

PAUL PORTER NAMED OPA CHIEF

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
WE'RE given a peek today at the long-awaited, much-fought-over new wage-price formula by means of which the Truman administration hopes to break the present deadlock in industry and get the wheels turning again.

It apparently provides price increases for industry to meet GOVERNMENT-APPROVED wage increases.

THAT is to say, when government APPROVES a wage increase it will (theoretically) allow a price increase sufficient to cover the added wage cost. (That is the rough outline of the "formula.") It is announced that Ex-OPA Bowles has been moved over to the job of economic stabilization administrator and will be in charge of laying down the SPECIFIC rules.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, who has obviously been the chief architect of this new wage-price structure, gives it his blessing and urges FIRM holding of the new (and HIGHER) line in order to avoid the "misery and danger of inflation."

He adds: "It is imperative that production and great volume be achieved. Production is our salvation. Production is the basis of high wages and profits and high standards of living for us all. Production (he should have added COMPETITION) will do away with the necessity for government controls."

HIS words are pious. They are academically TRUE. But if his DEEDS are weak, the battle at new line that he calls upon us to defend now at all costs will end in just another defeat and we'll have to fall back to ANOTHER (and of course HIGHER) line beyond.

All history teaches us that inflation can't be licked with WORDS. NOT in any spirit of "I told you so," but merely to keep the situation clear in our minds, this seems to be the time to do a little reviewing.

When V-J Day came along (a little unexpectedly) there was already a fairly well-established wage-price line, worked out by wartime experience and maintained by wartime controls.

President Truman DIDN'T HOLD IT. There are statements on pretty good authority that he even connived at breaking it, encouraging labor leaders to demand sharply higher wages on the theory that industry could afford to pay these higher wages without increasing prices.

QUAKE HITS SEATTLE

Pretty As A Valentine!



That's just what 11-year-old Donna Phillips is as she steps from a huge heart at Mills school where a Valentine pageant is being presented by the students tonight at 8 o'clock. Donna is a sixth grader and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George P. Phillips of 2211 Eberlein. The theme of the evening is "Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair," and Donna is Jeannie this evening.

Asylum Attendants Strike; Inmates Roam City Streets

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Feb. 15 (AP)—Attendants and nurses at the lunatic asylum in Kingston struck today and by early afternoon scores of the inmates were roaming the streets and looting shops and private homes.

Truce In GM Strike Talked

DETROIT, Feb. 15 (AP)—Top executives of the CIO United Auto Workers and General Motors corporation took over today negotiations looking to a settlement of the 87 day old strike that has idled 175,000 GM production workers.

As UAW President R. J. Thomas and GM President C. E. Wilson began the discussion of wages and contract stipulations, Federal Mediator James F. Dewey said: "I don't think this session will end it, but I hope to keep them together night and day through the weekend."

The meeting marked Wilson's first participation in the strike settlement negotiations. It followed close upon rumors that the union might concede from its demand for a 194 cents an hour (17.5 per cent) increase in wages in exchange for concessions on contract stipulations.

Peron Accuses Braden Of Heading Vast Spy Network

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 15 (AP)—Presidential candidate Juan D. Peron accused Spruille Braden, assistant U. S. secretary of state, last night of having headed a "vast spy network" while he served as U. S. ambassador to Argentina and of blackmailing Argentine merchants into contributing funds to support his "subversive work."

Few Minor Injuries Reported

Many People Thought Atom Bomb Plant Had Exploded

SEATTLE, Feb. 15 (AP)—An earthquake, so intense it caused many persons to believe an atom bomb plant had exploded, shook the area from northern Oregon to Canada last night. It caused some property damage and a number of numerous incidents.

A second quake, "so microscopic in size it hardly registered on the seismograph" was reported by the University of Washington geology department, and felt by many persons at 4:18.5 a. m.

Only a few minor injuries were reported as ground tremors were felt over a 120,000 square mile area at 7:18:30 p. m. Pacific Standard Time. Felt for about a minute in downtown Seattle, the quake continued to record on the University of Washington seismograph for 20 minutes.

Three Hurt
Three persons were injured, none seriously. Harry B. Greenlee, 44, was thrown from the cab of a locomotive at the Northern Pacific roundhouse. He was treated for a knee injury.

One man was cut on the hand as a large window glass he was installing fell on him. An elderly man was hit by an automobile which stopped suddenly as the first tremors shook the street. He suffered a hip fracture.

Geology Prof. G. E. Goodspeed of the University of Washington said the seismograph needle there jumped from its drum at 7:18:30 p. m. Pacific Standard Time, and that the quake continued to record for 20 minutes. It could be felt, however, for only about a minute in downtown Seattle.

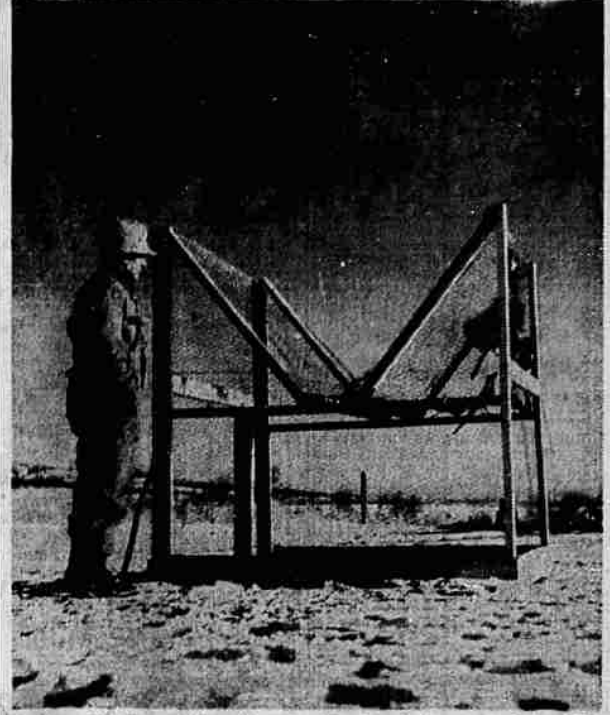
He termed it the worst quake ever recorded here, describing it as being of "moderate intensity," and said he believed it centered near Olympia, state capital city. People ran in fright from the Hotel Olympian there when a cornice 75 feet long dropped from the roof of the first floor with a great crash. Cracks appeared in at least one building of the state group, and in buildings here and in Bremerton, across Puget Sound.

From Salem, Ore., on the south to Vancouver, B. C., to the north came reports that the quake was felt. It was noted at Astoria, Ore., and Hockinson, Wash., on the coast and as far inland as Spokane, in eastern Washington.

Chief Defends Pauley Choice

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—President Truman said today that Navy Secretary Forrestal recommended the nomination of Edwin W. Pauley as navy undersecretary and that President Roosevelt had intended to appoint Pauley to that post.

I Gotcha' Now—Says Sam



Sam Dehlinger, long-time resident and farmer of the Henley area, surveys captured magpies in the trap he built to catch the birds. The magpies are a threat to the existence of young game fowl in that district because they rob nests and kill young birds.

Sam Snares Saucy Magpies With Meat-Baited Springe

To most town dwellers the magpie is a peculiar bird who, legend says, can be taught to talk after his tongue is split. In the eyes of farmers and sportsmen the black and white bird is a menace which has gained notoriety for his habits of systematically robbing nests of eggs and killing young pheasant and quail.

Endeavoring to do something to rid his area of the magpies, Sam Dehlinger, Henley farmer, has set up a trap to catch the birds. He got the idea from an article in the Oregon Journal in which such a trap was described recently.

Four days ago, Dehlinger built the trap and since then has caught 57 magpies. The trap itself consists of a six-foot square wooden base with

Riaz Supports Small Nations

LONDON, Feb. 15 (AP)—Mamdouh Riaz of Egypt, in a speech championing the rights of little nations, declared during a security council session tonight that if 46 nations were going to follow the five principal powers "we might as well liquidate" the United Nations.

Asserting that Britain and France should not assume the task of insuring security in the Levant by keeping troops there against the will of Syria and Lebanon, the Egyptian delegate said:

"If 46 nations are going to follow five, we might as well liquidate this organization and leave the security of the world in the hands of the Big Five."

'Chute Jump Kills Flyer

PORTLAND, Feb. 15 (AP)—An army flyer who bailed out of his P-51 Mustang plane before it crashed near Tigard yesterday was killed when he struck a parked car, residents of the area said today.

Onlookers saw him jump, at very low altitude, after the fighter developed engine trouble. He hit a low-voltage power line before striking his head on the car, officers reported.

Six-year-old Sharon Sparks said she saw the pilotless plane diving toward her; then she "ran and hid" in a driveway. Several others saw the crash.

House Votes More Funds For Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—A big, genial guy from Kentucky took over OPA today and found himself greeted with encouraging tidings from Capitol hill.

The new boss is towering six-foot-four Paul Porter whom President Truman drafted temporarily from his job as chairman of the federal communications commission to head the constantly sniped-at and much-attacked office of price administration.

The good news awaiting him is that OPA has just won its first house victory of 1946—an achievement OPA's legislative backers interpreted as heralding an ultimate vote to continue OPA beyond the June 30 limit fixed by existing law.

The victory was an important test of strength, for it involved a strong republican drive to renege OPA an additional \$1,854,000 this fiscal year, largely to finance an enforcement blitz on black markets. The GOP drive failed and the house voted the funds late yesterday.

No Stranger
Porter is no stranger to the woes and headaches of price control. He served as deputy OPA administrator in charge of enforcing rent ceilings in 1942-43. And he got another slant on the problem as deputy director of the office of economic stabilization in the two ensuing years.

The new OPA chieftain long has made no secret of the fact that he believes the general price level should be held firmly in check, so the capital expected he would hew close to the policies laid down by his predecessor, Chester A. Bowles.

FDR Expected Japanese War

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—A young naval officer testified today that the night before Pearl Harbor he handed President Roosevelt information which prompted the president to exclaim "this means war."

The statement came from Cmdr. L. R. Schulz who told the senate-house committee investigating the Dec. 7, 1941 disaster that he was at the time on duty in the White House.

Schulz said Harry Hopkins was with the president at the time and Hopkins remarked that since war appeared imminent it was "too bad we couldn't strike the first blow and prevent surprise."

Roosevelt replied, Schulz said "No, we can not do that. We are a democracy and a peaceful people."

Schulz said there was no mention of Pearl Harbor. He said the "only geographic name I recall being mentioned was Indochina," and that there was "no indication that tomorrow was necessarily the day." (See also page 12.)

Two Convicts Still At Large

SALEM, Feb. 15 (AP)—State police and prison officials said today they did not have a single trace of the two convicts who escaped from the prison in the foggy darkness of yesterday morning.

Law enforcement officers throughout the northwest joined in the search today.

The men are Allen D. Brumfield, who was received from Portland six years ago to serve a life sentence for murder; and Harold W. Manning, Clackamas county, who is serving two five year sentences for burglary and for burning down the prison flax sheds.

Army Cuts Draft Standards In Bid For More Manpower

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—Selective service headquarters today directed local boards to comb their lists of 4-F's and other deferred classes to get men for limited military service.

The action was taken at the request of the army which lowered its physical standards for draftees to an "absolute minimum" and called on selective service to meet its full quota of 75,000 men.

Selective service officials said that through state headquarters the local boards were directed specifically to review:

O'Mahoney Backed For Ickes' Job

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—President Truman received suggestions today that he name Labor Secretary Schwelmbach or James P. Pope of TVA to succeed Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes.

Senator Mitchell (D-Wash.) suggested that Schwelmbach be shifted to the interior post, while Senator Taylor (D-Idaho), recommended Pope, who is on the board of directors of the Tennessee valley authority and is a former democratic senator from Idaho.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP)—President Truman was reported deliberating over a half dozen possible appointees for secretary of interior, with Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) strongly backed by Capitol hill friends.

Mutual friends of the president and O'Mahoney said the Wyoming senator's name was high on the list, but added that Mr. Truman seemed undecided whether O'Mahoney would be of more service to the administration in the cabinet or the senate.

White House Secretary Charles G. Ross told reporters today that President Truman will name a successor to Ickes "fairly soon." He described the president as "open minded" in his search.

Expectation
Should O'Mahoney be chosen for the post, the expectation here is that Wyoming's Gov. Lester C. Hunt either would succeed him immediately or become a candidate for the senatorial nomination at stake in the state this year. Hunt was one of two democrats to unseat republican gubernatorial incumbents in the 1942 elections.

But if the president turns away from the senate to fill the job that Harold L. Ickes resigned so explosively, one presidential adviser said it is possible that Justice William O. Douglas might be asked to leave the supreme court to take over.

All sorts of switches in his official family were reported to have been suggested to the president, who saw several senators and house members about the matter yesterday.

Todd Released On \$5000 Bond

Property bond of \$5000 was posted by four persons for Clyde Edward Todd yesterday afternoon and the Southern Pacific railroad detective was released from the county jail to await action of the grand jury.

He is charged with manslaughter in the shooting of Ross Simmers on January 25. The charge was reduced from second degree murder by Justice of the Peace J. A. Mahoney yesterday after a preliminary hearing.

Arthur S. Tockey, Frank Crowell, Doris H. Todd and Robert K. Lloyd posted the bond. Doris Todd is the defendant's wife.

Burglars Take \$2500 From Safe

ROSEBURG, Ore., Feb. 15 (AP)—Breaking off the combination of the safe, then punching it open, burglars Wednesday night or Thursday morning got \$2500 from the office of the Douglas County Poultry company in Roseburg, state police reported.

The safe of the nearby Farm Bureau Exchange was also broken open and a futile attempt made to punch open the inner cash box, police said. No clues to the identity of the yeggs was announced.

Arriving In United States

Raymond A. Edwards, T/Sgt., Mt. Shasta City, arrived on Sea Robin due in New York February 15.