiations and said: "we shall seek with perseverance a meaningful renunciation of force, particularly in the Taiwan (Formosa) area."

Presented Plaque
George Milligan, chairman and founder of Mercy Flights, Inc., was presented with a plaque for outstanding contributions to safety by an individual during 1955.

Claude Hagard, a former award-winner himself, presented the honors. He had high praise for the Medford officers for their quick action, and to Milligan for long and continued inspiration and work toward saving lives through the non-profit air ambulance organization.

Other awards, for accomplishments in the field of safety, went to:

Ideal Cement company, Gold Hill, for outstanding achievement in safety for an industrial concern; to St. Mary's school and the Medford public schools, for safety patrol work and education; to Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association for communications work leading to the saving of lives; to the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce for the sponsorship of the annual Teen Age Roadade; and to three radio stations, television station and daily newspaper in Medford for cooperation in safety campaigns and programs.

120 Persons Attend
More than 120 persons attended the dinner, at which State Sen. Mark Hatfield, dean of students at Willamette university, was speaker. Hatfield commended Medford's unity in action in achieving an outstanding safety record, saying it was the putting into effect the "potential power of united action."

Hatfield pointed out that Medford schools have been on the safety honor roll of the National Safety Council for five years in a row, a record no other school system in Oregon can equal; that the Medford school record is 10th among the 468 cities in the 10,000 to 20,000 population class in the U. S.; and that if Medford's safety record were duplicated all over the nation, fatal accidents would be cut by two-thirds.

Responsibility Shared
Responsibility for this outstanding record can be shared by all Medford citizens, Hatfield declared, but he singled out the Safety Council, the school administration, the city administration, police and Mayor Earl Miller as deserving of particular praise.

The basis for a successful safety campaign is based on three things, he stated: understanding the facts, development of skills

BOMBAY RIOTS CONTINUE



WIN SAFETY HONORS—Three men were honored Friday night for individual accomplishment in the field of safety by the Medford Safety Council. George Milligan (right), chairman, founder and chief pilot of Mercy Flights, Inc., was awarded the council's plaque for outstanding individual contribution to the cause of safety in his work with the non-profit air ambulance corporation.

Two Medford police officers, Keith Gildesgard (left) and Robert Allen (center) were given a new award, the "Saved A Life" award presented because they each have saved the life of an accident victim through rapid and skilled application of first aid. Ten other awards were presented to various organizations and firms for their safety endeavors.—(Landis-Shangle photo.)

Wave Spreads To Calcutta; 23 Dead In Demonstration

Uprisings Against Boundary Revision

Bombay, India (U.P.)—New anti-government violence broke out in the Bombay area last night to end an uneasy lull in the five-day wave of rioting which has spread to Calcutta.

Police opened fire in three places to halt stone-throwing mobs and prevent arson and looting. At least five more persons were killed in the clashes bringing the day's death toll to 23.

Fresh uprisings were reported in Calcutta and other parts of eastern and southern India.

Defy City Curfew
A mob of 200 torch-bearing persons defied the city curfew by marching through the streets, tossing stones at police and passers-by. When they refused to disperse, police sprayed the streets with bullets and killed five persons and injured several others.

Another procession of 1,000 demonstrators broke up when police opened fire. There were no reported deaths, but many demonstrators were injured.

In the northern part of the city, police battled acid-throwing hoodlums. Many rioters were reported injured when police fired on the mob.

The new rioting brought the death toll for the five days to near 80. Two persons were shot to death earlier and 16 others succumbed to wounds received in past days.

2,200 Are Arrested
More than 500 persons have been injured, including some 100 policemen. Authorities reported that about 2,200 persons have been arrested.

Three persons died in Calcutta yesterday as a result of demonstrations. One woman was shot to death, and two men died from burns received when rioters set fire to a building.

There were mounting demands for the resignation of Premier Minister Jawaharlal Nehru among the frenzied mobs demonstrating against the government's plan to revise state boundaries.

Bombay Police Commissioner K. D. Bilimoria, who blamed the Communists for the riots, extended the darkness curfew until next Tuesday. The ban on the assembly of five or more persons was extended for two weeks.

Police were said to be under orders to "shoot to kill" at any violators of the emergency decrees. The government was reported considering using troops reinforcements for the Bombay area.

Calcutta Assembly
Some 10,000 men and women assembled in Calcutta last night and pledged a "fight unto death if necessary" to get the government to change its re-districting measures. If their demands are not met, their spokesmen warned, they will take actions "thrice as big as Bombay's."

Last night's meeting climaxed a daylong general strike in Calcutta and suburban areas which was called by leftists. The strike paralyzed normal business and transportation.

There were a few clashes at factories which refused to close. One woman was killed and several other persons injured when shooting broke out at one plant.

At the Raoli labor camp at Matunga, a suburb of Bombay, police opened fire four times on rioting mobs engaged in arson and looting. Two persons were killed and two others were wounded.

Jensen To Ask For Beef Buying Program

Washington (U.P.)—Rep. Ben E. Jensen (R-Ia.), said Saturday he will ask the administration at a White House conference Monday to start a beef buying program big enough to raise sagging cattle prices.

He said he also will ask the government to step up its current pork purchases sufficiently to give the hog market a big financial lift.

Rep. H. Carl Anderson (R-Minn.), said, meantime, that at a big GOP congressional conference with Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson on Wednesday he will call for an entirely new hog buying program to increase prices about 25 per cent.

Individuals, Groups Honored At Medford Safety Council Meeting

Three individuals and ten groups were honored for 1955 safety activities at the annual dinner meeting of the Medford Safety Council Friday evening.

Two Medford police officers were presented with "Saved A Life" awards, in recognition of their quick first aid action which averted death from seriously injured persons. They were Officers Keith Gildesgard and Robert Allen.

George Milligan, chairman and founder of Mercy Flights, Inc., was presented with a plaque for outstanding contributions to safety by an individual during 1955.

Claude Hagard, a former award-winner himself, presented the honors. He had high praise for the Medford officers for their quick action, and to Milligan for long and continued inspiration and work toward saving lives through the non-profit air ambulance organization.

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and habits, and the proper attitude. Without any one of the three, success cannot be fully achieved, he said.

And, ultimately, success in safety, as in any field, depends on the individual in a free society, Senator Hatfield stated—the individual who himself will take his share of responsibility for community problems and not try to shove it off on to "society."

Medford Shows Big Building Increase

December dollar volume of building was down 41 per cent from a year ago in the 47 largest Pacific northwest cities, according to a report by the combined Equitable Savings and Loan associations.

Medford construction, however, for December, 1955, totaled \$279,002, showing an increase of 194 per cent over December, 1954, when building totaled \$94,935.

The decline among most larger northwest cities resulted in home construction, with dollar volume off 65 per cent from the previous December and permits off 60 per cent.

Southern Oregon cities of Roseburg, Klamath Falls and Grants Pass were among cities showing a decline in building. Astoria, Baker, Oregon City and St. Helens showed an increase, along with Medford.

Divers Probe For Men After Bridge Falls

Hempstead, Tex. (U.P.)—Divers probed cautiously into a tangled mass of steel girders in the murky depths of the Brazos River Saturday for the bodies of five men believed killed when a bridge under construction collapsed.

Hope was all but abandoned that any of the missing men would be found alive.

The men, including a Texas highway engineer, were thrown into the river, along with seven other workmen, and believed pinned under 1,000,000 pounds of steel when a concrete pillar supporting the new span gave way Friday.

Seven of the 12 men swam to shore, or were pulled from the water by other workmen. Three were injured, two critically.

Hungarian Jet Planes Crash During Chase

Vienna (U.P.)—Two Hungarian Air Force jet fighters collided and crashed on Austrian territory Saturday while trying to force down two unidentified planes, Austrian police reported.

The pilot of one of the Soviet built MIG 15's parachuted to safety. Austrian police took him into custody. The other was killed when his plane exploded after it crashed.

The collision occurred over Pamhagen, a village on the Austro-Hungarian border 40 miles southeast of Vienna in the province of Burgenland.