

# Truman's Housing Move Labeled "Boom Or Bust"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—The government prepared today to boost non-residential construction by perhaps 40 per cent, put a floor-space limit on new homes, and give private enterprise a much bigger say in fighting the housing shortage.

With these as policy guides laid down by President Truman, officials set out to run a housing program minus priorities and price ceilings—a program which was catching brickbats from Wilson Wyatt's admirers and bouquets from the building industry.

One of Wyatt's chief aides, Norton Long, prepared to take

the cue of his former chief and resign as deputy housing expediter. He denounced Mr. Truman's new housing policy as "not a program at all" but a bid for a "boom and bust" in real estate.

The White House withheld direct comment today on Long's criticism of the new housing plan.

"Events in the development of that program will speak for themselves," Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross told reporters.

Climaxing a series of White House huddles, Mr. Truman on Saturday night wiped out the \$10,000 ceiling on the selling price of new houses and announced that any citizen can build a home for himself—a right that for 11 months only veterans have enjoyed.

Nevertheless the president said the new program will be a "vigorous one," with the government stressing rental housing, with emphasis shifting from federal control to business initiative, "will produce results," he promised.

Henceforth, Mr. Truman ruled, only "a few raw materials" will be allocated—that is, channeled into housing—and anyone who wants to build a home for his own occupancy may do so by getting a simple government permit. This will limit the floor area but will set no ceiling price and require no inspection or building standards.

The floor-space limit apparently will run about 1500 square feet in the private judgment of two top-ranking housing officials. Under the former \$10,000 ceiling, the average house contained only 800 to 1000 square feet.

# NY Police Head Dies

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (AP)—Lewis J. Valentine, 64, former New York city police commissioner, died at 5:15 this morning at the Long Island College hospital after an illness of several weeks.

The former police commissioner earlier this year had gone to Japan at the request of Gen. MacArthur to aid in the reorganization of the Japanese police. He was on a leave of absence from his radio and writing chores and on his return resumed his radio program "Gang-busters."

Valentine resigned as police commissioner on September 6, 1946. He had held the post since his appointment by former mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia in 1934, his nearly 11 years in the position constituting the longest tenure on record here.

A native of Brooklyn, Valentine became a policeman in 1903. Throughout his long career on the force Valentine was known as the "honest cop" and the "cop's cop."

# Training Planes To Be Sold

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16—Sale of 30 or more Fairchild PT-26 planes, at new reduced prices, without priority, will begin at Buchanan field at 8 a. m. next Wednesday, December 18, it was announced today by S. Raymond Burns, director of the aircraft division of war assets administration. Buchanan field is two miles west of Concord, in Contra Costa county. The new prices went into effect several weeks ago but these are the first Fairchild offers since then.

The Fairchilds, which were purchased originally by Canada on lend-lease, were turned back to the United States and were declared surplus. Prices are \$750, \$1000 and \$1500, depending upon the hours of flight and general condition of the plane. They are low wing monoplanes, with 200 horsepower engines, and full canopy. Burns said that there is about an equal number of planes in each price group.

To assure a fair chance for all prospective buyers, a drawing will be held at the opening of the sale, to determine the order in which buyers will be admitted to make selection.

# Deafened Now Hear With Tiny Single Unit

Science has now made it possible for the deafened to hear faint sounds. It is a hearing device so small that it fits in the hand and enables thousands to enjoy sermons, music, and friendly companionship. Accepted by the Council on Physical Medicine of the American Medical Association. This device does not require separate battery pack, battery wire, case or garment to bulge or weigh you down. The tone is clear and powerful. So made that you can adjust it yourself to suit your hearing as your hearing changes. The makers of Beltone, Dept. 8268, 1450 W. 19th St., Chicago 8, Ill., are so proud of their achievement that they will gladly send free descriptive booklet and explain how you may get a full demonstration of this remarkable hearing device in your own home without risking a penny. Write Beltone today.

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Lunches 11 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.  
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Breakfast orders any time  
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# Flashes Of Life

**THEY CAN'T MISS**  
ASOTIN, Wash., Dec. 16 (AP)—It's a natural.  
An application for a marriage license was filed here by Cliff Ford Lovejoy and Doris Mae Happy.

**TOTAL DAMAGES; NO SLEEP**  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 16 (AP)—The first all-woman circuit court jury in Sangamon county history was sworn in to consider an automobile damage suit.  
The 12 women argued all night long and then reported they couldn't agree. They were dismissed.

**AN EASY KILL**  
MT. OLIVE, Ill., Dec. 16 (AP)—Joseph Woltering, truck driver of Effingham, Ill., bagged a 275-pound four-point deer without firing a shot.  
The animal was killed when it ran into the side of his truck as he drove down a highway.

# Phone Charges Reduced

SALEM, Dec. 17 (AP)—Extra charges for telephone calls made over two or more systems will be eliminated in Oregon December 21, Public Utilities Commissioner George H. Flagg said today.  
The rates from then on will be for the direct airline rate, such as now is done on calls between two points on the same system.  
Negotiations with the West Coast Telephone company, largest independent telephone company in the state, are the last to be completed to accomplish the elimination of the "other line" phone rates.

# North Carolina Senator Dies

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 16 (AP)—A 16-year career in the U. S. senate ended in death here yesterday for Josiah William Bailey, 73-year-old democrat.  
Bailey, the state's senior senator, died of a cerebral hemorrhage at his home where he had lapsed into a coma Saturday. He was still on the mend after a serious heart illness eight months ago but seemed unusually well and cheerful earlier Saturday, relatives said.

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**Fisher's WHEAT GERM**

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TO WISH HER A MERRY CHRISTMAS

**In Gleaming GOLD**

Plain or Diamond Set

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701 MAIN ST.  
Under the largest clock in Southern Oregon

# U. S. Zone Cost Totals \$171 Million

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—The senate war investigating committee has learned that it probably will cost American taxpayers \$171,000,000 next year to feed the U. S.-occupied zone of Germany while the Russian-controlled area eats homegrown food at no cost to Moscow.

Statements gathered by Committee Counsel George Meader during a three-week trip to Europe laid the blame for this situation on the failure of attempts to unify Germany economically under terms of the 1945 Potsdam Big Three government.

Blaming the French for blocking plans to set up central German administration services, the statements obtained by Meader from army of occupation and military government authorities said the United States had been forced to stop the dismantling of German plants for reparations—most of which

would go to Russia—because of that threatened financial drain on this country.

Beyond that, the statements indicated that even if economic unification of Germany were brought about immediately, it might take two years for the Germans to become sufficiently self supporting to require no further food shipments from the United States.

# Ketchikan Stores Get First Stocks

KETCHIKAN, Dec. 16 (AP)—Ketchikan merchants today restocked their shelves with nearly 100 tons of cargo which arrived here yesterday aboard the steamer Alaska of the Alaska Steamship company. The vessel was the first in regular mainland service to reach here in more than 100 days.

# Eugene Man Named Savings President

TIMBERLINE LODGE, Dec. 16 (AP)—Fred G. Stickles of Eugene was named president of the Oregon Savings and Loan league at closing week-end sessions of the league's annual meeting here.

Arthur W. Bates, Salem, was elected to the executive committee.

# Marines Still In China

PEIPING, Dec. 16 (AP)—United States marine sources said today the general withdrawal of marines from North China is not imminent and probably will not be accomplished before spring.

(Secretary of State Byrnes told the United Nations general assembly Friday night that roughly half of the 19,000 U. S. troops remaining in China were under orders to return home, their mission nearly completed.)

Marine sources said no date had been set for the withdrawal of all marines from North China. The first marine division was instructed three months ago to prepare for withdrawal, but

HERALD & NEWS, Klamath Falls, Ore. MONDAY, Dec. 16 1946, Page Two

since then these plans have been revised twice.

Poplar trees are forbidden in New York City because their roots go so deep that they can disrupt water and sewage systems.

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HIGHER PRICED DRESSES ALSO DRASTICALLY REDUCED.

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FUR TRIMMED  
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\$20 Formerly 29.50 to 32.50  
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