

FEAR VOICED FOR SINATRA'S SAFETY

Cutbacks To Hit Taxpayer In Pocketbook

Editor's Note: Property taxpayers next year will receive a brutal reminder of the state's austerity program, for about 25 per cent of the cutbacks were in the form of state aid to local school districts. This is the first of five articles on the program.

By ZAN STARK

SALEM (UPI) — Taxpayer enthusiasm for the economy program demanded by the Oct. 15 tax referendum may disappear next fall when local property tax bills are issued.

Of the \$46.3 million cutback, \$12 million came from the 1964-65 basic school distribution.

Finance and administration analysts anticipate about a \$1.2 million carryover from the fund this year — which means the net reduction in state aid to local schools will total \$10.8 million.

This means the Portland school district will suffer a \$1,493,685 cut in aid which will reduce the state's grant to \$7,499,283. To put it another way, Portland school district taxpayers will have to pay \$1.79 in additional property taxes for every \$1,000 of true cash value of their property to make up the loss.

Many districts will be much harder hit. Eugene's \$555,790 loss translates to a \$5.25 per \$1,000 hike in local taxes. Medford's \$289,747 to \$5.06, Roseburg's \$195,802 to \$5.59, Coos Bay's \$204,751 to \$5.68, Bend's \$122,270 to \$5.23. The Dalles, \$95,724 to \$5.85.

In most cases, the normal school growth demands, coupled with the extra tax burden resulting from basic school aid cuts, will force local budget elections.

Many lawmakers were aware of this when they approved the cuts in basic. They felt in view of the Oct. 15 referendum that local school district voters should make the decision.

Because a portion of the basic school fund is designed to provide extra money for poor school districts, they will be hardest hit by the cutbacks.

The idea behind the basic school support fund is to use income taxes collected by the state to help local school districts operate, thus reducing local property taxes.

The Oct. 15 vote resulted in budget cuts, but did not reduce the number of children in the schools.

As a result, part of the cost of operating local schools has been shifted back to the local districts. It will be up to local school boards to decide if they want to — or can — trim their operations. If they cannot, the cuts ordered at the state level will have to be made up locally.

The implications of this shift are difficult to forecast. The increased tax bills will be mailed out in most counties just a few days before next November's elections. All 60 House seats, and half the 30 state Senate seats will be determined at that election.

The impact of increased local tax bills could effect the outcome of the elections.

Wednesday: The schools that won't be built.

Indianapolis Jury Indicts Seven Over Ice Show Explosion

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — A grand jury indicted the state fire marshal, the Indianapolis fire chief and five other persons Monday and charged that "utter disregard of duty by many" contributed to a Halloween explosion here that killed 72 persons.

"No one seemed willing to carefully inspect the premises and protect the safety and welfare of the some 3 million people who have entered the building during the past 10 years," the grand jury said in an accompanying 21 page report.

It called for a special session of the legislature "to completely overhaul" the department of the state fire marshal, "or abolish it entirely."

The strongly worded report and the indictments came after a weeks-long investigation into the blast that shook the Indiana State Fairgrounds Coliseum on

Oct. 31 as an ice show was nearing its climax. More than 300 persons were injured. The seven persons indicted were scheduled for arraignment Dec. 20.

Fire Marshal Ira Anderson, 69, was indicted on two counts of failure to inspect the Coliseum.

Melvin Ross, head of the Indianapolis Coliseum Corp., which holds a contract to operate the Coliseum, was indicted on an involuntary manslaughter charge. The same charge was returned against Floyd James, commissary manager.

Fire Chief Arnold W. Phillips was charged with failure to inspect the Coliseum within a six-month period as required by law.

The two men arrested for spotlighting

State police arrested two Central Point men last night on charges of spotlighting deer Dec. 3, it was reported.

The two men are scheduled to be arraigned in Jackson County District Court today.

William Jesse Weide, 19, of 451 Wilson Road, Central Point, and Richard Franklin Grissom, 18, of Route 2, Box 198, Central Point, are being held in Jackson County jail.

The arrests followed a joint investigation by Medford and state police during which blood and hair from a deer were found in a vehicle owned by the two men.

The two arrests are part of 18 made by state police this week on charges of game law violations.



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WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair through Wednesday, except for patches of morning fog. Low tonight 20-25. High Wednesday 45-53.

Highest Yesterday	45	Temp.
Lowest This Morning	22	
Pre. to 10 a.m. Today	.01	

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today	4:29 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow	7:38 a.m.
Moonrise tomorrow	7:10 a.m.
New Moon	Dec. 15

The comparatively dim star right below the planet Venus tonight is Nunki; the much brighter star high above Venus is Altair.

Defense Continues Presentation in Mail Fraud Trial

PENDLETON (UPI) — The defense continued its case today in the mail fraud trial of seven Chicago and Los Angeles area men in connection with the Lake Valley Subdivision south of Burns.

Eleven witnesses appeared as the defense opened its case in Federal Court Monday.

Defense Attorney William Morrison said the defense may finish its presentation Thursday.

Dr. David Charlton, operator of a commercial testing laboratory in Portland, testified today in the area had a slightly different taste and odor but was drinkable.

Neil Smith Jr., Burns postmaster, said there was a steady growth but not a booming population in the Burns area. His wife told of collecting Indian arrowheads on Lake Valley property and spoke of nearby sports locations.

Considered Undesirable

Oliver Olivo, a civil engineer from Monterey Park, Calif., who engineered the Lake Valley area, said he was told to leave out "undesirable" land. He said he left 15 to 20 per cent out of the project because it was considered undesirable for the subdivision.

Federal Judge John Kilkenny denied a defense motion for a mistrial. The motion was based on articles published in two newspapers which referred to the judge refused to allow Friday.

The government rested its case Friday after calling 47 witnesses.

Voters Defeat Bond Issue for Sewers

TALENT — Plans for a sewer system in the South Talent Sanitary District were stalled yesterday as voters defeated a proposed \$135,000 bond issue.

The margin was better than 2 to 1, as about 62 per cent of the registered voters cast ballots. The unofficial result was 93 no and 37 yes. The vote will be canvassed Thursday night.

The result naturally was a disappointment for members of the board of the sanitary district. "We'll just have to try to work out something else," member Donald Grimes said.

Some residents said they expected the bond issue to be defeated but were surprised that it went down by such a decisive margin.

The general consensus on the defeat was that the residents favored a sewer system but not the price they would have to pay for it.



SINATRA ABDUCTION — California highway patrolmen and sheriff's deputies (top photo) stop and search cars on Meyers Grade as they leave the Lake Tahoe area in search of Frank Sinatra Jr., who was kidnapped last Sunday from his motel room. In the lower picture, El Dorado (Calif.) Sheriff Ernest Carlson leads suspected bank robber Joseph Greene from station after his arrest Monday. Sheriff's deputies arrested six men, including two wanted for questioning about the abduction of young Sinatra. (UPI)

Commissions Talk Policies, Possible Youth Work Plan

GRANTS PASS — The Jackson and Josephine Counties Parks and Recreation Commissions met jointly last night in Grants Pass to discuss policies and a possible youth work plan.

No definite action was taken. Further discussion of setting a policy on fees and charges in recreation areas will be held when Jackson, Josephine and Klamath Counties Parks and Recreation Commissions meet in Medford later, it was decided.

The group consisting of Josephine County commissioners also discussed allowing special use of public lands and waters by private parties, clubs and organizations and other public agencies. The Josephine County group said they had trouble with conflicting interests between fishermen and water-skiers using Lake Selma.

Intent on Acquiring Land

Since Grants Pass and Cave Junction are the only incorporated cities in the county, Josephine County is not as concerned with aiding municipalities and communities with recreation development as Jackson County is. But, they are more intent on acquiring parks and recreation sites since they have far less acreage already for such development compared to Jackson County. They complimented the Jackson County commission on operation of the Howard Prairie Lake recreation area.

Josephine County people were impressed with Laurance V. Es-

pey's (Jackson County Parks and Recreation Commission chairman) proposal youth work program modeled on the Multnomah plan now in operation.

Josephine County Commissioner Louis Ringuette said he had suggested such a program a year ago. The Josephine County program would train youth in both forestry and park work, however.

Proposes Regulations

Espey has proposed a set of regulations for the youth task force which would include no smoking or drinking while employed by the County, working eight hours a day, five days a week, and setting a curfew in camp.

At least 40 high school juniors would be selected by their principals on a board cross-section basis, Espey proposed. He said he had several letters from future employers who would be interested in hiring graduates from the program. He also referred to a list of various agencies which would help in establishing it.

Airline Strike May Disrupt GI Holiday Travel

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A strike scheduled to start Dec. 19 against United Air Lines threatened today to disrupt the holiday travel plans of about 100,000 GI's heading home for Christmas.

The walkout has been called by the International Association of Machinists (IAM) to back up demands for pay and benefit increases for nearly 13,000 mechanics and other ground crew members.

United, the nation's biggest domestic carrier, estimated that it would carry more than 800,000 passengers during the forthcoming holiday period if there were no work stoppage.

Rejected Proposal

Negotiators for the airline and the union were summoned to the offices of the National Mediation Board (NMB) again today to resume bargaining. Their talks were recessed last week after the company rejected a union counter-proposal for settlement.

Mediation board member Howard Gansner said he would renew his efforts to settle the dispute before the union strike deadline of 12:00 a.m. local time, Dec. 19.

He said the Defense Department notified the NMB that 100,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen going on Christmas leave already have bought tickets on United flights. The airline, which carries from 25 to 30 per cent of all passengers flying within the United States, is the only trunkline carrier serving several major cities, including the space center at Huntsville, Ala.

Asked about the outlook for settlement, machinists' union coordinator Frank Heister said, "It doesn't look too favorable at the moment but we've still got a week to go."

Stability Payments Made to Employees

Medford City Manager Robert A. Duff reported today that 90 city employees qualified for and were paid stability payments, which are equivalent to a year-end bonus.

The total amount of payment involved was \$9,950.79. Payment to individuals ranged from \$6.80 to as much as \$254.40. Qualification for payment is based on 1 1/2 per cent of base pay after five years up to 5 per cent after 20 years' service with the city. Eight people received maximum amounts.

Authority for the payment is an outgrowth of the Griffithhagen Kroeger salary study conducted earlier this year. This is the first stability payment to city employees, though payment has been made in a modified form previously.

Personal income tax collections through Nov. 30 totaled \$43,294,771 an increase of 6.6 per cent over 1962-63. Corporate receipts of \$3,504,422, were 3.9 per cent below collections for the same period last year.

The increase is about what was anticipated.

Individual income taxpayers are responsible for the gain in general fund taxes, as revenues from corporations are trailing last year's figures, the commission said.

SALEM (UPI) — Tax revenues totaled \$47,357,473 for the first five months of the 1963-64 fiscal year, a gain of 5.9 per cent over the comparable period of the previous fiscal year, the State Tax Commission announced today.

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Johnson Claims United States Most Powerful

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson assured congressional leaders today that the United States has the military strength to survive a surprise attack and destroy any aggressor.

Johnson made the statement at a briefing of top leaders—both Democratic and Republican—of the House and Senate on the relative strength of U.S. military forces.

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Central Intelligence Director John McCone participated in the hour-long briefing in the cabinet room of the White House.

Afterward, the White House issued only a brief statement about the meeting. It said: "The discussion covered both the status as of today and as it is forecasted to be through the decade of the '60s."

"The President emphasized that the U.S. military program will continue to provide for a strategic force sufficiently large to absorb a surprise attack and survive with sufficient power to be capable of destroying the aggressor."

One More Step

Today's briefing was reported to be one more step in Johnson's efforts to keep key congressional figures fully informed.

The session was similar to a briefing given at the National Security Council meeting last week. It covered both conventional and nuclear forces.

White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger noted that members of Congress have received high-level military briefings before but said he did not know if they ever got a comparison of Soviet and U.S.

strength, such as was provided today.

It was understood that the President wanted to reassure Congress that defense economy measures he has approved will not affect the preeminent American position in military power.

In addition to meeting with congressional leaders, Johnson today held the first in a series of conferences with his key budget advisers—Director Kermit Gordon and his deputy, Elmer Staats.

Today's discussion centered on the budget requests Johnson will make next month on behalf of the Treasury and Justice Departments.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Defense Department officials disclosed today that 61 jet training planes have been discovered sabotaged at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona.

The sabotage, the announcement said, consisted of the cutting of electric wires leading to the gears of the T38 supersonic trainers.

The department said that the FBI and other military security investigators have begun an inquiry but no arrests have been made.

Found in Routine Check

According to a report from Williams, the sabotage was turned up Monday morning during a routine check by ground crews. After discovering the wire damage to one plane, a thorough examination brought to light the damage to the other 60 trainers.

All planes of the type were immediately grounded for further inquiry.

Officials said that the sabotage was not considered dangerous to possible pilots because there normally would be a double inspection which would detect the damage before the planes were used for flights. They said that ground crew and pilot inspection would have found the sabotaged wiring.

Damage Suit Case May End Today

A Jackson County Circuit Court jury trial arising out of a traffic accident Nov. 8, 1952, in Medford is expected to end this afternoon.

Mrs. Wilma Welding, Seattle, Wash., is seeking approximately \$14,500 in damages from Walter Spear doing business as Eagle Wood Company, Eagle Point. She charges the car in which she was riding was struck by Spear's truck, driven by Harley Goodwin, at Edwards Street and North Riverside Avenue.

She further alleges she was seriously injured.

After the start of the trial yesterday, Mrs. Welding's attorneys amended their complaint to revise damages sought from \$54,500 to \$14,500.

Robert Radcliffe, Seattle, and Donald O'Leary, Portland, are representing the Seattle woman. Medford Lawyers Philip Lowry and William Deatherage are representing Spear.

Lumber Freighter Awaits Salvage

ASTORIA (UPI)—No decision had been made today on whether to attempt salvage of the freighter C. Trader, aground with 2.4 million board feet of lumber in the lower Columbia River off Fort Stevens.

PORTLAND (UPI) Dr. Frank B. Bennett, president of Eastern Oregon College at La Grande, will retire next Aug. 31 it was announced today.

FBI Agents Check Mail in Search For Ransom Notes

Kidnapers Said To Mean Business

STATELINE, Nev. (UPI)—A musician who was with Frank Sinatra Jr., 19, when he was kidnapped at a airport Sunday night said today "I'm afraid for Frank."

John N. Foss, 26, told of his fears at a news conference as FBI agents checked the mails and the young singer's famous father waited tensely for a possible ransom demand from the two kidnapers.

Foss was with young Sinatra in a motel room Sunday night waiting to make a band appearance at a Lake Tahoe gambling casino.

'Afraid for Frank'

Flanked by three sheriff's deputies, Foss met with newsmen at the casino today for the first time since the abduction. Asked if he was worried for his own safety, he replied: "I think I'm pretty well protected, but I'm afraid for Frank."

He said the kidnapers repeatedly warned that they "meant business." And, after trying up Foss, told him to wait 10 minutes before notifying police.

"If we're caught before we get to Sacramento, we would be dangerous," he quoted one of them as saying.

Money Was Demanded

Foss, who said the pair appeared to know who Sinatra was, but he couldn't tell whether they had intended to kidnap him from the start. They demanded money but got only about \$11 from Sinatra and nothing from him, Foss said.

At one point, Foss said, one of the parka-clad men suggested to the other that he hit Foss, but the latter said "No Joe, I don't think we should."

Foss was being kept under wraps by authorities. He said he underwent a lie detector test Monday night, but was not told of the results.

Authorities theorized that a ransom note mailed Monday would show up today for delivery. They were checking incoming mail at Lake Tahoe and at Reno, where the missing youth's famous father waited anxiously in a hotel.

Cambodians at UO May Finish Year

EUGENE (UPI) — Nine Cambodian students studying at the University of Oregon as a part of a special educational project have been told they may stay until the end of the academic year if they wish.

Cambodia recently announced it would accept no more American aid and terminated all aid programs, including one with the university for teacher training.

"The decision to stay or go back to Cambodia has been left up to us," Kim Sillon, one of the students, said after receiving a letter from the Cambodian embassy.

The students are all secondary school teachers from the capital city of Phnom Penh.

Sawyer Named Head Of Judges' Group

SALEM — Jackson County District Court Judge L. L. Sawyer was elected president of the Oregon District Court Judges' Association in Salem Friday.

Other officers are a Thomas Hanson, Marion County district court judge, vice president; Darrell William, Polk County district court judge, secretary-treasurer.

The judges discussed new laws and various matters affecting the operation of Oregon's district courts. Sawyer suggested the association meet at the Village Green Motel at Cottage Grove next year for a longer session when a prominent speaker would address the judges and a series of panel discussions would be held. This may be considered later.

Corvallis Girls Detained After High-Speed Chase

CORVALLIS (UPI) — Two 16-year-old Corvallis girls were in custody today after being chased in their car by city, county and state police and damaging three police cars.

The girls were said to have taken the family car of one of them. They were chased at speeds up to 90 miles an hour south from Corvallis by city police.

The Benton County sheriff's office picked up the chase near Monroe.

The girls escaped a blockade at Monroe, crashed through another blockade at Junction City, damaging a Junction City police car and a state police car.

Benton County Deputy Sheriff Guy Murdoch got ahead of them but, he said, they kept ramming into the rear of his car to keep from stopping. At times they were boxed in on three sides by police cars but refused to stop.

They finally were halted at Santa Clara, on the outskirts of Eugene, almost 40 miles from Corvallis.

They were turned over to the Benton County Juvenile Department.

NEWS BRIEFS

TWO CONVICTED IN DEATH OF AIRMAN

EVREUX, France (UPI) — PFC Raymond C. Bost Jr., 22 of Pittsburgh, Pa., and PFC Robert Burrell, 20, of Philadelphia, Pa., have been convicted in the death of Airman Robert Laddett of Woodlawn, N.J., following a fight in an Air Force barracks here.

MARTIAL LAW IN FORCE IN BOLIVIA

ORURO, Bolivia (UPI) — Virtual martial law was in force today in this two-mile-high mining center, a key front-line position in a conflict between the government and its Communist-infiltrated opponents which could explode into civil war.

JOHNSON GETS INVESTIGATION BILL

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House passed and sent to President Johnson today a bill giving special subpoena power to the blue ribbon commission named to investigate the Kennedy assassination.

12 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

CHRISTMAS SEALS fight TB and other RESPIRATORY DISEASES