

Today's child with a speech problem can be helped. The Southern Oregon College Speech and Hearing center provides this service every day. Hundreds of children in southern Oregon have been helped by the clinic's program. Read about the clinic and its activities on page 12 A of today's Mail Tribune.



To report improper or non-delivery of the Mail Tribune in Medford phone SP-2-8141. In Ashland MU 2-3141 and in Yreka, VI 2-2807, before 6:45 p.m. daily and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. If regular delivery arrives shortly after you call please notify office thus eliminating special messenger service.

"He Said For Me To Wait For An Answer"



PUC Head Dismisses Complaints Against Southern Pacific

Salem — Public Utility Commissioner Jonel C. Hill Saturday dismissed complaints against the Southern Pacific Railroad company, in the five-year-old "Rogue River Rocker" case.

At the same time he ordered Pacific Motor trucking, a subsidiary of SP, to pay \$160,000 or more in highway use taxes accumulated since 1955 while trucks have been hauling mail formerly carried by the train over the Siskiyou line.

Hill said the money would be turned over to the state highway department.

Hill said he made his decision on the controversial case after 18 months of study.

Filed By Senators
The complaint had been filed against the railroad by three former state senators — Paul Geddes of Roseburg, Philip R. Lowry of Medford and Gene L. Brown of Grants Pass.

Hill said testimony and exhibits show that the contract secured by SP for the mail haul, which F&T is performing, was not obtained by competitive bidding, but by negotiations carried on between the SP and the post office department. As such it does not qualify for an exemption.

Lowry, an attorney, said in Medford yesterday he is surprised that any decision was made on the case at all since it had been postponed for so long. The suit originally was filed in 1955 when Charles

Heltzell, was Oregon public utilities commissioner.

"This shows an urgent need to adopt legislation to provide public representation in any matters coming before the PUC," Lowry declared.

Not Angry
Lowry emphasized that he is not angry with the decision since it was expected. But, he said he did seriously question the reasoning in the 18 page opinion completed by Hill.

The ex-state senator and prominent Medford lawyer also declared that public hearings conducted by so-called regulatory bodies and governmental agencies do not provide for safeguarding the public interest.

"The commission office seems to be merely a courteous form for granting the utility request," Lowry remarked.

Lowry said he would write the PUC commissioner giving his opinion on the decision. "It has been almost six years since the complaint was filed and there is absolutely no excuse for that kind of delay in any matter of public interest."

'Absolutely Incredible'
The former state senator termed the decision's reasoning as "absolutely incredible" and hit the following points:

"The opinion states that since the public did not use what the commission describes as very inferior service it did not attract public use and did not attract public use abandonment of the passenger service was justified."

"It also says that since the valley was without service for five years the question is moot. The case was supposed to raise the question of whether the service for this area is in the public interest."

"The commissioner accepts our contention that the Land Grant Act of 1866 requires interstate service from the railroad. But the commissioner says in effect that Oregon is not concerned with a federal law and we should take it up with the federal government."

Point of Trial
"In the 1940's the federal government did file a suit on this ground and got up to the point of trial. However, Federal Judge James Alger Fee dismissed the case because federal attorneys hadn't perfected a law suit so a hearing could be held."

"It seems to be a situation in which the state and U.S. government are battling this land grant question back and forth."

"The Southern Pacific failed to produce income records from the state, but the commissioner does not seem disturbed about that. This is the only populous area in the United States where complete abandonment is upheld by the PUC."

"The commissioner also makes another peculiar finding: 'Since the population of the area has continued to expand during the time this suit was pending it indicates other forms of transportation are sufficient and the Rogue valley residents don't need railroad passenger service.'"

"But, since the area has expanded it really shows much greater need than at any time of the hearing many years ago," Lowry concluded.

Nigerians Jumped By Pro-Lumumba Troops in Congo

272 Missionaries Moved to Safety

Leopoldville — (UPI) — The United Nations rushed strong reinforcements Saturday to the scene of a fierce gunbattle between some 1,500 Congolese soldiers and three platoons of U.N. Nigerian troops.

A U.N. spokesman said additional Nigerian troops were being moved into the Kasai province town of Kindu where their countrymen had been under heavy attack since Friday by Congolese troops loyal to jailed ex-premier Patrice Lumumba.

Malayan troops with armored cars also were alerted to move into the area left by the Nigerian reinforcements, the U.N. spokesman said.

Missionaries Removed
At the same time the U.N. announced that 272 American missionaries and their families have been moved to safety in Uganda from the Congo's Oriental and Kivu provinces since Jan. 30. Both provinces are occupied by forces loyal to Lumumba.

A cease-fire ordered late Friday at Kindu has been maintained "except for a few random shots," the U.N. spokesman said, adding it should have cleared the way for reinforcements to get into the area.

One Nigerian officer was known to have been killed in the battle and four enlisted men were missing. At least six Congolese were reported killed. But complete Congolese casualties were not reported.

Plane Attacked
A U.N. plane trying to land supplies at Kindu airport Friday night was shot up by Congolese troops, but managed to get away, the U.N. spokesman said.

The spokesman said the Kindu fighting was sparked by an incident in which a drunk Congolese soldier fired at a group of Nigerians of the U.N. force. He said a brawl developed in which the Nigerians fought back and killed six Congolese.

A large force of the pro-Lumumba Congolese ambushed the Nigerian troops near the airport early Friday. The Nigerians withdrew under heavy fire and were besieged in the downtown building they have been using as headquarters.

Wood Thieves Can Turn Woodcutters

Ashland — Two men now in the Ashland city jail will be released as soon as they cut a cord of wood.

The two were arrested by city police Thursday night. Clarence Duane Comstock, 19, of 455 South Mountain ave., Ashland, and Bruce Quinton Hall, 18, of 3048 Madrona lane, Medford, pleaded guilty in municipal court to charges of petty theft.

The two were charged with stealing wood from the Leonard Rude home, 425 Liberty st., Ashland. Friday Judge Richard Cottle sentenced them to 10 days in jail. However, he stipulated that if they contacted the forest service and obtained a permit to cut a cord of wood to be returned to Rude, they would be allowed to leave the jail during daylight hours.

As soon as they get the wood cut the sentence will be suspended.

They hadn't finished Saturday.

Snowstorm Paralyzes New York City



WINTER IN NEW YORK—More than 17 inches of snow fell on New York City Saturday with drifts as high as 12 feet in some areas. With the snow still coming down

Patrolman Mathew Lyons stands in knee-high snowdrift as he calls his station house during the morning hours. (UPI-Telephone)

Storm Claims 74 Lives; All Traffic Is Stopped

By United Press International

A savage snowstorm dumped 17 inches of snow on New York City Saturday, paralyzing auto, rail and air transportation in the city's worst winter in history.

The storm howled up the eastern seaboard on gale force winds and crippled scores of cities and towns from Newark, N.J., to Hartford, Conn.

It was the fifth major snowstorm for snow-weary New Yorkers and the 17-inch blanket was the city's worst snowfall in 13 years.

Only essential traffic as permitted to move along snow-clogged arteries in the metropolis. In populous Nassau county, on Long Island, a state of emergency was in force, permitting movement of only fuel oil trucks and other vehicles essential to the life of a city.

Winds Sway Tower

Howling winds churned up high seas along the coast and gusts clocked at 95 miles an hour swayed the Texas tower off Cape Cod. The crew, unworried, reported they were warm and safe and "playing darts."

The Coast Guard cutter Acushnet, defying 15-foot waves and gale winds rammed through drifting ice to rescue a fishing vessel and its 11-man crew off the Boston coast.

Air traffic was at a standstill. All flights were canceled at snow-choked Idlewild and La Guardia airports in New York. Logan International airport at Boston and airports in Newark, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh were closed.

New Englanders called the storm a nor'easter. The area was threatened with fuel oil shortages and coastal flooding.

The storm has cost the lives of 74 persons since it was spawned over the midwest Thursday. The deaths resulted from exposure, over-exertion and auto accidents on snow-packed or icy roads.

Illinois counted 11 deaths. There were 10 in Ohio and Pennsylvania, 6 in Tennessee and 5 in Massachusetts. Wyoming and New York had 4.

State of Emergency
A state of emergency was declared at Syracuse, N.Y., paralyzed by an accumulation of 30 inches of snow. Many upstate New York areas had two or more feet of snow on the ground when the storm began.

The storm heaped 24 inches of snow on Cortland county, N.Y., 15 inches on Binghamton and 13 on Tannersville. In northwest Connecticut, drifts mounded 15 feet deep, and 12-foot walls of snow clogged suburban New York areas.

Transportation in and out of New York City by car, train, bus and air was either paralyzed or hopelessly snarled.

Russia Launches 7-Ton Satellite; No Life Aboard

Moscow — (UPI) — Russia Saturday launched into orbit a 7.1 ton Sputnik — more than big enough to carry a man — but there was no mention of life aboard and a scientist said it would burn to a space cinder in a matter of days.

Italian and German scientists in the West reported hearing sounds like Morse code and "heavy breathing" over usual Soviet space radio frequencies on Thursday. But the Soviet Tass news agency definitely said the Sputnik launching was yesterday.

Western radios began picking up "rapid" signals from the new Sputnik on a radio frequency just below 20 megacycles. The Bochum, Germany, observatory said the beeps were "very loud."

Few Details
An "improved multi-stage rocket" hurled Sputnik V into space, Tass said. It gave remarkably few other details. The usual listing of space radio frequencies was omitted from the brief initial statement.

Prof. Ivan Shevlyakov of Moscow planetarium called the space shot "a leap in the creation of rockets for space travel."

But Tass called it a "Sputnik," not a "spaceship." The latter word has been used whenever animals have been carried beyond earth.

Shevlyakov said the Sputnik was whirling so close to earth it would hit the atmosphere and burn like a shooting star from friction in a few days.

It was the heaviest man-made satellite ever put into orbit and according to Tass was circling the earth once every 89.8 minutes in an egg-shaped path. Its farthest point from earth (apogee) was measured at 203.4 miles; its closest (perigee) was 138.9 miles.

Siskiyou County Matron Killed In Auto Accident

Yreka — Two cars collided on U.S. highway 99 19 miles south of here Friday night, killing both drivers and injuring two passengers.

The California highway patrol identified the dead as Mrs. Frances E. Mazzoni, 37, Weed, a matron in the Siskiyou county sheriff's office, and Floyd Holston, 61, Bremerton, Wash.

Karen Gonzalez, 22, Weed, was critically injured and Donald Freeze, 20, Weed, a jailer in the sheriff's office, sustained back injuries. Both were passengers in the car driven by Mrs. Mazzoni.

Patrolman William B. Duncan said Mrs. Mazzoni was traveling south and Holston north on the two-lane highway when Holston let his car drift across the center line as he rounded a sweeping curve.

He realized his danger, Duncan said, and tried to pull back into his lane. Mrs. Mazzoni swerved to her left in efforts to avoid Holston and the cars collided just west of the center line the officer said.

Copco Employee Burned By Wire

Robert C. Lake, 306 Garfield st., a California Oregon Power company lineman, was reported in fair condition in Rogue Valley hospital Saturday where he is being treated for electric shock and burns.

Lake was stringing a wire at East Evans creek Friday when the wire hung up and hit a 12,000 volt wire. He was burned on his hands and feet, hospital attendants said.

WEAPONS NECESSARY
Charles S. C. — 400 — Gen. Lauris Norstad, supreme commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, said Saturday nuclear weapons should be used "if necessary" to stop any violation of the 4,000 mile NATO frontier.

Knife-Wielding Man Robs Service Station

A man with a paper sack over his head robbed the Medford Cash and Save Oil company, 3602 North Pacific highway, at knife point last night and got away with \$159 in cash. It was the second service station robbery here in a week.

At Mail Tribune press time, Medford city police and sheriff's deputies were combing a field in back of the station in an effort to find the man who had escaped on foot.

Delmore Hackworth, who was just closing the station at the time of the robbery, at 9:20 p.m., said the man forced him to open the cash register at knife point. Hackworth's wife, Leona, was also at the station at the time of the robbery.

Hackworth told police that he had just locked up the station's garage doors when the man stepped out from behind a parts rack, stuck a knife in his ribs and said: "Don't move."

He had Hackworth lead him to the office, where he then tried to open the cash register. Failing to do so, he then made Hackworth open it for him.

Before he left, the man tore the station's telephone off the wall and warned Hackworth not to call police.

Hackworth said the man went around behind the station and disappeared into a field. He then went to a near-

WEATHER
FORECAST: Variable cloudiness and mild temperatures today. Steady cloudy tonight and Monday with possibly a few light showers on Monday. High today near 60. Low tonight 35 to 38. High Monday 32 to 35.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today — 5:20 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow — 7:20 a.m. Moonrise tonight — 10:34 p.m. The planet, Mercury, is about 53 million miles from the Earth today. It may be seen for the next few evenings low in the west-southwest a little after sunset.

BOMBER LANDS SAFELY
Edwards AFB, Calif. — (UPI) — Maj. Harold H. Snowdon of Ft. Worth, Tex., and two crewmen nursed their crippled \$15 million B58 Hustler jet bomber 1,000 miles Friday and made a successful emergency landing on a foam-covered runway here.

Local Pear Growers Testify at Tax Committee Hearing

A delegation of pear growers from Jackson county and County Assessor Ray Schumacher attended a House Tax committee hearing in Salem Friday on a bill which would remove the property tax exemption on deciduous trees.

Schumacher did not testify but was there in case he should be called on, Jackson county fruit growers attending the hearing included Ward Spatz, Paul Culbertson, Dave Lowry, and State Sen. Lyndel Newbury.

Approximately 200 persons appeared before the committee, most of them from the Willamette valley.

Rep. George Annala (D-Hood River), and Ken Kirby, Hood River county assessor, testified in favor of the bill. Hood River and Jackson counties are considered the two main pear producing areas in Oregon.

Annala and Kirby said orchard valuations are being given preferential treatment as compared to other lands. If deciduous trees should continue to receive property tax exemption then the sales ratio studies within a county would be placed in a "cockeyed" position, they said.

Culbertson said the pear growing industry faces a serious problem with pear decline and it would be aggravated by removal of this exemption.

Culbertson said many pear growers are not able to pay their loans in full and do not have the ability to pay the proposed increased tax. Removal of the exemption from fruit trees would mean double taxation, he said. Overall production the last two years was down about a third.

While at the hearing Culbertson said the Jackson

County Fruit Growers' league will ask the 1961 Legislature and Congress for funds to carry on research into the cause of pear decline.

The exemption, enacted by the 1957 Legislature, is considered particularly beneficial to fruit growers. The committee is considering two similar bills; one would remove the entire exemption, and the other would leave the exemption on trees but remove it from grazing vegetation, shrubs, plants and crops.

Sen. Walter C. Leth (R-Salem), a prominent member of the Oregon State Horticultural society, protested removal of the exemption. He argued that farmers already pay the greatest share of taxes in farming areas. Removal of the exemption, he said, would hit an already hard hit segment of taxpayers, loosen up tax laws and create more

problems than it would solve.

While the bill is generally supported by fruit growers, there are exceptions, it was noted.

The Jackson county assessor fought against the exemptions on fruit trees when they were first presented in bill form in 1957, and again in 1959 when he worked for repeal of the law granting exemptions.

"Generally speaking, while other property is taxed based on 100 per cent of its market value, orchard properties are taxed on a 50 per cent of their market value," the Jackson county assessor claims.

"If taxpayers want to give this subsidy to the pear growers, that's all right. If they don't they should write their legislators."

Schumacher said that orchards are in a slightly different position than other crop lands since trees are consider-

ed to be improvements to land. Crops have a one year period of production. They can be planted after the tax assessment date and harvested before another assessment date.

"We are continually decreasing the real property tax by granting these exemptions," Schumacher remarked. "If the fruit industry is in a needy position then there should be other provisions to grant help rather than to tamper with the value concept of taxable property. By such action it only throws the burden on other properties."

The orchardists contend that if fruit trees are taxed, all crops should be taxed. There is no way to get the true market value of orchard land since sales or orchard lands often include equipment and machinery with them.

School Age Limit Bill Is Tabled

Salem — (UPI) — The House Education committee late Friday tabled a controversial bill that would have changed the age that children can be admitted to school.

The measure, HB 1097, stirred up irate parents and had a hearing here last Wednesday. Children would have had to be five months older before they could be admitted to public school.

Tabling means the bill is dead for this session.

The committee voted out "do pass" a bill that would allow school districts to have classes on Saturday. Attendance would not be compulsory. The measure is HB 1079.

House Fire Victim Is Owen P. Short

Positive identification was made Saturday afternoon of the man who died Wednesday night in a house fire on Carpenter Hill rd.

Dead is Owen P. Short, 46, who was living at the house at the time of the fire. The victim's wife identified remnants of clothing that were found on the body, Coroner Carlos Morris reported.

TALKS POSTPONED
Washington — (UPI) — The State department announced today that Russia has agreed to the American proposal for a six-week postponement in resumption of the Geneva nuclear test ban talks.