

Elimination of Civil Defense Agency Urged



GIRLS START HIKE—Five of the seven Congressional secretaries who are on dawn-to-dusk hike along the old C&O canal, are shown about 10 miles from their starting point, Washington, D.C., about mid-morning today. At that point the girls were going strong in the clear, cold weather. From left, they are Shira Green, New York; Caroline White, Washington; Jackie McDonald, St. Louis, leader of the group; Mary McCasie, Washington, and Patricia Hughes, Washington. (UPI)

Girls on Hike; Salinger Has Second Thoughts

Washington—UPI—A group of congressional secretaries set out today to prove on a dawn-to-dusk hike that they are in better shape than White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger, whose measurements top to bottom are 43-40-43, conceded defeat in advance Tuesday by admitting that "my shape is not good." He called off plans for a marathon hike of his own Friday.

The Capitol Hill girls, more in the 36-27-37 class, gloated that Salinger had "capitulated." They went ahead with their planned trek along the towpath of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, the same route Salinger had chosen.

Long-legged Jacqueline (Jackie) MacDonald, 23, a leader of the congressional hikers, said, "We have felt all along that we were in better shape than Mr. Salinger. Besides, we can't see where it would be detrimental to our health."

Salinger, backed by a statement from the President's Council on Youth Fitness which he denied having instigated, used potential danger to health as an excuse. He said persons not in good shape shouldn't overdo it.

Dampen on Craze

The council's statement put a damper on the walking craze launched by President Kennedy's suggestion that Marine Corps officers should find out if they still could take 50-mile hikes as President Theodore Roosevelt ordered in 1908.

In advising caution, the council said the long-distance marches might be fine for Marines but they might be too strenuous for the ride-to-the-drug store set who are not used to such vigorous activity.

Saturday Sessions Of House Planned

Salem—UPI—Saturday sessions of the House may begin about April 1, House Speaker Clarence Brown said today.

He said the Saturday meetings would be called as soon as bills begin to flow out of committees and it was necessary to keep the calendar clear.

Autumn Vote on Tax Program Proposed in Bill

Elfstrom's Measure Sets Oct. 18 Date

Salem—UPI—If a new tax program is referred to the voters, they would vote on it this fall instead of waiting until 1964 under a bill introduced today in the Oregon Senate.

The measure, by Sen. Robert Elfstrom (R-Salem) sets Friday, Oct. 18, 1963, as the date for a special election "on all tax measure referrals, if any 1963 tax measure is subjected to referendum."

A referral could be initiated either by the legislature or the people.

Compromise Proposal
The proposal is, in effect, a compromise between various tax election ideas floating around the legislature.

The governor has called for an election on a tax program while the legislature still is in session, though he has not submitted a bill.

Rep. Joe Rogers (R-Independence) today introduced his bill calling for a double-barreled election on whether the voters want any major tax changes, and whether they would prefer a sales tax or another kind of tax increase.

Sentiment Against
On the other side, legislative sentiment seems strong against the legislature sending a tax program to the people.

The problem is, under present laws, if the legislature fails to set an election date and the people carry a tax program to the ballot, any new program would be suspended until the general election in the fall of 1964.

Elfstrom's proposal would move the date of decision up a year.

To Hear Report
The Senate voted formally today to join the House Friday to hear Gov. Mark Hatfield and Sen. Wayne Morse report on the Boardman project.

There were only two votes against the joint session. Sen. Edward Fadeley (D-Eugene), referring wryly to Hatfield's recent out-of-state speech-making, told the Senate the real question was not whether to meet, but whether the governor would be there.

Tax Committee Discusses Plans

Salem—UPI—Discussion of cigarette taxes and a "one shot" revenue plan occupied the House Taxation Committee Tuesday—but no mention was made of sending Rep. Joe Rogers' sales tax bill back to the House.

Rogers charged Monday that Democratic leadership was delaying action on tax measures. House Speaker Clarence Brown threatened to call Rogers' bill out of committee. Tax Committee Chairman Richard Eymann indicated the committee might take such action.

Rogers' bill would establish a 3 per cent sales tax on all but agricultural sales.

Tax Commissioner Fred Hoeft termed the proposed 4-cent cigarette tax "a tremendous source of revenue," and said other states collect more than \$1 billion a year from cigarette taxes.

Oregon is the only state that does not levy a cigarette tax of some form.

FUND BENEFITS

Portland—UPI—Portland's symphony maintenance fund benefited to the tune of some \$20,000 from the Manhattan West week end ball early this month. Some 1,342 tickets were sold for \$25 each.

ELLSWORTH ELECTED

Salem—UPI—Harris Ellsworth, Roseburg, today was elected chairman of the State Civil Service Commission.

UNESCO Booklet Describes Russia As Brotherhood of Equal Peoples

Paris—UPI—A United Nations body, whose largest financial support is given by the U.S. government, has published a booklet denouncing "colonialist oppression" by Western nations and describing the Soviet Union as "a brotherhood of free and equal peoples." It was learned today.

Work on Budget Of District 549C Nears Completion

Work is expected to be completed late this week on a proposed budget for fiscal year 1963-64 for School District 549C so it can be prepared for publication and public hearing and election dates set.

The budget committee last night indicated that an election on the amount exceeding the 6 per cent limitation may be held early in April. What this amount is, however, has not yet been determined.

The committee tentatively approved most of the remaining items in the proposed budget last night. A few items remain to be considered when the budget is presented in its final form, among them is capital outlay funds for construction of elementary school classrooms needed next September.

Funds Approved
Funds were approved last night in administrative, instruction, pupil transportation, operation and maintenance of plant and some capital outlay categories. Many of them were items on which consideration was delayed when reviewed at previous committee meetings.

Major increases in items considered last night included about \$17,500 in instructional staff other than teachers, and \$11,434 in capital outlay for remodeling and renovation work.

Funds Are Reduced
Salaries for custodial services was reduced \$3,946, and the cost of repairing and maintaining buildings was reduced \$7,337 from the amount budgeted this year.

The proposed budget probably will total more than \$4.6 million, compared to a budget of \$4.25 million this year. Most of the increase is because of a revised teachers salary schedule and funds for additional teachers next year.

Some adjustments will be made in some categories before the final budget is completed, the committee noted.

House To Be Burned As Part of Program

A house at 360 Freeman rd., Central Point, will be burned Sunday, Feb. 17 as part of the instruction program being conducted by the Jackson-Joseph Firemen Instructors' association.

Secretary Arlo Miller, Ashland fireman, said that the burning time will be at noon.

Instructors from the Central Point, Medford, Ashland, Eagle Point and Jacksonville fire departments and Central Point rural district are to convene from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the burning site.

Miller said that firemen from all departments of the area will be welcome at the instruction session.

Robert Walker, Central Point, president of the association reported that the residence was severely damaged in a fire. The structure was turned over to the Central Point city fire department to burn. Central Point firemen turned the project over to the instructors.

Space Age Park Group Reelects President

Boardman—UPI—William H. Belt, Hermiston, was reelected president of the Space Age Park Industrial Development association at the group's annual stockholders' meeting here Tuesday night.

Newby Designates Three Successors

State Sen. L. W. Newby (R-Jackson) has designated his successors to the office under the emergency Interim Successors provision, specified by state law.

They are Hugh Jennings, 1414 Crown ave., Medford; Edd Rountree, 552 Beach st., Ashland, and Eric W. Allen Jr., 48 Windsor ave., Medford.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday. Patchy morning fog. Low tonight 39-45. High Thursday 50-55.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 5:40 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:11 a.m.
The Moon rises 10:51 p.m. tonight and is in Apsis.
Last Quarter Feb. 16
The planet Mercury, briefly seen just before sunrise for the next few mornings, is now about 22 million miles from the Earth.

Airliner May Have Shattered in Sky, Evidence Indicates

Miami, Fla.—UPI—Scattered wreckage of a Northwest Orient Airlines jetliner indicated today that the plane may have shattered in flight before it plunged into the Florida Everglades with the loss of 43 lives.

Newsmen at the scene found wreckage scattered over an area of about two square miles.

A score of government aviation experts at the crash site 43 miles west of Miami declined to speculate on the cause of the crash as they began their painstaking examination of the wreckage.

Fifteen miles away, a morgue was set up in a little two-room Indian school house to begin receiving the charred and broken bodies of the victims.

There was no furrow to indicate that the pilot of the ill-fated Miami-to-Chicago airliner, which disappeared seven minutes after takeoff Tuesday, had attempted any sort of emergency landing.

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Malheur Disaster Designation Asked

Ontario—UPI—Malheur County Judge Ellis White said Tuesday he has asked that the county be declared a disaster area because of recent flood damage.

"I am fully aware of the horror of war," said Portland Civil Defense Director Jack Lowe, citing World War II experiences, "but I believe it would save lives."

Indicator of Medford's Growth Seen in Records

An authentic indicator of Medford's growth during the 20th century was reported this week by J. A. Eldswick, chairman of the Southern Pacific unit of the Brotherhood of Railroad Clerks at the Medford post office.

Going through some old files, he uncovered forms gathered by several postmasters, who apparently started to record the history of the Medford post office. The statistics tell the growth story more vividly than words.

In 1891, business totaled \$349.93 for a two-month period. The postmaster, Medford's first, James S. Howard, was still in office. He received \$166.67 for two months salary, his monthly pay being \$83.33.

A post office clerk, according to the same form, which did not list his name, was paid \$33.33 and costs for rent and heating of the building totaled \$26.67, again for two months.

One special delivery letter was delivered during the two months and a fee of eight cents was collected by the postmaster for same.

The sworn statement of business is notarized by Willard Crawford on Oct. 3, 1891. The Medford post office, established Feb. 6, 1884, was then seven years old.

In 1962, during a two months period the Medford post office did \$153,000 worth of business. During two months the post office delivered 940 special delivery letters. Total receipts for the year were \$915,110.98, an increase of \$50,000 over 1961.

WRECKAGE INVESTIGATED

Civil Aeronautics Board and Federal Aviation Agency officials are shown as they started an on-the-spot investigation of the wreckage of the Northwest Orient jetliner which crashed in the Florida Everglades Tuesday, killing 43 persons. (UPI)

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Group Suggests Addition To Governor's Staff

Action Climaxes Stormy Hearings

Salem—UPI—Elimination of Oregon's civil defense agency was recommended today by a subcommittee of the Senate-House Ways and Means Committee.

The subcommittee voted 5-0 to abolish the present 18-man department, and replace it with the addition of one man to the governor's staff to coordinate civil defense-related activities.

Gov. Mark Hatfield's budget had requested \$195,125 for civil defense.

The action climaxed a series of stormy hearings during which the department was labeled a "do nothing" agency which was inoperative during the Columbus Day storm.

Separate Review
A separate Military Affairs committee is conducting a separate review of the agency.

The subcommittee's recommendation now goes to the full Ways and Means committee for action.

Shortly before Sen. Alfred Corbett (D-Portland) moved for abolition of the agency and asked for an alternate budget, Sen. Walter Pearson (D-Portland) visited the committee. He urged that civil defense be abolished "as the biggest boondoggle and waste of money the state has ever seen."

Pearson added, "I've never yet seen them do anything. If you want to save money, this is one way to start. Get rid of it."

Sen. Lynn Newbury (R-Ashland), who seconded Corbett's motion, had suggested retaining \$22,000 state matching funds for federal appropriations. The committee decided the state should get out of the business' and Newbury dropped his amendment.

Men and women from three Oregon cities told the military affairs group Tuesday they don't want a fallout shelter program.

They said the money and effort spent on civil defense should be spent instead on attaining permanent world peace and disarmament.

Shelters are futile and deceptive, they told the committee as it continued its review of civil defense.

And, said Dr. George Streisinger of the University of Oregon, it is ridiculous to talk about living underground and then emerging into a post-nuclear war world where civilization is gone, animals and plants are dead, and insects and disease are rampant.

Many of the witnesses stressed a false sense of security they said is caused by shelter programs. They said this impedes peace efforts.

They made us "more and more resigned," said Mrs. Harlan Bosworth of Medford. She said shelters also delude the enemy into "believing we will take anything rather than compromise."

No Defense . . .
"There is no defense against a nuclear attack," said Mrs. Ben Bradlyn of Portland. "The real solution is to arrange world disarmament under law."

Officials connected with civil defense disagreed. "Our job is to save lives," said Dr. Richard Wilcox of the State Board of Health, "and a great number would be saved with some preparation."

"I am fully aware of the horror of war," said Portland Civil Defense Director Jack Lowe, citing World War II experiences, "but I believe it would save lives."

NEWS BRIEFS

U. S. 'REGRETS' CUBA AID PROJECT
Washington—UPI—The United States expressed "regrets" today that a \$1.5 million United Nations agricultural aid project for Cuba, stalled since 1961, now is going ahead.

The project will provide technicians in animal husbandry, grasslands management and plant pathology in Cuba.

MALAYA STEPS UP ARMY EXPANSION
Kuala Lumpur, Malaya—UPI—The Malaysian government today announced immediate steps to expand its armed forces as a result of the "hostile attitude" of Indonesia toward the proposed Federation of Greater Malaysia.

RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOS MAY BE SHOWN
Washington—UPI—The Defense Department may make public additional reconnaissance photographs of Cuba in response to assertions there was a "blank space" in U.S. intelligence on the Soviet arms buildup.