



COUNCIL TESTIMONY — Dr. William J. Thompson, right, reads a statement prepared by the Medford Safety Council at the hearing this morning on regulating train speeds in Medford. Seated at tables in the city council chambers are, left to right: L. R. Smith, division superintendent, Southern Pacific rail-

Witness Expected To Testify On Crossing Accident Reports

Two witnesses were called by the city this morning in a public hearing before examiners of the Public Utilities Commission on the regulation of train speeds in Medford.

Claude C. Haggard, 405 J st., was on the stand first, followed by Dr. Mary Jane Fowler, 49 Valley View dr. The hearing was recessed one hour at 12:30 p.m.

Examiners were expected to call one witness this afternoon to present an analytical report of grade crossing accidents, compiled by the utilities commission for 12 Oregon cities, covering 1938 to 1956.

The hearing was held at the request of the city. City Attorney E. R. Bashaw explained that there are nine grade (street level) railroad crossings in Medford, and that the city has more accidents per grade crossing than any other city in the state.

Edwin L. Graham, Portland attorney, represented Southern Pacific. In his opening statement, Graham said he has had no defense case... and have had no advice as to what anyone thinks is a solution to any problem.

Southern Pacific did not intend to present a case, but explain its position where necessary, Graham indicated.

A statement was heard from the Medford Safety Council, represented by Dr. William J. Thompson.

The paper cited "complete lack of uniformity of audio-visual warning devices... bells and signaling devices that cry wolf... the practice of making drop switches across grade crossings... restriction of vision at crossings" as present hazards.

The council recommended that safe warning and traffic control devices be installed, that a 10 mile per hour maximum speed be set for trains within the city limits, and that the Eleventh st. crossing be closed.

Haggard related four observations made by him since June 28, each illustrating claimed hazards at the Eleventh st. grade crossing. These entered the record as exhibits.

Haggard also told of two incidents on the Eleventh st. crossing which he and his family had "extremely close calls" in the family auto. One involved a "flying switch" of a boxcar, the other the approach of a train engine without a light from a side track Haggard said.

Dr. Fowler was on the stand about two and one half hours, testifying on behalf of the safety committee of the Jackson County Medical Society.

She presented a cardboard poster exhibit, with attached pictures of all Medford grade crossings. She described alleged hazards at crossings, from visual obstructions or inadequate signal devices.

At one point, she called Bruce West, 18-year-old son of Dr. D. Kirkland West, 52 Ross Court, to the stand. West was a passenger in an auto which was struck by a train Dec. 1, 1950.

He said he received "no serious injuries" from the incident. Dr. Fowler presented a resolution and ordinance of Vancouver, Wash. The ordinance controlled train speeds in Vancouver, and allowed none over 10 miles per hour.

She asserted that an underpass had been installed on Twelfth st. in Salem, with city, state and railroad each paying one-third the cost.

This was in connection with her committee's recommendation that an underpass be installed at Medford's 10th st., and that the Eleventh st. crossing be closed.

Other recommendations were: install electric gates and cantilevers at all grade crossings; limit train speeds in city limits to 10 miles per hour; ban all "flying switching" inside the city; and close Clark st. grade crossing.

Graham cross-examined Dr. Fowler as to the pertinence of Vancouver and Salem railroad problems to the local situation. Referring to the Salem underpass, he said "I don't think it is the same problem at all."

Representing the Public Utilities commission at the hearing were David Don, chief engineer; C. E. Jaqua, railroad engineer; W. A. Straw, assistant engineer; and Irving Allen, attorney.

The committee called Hoffa for questioning about many things, including charges that he enlisted hoodlum Johnny Dio to help set up seven phony locals with a view to seizing control of all teamsters in New York City.

Hoffa read a statement in which he said he would refuse to answer questions he considered outside the committee's authority.

Committee Chairman John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) hinted that such a course might get Hoffa in contempt trouble. The witness did not, however, challenge the committee's authority in the early rounds of questioning.

At one point, Hoffa admitted he once was accused of extorting more than \$7,500 from grocers and butchers. He said the charge was reduced to a "simple misdemeanor." "The case was settled on a 'misdemeanor plea,'" and he returned the money.

Under questioning, he admitted he had been arrested "about 17 times" but convicted only three times.

Names in stories he listed as approving of for legality before publication included John Carroll, Alan Dale, Eddie Fisher, Corrine Calvert and, for the first time mentioned in the trial, Elvira Presley.

Court opening was delayed half an hour as attorneys wrestled over some undisclosed legal point before Superior Judge Herbert Walker.

The San Francisco Bay Area was pictured as a hot bed of the "girlie" magazine publishing industry in evidence introduced by Crowley in his attempt to prove "obscenity" is all the way you look at it.

Crowley also brought into the trial as evidence a copy of James Jones' "From Here to Eternity." His intention was clear: To show that newsstands and bookshops already are filled with material he claims pales Confidential stories.

Just before court reconvened, the prosecution jubilantly claimed it had "trapped" the Confidential defense attorneys into picturing actress Maureen O'Hara in the arms of a lover when actually she was 6,000 miles away.

Defense attorney Arthur Crowley challenged the prosecution to call Miss O'Hara and have her testify under oath where she was when the scandal magazine said she was cuddling in the arms of a "Latin lover" in a Hollywood movie theater.

Crowley also demanded to see the "proof" of her whereabouts — the passport the Irish-born actress showed the press Monday. It bore customs' office stamps putting her in Europe over the period when the defense says she was petting in a theater.

Sports Bulletin Sacramento, Calif. — Sue DeVoie of Medford, Ore., won her second round match in the U.S. Women's Amateur tournament today by defeating Leila Fisher of La Jolla, Calif., 4 and 3.

Miss DeVoie was six over par for the match. She meets Ann Quast of Seattle in a third-round match Wednesday.

The Oregon Shakespearean Festival, which established America's first Elizabethan theater, is the pioneer among these organizations. It was founded in 1935, and was instrumental in the beginning of the great revival of interest in

Shakespearean production that is now sweeping the world. Photos and text on the Ashland organization will include one large color photo depicting the "Feasting of the Tribe of Will," the opening night banquet in Lithia Park. The scene shows hundreds of the celebrants that dined in Lithia Park prior to the play. Two black and white pictures will also be printed, showing a comparative rehearsal and performance scene from "As You Like It." Depicted are David O'Brien and Muriel Eisenberg members of the 1957 acting company.

On the date of release, the Festival will also be featured coast-to-coast on Life Magazine's NBC radio show, "Life and the World." Producing Director Angus L. Bowmer will be interviewed.

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Mrs. Hoffa Owned Companies to Lease Trucking Equipment

Teamsters' Official Testifies to Group

Washington — James R. Hoffa, crown prince of the Teamsters Union, told the Senate Rackets committee today that his wife owned companies which leased equipment to truckers with labor trouble.

Hoffa said under questioning that the wife of Bert Brennan, another teamsters official who is associated with Hoffa, also held part of the stock.

He said the first president of one of the firms was James Wrape, a St. Louis attorney for a trucking company which rented Mrs. Hoffa's trucks.

The cocky heir apparent to the teamsters presidency insisted, however, "I did not set up, nor did I run, nor have the stock of Test Fleet," the business owned by Mrs. Hoffa and Mrs. Brennan.

He said the Test Fleet did not hire drivers but leased trucks to a Flint, Mich., firm called Commercial Carriers, which hauled automobiles from factory to dealer. Commercial Carriers hired the drivers under a standard area wide contract with the Teamsters Union, he said.

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Soviets Plan Sub Base

Benson Would Meet With Humphrey to Discuss Affairs

Subpena Not Needed, Secretary Declares

Washington — Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson said today he would be "glad" to discuss department affairs with Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.).

Humphrey has threatened to subpoena Benson to testify before the Senate Reorganization subcommittee on reports that he has been exercising a veto over Rural Electrification administration loans.

Benson said he didn't think a subpoena would be necessary. "I've never refused to meet with any committee or to meet privately with any member of Congress," Benson said at a news conference, his first since June 25.

Humphrey has been trying for several weeks to get Benson to testify before the subcommittee. Benson returned to Washington last week after a 50-day absence.

Benson said he wrote Humphrey, dated today, informing him that he would be "glad to visit with you" when REA Administrator David A. Hamil returns to Washington. Hamil is now on a field trip and is expected back in Washington on Labor Day week end.

Benson also told Humphrey he had declined to appear before the subcommittee "when my schedule will permit." He added that there are no facts within his knowledge which could not be testified to by other officials of the department.

Benson told his news conference there has been no reorganization of the REA despite the fact that Hamil must now clear loans of more than \$500,000 with Kenneth L. Scott, director of Agricultural Credit services.

Benson, explaining his long absence, said he had been inspecting the forest service since June 26 and that from Aug. 1 to Aug. 13 he was on vacation.

As for the REA, Benson said the shearing of Hamil's authority was done "to achieve full coordination of all REA activities." He said there had been a tight budget situation, a greater request for REA loans, and the problem of low interest rates.

Time Re-scheduled On Public Hearing

The public hearing before the Public Utilities Commission on California-Pacific Utilities company requested rate increase will convene at 3 p.m. tomorrow in City Hall here and be recessed until 5:30 p.m., a PUC spokesman said at noon today.

This is to give those who cannot appear earlier a chance to attend the hearing, it was explained. Other hearings regarding the rate increase are scheduled for Klamath Falls city hall, Thursday, and the Roseburg police and fire station Wednesday.

If granted, the increase would mean a raise in rates to all customers receiving gas service in the company's southern Oregon division.

The major had already begun his descent when the wind gust gave his flight new life. Simons said it was "really spectacular" to watch a lightning show from above. He also was impressed by the "vast expanse" of the sunrise from that high up.

Pendleton — A 1,200-acre fire that destroyed grazing land, timber, brush and stubble 25 miles northeast of here Monday had been mostly brought under control Monday night, officials said, but 500 acres were expected to burn throughout the night.



SETS ALTITUDE RECORD—Maj. David G. Simons (left) an Air Force doctor, has soared to nearly 21 miles into the sky to set a new manned balloon altitude record. Major Simons is shown adjusting his helmet prior to takeoff from an open pit iron mine near Crosby, Minn. On the right is the launching of an unmanned balloon from the same location last summer.

Balloon Carrying Air Force Doctor Starts Descent From Record

Minneapolis — A balloon carrying an Air Force doctor finally headed toward earth today after a record-breaking flight in the heavens.

Air Force officials said Maj. David Simons started his descent at 9:15 a.m. (PDT) after more than 26 hours aloft. Simons had reportedly completed the tests and experiments in his pressurized capsule.

An Air Force spokesman said tracking crews were not certain of the area where Simons would land. Weather conditions were unsteady.

"He has a lot of cloud coverage to break through yet," the spokesman said.

Slight Variation Any slight variation in the winds could make a considerable difference in where he lands.

Simons had soared to a record altitude for a manned-balloon flights during his space voyage. Air Force officials said they believed his descent would take about three or four hours.

Col. John W. McCurdy of the Air Force said that after the landing Simons might have time for a brief chat with newsmen at the landing point and then would be whisked away for 24 hours. McCurdy said that after his sleep, Simons would hold a news conference, but that this probably would not be held until Thursday.

An Air Force spokesman said Simons reported the winds had also boosted his balloon to an altitude of 96,000 feet, and he said it was still rising.

"Because of the opportunity to complete extra tests and experiments," the spokesman said, "Major Simons has been allowed to remain up."

Weather Factor Officials, however, were uncertain when Simons would begin his descent. "There is still a weather factor involved," the spokesman said. Should turbulent weather threaten to imperil the landing, Simons would be ordered down immediately.

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Evidence Mounts Of Intention for Station in Syria

Move Would Lessen 6th Fleet Effect

By WALTER LOGAN United Press Correspondent Official quarters in London said today there was mounting evidence the Soviet Union intends to establish a submarine base in the Middle East as a follow-up to its victory in Syria.

A Soviet submarine base in Syria, or one controlled by Russia, would outflank the Baghdad pact powers, lessen the effectiveness of the U.S. 6th Fleet and would change the strategic picture in the Mediterranean.

The reports coincided with growing fears in the Arab world itself that the Soviets were becoming too well entrenched. Mideast reports said Syrian President Shukri El Kuwaty was being approached for a "last resort" Arab conference to try and halt the Soviet advance.

Unconfirmed rumors circulating in Beirut, Lebanon, said the Soviet was pouring in technicians and civilians to speed the "take-over" of Syria. There was no confirmation of these reports in official quarters.

In Cairo, the government newspaper Al Gomhuria reported Syrian officers had trained in Poland to operate two Russian submarines being turned over to Syria by the Soviet Union under their arms pact deal.

West Will Meet Egypt recently received three submarines from the Soviets, but Al Gomhuria noted this was not the same type of agreement reached in Moscow by Syrian Defense Minister Khaled Elazm.

United Press correspondent K. C. Thaler reported in London that the NATO pact allies were expected to confer in Paris on this new threat to NATO and the Baghdad nations—Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Britain and Pakistan.

British and American diplomats already were conferring on the new threat, but Washington dispatches indicated the administration had come to the reluctant conclusion it could do nothing because the Eisenhower doctrine is not applicable in the Syrian case.

Al Gomhuria said the Syrian submarine officers first attended at Alexandria then went on to Poland to learn how to handle the submarines.

Rift Appears Healed The Cairo press meanwhile used a surprisingly mild tone toward the western powers in urging them to adopt a "conciliatory attitude" toward the Syrian-American crisis.

The Cairo newspapers also hinted that the split between Jordan and Egypt would end soon and that Jordan would reopen its Cairo embassy Sept. 2. The embassy was closed after Jordan accused Egypt of plotting political assassinations in Amman.

Report of Plane Crash Being Checked by Dunn Salem — Bob Dunn, assistant director of the State Bureau of Aeronautics, said today he was checking a report that wreckage of a light plane had been found in the Cascade mountains near the Three Sisters.

The picking of Bartlett pears will finish this week, according to C. B. Cordy, county horticulture agent, with the first of the D'Anjou pears scheduled to be picked Wednesday. Full scale picking of the D'Anjou crop will be next week, Cordy said.

A good crop of D'Anjou, not as large as last year, but still above average is reported by Cordy. He said that the Bartlett crop was well under last year's but the fruit size was good. He added that cullage was heavy due to frost marks.

The agent said that the Bartlett were picked in good season with the majority of the crop in cold storage awaiting shipment East.

Peaches will be picked in a few orchards this week with the major crop being picked next week.

McKinstry Resigns As City Engineer

E. N. McKinstry has submitted his resignation as Medford city engineer.

A letter submitted the resignation was given to City Manager Robert Duff yesterday. McKinstry stated that he has accepted a position as public works director and city engineer at North Bend.

McKinstry has been city engineer for Medford since November, 1948. His residence is 744 Dakota ave.

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"All Right, Men—Just Sing 'Auld Acquaintance' And Walk Right Through"



Weather FORECAST — Variable high clouds through Wednesday. Low 51, high Wednesday near 80. TEMPERATURE Highest Yesterday 88 Lowest this Morning 50 Our Skies Tonight Sunrise 5:23 a.m. Sunset 7:06 p.m. Moonrise Wednesday 1:05 a.m. PROMINENT STARS Fomalhaut, low in southwest, 9:56 p.m. Antares, low in southwest, 10:05 p.m. VISIBLE PLANETS Venus and Jupiter, low in west, 7:55 p.m. Saturn, above Antares.