

Firebomb Explodes in Home Where Negro Congressman Is Guest

Story Column 5

Natural Resources Department Given Committee Vote

'Intimidation' Charges Hurdled

Salem - (UP) - The governor's proposed Natural Resources Department won committee approval Thursday amid a flurried over charges that its opponents were engaging in "intimidation" of the legislature.

The House Natural Resources Committee voted 6-2 to recommend passage of the bill. Chairman Clinton Haight (D-Baker) said he will give a minority report against it.

It would group natural resources agencies, boards and commissions into a department with six divisions: Forestry, fish and game, mineral resources, agriculture, water, resources, and boats and harbors. Parks and recreation would not be included.

The whole department would be headed by an appointee of the governor.

Most Agencies Opposed

Most of the agencies involved in the reorganization plan have fought it.

The committee approval came hours after committee members William Holmstrom (D-Gearhart) issued a statement accusing state employees of trying to defeat the bill by intimidation, threats of political reprisal, and inaccurate statements.

Holmstrom particularly accused the State Game Commission and its staff of an "arrogant" attitude and "legislative brow-beating."

Strongest Argument

He said the action of the state employees "is the strongest argument" for reorganization and reduction of the number of empire-building boards and commissions to a manageable size.

Gov. Mark Hatfield gave a statement saying "there is no excuse for arrogance."

"The game commission and those employees who have openly fought my program are not being criticized for having contrary opinions, but for their attitudes and actions which accompany those opinions."

To Eliminate Abuses

"The time has come," he said, "to establish a department of natural resources to eliminate such abuses."

Sen. Harry Bolvin (D-Klamath Falls) who has championed an interim investigation of the game commission, joined in accusing the commission and its employees of taking a "high-handed attitude."

He said, however, the flurried "further shows the necessity" for an interim study of the game commission, not for a natural resources department.

Douglas Silent On Divorce Plans

Washington - (UP) - Associate Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, 64, had no comment today on his second wife's announcement that she planned to seek a divorce.

Mrs. Mercedes Hester Douglas, 46, wife of the justice for eight years, said through her lawyer she planned to file for divorce sometime this summer when she returns to her ranch at Glenwood, Wash. She gave no reason.

Douglas' first marriage to the former Mildred Riddle, a boyhood sweetheart, ended in divorce, after two children and nearly 30 years of marriage. She charged she was left "abandoned and alone" during his work and world travels.

Douglas, appointed to the high court in 1939 by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, married his present wife in December, 1954. She had been divorced from C. Girard Davidson, former assistant secretary of the interior during World War II.



TO TAKE OATH—Al Bradford, 42, Medford city councilman, will become acting postmaster of Medford at midnight tonight. He was to receive the oath of office at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon at the Medford post office from Keith Rice, postal inspector of Eugene, J. A. Eidswick, postal inspector for this area, who has been acting postmaster for several months, resumes his position as inspector only, tomorrow morning. The vacancy in the Medford office occurred with the death of A. Moore Hamilton last August. The vacancy was filled for a month by Chet L. Langset, Klamath Falls postmaster.

Medford Board Asks Meeting to Discuss Insurance Policies

The school board of District 549C this week requested a meeting in Salem to settle disputed coverage of insurance written by the California Life Insurance company of Oakland, Calif.

At a special meeting this week, the board requested a meeting between Oregon Insurance Commissioner Walter G. Korlann, the California insurance commissioner, representatives of the insurance company and representatives of the school district, along with other school districts which obtained insurance from the company.

The board asked for a meeting as soon as possible since the insurance contract expires with the end of the school term.

The board also asked that the commissioners of insurance in Oregon and California intervene in the case, specifically "in connection with student and faculty accident and medical insurance written by California Life Insurance company under their policy of insurance No. 4983 for which the district and its patrons have paid in excess of \$20,000 and which California Life Insurance company refuses to honor in the form delivered and paid."

Assistant Superintendent Elliott Becken, in a letter of transmittal, said a meeting such as requested appears to be imperative.

"Billing for medical, hospital, and laboratory services which are long delinquent to parties for payment, even though these many students were covered under the policy with the California Life Insurance company," Becken said.

Becken said: "You undoubtedly have many more details regarding this case, but to date we are in the dark as to what we can inform our parents and physicians as to the payment of student accident claims that are seven months in arrears."

Korlann said earlier this week an investigation into the case is continuing. It involves agents who sold the policies under the name of a Portland agency no longer in existence.

Korlann had received complaints that parts of the policies are considered invalid by the insurance company, which informed Korlann that discrepancies between policies written by the agents and those sent into the home office were discovered.

The number of policies involved in the Medford district is not as great as the number involved in other Oregon districts which obtained the insurance, school officials indicated.

Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt Is Tomorrow

Youngsters by the hundreds are expected to be at Hawthorne park here tomorrow when the Medford Kiwanis club stages its annual Easter egg hunt at 9 a.m.

Boys and girls will take part in three age divisions, one to three, four to six and seven to 10 years. A total of 10,000 candy eggs, individually wrapped, will be scattered over the lawn.

The Dalles - (UP) - Edward Richard Risig, 31, died today at The Dalles General Hospital of a bullet wound suffered during an altercation at Rufus Tuesday night.

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MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1963

No. 19

State Sanitary Hearing Due in Southern Oregon

Medford Said Like Dropping Into Cave

Portland - (UP) - The State Sanitary Authority decided Thursday to hold its next meeting in southern Oregon to investigate air pollution in the Rogue River Valley.

The meeting will be held June 21 in either Medford or Grants Pass.

Acting chairman B. A. McPhillips told the agency he went through Medford twice in February.

"It was just like dropping down into a cave, the air was so thick," he reported.

Placer mining pollution of the Rogue river and its tributaries also may come up at the meeting. The authority received a letter at its meeting Thursday complaining of pollution in the Agness area.

Request Refused

In other action, the authority refused a request from the city of Sherwood for a six-month extension of its deadline for filing plans for a city sewer system. The city and Portland Canning Co. have been unable to agree on a financing contract.

An application by Woodburn for \$75,990 in federal funds for treatment facilities was approved. The money, along with \$75,000 from a bond issue and \$93,500 from Woodburn Senior Estates and the General Foods Co., is needed to handle new sewer connections.

The authority was advised that Silverton's sewage treatment plant is expected to be back in operation soon. The city has been dumping raw sewage into Silver creek.

Howard Prairie Resort To Open

Fishing season is still one week away but the Howard Prairie resort will open tomorrow to "avoid the rush." Bob Johnston, of Johnston Stores, concessionaire, announced today.

Opening of the resort will permit fishermen and other recreationists to take house trailers and boats to the lake in preparation for the official opening of the fishing season April 20.

The restaurant and store will be open Saturday and from then on throughout the season from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The dock store on the water will be open from daylight to dark throughout the season.

Trailer cabins have been "booked out" for Friday and Saturday nights of the fishing season opening. Johnston said. There are still some boats and boat motor combinations available for reservation for the opening days.

Advance reservations and information are available at Johnston's Medford store.

Grocereria Bandit Suspect Arrested

Medford police are investigating the possibility today that a man arrested early Wednesday near Spokane, Wash., may have been the armed bandit who robbed the Grocereria of \$1,800 last Friday night.

The suspect, Keith Barlow Lang, 27, was apprehended at a roadblock set up by law enforcement officers following an early morning robbery of a hotel in Moscow, Ida.

Lang, who also goes by the name James Milton Raye, is known to have been in Medford recently. Medford officers said he was employed here at a local bar on New Year's eve.

City detectives said they are waiting today for pictures of Lang to arrive from Moscow and Klamath Falls, where he also has lived, so they can be shown to employees of the Grocereria for identification purposes.

Lang had been sought by the FBI on a charge of unlawful flight to avoid confinement in connection with an armed robbery in Washington.

Efforts To Locate Lost Sub Thresher Intensified

Bomb Explodes in Home of Negro; Solon Is Guest

No One Injured in Mississippi Incident

Clarksdale, Miss. - (UP) - A homemade firebomb was hurled through a window and exploded into flames early today in a home where Negro Rep. Charles C. Diggs of Michigan was asleep.

The device, a bottle containing flammable liquid, spewed flames over the front room of the home of Aaron Henry, Mississippi president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. No one was hurt.

Diggs, on a civil rights fact-finding trip to Mississippi, Henry and his wife and young daughter were awakened by the crash of the bottle through the picture window about 2 a.m. Henry said he sent his family outside and he and Diggs put out the flames before they spread to other rooms of the three-bedroom house.

Police in this northwest Mississippi Delta community of 21,000 said the incident was under investigation. Officers called in the state fire marshal's office for assistance shortly after the fire-bombing was reported.

Diggs, in a telephone interview with a New York radio station, said he would leave Clarksdale today and will go to Washington Monday in hope of conferring with President Kennedy and Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy.

He said he would take with him a preliminary report of his survey of "the intimidation activities" used against Negroes in many sectors of Mississippi. He said he would testify before the House Judiciary Committee when it begins hearings on civil rights legislation May 8.

The incident occurred less than 12 hours after two Negro residents filed suit in U.S. District Court seeking racial integration of the library, parks, hospital, city hall and county courthouse.

Landslide Area To Be Corrected

The Jackson county roads department will correct landslides along a 2.2-mile segment of the Lake of the Woods highway in the near future, County Engineer Robert Carstensen wrote the county court this morning.

The work will be about 25 miles southeast of Eagle Point, he explained.

Road crews propose to move the road into the hillside in places, Carstensen said. In other places, material will be removed from the upper side of the roadway, and excavated materials will be placed at the "toe" of the slide to form a counterbalance.

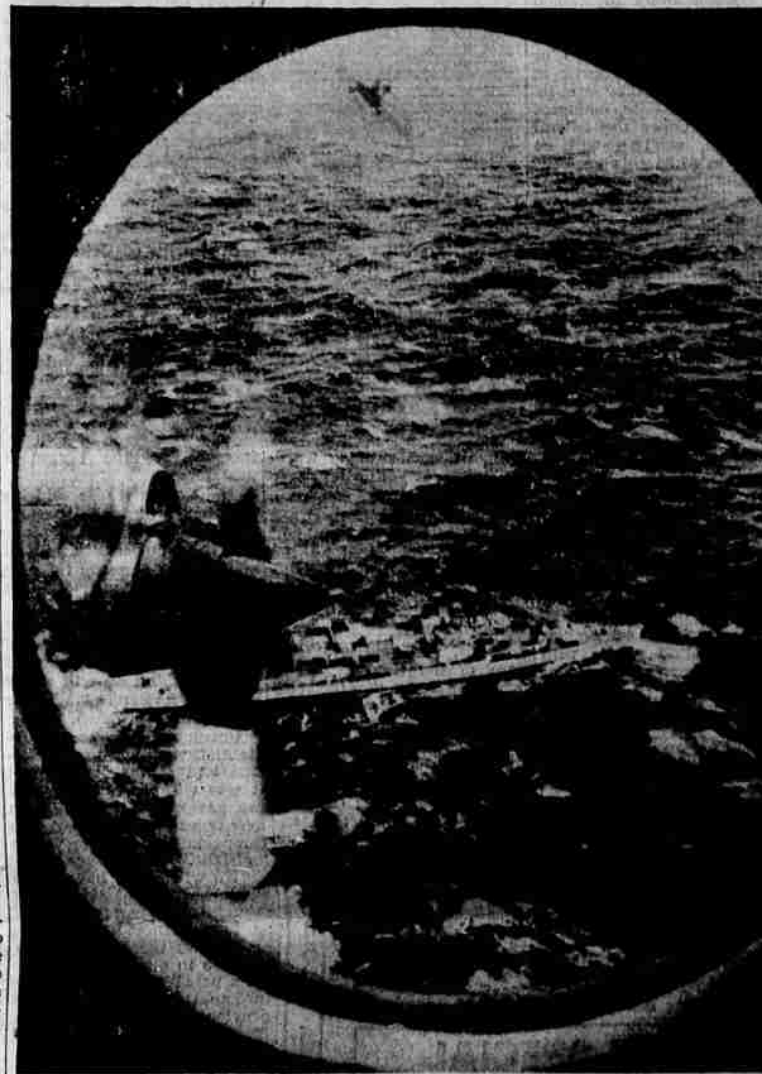
Drains will be installed in the counterbalanced material to intercept the ground water, he said.

Stockman to Discuss Elimination of Funds

The Jackson County Stockmen's association will hold a special directors' meeting in the extension service auditorium at 8 o'clock tonight to discuss the elimination of county support of two state predatory animal hunters.

The county budget committee removed the allocation of \$7,743 for the new fiscal year, starting July 1 and added \$1,000 to the county bounty.

All interested stockmen and other livestock men have been invited to the meeting. Plans for the annual stockmen's association spring meeting in the Central Point Grange hall at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, also will be discussed.



SEARCHING FOR THRESHER—This view was taken from a window in a Navy search plane and shows the destroyer USS Warrenton as it participates in search operations for the missing nuclear submarine Thresher in the Atlantic Ocean off the New England coast. (UPI)

Search Narrowed In Area of Last Reported Position

Preparations Made For Use of Camera

Washington - (UP) - The Navy today intensified its efforts to locate the presumably crushed or shattered hull of the nuclear-powered submarine Thresher, lost with 129 men off Cape Cod, Mass.

Four more ships were ordered into the search area, now narrowed to a 30-mile radius about the submarine's last reported position. Preparations were made to use underwater television when the search area has been narrowed still further.

Negative Results

The Navy announced, however, that the nuclear-powered submarine Seawolf has completed its part in the search with "negative results." The Navy command Thursday night and today vigorously discounted reports that the Seawolf might have heard "tapping" or electronic sound signals banded off the hull of the Thresher.

Rear Adm. John McCain Jr., Navy chief of information, said the Seawolf completed its mission at 4:30 a.m. (PST) today.

Adm. George W. Anderson, chief of naval operations, said Thursday night there is no possibility that anyone on the Thresher could be alive.

Camera To Be Lowered

It is expected that the television camera will be lowered by cable almost to the bottom, a mile and a half below, from the oceanographic research vessel Atlantis II, which is already taking part in the search.

McCain explained that an exact location of the Thresher is necessary before the bathyscaphe Trieste, due to leave San Diego tonight by rail, can be lowered to observe the hull. The Trieste is a deep-diving observation device, carrying two men, but it is also lowered by cable and cannot move around to search.

"If there is any conceivable way we can get a look at the Thresher's hull, we may be able to determine why she was lost," McCain said in emphasizing the importance of the operation.

Reports from the scene of the search said high seas were seriously hampering efforts to find a trace of the Thresher. The destroyer Hazelwood, carrying electronic gear, arrived at the location of the disaster hours late because of the difficult conditions.

TRAIN TAKES PLUNGE

Jakarta, Indonesia - (UP) - A speeding Bandung-Jakarta express train leaped the track and plunged into a 250-foot ravine, killing at least 28 persons and injuring 35 others it was reported today.

Planners Approve Request to Rezone 30 Acres of Land

A request to rezone 30.3 acres near the Biddle rd. freeway interchange, which would clear the way for development of a tourist motel complex, won approval of the Medford planning commission last night.

The matter will now go before the city council for final action. Planning commissioners voted unanimously to recommend the zone change.

Attorney Manville Heisel, representing owners of the property located on the south side of Crater Lake highway between Biddle rd. and Hilton rd., described the property as "a hub" location, one ideally suited for a tourist motel development.

Heisel noted the property was 1.4 miles from the airport terminal, and 1.3 miles from the Medford Shopping Center. He said a tentative lease has been negotiated with Texaco Oil company for construction of a gasoline station on two acres of the site.

Approve Zone Change - The group also approved a zone change request which will permit construction of a Southern Oregon Conservancy and Tree Farm association office building on a parcel of land on the north side of Highway 99, immediately east of the state highway department and state police property.

Attorney Frank J. Van Dyke, representing Elk Lumber company, owners of the property, assured the commission that construction of the building "would not interfere with residential uses to the east of the site on Berrydale ave."

Van Dyke said a small triangle of land immediately in front of the site which is owned by Medford Corporation would not interfere with the development. He said

Period of Waiting In Steel Price Hike

New York - (UP) - Businessmen, politicians and labor leaders, studying reaction to President Kennedy's warning against a general increase in steel prices, settled down today to a week end of waiting for news from Pittsburgh, Pa.

The President's statement, issued in Washington Thursday, predicted grave economic consequences should there be a general price hike in steel in the wake of Wheeling Steel Corporation's boost in prices on some grades. But he said that "selected price adjustments" are to be expected in a healthy economy.

U.S. Steel, target of administration wrath because of a proposed price hike little over a year ago, remained silent both on the Wheeling action, announced Wednesday, and on the presidential statement.

Deny a request for a variance to allow a 4 by 6 foot sign at 2520 Merriman rd. - Defer action until June 13 on a request for a change of zone for property between Old Biddle rd. and the realigned Biddle rd.

Deny a request for a variance to allow construction of a garage and tool house at 2999 Fairview place.

Deny a request for a variance to operate a gun and reloading shop as a home occupation at 214 Haven st.

Approve a request for a variance to allow construction of a garden and tool house at 2999 Fairview place.

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NEWS BRIEFS

NEGRO LEADER PLAYS 'PRAYER MARCH' - Birmingham, Ala. - (UP) - Integration leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. planned to lead a "prayer" march on city hall today despite a court order aimed at squelching a series of racial demonstrations here.

RUSSIA HINTS AT NEW COSMIC FEATS - Moscow - (UP) - The Soviet Union celebrated cosmonaut's day today, marking the second anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's pioneer manned space flight with hints of new "spectacular" cosmic feats to come.

RUSK TO DISCUSS BERLIN ISSUE - Washington - (UP) - Secretary of State Dean Rusk, just back from Allied defense talks in Paris, was to discuss the Berlin issue late today with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin.

WATER TREATMENT - Medford - (UP) - The city council today approved a contract for the construction of a water treatment plant at a cost of \$1,800,000.