

# QUENTIN ESCAPEES HOLD WOMAN HOSTAGE

## State Power Bill Defeated in House

Salem—UPI—Private power proponents today held their biggest victory of the 1959 legislative session. A bill to put Oregon into the electrical power business lost out in the House Monday afternoon when four Democrats crossed party lines to vote with Republicans to defeat the measure.

There were 29 yes votes and 28 no votes. It took 31 yes votes to pass. The four Democrats who voted were Reps. George Anala of Hood River, Roy Fitzwater of Lebanon, Ben Evick of Madras and Don McKinnis of Summerville. Only Republican favoring the bill was Rep. George Layman of Newberg.

The bill would have set up a three-man power development commission that could have bought and sold power, constructed dams and built transmission lines. Supporters of the bill maintained that the Power Commission was the only way Oregon could get more power under the preference clause in the Bonneville power act. That clause gives public agencies first crack at federally generated power.

Rep. Al Fiegel (D-Roseburg) maintained that the bill was not designed to drive private power companies out of business, but actually would help them through more industry being brought into the state by low cost power generated by the commission.

Earlier the bill had been sent back to committee to add the amendment referring the measure to the people. However, opponents of the bill charged that the only reason it was returned was that supporters did not have enough votes to pass it.

Before the vote was taken, Rep. Clarence Barton (D-Coquille) failed in an attempt to have the amendment referring the matter to the people stricken from the bill. Rep. F. F. Montgomery (R-Eugene) led opposition to the bill declaring it posed a threat to private enterprise in a state that has shown more industrial growth since 1950 than any other period in its history.

Rep. Shirley Field (R-Portland) said that the state could get around restrictions imposed by the preference clause by reserving large blocks of power at new dam sites. However, she did not agree with an assertion by Montgomery that the state could get around restrictions imposed by the preference clause by reserving large blocks of power at new dam sites.

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## Herter Swiftly Wins Approval As Secretary

Confirmation Follows Vote by Committee. Washington—UPI—Christian A. Herter won swift Senate confirmation today as new secretary of state succeeding Ailing John Foster Dulles. Approval was by a unanimous vote of 93-0.

Herter's nomination moved through the Senate at top speed after being unanimously and quickly approved by the Senate Foreign Relations committee in a morning hearing. The senators acted with an almost unprecedented burst of speed.

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## Juvenile Problems Discussed by Judge At Clinic Meeting

Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic association elected officers and heard Judge Virgil H. Langtry of Portland talk on a juvenile delinquency at the 1959 annual meeting last night at the Medford High school cafeteria.

Judge Langtry is a circuit and juvenile judge for Multnomah county. Harold Snodgrass, Medford, was elected president to succeed the Rev. Richard M. Jones, also Medford, who conducted last night's session.

Other elected were Mrs. John Brandenburg, Medford, vice-president; Mrs. Albert Bamforth, Medford, secretary, and Mrs. Wilton White, Central Point, treasurer.

Elected to three-year board terms were Col. Fred Greene, Eagle Point; Ben Day, Gold Hill; Riley Cook, Edward Collins, Mrs. Fred Danielson, Mrs. Rodney Miller and Mrs. Ralph Thompson, all of Medford. Dr. William Miller and Mrs. Dunbar Carpenter, Medford, and Mrs. Chester Fitch, Ashland, were elected to fill board vacancies.

Reviews Cases. Judge Langtry reviewed a number of juvenile cases that have come before his court in an effort to bring the picture of juvenile delinquency into focus for his listeners.

He then asked a number of questions: "Will some historical one day write of the decline and fall of a decadent America? What constitutes due process when it involves the moral life of a child? How long shall the court wait for parents to reform and show a sense of responsibility before permanently removing children from their care?"

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## Polls To Be Open Tomorrow for Election on Bonds

\$1,275,000 Issue Set for Junior High. Ashland—Three polls will be open tomorrow from 2 and 8 p.m. for a \$1,275,000 bond election to finance construction of a proposed new junior high school in Ashland.

The Ashland school board proposed a new junior high school "to relieve one of our major educational problems." Enrollments and growth in the district have overcrowded the present school, which also is a fire hazard, the board said.

The proposed school would be constructed on a 25-acre tract at the junction of East Main st. and Walker ave. It would be a one story, frame and masonry construction on a concrete slab.

The new school would house 800 students, with facilities for expansion to 1,000 seventh, eighth and ninth graders. By September, 1960, the board said, there will be 660 students, and the proposed new school is expected to reach capacity within four or five years.

If the bond issue is approved, it would increase taxes annually about \$2 per \$1,000 of property value if bonds were amortized over a 20-year period, the board said. Ashland, the board noted, has one of the lowest school taxes of first class districts in the state, and the lowest in Jackson county.

The assessed valuation of the district is \$10,979,819.75, and the remaining bonding capacity is \$1,797,962. Precincts 12, 12A, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 22 will vote at Walker school; precincts 3, 5, 8, 10, 14 and 63 will vote at Briscoe school library; and precincts 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 will vote at the junior high school.

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## West Allies Fail To Agree on Firmness

London—UPI—Extensive consultations among the western allies have failed to resolve their basic differences of approach to the forthcoming East-West negotiations in Geneva, diplomatic sources said today.

Another ill omen for the Geneva talks came in Berlin with publication of a 115-page book by the Communist East Germany and Soviet foreign offices calling for the immediate end to western occupation rights in West Berlin. The charges were not new but the timing was considered significant.

Britain still believes the Russians might be willing at this time to negotiate an agreement on Berlin and Germany and that they should be encouraged by some western gesture, the sources said.

The United States, West Germany and France, in varying degree, remain highly skeptical of Soviet intentions and unwilling to waste concessions for the sake of the experiment.

The western foreign ministers meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in less than three weeks. They are agreed on a "policy of firmness" but not agreed on what is firm and what is not firm.

This disagreement may have been responsible for Sir Winston Churchill's plea Monday night that the west remain "united and strong" in the forthcoming talks and to warn that a battle for Berlin could engulf the whole world in nuclear warfare.

Britain meanwhile was a holding firm to the line proposed by Prime Minister Harold Macmillan after his Moscow talks that there should be "pacification by negotiation" and by "reasonable agreement."

The general trout season opens at Lake of the Woods Saturday, he said. Neely said the road to the lake from Klamath Falls has been clear since before last week end, when several people from Medford went to their summer cabins at the lake.

## Proposal to Change Name of Chamber Submitted to Board

Plans for a Jackson County Chamber of Commerce membership drive starting next month were announced at yesterday's chamber round-table luncheon by President Hugh Coleman.

Meanwhile, Coleman said, he has submitted to the chamber board of directors a proposal to change the organization's name to the Medford Chamber of Commerce.

Coleman also suggested that the chamber hire a man for liaison functions between the chamber office and the community, and that its office be lodged in an easily-accessible building of its own with ample off-street parking.

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## Board Accepts Assessment Ratio

The Jackson county board of equalization yesterday accepted 25 per cent as the assessment ratio, according to Ray Schumacher, county assessor.

The ratio of 25 per cent of the market value equals the assessed valuation, he explained. The budget for each district is applied into the assessed value to determine the millage of each of the districts, Schumacher explained.

The county assessor's office is now getting the assessment rolls ready for the board of equalization by May 11, Schumacher said.

A canvass this year brought in more than a 1,000 new personal property accounts, a 20 per cent increase, Schumacher added. About a 1,000 new real property accounts have been added. The latter is due mainly to the segregation of land in the county into smaller units, he explained.

The assessor's office is also changing between 10,000 to 15,000 new accounts into new codes created by the recent consolidation of six school districts.

Regular drill was held at 7:45 p.m. Monday with first formation at 7:45 p.m. Drill has been changed to start at 7:45 instead of 8 p.m. to allow a refreshment period, officers said.

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## Convicts Threaten To Kill Woman If Approached

San Quentin, Calif.—UPI—Two San Quentin prison trustees fled to a nearby fishing pier today and seized a man and his wife as hostages at knife-point in a desperate bid to obtain a speedboat and escape across San Francisco Bay.

The man was released to act as messenger between the convicts and the dozens of prison guards and police who waited tensely 100 feet away. The couple was not immediately identified.

"Don't come any closer or we'll slit her throat," one of the convicts yelled. A possible break came at 11:32 a.m. (PST), 2½ hours after the convicts seized the hostages, when the escapees called out that they wanted to talk to the prison correctional officer, A. F. Mello. Mello was rushed to the scene.

The life and death drama was taking place at the "cross" of a 200-foot long "T" shaped pier of the Marin County Rod and Gun club. The club is located about a half mile north of San Quentin Prison, which itself is 12 miles north of San Francisco on the west side of San Francisco Bay.

San Quentin Warden Fred Dickson told newsmen that they could do was play a "waiting" game to prevent harm to the woman. "They (the convicts) are very excited and very emotional," he said. "If they were calmer, we wouldn't be as worried."

Dickson said the convicts insisted that everyone clear off the pier so they could escape by boat or by car. "They said if we didn't agree to this, they would kill the woman."

"The convicts showed no sign of cooperation," the warden said. "One time, when the planes were overhead and we couldn't hear each other, I got a little closer than they wanted me to, and they yelled 'get out of here or we'll kill her!'"

"I told them if they killed her they knew what the consequences would be," Dickson said. "He added that he told them, 'We'll give you consideration if you give yourself up.'"

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## Lake of Woods Road Open from Ashland

The road to Lake of the Woods via the Dead Indian route has been plowed open and the lake resort opened, Tom Neely, operator of the resort, announced today.

Neely said the road to the Lake of the Woods by Fish Lake still is closed. The general trout season opens at Lake of the Woods Saturday, he said. Neely said the road to the lake from Klamath Falls has been clear since before last week end, when several people from Medford went to their summer cabins at the lake.

Snow melted from the road from Klamath Falls, but drifts of a foot or more were plowed from the Dead Indian rd. entrance to the lake, he said.

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## Serpa's Horse Bites Girl As Children Greet Caravan

Olathe, Kan.—UPI—A horse bit a little girl Monday night as a band of modern day pioneers retracing the Oregon Trail with covered wagons and apparel of the 1840s camped near Olathe.

Gardner, Kan., Goal. The 21 riders and seven wagons on the 2,000-mile trip planned to make another 20 miles today and camp tonight near Gardner, Kan. Members of the train, all from Oregon, plan to reach Independence, Ore., by mid-August as part of the Oregon State Centennial. They left Independence, Mo., Sunday.

Jo Anne Marshall, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Marshall, Prairie Village, Kan., was bitten on the shoulder by a horse owned by wagon master Tex Serpa of Ashland.

Highway patrolmen rushed the girl to the Olathe Community hospital where a doctor said her skin had been broken and her shoulder severely bruised. She was given a tetanus shot and sent home. Ahead of Schedule. Hundreds of school children, including Jo Anne, were among the 2,000 persons who greeted the caravan when it arrived at Olathe hours ahead of schedule.

A band of unscheduled "Indians" raided the wagons Monday and "scalped" Serpa. They whooped around the wagons for about 30 minutes then left. It was teen-agers who said the idea was their own.