

Cost of Living Increases To Record Peak; Work in Oregon Picking Up

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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Candidates Have Eight Days to File for Posts

Deadline Is 5 p.m. Friday, March 7

Only eight days remain for candidates to file for election to county and state offices. The deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, March 7.

Only offices to be voted on in Jackson county which so far have no candidates are one of two seats in the Oregon legislature and state senator. Offices in which no contest has as yet developed are for coroner, district judge, circuit judge (position No. 3) and one state representative seat. Candidates who have announced for these are Frank Perl for coroner, a Republican, City Attorney Roy Bashaw for district judge, Edward C. Kelly for circuit judge, and O. H. Bengtson for representative, a Republican.

Most sought-after post is that of sheriff, with three Republican candidates, Joe Walsh, Vern Smith and Ralph A. Larson, and two Democratic candidates, Raymond R. Koch and Larry Sheehan.

For commissioner, the Republican candidate is the incumbent, Chester Wendt, and the Democrats are Franklin (Jere) Girard of Ashland and Frank Christian of Talent.

For county clerk, Mrs. Bereth Hopkins is seeking reelection on the Republican ticket, and Mrs. Nita Zumwalt is so far unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

Three men seek position No. 1 on the circuit bench. They are District Judge James M. Main and Medford attorneys Robert D. Dames and Manville Heisel.

State Representative Robert Duncan, a Democrat, and State Sen. Philip B. Lowry, a Republican, have not yet announced their plans. Both terms of office expire this year.

\$1,713 Collected In Sunday Drive

Heart fund contributions totaling about \$1,713, were collected by volunteers in the march Feb. 23 for Heart Sunday, according to Mrs. Manville Heisel, chairman.

A total of \$1,200 was collected in the 1957 drive. Although Heart Sunday is a major event of the annual Heart fund campaign, the 28-day drive does not end until Friday, John G. Crawford, general chairman, reported.

Plastic heart cards and containers until March 1. Crawford also stated that contributions may still be mailed to Dwight Houghton, United States National bank, or to "Heart" in care of the postmaster.

A boxing card of 12 matches and four curtain-raiser has been scheduled Saturday, March 15, in the armory with proceeds going to the Heart fund and the PAL club.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES
New York — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 436.89, off 0.30; 20 railroads 103.70, off 0.45; 15 utilities 72.06, off 0.02; and 6 stocks 149.26, off 0.19. Sales today were about 1,920,000 shares compared with 1,570,000 shares Monday.

Navajo Missile Explodes in Flight
Cape Canaveral, Fla. — A Navajo guided missile launched from Cape Canaveral nose-dived into the ocean after less than a minute of flight today and exploded with a spectacular mushroom of flame and smoke that resembled a small atomic bomb.

The non-ballistic Navajo, in effect a pilotless bomber, blasted off, then nosed over after engine failure. It appeared at first as if the 80-foot missile plunged into the ground near the end of the cape.

"The engine cut off prematurely about 20 seconds of flight and the missile was destroyed over the ocean by the range safety office," the announcement said.

Truman Urges Congress To Support Eisenhower's Foreign Aid Program

Washington — Former President Harry S. Truman urged the Democratic Congress today not to "emasculate" President Eisenhower's proposed \$4 billion foreign aid program. He said aid spending should be increased.

Truman said foreign aid is "absolutely vital" to American defense and to keeping "countless millions" out of the Communist orbit.

"The former Democratic President spoke at a daylong rally in support of the foreign aid program organized at Eisenhower's request. Other speakers included Adlai E. Stevenson, 1952 and 1956 Democratic presidential nominee, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Defense

"Let's Face This Squarely—Some of You Haven't Been Smiling Enough"



Arguments Slated In Wernmark Case

Salem — Arguments before the Oregon Supreme Court will be heard here on Friday on a suit brought by K. C. (Swede) Wernmark to enable him to file for the post of Jackson county judge.

Wernmark, a Democrat, received a temporary writ of mandamus from the court directing Jackson County Clerk Mrs. Bereth P. Hopkins, to allow Wernmark to file or "show cause" why he should not file.

The argument hinges on a decision by Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton that the post of county judge is a judicial one that runs for six years.

Wernmark, a realtor, claims judicial functions have been taken away from county courts and that the post is just another county office with a four-year term.

Rodney Keating now holds the position sought by Wernmark. His term would run until 1960 if Thornton's opinion is correct.

The court, in issuing the temporary writ, scheduled the oral arguments immediately, without waiting for the briefs to be filed.

Wernmark attempted to file his candidacy for county judge on the Democratic ticket Feb. 13. In refusing to accept his candidacy, Mrs. Hopkins quoted Thornton's opinion that the term does not end until 1960, and the office is not open for election this year.

William Deatherage, Medford attorney handling the case, said Justice Hall S. Lusk of the State Supreme Court had ordered the court to take jurisdiction, which means the high court will determine whether or not a county judge has a term of four or six years.

The decision will affect 12 counties in Oregon whose county judges do not actually serve judicial functions.

Presentation of arguments originally was scheduled for Thursday, but was continued for one day until Friday.

Churchill May Delay Visit To Washington
Rouquebrune — Cap Martin, France — Sir Winston Churchill may be forced to postpone his planned visit to Washington even though he is making steady progress in his recovery from pneumonia and pleurisy, members of his household said today.

Churchill had hoped to return to Britain this week. That would have given him ample time to prepare for his April visit with President Eisenhower.

Radio Highlights
Two special programs will be heard over station KJJC (1230 kc) tonight.

At 9:30 p.m. President Eisenhower will address the national conference on Foreign Aspects of U.S. National Security. At 10:15 p.m. recorded highlights of the morning and afternoon sessions of the conference will be heard. Participants will include Vice President Richard Nixon, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Adlai Stevenson, Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy, Allan Dulles, Dean Acheson and former President Harry S. Truman.

Lumber, Logging Claims Decline In Past Month

About 5,000 Cut From Unemployed

Salem — Employment declined 23,500 during year-end layoffs, but a seasonal recovery in the past 30 days has trimmed about 5,000 from the ranks of the unemployed.

The State Unemployment Compensation commission today said claims from lumber and logging operators dropped 4,000 in the past four weeks.

Non-agricultural employment was estimated at 440,900 as compared with 464,000 a month before and 455,400 in mid-January of 1957.

Above Recent Lows
The total was about the same as for this period in 1954 and 1955 but considerably above the recent winter-time lows in 1949 and 1950.

Only 40,900 workers were reported by loggers and sawmill operators, comparing with 45,000 in December and 59,700 last summer. Plywood and other wood products lines continued steady with 14,800 jobs.

Construction dropped to 18,200 from 20,200 the month before and 18,800 last year. Food processing was about 1,000 under last year.

Hearing Called On Library Move
Petitions bearing 217 signatures, which requested that the Rogue River branch of the Jackson county library be given "independent" status, were filed with the county court yesterday.

The court called a public hearing on the matter, and set it at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 7, in the court's chambers.

Meanwhile, members of the court said they would request an opinion from District Attorney Thomas Reeder to determine whether the court has the authority to take such action.

Rogue River has one of a number of branches of the Jackson county library, which are served by the Medford Public Library under terms of a contract first placed in effect in 1920. Those presenting the petition stated they believe better service to Rogue River and adjacent school districts could be obtained by a library independent of the county system.

Later yesterday, the court conferred with representatives of the Medford library board, which administers the system under the contract, and were told the board's only concern is to furnish the best possible service to all branches. They said they would not object to withdrawal of the Rogue River branch, provided they were convinced that independent status, without the resources of the county system, would better serve the people of the area.

Neuberger Sees Need for Hearings
Washington — Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) said today the interior department's appraisal of tribal properties of the Klamath Indian tribe of Oregon at a "realization value" of \$121,659,618 would "necessitate" further hearings on legislation to amend the Klamath termination act.

Neuberger is chairman of a Senate subcommittee studying proposed changes in the act. He said he would call Hatfield Chilson, interior undersecretary, to determine how the appraisal would affect operation of administration-proposed changes in the act.

Chilson, in a letter to Thomas B. Watters, management specialist for the Klamath termination program, authorized Watters to proceed with arrangement for a tribal election as provided in the termination statute. Members of the tribe will decide whether to remain in the tribal organization or withdraw and receive cash for their share of assets.

Chiloquin Man Killed by Tree



RALPH A. LARSON Announces Candidacy

Eagle Point Man Enters Sheriff's Race in County

Ralph A. Larson, 37, of Eagle Point, today announced he would seek the Republican nomination for Jackson county sheriff in the May 16 primary election.

Deadline for filing is 5 p.m. Friday, March 7.

Larson, who was born in Harlowton, Mont., formerly was a sergeant with the sheriff's office in Los Angeles county for 10 years. His assignments there included patrol and jail divisions and work with the detective bureau which included supervision and management. He also served as part time instructor at the sheriff's academy.

Active Duty
He served with the Marines during World War II and was recalled to active duty during the Korean conflict for duty with the military police as a commissioned officer.

He has taken several police courses at various colleges in southern Oregon, and completed a police course conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He is a member of the Masonic lodge of Los Angeles and the Eastern Star. Affiliations also include the Los Angeles County Peace Officers association, California conference of arson investigators, and American Legion Post 309.

He lived in southern California from 1940 to 1951, when he moved to Eagle Point where he purchased a hardware store, which he and his wife now operate.

Kidnaped Racer Released in Cuba
Havana — Kidnaped auto ace Juan M. Pango was released late Monday night, hours after the race in which rebel gunmen prevented his taking part ended in tragic death for at least four persons and injury to 28.

Cuban authorities assigned more than 50 police and two patrol cars to the Argentine embassy, in addition to its own four watchmen, to assure that the Argentine racer is not molested again during his stay here.

The Grand Prix auto race, which Fangio had been favored to win, was called off hours after he had been snatched when a racer crashed into a wooden overpass, killing four spectators and injuring 28.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Variable cloudiness with showers of rain occasionally mixed with snow in valley. Snow showers above 3,000 feet tonight and Wednesday. Valley fog patches Wednesday morning. Cooler. Low tonight 32; High Wednesday 48.

Highest Yesterday 39
Lowest this Morning 35
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today 1.44

Our Skies Tonight
Sunrise 6:54 a.m.
Sunset 5:36 p.m.
Moonset Wednesday 12:57 a.m.
First Quarter Wednesday
PROMINENT STARS
Regulus, in the east 6:32 p.m.
VIBRANT PLANETS
Jupiter, in the south-east 1:05 a.m.
Saturn, low in south-east 5:42 a.m.
Mars, low in south-east 5:42 a.m.
Venus, in the southeast at sunrise.

Power Service Off; Windows Broken by Wind

The fast-moving front was caused by an inversion of cold air, which brought the snow level to low elevations. Ashland officials reported it was snowing there just before noon today.

Walter Ray Prowell, 51, Chiloquin, a State Highway department employee, was killed at 9:30 p.m. Monday on Highway 97 just north of Spring Creek when struck by a tree blown down by the gale. Police said he was trying to remove another tree blocking the highway when he was struck.

Highway Blocked
Highway 97 was blocked for 2½ hours. Power was out for varying lengths of time at Merrill, Malin and Tulelake in the southern part of the Klamath basin.

The Portland area was besieged with downed power lines, snapped trees, broken windows, and floods of calls to firemen and police between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. Rainfall totaled more than two inches at Roseburg and North Bend.

The barometer in Portland reached 28.92 at 10 p.m. Monday, its lowest reading in five years. At 11:30 p.m. a gust of wind of 70 miles per hour was recorded. At midnight the wind began to quiet down and the barometer began to rise again. The storm carried thunder and lightning and some hail throughout the Northwest.

The storm swept in from the Pacific and caused damage along the entire coast. Winds up to 60 miles per hour flattened a large barn on the Tom Smith ranch about 12 miles east of North Bend. Thirty of the 70 head of dairy cattle inside were either killed or had to be destroyed. Several others were injured.

The ocean-going tug Columbia Queen was driven ashore on a sandbar near the mouth of the Siuslaw river at Florence but was pulled free at high tide early today. None of the seven crewmen was hurt.

Power companies in Portland said thousands of customers were without service Monday night as trees snapped wires and utility poles blew down.

Windows Broken
Oregon City also reported plate glass windows broken and Gladstone was without power for two hours. Telephone service was disrupted between Albany and Sweet Home. Stayton southeast of Salem also was without power and telephone service for several hours. Astoria had outages, high winds and heavy rain.

Postal Franking Charge Dropped
Seattle — A charge against John Patrick Snohomish writer, of unauthorized use of the postal franking privilege to avoid payment of postage on a private letter was dropped Monday.

Patrick protested he didn't want the government to dismiss his case against him and that he has several hundred franked envelopes and will continue to use them.

"The next move is up to the government," he said.

U. S. District Court Judge William L. Lindberg granted the government motion to dismiss the charges. He said he took the action because Patrick's mental competency could not be determined.

Patrick would not answer questions of a government psychiatrist and would not allow the government to choose any other psychiatrist to examine him.

Patrick said he violated the privilege deliberately as a protest against "junk mail" advertising and unauthorized use of the franking privileges by federal officials.

WIND REACHES 69 MPH HERE

Winds ranging up to 69 miles per hour and a near record low barometer reading accompanied a storm front which moved across the Rogue valley area early last night.

The storm caused power failures, blew down power poles and trees, and damaged the new National Guard armory south of Medford.

The fast-moving front was caused by an inversion of cold air, which brought the snow level to low elevations. Ashland officials reported it was snowing there just before noon today.

The forecast for Medford and vicinity calls for variable cloudiness with showers of rain occasionally mixed with snow in the valley tonight and Wednesday. Some fog is expected tomorrow morning, along with cooler temperatures. The low tonight is expected to be about 32.

About 6 p.m. yesterday, the barometer reading at the Medford weather bureau station was 29.10, compared to the lowest reading on record of 29.06 in December, 1940.

Wind gusts reached 69 miles an hour during the storm, and weather bureau officials said there could have been lightning. Whether valley residents saw lightning or power lines shorting out early last night still was not determined.

Accompany Storm
Weather bureau officials said lightning and thunder did accompany the front, but no thunder was heard at the airport.

The average wind velocity during the storm was 46 miles an hour at the airport.

The wind blew down several California Oregon Power company poles in the county, and disrupted power in Central Point, Gold Hill, Jacksonville and Ruch areas for as much as an hour.

Frank Benesh, district manager, said a power pole at the north Medford substation, blew into the substation, disrupting service on a transmission line serving the area. He said about 10 poles in the county blew over because of wet ground conditions.

Power Lines Burned
Several power lines made contact and burned, he said. The brunt of the storm moved into the area about 7:45 p.m., and about half the Copco service crews were out all night. Repairs had been completed in this area this morning, Benesh reported.

A tree blew down and blocked traffic on Highway 62 near Hilton rd. No damage was reported by city officials.

Two trees on Kirkland rd. were removed by county crews this morning, and Wheeler rd. in the Sams Valley area was temporarily closed because of high water, according to Paul Rynning, county engineer.

Other county roads are in normal condition, he said. He planned to make a further check later today.

Roofing Blown Off
Several sections of corrugated aluminum roofing blew off the office section of the new National Guard armory about 8:30 p.m. yesterday.

During the past 24 hours, rainfall at the airport totaled 1.44 inches to 10 a.m. today. Up until midnight last night there were 1.18 inches of rain in the 24-hour period. The total for the month is 4.46 inches, 2.78 above normal. The total for the agricultural year since Sept. 1, is 18.73, 6.12 inches above normal.

River Crests Due
The Sacramento was expected to crest at 26 feet as it rolled in the lowlands toward San Francisco bay. The Feather river hit 73 feet Monday night, seven feet below flood stage, and the Russian river was expected to crest today at 36 feet, four feet above flood level.

Four counties, Tehama, Colusa, Glenn and Yolo declared themselves disaster areas in preparation for the critical flood period expected today or Wednesday. The community of Grimes in Colusa county was ordered evacuated for the second time in less than a week.

The storm lashed the Sierra Nevada with a blizzard which cut visibility to zero for a time on U. S. 50 over the Sierra to Nevada.

Mt. Shasta had 4.85 inches of rain between 4 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Monday and traffic was cut to one-way at the bottom of 99 hill north of Weed at 4 a.m. today when the Weed approach to the Shasta river bridge was washed away to the center of the roadway.

Four Alarm Fire At Portland Plant
Portland — A four-alarm fire broke out today at the Portland Gas & Coke Company plant at Linnton in north Portland, sending huge columns of black smoke into the air.

The fire was located toward the south end of the plant and a company official said natural gas lines were not in serious danger immediately.

A company spokesman said the fire was being contained in a poly pitch unit. Some 7,000 gallons of creosote were reported ablaze and flames shot high into the air.

Increased Prices For Vegetables, Fruit Get Blame

Meat Prices Said Up 4 Per Cent

Washington — The cost of living jumped six-tenths of 1 per cent in January to set a new record, the government reported today.

The main factor in the general increase was record high prices for fruit and vegetables caused by freezing and rainy weather which ruined southern crops.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said its consumer price index hit 122.3 per cent of 1947-49 prices. This was 3.5 per cent higher than a year ago.

It was the 15th time in 17 months that the index climbed to a record peak. This was the largest monthly increase since a seven-tenths of 1 per cent rise in July, 1956.

Five Million Jobless
The latest advance was disclosed as economists predicted five million Americans would be out of work this month.

Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, said the price of all meats, from hamburger to rib roast, increased 4 per cent in January because of reduced livestock marketing.

Food prices generally were up 1.8 per cent, reflecting sharp rises in the price of fresh fruits and vegetables.

The rise in the index meant pay boosts for 1,350,000 workers whose wages are tied to the cost of living.

Clague said about one million auto workers would get three cents an hour pay boost while 350,000 others in the aircraft, farm equipment, and electrical machinery industries would get about two cents an hour more. The wage boosts will take effect March 1.

Prices to Stay High
Clague said the next few months "don't promise much in the way of lower prices." He said the index has not yet felt the full effect of the crop-destroying freeze.

But he said the price of such raw materials as wool, leather, lumber, rubber, and metals is declining in wholesale markets.

These reductions should be felt by the consumer in the form of lower prices some time this summer or fall, Clague predicted. By that time, he said, the shortage of fruits, vegetables, and meat should be alleviated by summer crops and more slaughtering of livestock.

Warren Gill Files For Governor Race
Salem — Warren Gill, Lebanon, filed today for the Republican nomination for governor.

He is seeking the Republican nomination along with State Treasurer Sig Unander, Secretary of State Mark Hatfield and George N. Livingston, Boring.

Gill explained "my filing at this time is to stop any rumors that my announcement was an attempt to help any other Republican candidate."

"I am in the race to be elected governor. I believe I am better qualified than the other candidates to carry out the duties of governor and to serve all the people of Oregon," Gill said.

Gill is a state senator from Linn county.

Byrd Changes Mind; To Seek Reelection
Washington — Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) reversed himself today and decided to run for reelection in November.

Just two weeks after he had announced that he would not seek another Senate term, Byrd yielded to appeals from Democratic leaders and the General Assembly in his home state.

Reclamation Project Ban Said Being Reconsidered
Washington — Republican congressional leaders said after a conference with President Eisenhower today that the administration is reconsidering its ban on new reclamation projects.

'Compleat Study' Seen
The GOP leaders, meeting with the President for the first time in nearly three weeks, discussed the business recession and next fiscal year's budget with the President and Dr. Raymond J. Saulnier, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, for nearly two hours.

Senate GOP leader William F. Knowland (Calif.) said he thinks there will be a complete study made of reclamation projects which have been held back by the administration's economy orders banning new starts on such public works under the 1959 budget.

Won't Be Trapped
Pressures for recession-combatting federal projects are growing in both parties. The President said Monday that the administration has in reserve plans for federal projects for "doing things that need to be done" in "this time of slack employment."

But the President insisted that he will not be "trapped" in to making expenditures which have no useful purposes.