

Passage Predicted For Alaska Bill

Washington — (AP) — Democratic Leader John W. McCormack (Mass.) predicts the house will pass the Alaska statehood bill. But he said "it's going to be close."

Statehood supporters won a major victory Wednesday in their long campaign to get the 375-million acre territory finally admitted to the Union. Debate continued today.

By a vote of 217 to 172 the House rejected efforts of opponents to kill the Alaska bill by refusing to take it up.

Even the most ardent Alaska boosters, including Rep. Leo W. O'Brien (D-N.Y.), author of the bill, said they were surprised by the unexpectedly heavy margin in their favor.

O'Brien, chairman of the house territories subcommittee, said he was not dismayed by delaying tactics of Rep. Howard W. Smith (D-Va.) Smith and other statehood opponents interrupted debate on the bill repeatedly Wednesday by forcing quorum calls.

Region Should Develop Itself

Washington — (AP) — An Interior Department official says the Pacific Northwest should assume responsibility "to the greatest extent possible" for developing its own natural resources.

Theodore F. Stevens, legislative counsel and assistant to the interior secretary, made the statement at a senate hearing called to review proposals for creating a new federal corporation for the administration of Northwest power.

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) has introduced a bill which would set up an agency to replace the present Bonneville Power Administration.

The senate rivers and harbors subcommittee is holding hearings this week to review the overall northwest power picture.

Stevens said the department is not yet prepared to give an opinion on specific proposals such as Neuberger's.

Gangland Slaying Seen in Portland

Portland — (AP) — Howard Sylvester Jackson, 35, an ex-convict, was found shot to death in his car here today and detectives said it may be a revenge slaying by members of a narcotics ring.

Police would not elaborate on their suspicions pending an investigation but they said the death looked like an "execution."

The slain man's wife told detectives that her husband had received a telephone call shortly after she arrived home from her work at a night club at 1:40 a.m. Thursday. She said he then left the house but did not tell her where he was going.

The wife also reported that her husband became agitated recently when she told him that four men had followed her home in a car but he refused to discuss the matter with her.

6,000 Children Miss Transportation

Milwaukee — (AP) — A tentative settlement was reached early Thursday in a labor dispute involving a school bus transportation company.

The dispute has hampered the movement of some 6,000 school children to and from their classes for the past two days in parts of Milwaukee and Waukesha counties.



HANDS UP!—Joseph Rose, one of two convicts who escaped from Wethersfield, Conn. State Prison, emerges from cellar hatchway of house to face State and local police with drawn guns. His pal, Robert Mandell, followed in seconds.

California Said 'Moral Cesspool' Of Obscene Reading Material

San Francisco — (AP) — Billy Graham charged Thursday there was a "moral cesspool" of obscene literature in California that was "contaminating the nation."

The evangelist told a California assembly subcommittee investigating pornography that he was "shocked" at some of the obscene literature that is available to high school students. He said the committee has provided him with some of the material.

Graham read from telegrams from clergymen in

Washington, D.C., charging that "millions of dollars of pornography is pouring out of California."

"There is a moral cesspool developing in California which is contaminating the nation," Graham said.

Warning against "a sex revolution that is degenerating the nation," Graham told the California legislators that their investigation "has awakened me to some things I personally was not aware of."

"It seems to me that the

mere possession of these things should be a crime under the law."

"But I do not think freedom of the press includes pornography," he said.

Also testifying were the Rev. Jerome Meyer of St. John's Catholic church, San Mateo, Calif., and Rabbi William Stern of Temple Sinai, Oakland.

Graham spoke for about 30 minutes. About 75 persons were in the audience, filling the hearing room to about three-quarters capacity.



ARRIVING AT STATION in Los Angeles, Actress Kim Novak and Dominican Lt. Gen. Rafael Trujillo Jr. are happy twosome before Trujillo left by private railway car for officers' school at Fort Leavenworth. (International)

Bridge Opening Slated In Portland on Saturday

Portland — (AP) — Portland's new 12-million-dollar Morrison street bridge is scheduled to open to traffic Saturday and the 71-year-old Morrison street structure just upstream on the Willamette river will be closed.

Speeches, music and even fireworks will herald the opening of the modernistic new span.

The new bridge has six traffic lanes and a total roadway width of 78 feet. There are pedestrian walks on each side and sweeping approaches on each end of the new span.

The old bridge, opened to horsedrawn traffic on April 11, 1887, was at that time the longest span bridge west of the Mississippi. It was repaired and largely rebuilt in 1905.

Draw spans of the old bridge will be opened to allow free flow of river traffic. Dismantling of the rusted girders is scheduled to start next week.

County commissioners have tried to sell the old bridge but in vain.

The new bridge project was approved by voters in May of 1954, same year as voters gave a go-ahead to the Exposition-Recreation center project. Construction of the E-R center was delayed over selection of a site but clearing of a site on the east side of the Willamette river is under way.

Ashland Delays Action on Request

Ashland — The Ashland city council Tuesday evening postponed action on a request for a television cable franchise in Ashland by television station KBS-TV in Medford.

The council declined to take any action pending the receipt of more information including personal presentation from the television station.

The television system, the same service as that recently planned for Medford by the station, receives television signals by cable so that several channels may be received and relayed to home sets through a system of cable installations.

The service includes an installation charge and a monthly service charge.

Other items on the council agenda Tuesday included the authorization of \$1,500 in expenditure for a planning study which will include aerial maps and community development. The project will cost a total of \$9,000 and will be financed by the city, county and federal governments.

Firefighters Watch Dwindling Woods Fire

North Bend, Wash. — (AP) — Fire-fighters kept a wary eye on the 1,500-acre Camp Joy forest fire in Snoqualmie National forest today and hoped the "sleeping giant" could be completely subdued before it awakened again.

Don Stickney, forest service information officer, said the blaze was in "good shape" at present, but warned that a change in weather conditions could cause it to flare up again and become "worse than ever."

Dr. Salk who developed the successful vaccine against paralytic polio now is working on a protective vaccine against cancer.

Erskine Caldwell Boosting His Play

By HAZEL K. JOHNSON
United Press Hollywood
Writer

Hollywood — (AP) — You'd have to search a long time to find a person less likely to take up press agency.

But Erskine Caldwell made no bones about why he was in town earlier this week.

"I'm here to push the movie version of my book, 'God's Little Acre,'" he said. "It just opened downtown."

And after the writer explained that he owns a good share of the production his barnstorming publicity tour across the nation appeared less out of place.

"I started in Boston on April 30," he said, "and the tour finishes in San Francisco this week."

Asked for Reaction

"Everywhere I went I was asked my reaction to the picture," he said. "And each time I told them the same thing—I'm very well satisfied. A lot of people want to see what has happened to the story. Well, they won't be disappointed."

"We've filmed it as if it were a novel. Everyone who was in the book is there—and no one has been added."

This year marks the 25th anniversary of 'Acre,' Caldwell's popular novel, which has been the target of court trials and censorship ever since its first edition in 1933.

As recent as last year the Georgia Literature commission recommended to that state's attorney general that it be banned from sale although it had sold hundreds of thousands of copies there previously.

Censorship Explained

The author credited this latest attempt to censor his quarter-century old tale to a hassle which occurred over the movie's director, Anthony Mann, and Security Pictures' decision not to make the picture in his home state.

The decision to pull out of Georgia after preliminary arrangements had been to film

the movie there was due to "unusual pressures and lack of cooperation," according to Caldwell. Subsequently, the film went on location at Stockton, Calif.

Earlier this year tentative plans were made to premiere the movie in Augusta, Ga., but these were canceled after the mayor of that town insisted upon an advance screening of the film.

Plane Bombards Tunisia Airport

Tunis, Tunisia — (AP) — President Habib Bourguiba said Thursday that four French planes had bombed the airport at the south Tunisian town of Gafsa.

The alleged bombardment threatened to tear open again the slowly healing wounds in French-Tunisian friendship, which had been ruptured by a French bombing attack on the Tunisian border village of Sakiet Sidi Youssef last Feb. 8.

The report of the new French attack was made by Bourguiba in his weekly radio speech to the Tunisian nation. It came in the middle of France's already grave crisis over Algeria.

Bourguiba said the bombing raid was followed by "serious incidents" — apparently between Tunisian army and French forces still garrisoned in Tunisia — "which could worsen." He did not specify how many casualties there were, if any. He simply mentioned "serious incidents."

Peru has a republican form of government consisting of three branches, the legislative, executive and judicial. The president and two vice presidents are elected for a period of six years. The president is assisted by a cabinet of 12 members.



WOOHOO!—John Signore, 18, and his wife, Joyce, 17, leave no doubt how they feel after she gave birth to triplets in Providence, R. I., Lying-in Hospital. The Signore's have one other child. Mr. Signore is a forty-dollar-a-week highway employee.

Scoff at Reports On Police Force

Caracas — (AP) — Government leaders here have sharply denied Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' reported opinion that Venezuela's police force is "totally inadequate" to deal with Communist mob violence.

Dulles' comment was inspired by the mob attack on Vice President Richard M. Nixon here last week.

"Venezuelan security measures are sufficient to maintain public order in all its aspects and to guarantee respect for persons and property," said Foreign Minister Oscar Garcia Velutini.

Interior Minister Numa Quevedo said Venezuela is

happy it disbanded the secret police force that kept order while Gen. Marcos Perez Jimenez was President.

Power Company Sets Mortgage Bond Sale

Portland — (AP) — Pacific Power and Light company announced today that plans to sell 20 million dollars of first mortgage bonds at competitive bidding on June 24 have been filed with federal and state regulatory authorities.

Proceeds, together with earlier financing and funds from a bank credit agreement, are expected to finance the company's 1958 construction program.

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