

# COURT DENIES LAND RETURN IS MANDATORY

SALEM, March 18 (AP)—The state supreme court held Tuesday that it is not mandatory upon counties to return properties, which have been foreclosed for delinquent taxes, to their former owners on payment of back taxes plus six per cent interest.

The court, interpreting a 1937 law, held that the law merely gives county courts permission to return such properties, and that payment of back taxes plus six per cent is only a minimum price set by law. The court ruled that the counties may charge any price they want.

The point was decided in a suit brought by Marguerite R. Chaney against Coos county. The county acquired her property in 1931, the back taxes totaling \$1673. In 1941, she asked the county court to return her property for payment of \$2620, including all back taxes plus six per cent, but the county refused.

She lost her case before Judge James T. Brand, then Coos county circuit judge but now a supreme court justice. Today's decision by Justice Rand upholds Judge Brand.

Oregon law schools, the state bar association and the supreme court announced today that due consideration would be given after the war to law students whose courses are interrupted by military service.

# Trainer's 'Little' Boy New Coach of Tulane Green Wave

NEW ORLEANS, March 18 (AP)—"The trainer's little boy," the gangling kid who used to carry the water bucket, is head coach of the Tulane Green Wave.

Claude "Little Monk" Simons Jr., last night was named boss man of Tulane football—culminating a career that started as mascot of that team and included a period as one of the greatest athletes ever to wear the olive and blue.

He will succeed Lowell "Red" Dawson, who resigned Saturday to become an assistant coach at Minnesota, where he was an assistant to Bernie Bierman before coming over here in 1936. Simons has been on the staff since 1938, for two years as assistant freshman coach and two as varsity backfield coach.

When "Little Monk" takes charge it probably will be the first time that a major college football team has ever had a father-and-son combination with the son as head coach and the father as trainer.

"Big Monk"—who is about two-thirds the size of his 28-year-old, 6-foot-plus, 220-pound son—has been a coach and/or trainer at Tulane since 1919. He brought "Little Monk" in rompers to watch the team practice and play, and the youngster has been around ever since except for three years as athletic director and football coach at Transylvania college just after he graduated from Tulane in 1935.

# DEBUNKED

The so-called wet and dry positions of the moon can be predicted hundreds of years in advance, but no one can foretell wet and dry weather accurately months in advance.

The 1943 demand for U. S. petroleum products will be so huge that if the entire amount were to be run through one modern gasoline pump at a service station operating eight hours a day, five days a week, it would require 45,000 years to pump it all.

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# They Tried to Stem the Fires That Racked Doomed Singapore



Vainly, but uselessly, fire fighters attempt to stem one of the countless fires, which started from a rain of incendiary bombs during the last days of Singapore, once Great Britain's great naval base in the Far East, even then doomed to fall to invaders. This is one of the last pictures to get out of the besieged city.



MOUNT RUSHMORE MEMORIAL—Carved from South Dakota granite in the Black Hills, completed heads of Washington, Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Lincoln face the future.

# Transportation News

## RAILROAD ORDERS NEW LOCOMOTIVES

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18 (UP)—Southern Pacific company Tuesday ordered 40 steam locomotives and 30 diesel-electric switch engines costing a total of \$12,000,000. A. T. Mercier, president, announced. Deliveries were expected to start in October, 1942.

Mercier said the engines were purchased in anticipation of still heavier war time demands upon the railroad. Since 1939 the company has received or ordered 253 steam and diesel engines.

## IRON ORE DISTRICT

The Lake Superior district supplies more iron ore than any other section of the world, and consists of Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Daylight Time  
Clocks are not always set one hour ahead for daylight saving time. They are only set 30 minutes ahead in New Zealand; 20 minutes ahead on Africa's Gold coast.

## SOUTHERN BIRD

The fierce, carnivorous skua, not the penguin, is the southernmost bird on earth. The bird, which often visits 300 miles inland toward the south pole, usually stays near the edge of the south polar continent. It feeds on penguin eggs and chicks.

Good Dog  
A collie dog on the Robert Green farm, Nichols, Ia., drives the chickens to shelter if rain threatens, even if the family is away from home.

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# CONDEMNED SLAYER 'HAPPY AS CAN BE'

SALEM, March 18 (AP)—With only three days to go before he walks into Oregon's lethal gas chamber, John Soto, 17-year-old triple slayer, is "as happy-go-lucky as can be," Deputy Warden Gene Halley of the state penitentiary said Tuesday.

"He talks like he wants to die," Halley said, but he told me he tried to commit suicide three times before he came here. "Soto eats good, sleeps good, and plays the radio all the time. He told me he likes it here in the prison, saying it was just like a big hotel. In fact, he said it was the best place he ever lived in."

Soto is scheduled to die at 8:30 a. m. Friday.

His only chance is to obtain a commutation of sentence from Governor Charles A. Sprague, but the governor's office has indicated this is extremely doubtful.

The youth, who had escaped from the Sonoma, Calif., state home for feeble-minded, committed his crime at Hermiston on Sept. 25, 1941, being convicted of killing Kenneth L. Gorsuch. He also killed Gorsuch's mother and his nephew. Soto lived with the family, and Soto killed them because the mother, learning he was wanted at Sonoma state home, threatened to turn him over to the police.

# Gene Tierney Is Not a Sweatshirt Of Merced Flyers

MERCED, Calif., March 18 (UP)—The staff of the Pilot Reporter, newspaper published by enlisted men at the Merced air corps basic flying school, Tuesday made the following awards to Hollywood: "For worst picture of the year we nominate 'Shanghai Gesture.'"

"For the worst find of the year we nominate Gene Tierney."

"For the worst performance of all time we nominate Gene Tierney in 'Shanghai Gesture.'"

Steam Lighter  
A cigarette can be lighted by steam. This cannot be done by the visible cloud that comes from a tea-kettle, and which is vapor, but by real steam in gaseous form.

# Dinner Tables Scene of Expanding Economic War

CHICAGO, March 18 (AP)—Dinner tables are the site of an economic war with a rapidly expanding front, a survey of price control measures on foods disclosed Tuesday.

The front ranges from canned tomato juice through an extended menu to canned peaches, and the housewife who shies from fresh vegetables can have a complete price-control meal, with meat included.

Office of production administration authorities, leading the campaign against inflation at meal time, are believed ready to assume the offensive against additional saltlets in the near future, if it should be necessary. Major action so far will become effective Monday, when wholesale price ceilings will be clamped upon about 90 per cent of all pork products, such well known items as bacon, ham and pork chops will not be permitted to rise above highest levels prevailing between March 3 and 7. This OPA action is aimed at

the core of inflation, hitting the most popular meat of a meat-eating nation. Pork forms about 50 per cent of America's annual meat diet. The remaining 50 per cent is divided between beef, lamb and veal, with beef the most popular.

Previously the OPA had moved to check rising price tendencies on 11 canned fruits and 15 canned vegetables. Price ceilings, applying only to canners and wholesalers, were placed in effect March 2.

Victims in this earlier skirmish included canned beans, beans, carrots, peas, spinach, apricots, cherries and apples. In fact, there were few, if any, canned fruits and vegetables which escaped. The OPA's victory was complete. Liquid as well as solid foods comprise the battle ground. Wholesale limits have been placed on coffee, tea and cocoa. Milk is controlled by federal marketing agreements in various dairy sheds. There are also price ceilings on fats and oils.

# OREGON TOPS US IN LUMBER OUTPUT

PORTLAND, Ore., March 18 (AP)—For the fourth consecutive year Oregon topped the nation in 1941 as a lumber producer with 6,263,000,000 board feet. Washington's total was 5,155,000,000.

The figures were those of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station here on lumber production in the northwest for 1941.

Production for the two states was up 17.7 per cent over 1940, Oregon's increase being 20.4 per cent, Washington's 13.5.

K'ung Fu-Tze is the name of the ancient Chinese sage, whose name has been Latinized to Confucius.

# OPA Agent Seeks Northwest Tire Ration Solution

PORTLAND, Ore., March 18 (UP)—Carl B. Cadwell, executive secretary of the office of price administration, Tuesday investigated rubber rationing problems of the northwest at a meet-

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ing with state and regional rationing officials. Cadwell stated the situation in Oregon has been complicated because those establishing tire quotas did not understand that many logging trucks operate on 14 wheels over rough terrain. "In New York," he said, "trucks have fewer wheels and operate on pavement with much less wear."

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