

Six Oil Companies Barred by Decree From Price Fixing

Washington (AP)—The justice department has filed a consent decree ending a nine-year-old anti-trust suit against six major west coast oil companies.

The consent judgment—filed in U.S. district court in Los Angeles, Calif.—was approved by Federal Judge James M. Carter. It bars the oil firms from price fixing and controlling production of crude oil.

Consenting to the negotiated settlement were: Standard Oil Co. of California, Shell Oil Co., Richfield Oil Corp., General Petroleum Corp., Tidewater Oil Co., and Union Oil Co. of California.

The justice department filed the suit in 1950. One defendant, Texaco, Inc., did not participate in the out-of-court settlement and the case against this company will go to trial.

In the settlement, the government backed down on its insistence that the oil companies dispose of their owned and leased retail outlets.

The judgment covers activities of the oil firms in California, Washington, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona. It will run for 15 years.

The oil companies are prohibited from setting prices of their retail dealers and forcing dealers to handle their products exclusively.

Medford's 195th Of Busy Airports

Washington (AP)—The 38th busiest airport in the nation last year was Oregon's Portland International airport, according to the federal aviation agency.

The FAA said one of the reasons was use by both the military and civilian airlines. Surprisingly enough, the agency said, Portland airport ranked way above Seattle-Tacoma airport. The latter is ranked 92nd in the U.S. The FAA added, however, that if Boeing field operations were counted, Seattle would rank about 31st in the country.

Other Oregon airports ranked by the FAA in its national listings included Medford, 195th, and Pendleton, 201st.

Triads, Chinese Secret Societies, Have Hands in Most Hong Kong Crime

Hong Kong—(AP)—In the West, it is the Mafia; in the East, the Triads.

Triads is the name commonly given to those Chinese secret societies which have a hand in just about every dirty pie in Hong Kong—narcotics, prostitution, murder, extortion. Their annual take is about \$8,000,000.

Police estimate there are about 250,000 members of Hong Kong's secret societies, but only 10,000 of these are active criminals. The others, police say, probably joined as protection against extortion from other societies.

The problem of secret societies in Hong Kong began with the colony's founding. But the situation reached bloody heights in October, 1956, when the societies took a hand in political riots which erupted here.

Members Jailed
The government established a special section in the criminal investigation department after the riots to handle the Triads, membership in which is illegal, and during the past two years more than 5,000 members have been jailed.

The name Triad comes from the Chinese for "heaven, earth and man." It was the name of the first society and is now applied to any.

The history of Triads as known to police here dates back to the 17th century, when a secret society was formed to help dethrone the Ching dynasty and restore the Ming dynasty in China. At that stage, the groups were strictly political. Now they have few political ties.

Extortion Targets
The Triad problem was an off-again, on-again affair until 1949, when hordes of refugees streamed into Hong Kong as the Communist armies swept south. Many a criminal moved down with the refugees who became easy targets for extortion.

The secret societies, which had not been too active for some time, suddenly became a major worry to the police. It wasn't safe to walk the streets at night, stones were thrown through store windows, hoodlums of all ages roamed the colony, and the police didn't have the manpower to crush the criminal element.

But, gradually, the Triads went underground to escape prosecution. They kept a tight grip on impoverished refugees who paid out part of

their small earnings rather than risk a beating or losing their jobs. They were easy marks, especially those who slipped into Hong Kong illegally.

As the Triads grew in membership, many groups splintered off from the original societies. For example, the "14 society," so called after the street address of its headquarters in Canton, now is broken up into 18 different groups.

Emergency Law
In 1956, the government, acting in the wake of the riots which the Triads used to extort protection money from frightened shopkeepers, legislated further against the societies. An emergency law was introduced which was to be used in cases where deportation was impossible or impractical. (The Communists frequently were shoving back across to Hong Kong criminals the British had kicked back to China.)

The new law provided for indefinite detention of criminals, without right of habeas corpus, with their cases coming before a board of review every six months. About 120 such criminals are held today under the provisions of that law.

How do the Triads operate? Each has a "territory," its size depending on the strength of the Triad. Shoeshine boys, for example, pay something like 50 cents daily for permission to operate in a certain area. Prostitutes pay far more.

Reprisals Feared
The victims fear reprisals if they complain to the police. That has made the police campaign far more difficult.

Police believe that virtually all retelling of narcotics is handled by Triads within their own territories, although the narcotics are smuggled in by other syndicates or, even by individuals.

Pickpockets, pimps, what have you, make a payoff to the Triads. The collector himself may be a one-man Triad. The amount he kicks in to the society from his collections depends first on how strong the society is, and second on how strong the individual is. It has been this lower level struggle for power that has caused societies to splinter.

The societies still go through Fu Manchu-style initiation ceremonies for new members, although they are not required as they once were. Candidates go through

the burning of joss sticks, the drinking of human blood and the taking of oaths to obey the society's chief.

The average Triad member makes only about \$200 per month, because each is in fact a petty crook. Police cast doubt on the belief that there are big gang bosses making thousands weekly. There is too much jealousy among Triads, they say, and so far no one leader has emerged powerful enough to organize all the Triads into a centrally-controlled crime syndicate.

Emphasis on Youth
Police reckon that the most loyal following a Triad chieftain could muster at one time would be 50 to 60, although in an emergency confronting more than one Triad, perhaps as many as 200 could be summoned to do battle under a common boss.

The age group of active Triad members is 20 to 40, with the emphasis on youth. Few members have "front" jobs. They rely entirely on protection money for a livelihood.

The big danger to Hong Kong is the fact that the Triads will do anything for money. One fear is that they might swing their criminal weight either toward the Communists or the Nationalists, depending on who paid the most. In recent years, there have been fewer and fewer open gang fights, but for a fee the Triads no doubt would start one which could spread far beyond mere gangland brawls.

PROSPECT Jamboree Sets Meeting

By FRANCES RING
Prospect—The Annual Prospect Hillbilly Jamboree committee will hold its next meeting at the Prospect Community club June 26 at 8 p.m. The following meeting and last one scheduled, will be July 17 at the Jamboree grounds where the construction and proper placement of booths will begin. The Jamboree is scheduled July 25.

Organizations taking part in this year's activities will be: Prospect Lions and Lady Lions, Cub and Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Prospect Parent Teacher association, Prospect forest service, high school junior class, Letterman club, Prospect Episcopal church of the Good Shepherd guild. Other districts or groups wishing to participate may contact the Prospect Community club.

The parade is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Entry blanks are now available at the Prospect store, Hollenbeck's Shopping center, and Hedgpeh's Cascade Gorge.

Judging will be done before the parade so the contestants can have their ribbons to show the audience as they go through town. Winners will be awarded prizes at the Jamboree grounds. All Junior entries will receive treats.

Sweepstake prizes will be given to the best 1959 Hillbilly entry and to the best Centennial single, group or float entry.

A new addition to this

year's Jamboree will be the Prospect Museum, where articles of interest, used or owned by early settlers will be on display. Families having objects they would like shown for the day may contact Mrs. Leo Hoag, Mrs. Wallace Dinkens, or Mrs. Marcus Dey. The project is being sponsored by the Episcopal Guild.

Scheduled on the entertainment list will be judging the best Centennial beard. Women may compete for the best Centennial dress.

Coronation of the Jamboree Queen will be at 8:30 p.m. with dancing starting at 9. Prizes will be awarded at midnight, with the Prospect PTA serving ham and egg breakfasts from then on.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Wandell and daughter, Lynne, of Klamath Falls visited Mr. and Mrs. Sharold Chapman Sunday.

Frannie Sharp spent two days in Sacred Heart hospital last week with a bad case of flu. She is convalescing at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bruzelius of Medford spent Sunday here. He preached both morning and evening at the Prospect Assembly of God church. They visited the Culvers and the Powers during the day.

Roald Allan is the new night foreman at Ross mill. They have lived here about three years.

Linda Parton is ahead in the queen contest with Sharon Owens in second place and Roma Shaffer in third.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fairfield of Everett, Wash., visited at the Katydid Ranch June 17.

Tuesday Bridge club met at the home of Jo Ann Rienks June 16. Attending were Snooks Beck, Lavina Hixon, Clara Snyder, Marge Conger, Lola De Rosier, Joan Chapman, and Bunny Ells. Bunny Ells took high score.

Visiting at the Jack Ells home recently have been Mr. and Mrs. Art Hulsey and family of Myrtle Creek, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson and daughter, Valerie, of Tri City.

Miss Bonny Chandler of Medford is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Larson returning the visit of Mike Larson who spent the week before visiting at her home in Medford.

Prospect Girl Scout Troop 49 will hold an investiture service June 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community hall. The girls who have completed their tenderfoot requirements will receive pins. Basket weaving has been a recent project with Mrs. McKillop teaching.

Mrs. Alice Conger underwent minor surgery at Sacred Heart hospital June 12. She is convalescing at home having returned there June 16.

Mrs. Gertrude Ells and daughter, Darlene, from Wenatchee, Wash., visited friends and relatives in this area last week.

Mrs. Mary Jo Hannah spent the week recently in Portland visiting with her father, who is ill.

Visiting for a time at the home of Mrs. Hannah is her sister Miss Lorena Flury of Eagle Point.

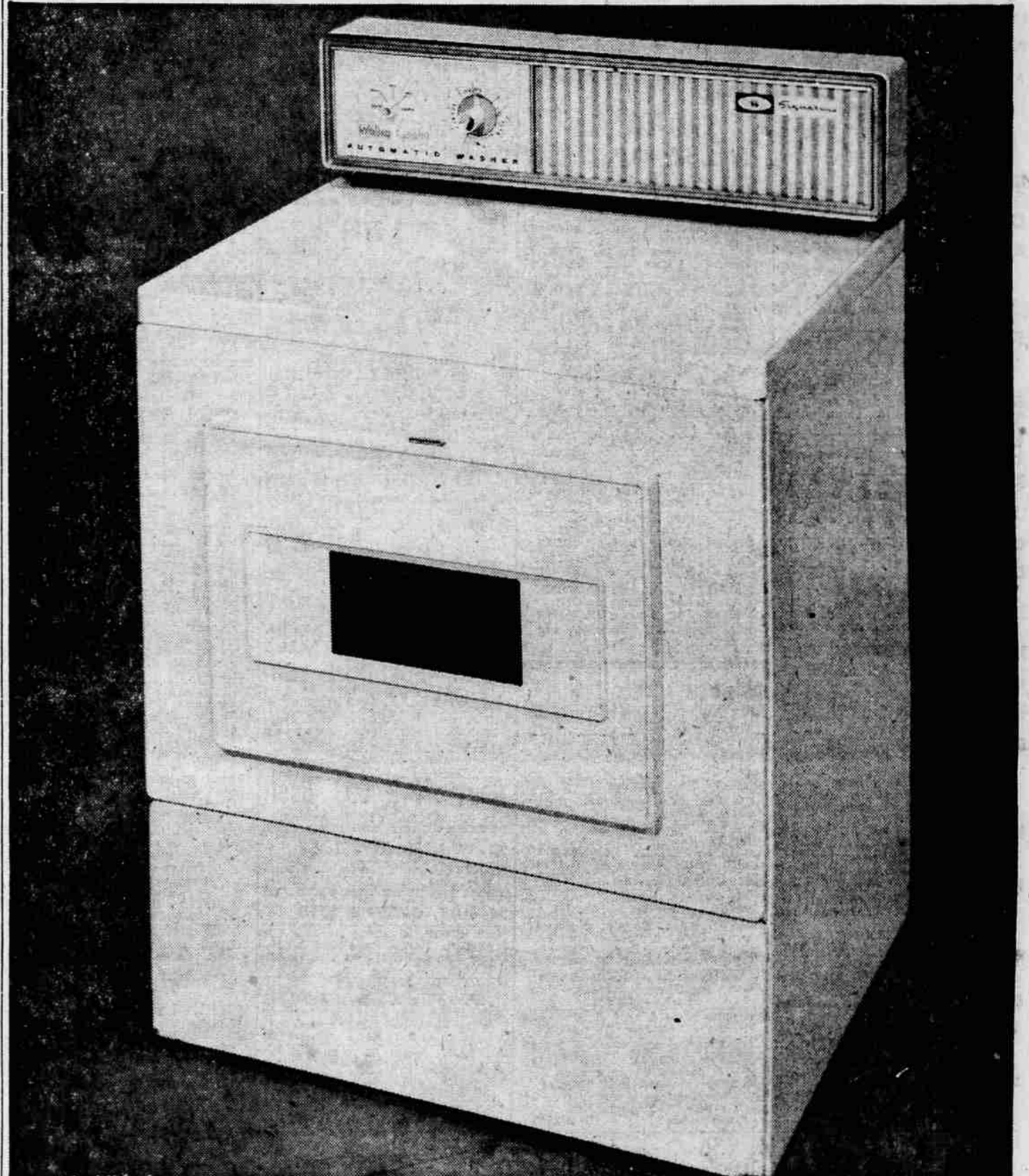
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ells celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary with an evening of dancing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rienks. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Sharold Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Hannah and Mr. and Mrs. Roald Allan.

Mrs. Juri Hicks and son, Steven, were guests of honor at a pink and blue shower at the home of Mrs. Robert Sharp June 17. Games were played and refreshments were served to Mrs. Maxine Moore, Mrs. Lorraine Love, Mrs. Vera Smeader, Mrs. Helen Wilson, Mrs. Bulah Luper, Mrs. Betty Powers, Mrs. Minnie Culver, Mrs. Hope Hedgpeh, Mrs. June Scriven, and Mrs. Frances Ring.



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