

TORNADO DIPS INTO TEXAS TOWN

52nd Year

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Beck Repaid Union, Bookkeeper Claims

Money Said Not Advanced as Loan; Cousin Excused

Accountants Going Over Union Books

Washington — Teamsters bookkeeper Donald McDonald testified today that President Dave Beck took \$370,000 from his union but has repaid it in the past two weeks.

"At no time," McDonald told

Washington — Teamsters President Dave Beck refused today on grounds of possible self-incrimination to answer Senate Rackets Committee charges that he misused his union power and trust in "some 32 ways."

The Senate Rackets Committee, "was the money advanced as a loan."

Beck sat in the hearing room as McDonald testified. Before the session, the union president told newsmen:

"He has no intention of resigning as teamsters boss, and will run for reelection."

"But if the union decides his resignation would be in the best interest, he would give the matter 'serious consideration.'"

The committee called McDonald after excusing Norman J. Gessert, Mrs. Beck's cousin and erstwhile missing witness, for at least one day at request of his lawyer.

McDonald testified that Beck has repaid \$370,000 to the union in installments of \$200,000, \$20,000, \$50,000, and \$100,000 "within the last two weeks."

"At no time," he said, "was the money advanced as a loan."

McDonald testified that a team of accountants is going over the union's books to find out how much money Beck still has to return.

McDonald said the checks never were recorded as going to Beck. He said some were made out to a building contractor and some to "Los Angeles for promotion and expense."

"But Beck received the benefit of the checks," Sen. Carl Curtis (R-Neb.) asked.

"Yes."

The committee has charged that Beck stole more than \$322,000 from union treasuries before early 1954, and that he only claimed that it was a loan—and began replacing it—when tax investigators got on his trail.

McDonald said that for eight years he has kept the books of the 11-state Western Conference of Teamsters, which Beck headed before 1953. Since sometime in 1950, McDonald said, he has also kept the books of the Joint Council 28 Building Association, a subsidiary teamsters unit to which Beck made his repayment.

Records of the Western Conference and the Building Association have been destroyed. McDonald testified, however, that no loans to Beck were carried on those books from 1949 to 1953.

Parking Meter Time Limits Are Being Readjusted Here

City crews are now at work readjusting the time limits of about 50 parking meters in downtown Medford from 12 to 30 minutes, according to Vern Thorpe, public works director.

Rates on the former 12-minute meters will be adjusted to 5 cents for 30 minutes and 10 cents for an hour, Thorpe said. The work is scheduled for completion Monday.

The new parking meter ordinance recently adopted by the city council also will change meter operation hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The change in meter operation hours will affect all 650 parking meters in Medford, Thorpe said. They will be changed by Monday.



PRACTICES 50 YEARS—Medford Dentist, Dr. Frank Roberts, second from left, is shown above receiving an award for 50 years continuous practice in dentistry. The award was made by Dr. Paul Kunkel, left, president of the Oregon State Dental Society, at a meeting of the society's southern Oregon district at the Rogue Valley Country Club Tuesday night. Dr. Roberts, 78, first came to Medford in 1900, and after graduating from dental

school at St. Louis, Mo., returned to Medford to set up his dental practice. He has practiced here ever since with the exception of four years spent in Myrtle Creek. Roberts' two sons, William and Frank, right, also are dentists. William has his practice in the same office as his father and Frank has an office of his own. Dr. W. W. Walker of Grants Pass received an award for 47 years continuous practice in dentistry at the district meeting.

County Budget To Be Signed Today; Public Hearing Set

Signing of the Jackson county budget for 1957-58 is scheduled today.

County court members said that they will not delay the signing any longer although they have not received a legal opinion from Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton concerning a fund of \$12,500 set aside for operation and maintenance of the juvenile detention home.

They stressed that the signing of the budget at this time did not mean that the budget couldn't be changed at a latter date.

Public Hearing Set

The law allows changes to be made in public hearing. Date of the public hearing for the county budget has been set for June 17 at 10 a.m. in the county court.

The legal question arose on whether the fund for the detention home may remain as labeled in the budget until the building is completed which is expected sometime after September or whether it must go into the general county fund.

Commissioner Chester Wendt said that if the present labeling of the fund is found improper by the attorney general's opinion, it may be changed at the public hearing.

Total proposed budget for 1957-58 is \$2,990,446.72.

New York — Sid Caesar, an NBC-TV top banana for nine years, has been dropped by the network.

House Caught Up in Congressional Trend To Reduce Spending

Washington — The congressional economy drive today caught up, in a small way, with Congress itself.

The House Appropriations Committee, which has been dealing out cuts averaging 7 per cent against the record high budgets of the government's executive agencies, reduced by about 2.7 per cent next year's spending plans of the House itself.

Fresh Evidence

Small as it was, amounting to only \$2,208,343, the recommended curtailment came as fresh evidence that the congressional economy drive was rolling unchecked, despite a stern warning from President Eisenhower against unwarranted cuts.

In the face of the President's press conference comments on the dangers of "trifling" with the national defense, House defense experts clung to their \$2,500,000,000 cut in Eisenhower's request for new defense funds.

Rep. George H. Mahon (D-Tex.), chairman of a House appropri-

ations subcommittee, said as far as he knew no effort will be made to reconsider the group's tentative \$2,500,000,000 cut in the defense budget.

President Thought Right

"I think the President is absolutely right in opposing rash, indiscriminate reductions," Mahon said. "Whatever cuts are made by our subcommittee will be designed to improve efficiency and economy of our military forces."

A Republican subcommittee source expressed hope Eisenhower and other administration leaders will go slow in condemning the reported cut until they know its details.

This source confirmed earlier reports that much of the recommended defense slash is in the nature of deferrals, transfers and other bookkeeping devices and does not represent actual savings.

The President, who warned Tuesday night of "terrible consequences" from any "material" cut in his \$36,200,000,000 defense budget, told his news conference Wednesday he could "not see" how an "honest" cut of such magnitude could be made.

Council May Call Hearing on Rezoning

The Medford city council tonight will consider calling for a public hearing on a proposal to annex to the city of Medford 12.6 acres north of Jackson st. and east of Biddle rd. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the city hall.

The area proposed for annexation is a portion of 28.3 acres owned by Dr. I. D. Phipps. The remaining 15.7 acres is already inside the city limits.

The 28.3-acre area is being considered for a site of a new Sears Roebuck and company store, according to Mark Goldy, Medford broker. The planning commission recommended to the council the area be annexed at a meeting earlier this week.

In other business the council will consider adopting a new municipal liquor control ordinance. The proposed ordinance, patterned after a model ordinance prepared by the League of Oregon Cities, would provide for various phases of liquor control to be all under one ordinance.

Eugene — Voters in Eugene and two large residential suburbs will decide on annexation of the two areas to the city in special balloting today.

New Threat Looms Over Suez Canal; Egypt Raps Ike

France To Seek UN Order for Compliance

By UNITED PRESS

A new crisis was blowing up today over the Suez Canal. Israel reaffirmed its right and determination to use the International Waterway while Egyptian officials repeated their determination to halt any Israeli ship and blamed President Eisenhower for "encouraging Israel."

Statement Attacked

Egyptian newspapers attacked the Eisenhower statement today and said "it is really to be regretted that when conditions are beginning to stabilize, America should encourage an Israeli move which may result in world conflagration."

France today requested a meeting of the United Nations Security Council Monday to seek an order for Egypt to comply with the six principles approved by the council and agreed to by the government of President Gamal Abdel Nasser last October. Britain today announced it would support the French demand.

Egypt has contended the Anglo-French invasion of Suez last November nullified Cairo's acceptance of the principles, which provided for the "insulation" of the canal from politics.

Principles Remain Valid

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, however, told a press conference today that the principles remain valid until revoked by the Security Council.

In London, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan faced a Labor party vote of censure tonight on his government's decision to use the canal on terms laid down by Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Israeli Foreign Minister Golda Meir today reaffirmed Israel's rights to use the Suez Canal and said, "we shall defend our rights by all the means at our disposal."

However highly placed Israeli sources said Israel has acceded to a request from President Eisenhower not to launch a test ship through the canal in the near future. Previously Israel was expected to test the blockade "very soon."

Ashland Man Killed In Accident Here

Richard Ray Cox, 29, of 343 Patterson st., Ashland was killed in an accident at Elk Lumber company's unloading dock about 9:02 p.m. yesterday.

Jackson County Coroner Carlos Morris said Cox had pulled his truck into the unloading area, and was unhooking binding chains. As he removed the last chain, three logs rolled off the truck onto him, Morris said.

Cox was employed by Carroll Smith of Ashland.

He is survived by his wife and three children.

Ashland mortuary is in charge of funeral arrangements.

18 Mangled Bodies Located in Ruins; Houses Blown Away

At Least 80 Hurt; Eight Said Critical

Silverton, Tex. — A tornado descended upon the sleeping town of Silverton late Wednesday night like an exploding cloud of red sand and 18 mangled bodies were recovered today from ditches and under piles of wreckage.

Sheriff John Lanham said at least 80 were injured. Eight of these were in critical condition.

"My man up there tells me he has seen and counted 18 bodies and identified them at least to the extent of probable age," Highway Patrol Capt. J. W. Blackwell said at his district headquarters in Amarillo. "He says there are other bodies he has just not been able to get to yet."

"It looks like 19 or 20 dead is about right."

Like Red Sand

"It dipped and popped and looked like red sand boiling and rumbling when it hit," Mrs. Billy Stevens said. "It looked like a real low cloud that had a belly on it and then it began moving through town."

The tornado was one of at least a dozen that rumbled around over the Texas Panhandle Wednesday night, injuring at least six other persons and shattering homes and barns at scattered points.

Twenty-five homes were destroyed in Silverton, a town of about 850 residents. Fifteen more were badly damaged and another 15 slightly damaged. A cotton gin was destroyed, along with four grain elevators and a barracks that in cotton picking season houses Mexican workers.

Lumber, Furniture Scattered

The tornado disgorged pieces of lumber and furniture from the homes it wrecked for a mile around. There was nothing except the foundation left of some homes. Five members of one family were reported killed.

United Press Correspondent Tom Higley said six bodies were loaded into one pickup truck. The dying and injured were parceled out to hospitals in nearby towns.

Dr. C. H. Black said he had treated 50 or 60 persons, all covered with mud and suffering from shock, head injuries and cuts.

Blackwell's figure of 58 injured evidently included only those in serious enough condition to be kept in hospitals.

Other Areas Hit

The tornado hit the southwestern part of the town's residential section. Higley said it looked as if the funnel smashed squarely upon five houses in a row. There was nothing left of them but the foundations.

Before the tornado descended on Silverton, it touched down at Lockney, about 17 miles to the southeast, injuring a woman and two children.

The tornado roared into Silverton long after an alert had been sounded in the Panhandle, but residents went to bed at the usual hour and were trapped when their homes crashed upon them.

The rash of tornadoes kept Panhandle residents in near panic. One tore down seven houses in the community of Goldston and another damaged five in a rural area five miles west of the city of Clarendon.

Still another hit Plains, a town on the western side of the Panhandle, destroying a home and two business houses.

Rogue River Man Hurt In Sawmill Accident

James Melvin McDonald, 25, of Rogue River, was injured early this morning while working as head sawyer at DeArmond Brothers Mill at Rogue River.

Hearing on Speed Of Trains May Be Requested by City

A resolution requesting the Oregon Public Utilities commissioner to hold a hearing regarding the speed of trains in Medford will be presented to the city council at its 7:30 p.m. meeting today.

The speed with which trains travel through Medford was brought to public attention by two recent accidents at railroad crossings in which persons were killed.

City Attorney Roy Bashaw told a Medford Safety Council committee yesterday afternoon that the resolution not only would concern the speed of trains, but also other safety features at railroad crossings deemed necessary by the PUC for public safety.

Discuss Possible Action

Bashaw and Acting City Manager Vernon Thorpe discussed possible action to reduce the accident potential at crossings

within the city with the Safety Council committee, which was appointed to investigate the matter.

Bashaw said the PUC could order more effective safety precautions at crossings if it found the situation warranted it. He added that the city can only make requests for an investigation and hearing, and suggest speeds for trains traveling through the city.

Claude Haggert, safety director at California Oregon Power company, pointed out that the 11th st. crossing is among the more dangerous since the railroad does "flying switching" in the area. He cited examples where boxcars have crossed 11th st. unattended and without lights at night.

He noted that at times while switching is being conducted a flagman is stationed at the crossing motioning traffic to proceed when conditions allow. But this is not always satisfactory, he commented.

The committee also discussed ways of preventing "crying wolf" signals at crossings. "Crying wolf" is the term when signals continue to sound at crossings when no train is near the crossing.

Haggert noted that such a condition exists at crossings south of Sixth st., and is especially bad at 11th st. Police Chief Charles Champlin noted that on several occasions trainmen park a train between Main and 11th sts. and go to dinner while signals at 11th st. are sounding.

The committee noted that with reduced speeds through Medford, a train would not require a great distance in which to stop and signal switches could be installed closer to crossings, eliminating some "crying wolf" conditions while switching is being done.

The committee believed something should be done about "flying switching" at crossings, but Bashaw pointed out there are no regulations governing that type switching at present. Bashaw said he discussed "flying switching" with a representative of the PUC yesterday morning.

Dr. William J. Thompson is chairman of the Safety Council committee, and other members besides Haggert include Aubrey Loper, president of the council, and Leo Sevcik, state drivers license examiner.

Phoenix District Approves Budget

Phoenix — Voters in Phoenix school district 4 yesterday approved a 1957-58 budget totaling \$365,815. The vote was 110 in favor and 80 against.

The levy will be \$246.863. The present year's budget is \$338,732.

The budget includes funds to provide necessary classroom facilities for an anticipated increase in enrollment, which will require hiring two more teachers.

Some of the increase in next year's budget is for bond payments and interest, which was paid from excess O and C funds allotted to the district by the county last year. The funds are not available this year, school officials noted.

General operating and maintenance is generally the same as this year's budget, officials said.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit 2 8 0

Boston 1 5 0

Bunning and House; Porterfield, Delock (9) and White.

Weather

FORECAST: Fair through Friday. Low tonight 45. High Friday 78. Temp.

Last Quarter 10:15 p.m.

PROMINENT STAR

Arcturus, high in south 10:45 p.m.

VISIBLE PLANETS

Saturn, low in southeast 10:08 p.m.

Mars, sets 10:13 p.m.

Jupiter, high in southwest 10:09 p.m.



Benson Denounces House Move To Kill Multi-Billion Dollar Soil Bank Program

Washington — Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson today denounced the House move to kill the multi-billion dollar soil bank program next year as "false economy ... without justification."

Benson said the House had "prejudged" the program's acreage reserve section on a "partial evaluation" of its 1936 operation.

More Surpluses Seen

He said the program was intended to cut down on price depressing surplus crops, but there is "every likelihood" the surpluses will pile up farther if the House action stands.

His statement was released while Benson was testifying be-

fore the House Agriculture Committee to renew his plea for legislation to let him set farm price supports at lower levels.

His office said that because of "recent legislative developments" "presumably the House decision, Benson and his wife have canceled a trip they planned to make to South America starting next Wednesday."

Vote Eliminates Authority

The House voted Wednesday 192 to 187 to eliminate authority for 1958 acreage reserve program and reduce the long-range conservation reserve section of the soil bank from \$450 to \$250 billion annually. Farmers receive government payments for

taking farmland out of corn, cotton, wheat, rice and tobacco production and placing it in the so-called acreage reserve.

Costs Seen Greater

If the soil bank acres of these crops are "forced back into production" next year, Benson said, the cost of price supports probably will "be greater than would have been the cost of an acreage reserve for 1958."

He conceded that the soil bank approved by Congress last year as a \$1,200,000,000 a year program for four years, is "temporarily expensive." But he said it would save money for taxpayers eventually if permitted to continue.