

Truman Declines To Express Views On Winston Churchill's Proposal For Anglo-U. S. Military Alliance

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP)—President Truman declined to express his views today on Winston Churchill's proposal for a virtual Anglo-American military alliance to preserve the peace.

The president told his news conference that the former British prime minister was indulging in the right of free speech at Fulton, Mo., Tuesday, when Churchill proposed joint use of

British and American bases, combined training programs and extension of the U. S.-Canadian defense agreement to the other British commonwealths.

Mr. Truman said Mr. Churchill was a guest in this country, and that if he himself decided to go to Great Britain to make a speech, he would feel just as free to express his own personal views.

The president also told the newsmen:

1. That the combined Anglo-American chiefs of staff will continue to function until the war emergency has been declared at an end. Whether it will continue to function afterwards, he said, is a matter that will be handled when the war emergency is over.

2. He knows of no plans in the immediate future for another "Big Three" meeting, but if one is held it should be in the United States.

3. That General George C. Marshall, special ambassador to China, will return to the United States soon for consultations with him; the former chief of staff then will return to Chungking as special envoy.

4. That John Winant, ambassador to London, is back in the United States to make a report. He couldn't say whether Winant would continue at the London

post until he has talked with him.

5. That he hopes to visit the UNO council meeting in New York late this month to welcome the delegates, if he can arrange his schedule to do so.

The president laughingly dismissed a reporter's question as to whether James F. Byrnes, secretary of state, was considering retiring. He said he saw such a report in print while he was visiting Fulton this week.

Fire Fatal To Four Children

PORTLAND, Ore., March 8 (AP)—Four small brothers and sisters, suffocated by smoke in their locked one-room shack home, perished Thursday despite attempts at artificial respiration.

The children, the eldest five years old, were seriously burned in the blaze which firemen said apparently burst out in a carton of partly-used fuel, raked from the stove.

The youngsters were carried from the blazing shanty by neighbors, Charles Smith and Mrs. Grant Allen, who broke through a window after finding the doors locked.

The mother had gone down the block to make a telephone call, and the father, Ambrose Andrews, was employed at a logging camp near Shelton, Wash.

The small victims were Sandra, 5; Allen, 3; Grace, 16 months, and Barbara, 4 months. The home was located outside the city limits.

Fog Reported At Odell Lake

SALEM, March 8 (AP)—The state highway commission issued the following road report today.

Government Camp—Overcast, 33 degrees, 88 inches total snow, patches of ice and snow between mileposts 5 and 21 on Wapinitia highway.

Santiam junction—Foggy, 38 degrees, roads clear. Total snow at summit 129 inches, at junction 68 inches.

Odell lake—Foggy, pavement bare, 25 degrees, 131 inches of snow at summit.

Astoria—Lower Columbia highway still closed by slide at east city limits, short detour. Still one-way traffic around slide on Mist-Clatskanie highway.

RULING
SALEM, March 8 (AP)—A county may not place its school superintendent under the state public employes retirement law without including all other employees of the school system, Attorney General George Neuner ruled today.

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Krug To Take Over All Ickes' Duties

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP) J. A. Krug will take over all the duties formerly performed by Harold L. Ickes when Krug becomes interior secretary March 15, President Truman made it clear today.

Krug, the president told his news conference, will serve as petroleum administrator and in other continuing capacities in which the former interior secretary performed throughout the war.

He will do so, the president continued, until the exact duties of his office are defined in a forthcoming reorganization program recently authorized by congress.

Seeks Governorship



Carl C. Donagh, Portland attorney, (above) announced on Thursday that he would seek the democratic nomination for governor of Oregon in the May primary.

Capital Press Changes Hands

SALEM, March 8 (AP)—Henry M. Hanzen, Salem, and Dewey Rand, Portland, have purchased the weekly Capital Press from A. M. Church and will put out the next issue.

The newspaper is in its 18th year here. Hanzen formerly was political editor of the old Portland Telegram. Rand has published weekly newspapers in Portland.

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McCullough To Be Consultant

SALEM, March 8 (AP)—Assistant State Highway Engineer C. B. McCullough will go to El Salvador late in April at the request of the federal public roads administration to act as consultant on a large bridge project, he said today.

McCullough, who has gained international fame as a bridge builder, will design a bridge over the Rio Lempa, which is about 1800 feet wide and is the largest river in Central America. The bridge will be either a highway bridge, or a combined rail and highway bridge. It will be located west of the inter-American highway.

McCullough will spend about a week on the job. He first will go to Washington, D. C., and then fly to El Salvador.

McCullough worked on bridge jobs on the inter-American highway in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama from 1935 to 1937.

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Cordon Aids Vets To Get War Surplus

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP) Senator Cordon (R-Ore.) has asked the war assets corporation to do something about charges that war veterans are getting a "run around" in disposal of surplus government property. One thing he wants is a surplus supply depot in Portland.

Veterans complained to Cordon that though they have No. 3 legal priority for purchasing surplus materials they found when they arrived at surplus property depots as many as 1800 applicants were ahead of them.

Cordon asked the corporation to set up a supply depot in Portland so veterans in his state would not have to travel to Seattle to make purchases, and so farmers could purchase property there. He also asked that veterans be given No. 2 priority and said he would seek to amend the surplus property act to make it possible.

Oregon veterans said the war assets corporation practice was to notify veterans certain prop-

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erty they wish is for sale at government disposal depots.

Run Around
"When the veteran arrives at the depot he finds the articles he wants are sold 'en masse' to a buyer of junk or retail business concern," the veteran's complaint said, "and he is given the old army 'horse luff' for being fool enough to waste his time filling forms and wasting his money for trips up a blind alley to the disposal center."
"If the veteran arrives before the articles are sold to private business concerns then the veteran is told his application is on the bottom of a pile of 1800 other applications for the same articles. Instead of having No. 3 priority he finds he has a No. 1800 priority."

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