

Oregon BLM Officials 'Obviously Hostile' To Al Sarena, Davis Testifies

Undersecretary Tells of Choice Of Mine Bureau

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Undersecretary of Interior Clarence A. Davis told congressional investigators Thursday that he selected the Bureau of Mines to gather new evidence of mineralization on the disputed Al Sarena claims because it appeared to him that officials of the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon were "obviously hostile" and "unfriendly" to the granting of patents to Al Sarena Mines, Inc.

Under questioning all afternoon, Davis said he had full confidence in the Bureau of Mines as a neutral agency to take ore samples for an umpire assay on which interior could settle the long dispute over 15 claims in Jackson county.

Quizzed by Neuberger

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, (D-Ore.), quizzed Davis at length about the procedure, asking these pointed questions:

Why did Davis not inform the forest service of this new effort to determine the mineralization of the claims, inasmuch as forest service had originally contested 15 of the firm's 23 claims in Rogue River National forest?

Davis said this would have served no useful purpose, for forest service "would have only come in with evidence of timber values and that was not material to the case."

If Davis had confidence in the bureau of mines, why did he restrict bureau officials by his instructions in which they were told to select an assayer agreeable to Al Sarena as well as themselves?

Officials Claim

Davis said Al Sarena officials had complained about the manner in which BLM had handled their patent application, that he thought it important to inspire confidence in them in their government by not simply telling them "This is the way it is going to be" but giving them a chance to help select an assayer whose that was mutually agreeable.

(This resulted in the selection of A. W. Williams Inspection Co. of Mobile, Ala., which the Bureau of Mines agreed to after Al Sarena objected to sending the samples to two west coast assayers suggested by M. E. Volin, then the bureau's mine division head at Spokane.)

Had he made any effort to check into the allegations made against BLM field officials by Al Sarena?

Record Cited

Davis said he had not and he neither believed nor disbelieved the allegations, but said he thought the record compiled in the case shows they were "unfriendly" to the granting of these patents.

Thursday's hearing blew up into a storm kicked off by Republicans who were indignant over a column and radio broadcast this week by Columnist Drew Pearson which suggested that President Eisenhower had interceded in the Al Sarena case by asking Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay to "please see what you can do about this."

Pearson had claimed that the committee files contained a letter, to Eisenhower from Lew Wallace, Portland insurance man and a Democrat, urging that the patents be granted to Al Sarena. The columnist said Eisenhower had scrawled across the letter, "Dear Doug—Please see what you can do about this."

Knowledge of Letter Denied

Amid heated debate among committee members about the freedom and the responsibilities of the press, and whether a committee staff member had leaked such a story to the columnist, both Undersecretary Davis and attorneys for the committee denied any knowledge of such a letter passed on to McKay from Eisenhower.

After the hearing adjourned, a search of interior files showed that interior had received a letter from Wallace dated June 1, 1953, bearing the panned salutation, "Dear Doug" and signed "Thanks, Lew" in which the Portlander complained that another interior official had been "giving my people a little double X." He did not identify the issue in dispute. The letter did not connect the President with the matter.

The only letter in the committee files involving Eisenhower, committee staff members said, was one received months after the Al Sarena decision had been rendered. It was from C. W. Powell of Overland, Mo., to the President, complaining about department's Al Sarena deci-

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



PORTLAND LIVESTOCK

Portland—(U.P.)—Cattle for week 3575. Choice-prime 1052 lb. fed steers \$29.50, low to average choice up to 1075 lb. \$19-19.50; good mostly \$16.50-18; mostly choice fed heifers \$18.25-19.50; good \$14.30-15.50; commercial \$13-14; canner-cutter cows \$7-9; shells down to \$5; utility cows \$9.50-11.50; utility bulls \$14-15; few \$13.50.

Calves for week 330. Choice vealers mostly \$24-27, prime to \$28.50; good \$20-23; utility down to \$11.50; good slaughter calves \$16-17.

Hogs for week 3060. U. S. No. 1 and 2 butchers 180-225 lb. \$15.50-15.75 late, top Monday \$14.50, heavier and lighter weights \$14-14.50; sows 300-350 lb. \$10-12.

Sheep for week \$1910. Choice \$19; good-choice \$17-18; utility down to \$15; culls down to \$12; good-choice above 70 lb. feeder lambs \$13-15; good-choice ewes \$5-6.

PORTLAND PRODUCE

Portland—(U.P.)—Eggs—To retailers: Grade AA large, 56-58c; AA medium, 46-50c; A large, 46-50c; A medium, 46-50c; A small, 41-47c; carton, 2-3c additional.

PORTLAND HAY, GRAIN

Portland—Wholesale Hay Prices: No. 2 green alfalfa, baled, f.o.b. Portland, \$61.50 ton.

Prices as reported by the USDA

Daily Weather Report

Sunset tonight 5:17 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 7:29 a.m.

FORECASTS

Medford and vicinity: Decreasing cloudiness with a few snow flurries along mountains this evening. Valley fog tonight and Saturday morning. Partly cloudy Saturday. Low tonight 28-30. High Saturday 45.

Western Oregon: Partly cloudy with a few showers tonight and Saturday. Light snow flurries extreme northern interior. Low tonight 26-36. High Saturday 45-45.

Northern California—Partly cloudy flurries in mountains tonight. Slightly cooler.

LOCAL DATA

TEMPERATURE: Mean yesterday 37, below normal 2.

Record high this date 64 in 1940. Record low this date 19 in 1937.

PRECIPITATION: 24 hours to midnight 12 in. Midnight to 10 a.m. 0.1 in. Total this month 5.87 inches, 3.76 above normal.

Total since Sept. 1, 21.51 inches. 11.04 inches above normal.

HUMIDITY: Lowest yesterday 67%, highest this a.m. 93%.

CITY

	High	Low	Prec.
Brookings	51	40	.80
Crater Lake	22	16	.46
Grants Pass	42	34	.37
Klamath Falls	34	13	.10
MEDFORD	42	32	.12
Portland	38	24	1.05
Seattle	38	27	.52
Spokane	26	21	.24
Yakima	28	20	.18
Eureka	52	40	.81
Red Bluff	34	41	.02
Sacramento	54	40	.13
San Francisco	58	53	.91
Los Angeles	57	54	3.42
Phoenix	68	52	.00
Denver	56	27	.11
Chicago	31	24	.11
Miami	73	33	.00
New York	34	23	.00
Washington, D.C.	33	22	.00

FIVE-DAY FORECAST
(Through Feb. 1)

Western Oregon—Quite cool at be-

Medford Firm Gets Warehouse Contract

Armin Richter and associates, 221 North Central ave., have been awarded a contract to construct a warehouse building here for Lumber Products, building material wholesaler.

The firm was awarded a negotiated contract based on its bid when bids were opened Dec. 29.

The building will be 100 feet square with tilt-up concrete walls, glue-lam beams in the roof, built-up roofing and overhead doors. Plans were prepared by Leslie E. Poole, Portland structural engineer.

Youth Is Extradited From California

Arthur R. Huff Jr., 19, Phoenix, was jailed by sheriff's officers yesterday following extradition from Butte county jail at Orville, Calif.

Officers said Huff admitted burglarizing the Phoenix grade school and the Talent club, Talent, Jan. 22. An undetermined amount of cash was taken from both places.

A charge of burglary not in a dwelling is pending against Huff.

AGED MATRON
East Kingston, N. H. —(U.P.)—When Albert E. Phillips and Mrs. Catherine Jeanette Lufkin were married here, the matron of honor was the bride's aunt, 98-year-old Mrs. Amelia Kennedy.

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Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

London—Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, supreme commander in Europe, in a warning against a sense of "false security" on the part of the West:

"The new people are not showing the needle like Joe Stalin, and the tendency is to lull us. They might well succeed if we are not awake and alert to the danger of assuming that this war potential is not increasing."

Fort Madison, Ia.—Police Capt. Franklin Simmons on turning in his bars and asking for demotion to patrolman:

"The \$10 difference a month in pay just don't make the job worth while, considering the added responsibility."

Baltimore, Md.—Dr. Paul Dudley White, heart specialist, on the growing danger of heart disease in the United States making it one of the most unhealthy countries in the world:

"It is striking persons, particularly of the male sex, at earlier and earlier ages, and it is quite common now to see men suffering from this ailment at 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of age."

New York—House Republican Leader Joseph W. Martin Jr., on whether Russia's new offers of foreign aid may be designed to lure this country into a disastrous speedup in foreign spending:

"We know we can defeat Communism in a military war, which we pray God will never come, but we must not be led into the trap of economic disaster through bankruptcy."

Hollywood—Prince Rainier III of Monaco, who will be married to actress Grace Kelly in April, on when the heir to Monaco's throne will arrive:

"I hope to have one but not necessarily in 1957."

Dugway, Utah—Dean C. J. Christensen of the University of Utah on experiments with the irradiation of food with rays from atomic ashes:

"This is the first innovation in 100 years in food preservation. If this process should increase the shelf life of fresh fruits, vegetables and meats by an appreciable amount it would have a tremendous economic value."

Portland—(U.P.)—A gunman held up a grocery store about 7:45 p.m. yesterday and escaped with \$65. It was Portland's 28th holdup since Nov. 1.

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Ben Franklin tells you how to come out ahead in 1956

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"Poor Richard's Almanac," 1757

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"For age and want save while you may,
No morning sun lasts a whole day."
"The Way to Wealth," 1760

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