

WATER POLLUTION BILL RUNS INTO SNAG

Water Storage Better; Supply Still Is Lower

Although water storage conditions are somewhat improved in the Medford Irrigation district over a month ago, supplies are still well behind last year's, a district spokesman said today.

Total water storage for TID is 34,500 acre feet; 14,520 acre feet in Howard Prairie lake, 17,182 acre feet in Emigrant lake, and 2,800 acre feet in Hyatt lake.

Both Hyatt and Emigrant were drained last summer, and are now filling up.

Haffield May Leave Hospital During Week End

Portland - (UPI) - Gov. Mark Hatfield was up and around today for the first time since being hospitalized for "isolated vertigo and fatigue."

Doctors at the University of Oregon medical school hospital said this morning it appears the governor will be able to leave the hospital this week end.

Hatfield complained of dizziness shortly before noon Monday.

He is being attended by Drs. Herbert Griswold and Howard Lewis, and his personal physician - Dr. Ralph Purvine of Salem.

Petitions Seek To Transfer Land To Medford District

New petitions seeking to transfer part of the Barnett rd. area to the Medford school district will be considered at a meeting of the Jackson county school district reorganization committee and the Medford and Phoenix school boards, County School Superintendent Alf B. Mervold said today.

The new petitions exclude the recently occupied Rogue Valley Manor, which would remain in the Phoenix school district.

They cover the area south of Barnett rd. within the Medford city limits, and the area east of the Phoenix-Hillcrest rd. not considered for school district annexation before, according to Frank VanDyke, Medford lawyer representing the Barnett rd. area residents.

Subdivider May Be Violating Ordinance

County Commissioner Chester Wendt referred a problem of a possible subdivision ordinance violation to other members of the county court today because of a "conflict of interest."

The Jackson county planning commission requested the county court refer a possible violation of the county subdivision ordinance by Henry Conser, Wendt's brother-in-law, to the district attorney for investigation.

Although I'm not in sympathy with Henry in this matter, I feel in all fairness to the other two court members," Wendt said.

The planning commission charges that Conser, Ross lane area farmer and subdivider, has created roads in his subdivision on Remy Anne near the Hillcrest orchards in violation of the subdivision ordinance.

Thomas J. Reeder, former district attorney, wrote Conser of the possible violation, but received no reply, the planning commission stated in its letter.

Justice Appointed - (UPI) - Gov. Mark Hatfield's office announced today he has appointed Marvin A. Albee of Condon as justice of the peace for Condon district.

Retirement Homes Subject To Taxes - (UPI) - The Oregon Supreme Court ruled today that non-profit retirement homes which derive their income from the people in the home are subject to property taxation.

The unanimous decision involved two such groups - Oregon Methodist Homes, Inc., and Willamette View Manor, Inc. - who brought suit against the State Tax Commission.

The high court denied their petition for exemption as a charitable institution and said the large retirement home they operate in Clackamas County is subject to property taxation for 1957-58.

Rep. John R. Dellenback (R-Medford) has a bill that would exempt homes for elderly persons such as Willamette View Manor - but only from corporate excise taxes. So the ruling does not affect Dellenback's bill.

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Congressional Hearing - (UPI) - The House Tax committee gave 6-2 approval Tuesday night to a sweeping income tax reform measure that would cut income taxes by an average 10 per cent in Oregon.

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McNamara Urges Strengthening of Military Forces

Kennedy Announces Plan at Conference

Washington - (UPI) - President Kennedy said today that Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has recommended strengthening this country's conventional military forces.

But the President stressed that no proposal has been made for lessening reliance on nuclear striking power.

The President told his news conference he had "reached no decision that would indicate there has been a change in reliance upon nuclear weapons."

He said he thought Secretary of State Dean Rusk made that clear in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday.

Rapid-fire questioning on this issue brought Kennedy's fifth presidential news conference to conclusion, with the President saying the administration is intent on maintaining American power wherever needed.

Strategy Reassessed - He said McNamara had completed a reappraisal of this country's entire defense strategy and "part of his recommendation is to strengthen conventional forces."

On other points, the President said: -He has issued an executive order setting up a "peace corps" of American youths to serve overseas in underdeveloped countries on a pilot basis.

He will propose legislation to create the corps on a permanent basis. He said he hoped to have 500 to 1,000 young Americans qualified mainly in teaching, agriculture and health in peace corps assignments by the end of this year.

Adenauer To Visit - He has invited West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer to come to the United States. Adenauer has accepted and will be in Washington April 12 and 13.

He said the week ending today was the first since last July which produced "no net outflow of gold from this country to foreign countries."

The President, while realizing the improvement is temporary, feels that it signifies "confidence in the dollar is being restored."

In an effort to further stimulate housing sales, he has directed Chairman-designate Joseph McMurray of the Home Loan Bank Board to meet with leaders in the home loan field to "reduce mortgage rates."

McMurray will start in California, where these rates are highest.

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House Committee Gives Approval To Income Tax Reform Measure

Final Action on Bill By House Asked By March 8

New System of Taxation in State

Salem - (UPI) - The House Tax committee gave 6-2 approval Tuesday night to a sweeping income tax reform measure that would cut income taxes by an average 10 per cent in Oregon.

The committee called for final House action on the bill March 8, a week from today.

Voting against the bill at a marathon four hour committee session were Reps. Bill Bradley (D-Gresham) and R. R. Raymond (R-Helix). Rep. George Filcraft abstained.

New System - The bill, HB 1001, would introduce a completely new system of income taxation in Oregon.

Incomes would be taxed twice, but the combined rates would be lower than what most taxpayers now are paying.

The first tax, a graduated levy ranging from one-half to one-and-one-half per cent, would tax all earnings without any deductions or exemptions. This would pick up some low bracket earners.

Flat Deduction Allowed - The second levy, also graduated, would permit a flat \$20 deduction from the final tax bill for each dependent. Extraordinary casualty losses also would be deductible.

Married couples would have to file joint returns. The bill would bring in \$20 million less than now comes from state income taxes. A cigarette tax originally was intended to make up part of this.

Installment Payments - The committee also approved, 8-1, HB 1002 to require self-employed persons and persons receiving dividends to file estimated returns and make installment payments.

That measure would bring in an additional \$9 million in the coming biennium that otherwise would not have been paid until after the biennium was over.

Both bills are part of the legislature's interim tax committee tax package. They are the first major bills to be passed out of the House tax committee for floor action.

If passed by the House, they are expected to run into major difficulties in the Senate.

Court Petitioned About Cat Problem

Fifty-seven petitions containing 80 signatures were presented today to the county court requesting action toward establishing stray cat facilities in Jackson county.

Mrs. Rita B. Shogren, 1705 South Columbus ave., said the group requested a public hearing so facts on the problem of stray cats can be presented. The group also requested that a fact-finding committee be set up.

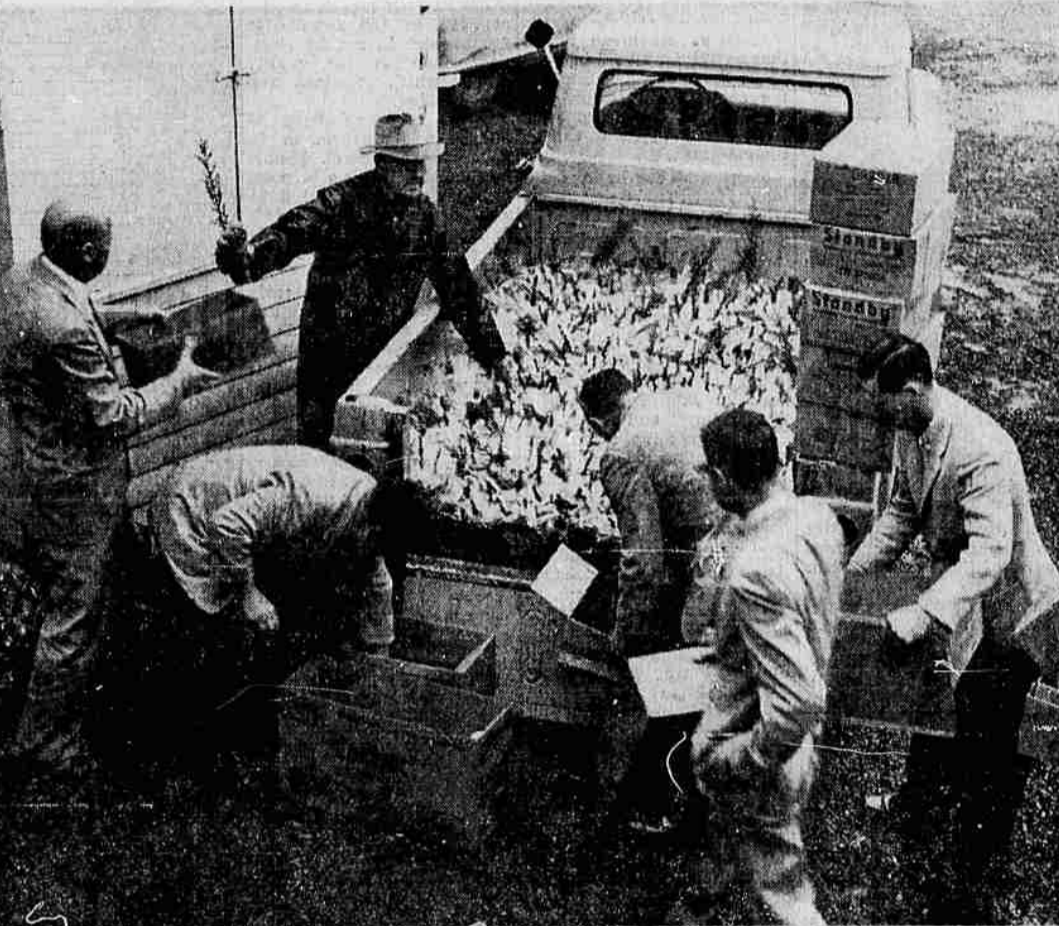
"A year and a half ago the county court told us to wait until the new dog pound facilities were completed at the old experiment station property on the South Pacific highway in the Phoenix-Talent area," Mrs. Shogren said.

"They said they would construct a cage or two for stray cats. We feel a small building or addition can be added at a minimum cost. It should provide starting facilities for 25 cats a day."

County Commissioner Chester Wendt said an addition may be built onto the new pound facilities when the main facilities are completed.

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COME AND GET 'EM - C. C. Hoover, representing the Eagle Point Grange, is shown above as he gave out some of the 2,500 seedling trees to Medford school principals this morning at Oak Grove school. The trees will be planted by school children on the school grounds or at home. Mrs. Edith Eden, chairman of Medford's street tree committee, spoke to the group on the objectives of the street tree program, and County Agent John McLoughlin demonstrated proper planting method. Varieties of trees included Colorado blue spruce, Sitka spruce, Norway spruce and Arizona cypress. The trees, as well as the school principals, got a good soaking from a steady downpour of rain.

Congo Premier Vows Communism Will Be Kicked Out; Opposed by People

Pact Said Not Recognition of Katanga Freedom

Leopoldville, The Congo - (UPI) - Congo Premier Joseph Ileo vowed today that "we will kick communism out of the Congo" because "the Congolese people are 200 per cent anti-Communist."

Ileo made his statements to newsmen in commenting on the anti-Communist, anti-Lumumbist alliance he signed in Elizabethville Tuesday with Katanga President Moise Tshombe and South Kasai leader Albert Kalonji.

He said the pact did not represent tacit recognition of Katanga independence, which was declared by Tshombe shortly after the Congo was freed by Belgium last July. Ileo said he and not Congo President Joseph Kasavubu, signed the pact to prevent any implication of recognition.

"But our friends in Katanga are not secessionist," Ileo added. "With us, and like us, they are seeking a solution and they realize we must work together."

Treaty Links Forces - The treaty linked the forces of the Congo federal government and the regimes of Katanga and South Kasai into a military alliance aimed at crushing the dwindling opposition of troops loyal to the cause of slain leftist ex-Premier Patrice Lumumba.

Ileo said practical details of the military pact, including whether a supreme commander will be appointed, have yet to be worked out.

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Crowd Screams at Confessed Killer Of New York Girl

New York - (UPI) - Confessed sex killer Fred Thompson, 59, was formally charged with homicide today in the rape slaying of Edith (Googie) Kleouris, 4. Police and plainclothesmen had to patrol the Criminal Courts Building, where he was arraigned, to protect him from an angry crowd.

About 100 persons gathered at police headquarters to see the London-born drifter lead into a police van for a heavily guarded four block trip to the Criminal Courts building.

They shouted abuse at the cowering, meek-looking Thompson, who was arrested on a New Jersey chicken farm Tuesday.

"The dirty bum," screamed one woman. "Give him to the women. We'll take care of him."

On his way into the building, surrounded by a phalanx of detectives, Thompson told Deputy Chief Inspector James Walsh:

"I feel a lot safer with you people around here."

Magistrate Louis S. Wallach ordered Thompson held without bail in city prison on a short affidavit, requiring a hearing within 48 hours. Thompson was transferred to the Bronx county jail as a precautionary measure pending a hearing.

Thompson also faced questioning by Rhode Island authorities concerning the mysterious death of Viola Aiken, 3, in 1924, when Thompson was living in a nearby West Upton, Mass., town. Police said Thompson, who once requested back issues of newspapers carrying stories about Viola's death, may be a farmhand who was questioned in the case but released.

Nervous and trembling, he confessed to police that "this was the most dastardly and rotten crime ever committed, and I committed it."

Tourist Promotion Topic for Meeting

Plans for a tourist promotion program for southern Oregon and northern California counties will be discussed at a meeting at the Rogue Valley County club Tuesday noon, March 7.

County courts or boards of supervisors from six southern Oregon and two northern California counties have been invited to the meeting by Frank F. Ganong, Klamath county commissioner.

The meeting is being arranged by Glenn L. Jackson, vice president of the California Oregon Power company, and is a result of a meeting on tourist promotion initiated by Jackson and Frank Jenkins, Klamath Falls, in November, 1960.

Persons planning to attend the meeting have been asked to notify Jackson.

New Ashland Shopping Center May Open May 1

Ashland - Ashland Mayor Richard L. Neill reported on progress of the Pioneer Shopping center at the Tuesday luncheon of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce.

Opening date for the center will be May 1, Neill said. It is about three-fourths complete now. The center will feature a large grocery store, an 88-cent store and three smaller stores, according to Neill. It is located on the corner of Pioneer and Oak sts.

Neill and E. H. McGee are co-owners of the center and will operate the grocery store. According to Neill, the Ashland Groceries will close, and operate the store's meat department. The new grocery will have 15,000 square feet of floor space.

"The shopping center will be as modern as any center in southern Oregon," Neill commented. "It has been designed with convenience of shoppers in mind," he said. Parking space for 110 cars will be provided.

The center has been built with a total capital investment of about \$500,000, Neill indicated. Between 20 and 30 people will be employed in the center.

About 1,000 shopping families are needed to support the enterprise, he observed.

In response to a question about the shopping center trend in Ashland, Neill said most of the present business establishments are inadequate as far as space and condition of buildings is concerned. "The only solution is modernization," he remarked.

WEATHER FORECAST: A few showers and clearing periods tonight. Partly cloudy Thursday with snow flurries in mountains. Low tonight 32. High Thursday 48.

Our Skies Tonight - Sunset today 6:01 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 6:44 a.m. Moonrise today 5:29 p.m. Full moon tomorrow 5:33 a.m. The eclipse of the Moon tomorrow morning begins here at 4:52 a.m. Four fifths of the Moon will be in the shadow of the Earth at the middle of the eclipse which will be at 5:29 a.m.

Consumer Prices Higher in Portland

San Francisco - (UPI) - Higher prices for housing, gasoline and food pushed the consumer price level to a new high in January in Portland, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Between October and January, the Consumer Price Index in Portland rose 1.3 per cent, the sharpest rise in more than 2 1/2 years to a new all-time high of 128.8.

Higher prices for housing, gasoline and food accounted for virtually all the increase.

It was then discovered that the three girls, two 17 and one 16 years old, had run away from their homes. A check with Ashland police showed they had stopped the vehicle for a routine check, but finding nothing wrong, let them continue.

A Jackson county sheriff's deputy headed south on Highway 99 and with California Highway patrol officers apprehended them south of the Hornbrook Agriculture check station. Sheriff's deputies returned them to Medford where the three girls were lodged in the county jail.

The owner of the car, Joel Benard Puleo, 21, of Ft. Lewis, Wash., paid for the gasoline and was released.

Officers said the Puleo told them that the three girls had said they would pay expenses if he would drive them to California, and he thought the girls had paid for the gasoline.

Income Tax Refunds Now Five Times Faster

Salem - (UPI) - The State Tax commission said today it has complied with a request by Gov. Mark Hatfield that it speed up income tax refunds this year.

The commission said refunds are going out nearly five times faster than the previous year.

From Jan. 20 to Feb. 28 a total of 55,574 checks were mailed. The average refund check was \$35.94.

Portland City Measure Tabled; Straub Opposed

Grants Pass Man Proposes Sales Tax

Salem - (UPI) - The Senate Local Government committee today tabled SB138, the City of Portland's water pollution bill, but bogged down on a stronger version requested by the State Sanitary Authority.

Sen. Robert W. Straub (D-Eugene) said he liked SB36 before it was amended at the request of Associated Oregon Industries. He said two of the amendments would reduce effectiveness of the authority.

Sen. Walter Pearsons disagreed. The Portland Democrat said without amendments the authority could "go hog wild" in forcing abatement on cities and industries.

The amendments, already approved, say facilities ordered by the authority must be technically practical and economically feasible.

Court Tieup Feared - Straub contends that with this language industries could tie up the authority in court over definitions.

Sen. Lyndel Newby (R-Talent) said he liked the amended bill and added that cities do more stream polluting than industries.

The committee ordered another meeting Friday to act on SB36 and also tackle two air pollution bills - one offered by Portland and a stronger one by the Sanitary Authority.

The committee tabled one League of Oregon Cities bill relating to annexation and voted out another do pass.

Minor Amendments - Tabled was SB393 which would have allowed cities to annex without a vote of the people. SB181 was approved after minor amending. It would allow annexation of a two-thirds vote of property owners in the area to be annexed. At present, 100 per cent is required.

Rep. Sidney Bazett (R-Grants Pass) offered a three per cent general sales tax bill in the House and said it is the "key to job opportunities and rapid industrial expansion in Oregon."

It would be voted on by the people in 1962.

Bazett's bill would exempt food, feed and drugs, and provide income and property tax relief. The income tax offset would amount to \$2,000 for single persons and \$4,000 for married couples.

Runaways Caught In California - Three runaway girls from Lynnwood, Wash., were apprehended by California Highway Patrol officers about 2 o'clock this morning, through the cooperation of the Medford and Ashland city police and Jackson county sheriff's deputies.

According to Medford city police, shortly after midnight they received a call from Richfield Truck and Auto Service, 2390 North Pacific highway, that a car containing three girls and a man had purchased \$5 worth of gasoline and left the station without paying for it.

It was then discovered that the three girls, two 17 and one 16 years old, had run away from their homes. A check with Ashland police showed they had stopped the vehicle for a routine check, but finding nothing wrong, let them continue.

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