

Free Economy Advocates Get Clear Field In Housing

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP)—From here out, the administration will try to demonstrate a theory by top planners that unrestricted private enterprise can build houses faster and better than under government restrictions.

The furore over the veterans' housing program which centered about the recent resignation of Wilson W. Wyatt as federal ex-

pediter was mainly the product of conflicting schools of thought over the best way to get more homes.

Some planners contended that while mandatory channeling of materials, limitations on prices and rigid inspections were necessary under war-time conditions and in the immediate aftermath of the war, this medicine could no longer benefit the patient. Wyatt thought otherwise. Hence his resignation, leaving the free-economy advocates a relatively open field in shaping housing policies.

At the top of the new program are Frank R. Creedon, expeditor, and Raymond M. Foley, federal housing administrator and chief of the national housing agency.

As a deputy civilian production administrator and a former private engineering expert, Creedon has contended that too rigid limitations have hampered rather than helped housing and have put an unnecessary crimp in other lines of endeavor vital to postwar reconversion.

Foley has been engaged in a program which involved government guarantees to banks against loss on investments in private home construction. He has expressed his belief that this is a superior means of getting private industry to act.

Thieves Lift Yule Gifts

Sneak thieves added their bit to the general merriment of Christmas, making merry with Christmas presents belonging to a number of other people.

Mrs. Dee Hawkins, operator of the Hotel cafe at the Malin hotel, reported to Deputy Sheriff Jack Franey that someone entered her room at the hotel and made off with several gifts, including a wrist watch, pen and pencil set and some items of jewelry.

Ralph H. Kruger, of Bonanza, visiting friends on Roseway drive Christmas eve, lost a case of milk, a pair of gym shoes, a bottle of whiskey and a carton of cigarettes when someone went through his car, he reported to police.

Virgil Parras of Dorris, who had his car parked near the armory while attending a Christmas dance, told police that all the hubcaps were taken off the vehicle.

Mail Passes Rush Season

In comparison with the two weeks preceding Christmas the local post office was almost deserted this morning. A few tardy mailers were in evidence. Outgoing mail has settled down to a pre-yule normal, according to post office officials, but the amount of incoming letters and parcels continues at a high rate as mails held up at Portland and San Francisco begin coming in.

Postmaster Burt E. Hawkins reported that a good many persons brought in mail right up to the deadline Tuesday evening, some of it bound for as far as the eastern seaboard with the hope of getting it there by Christmas. Some persons, Hawkins said, had delayed their mailing until after Christmas with the thought that their parcels would be delivered in better condition after the Christmas rush was ended.

Tolliver Funeral To Be Saturday

Funeral services for 13-year-old Dwight Franklin Tolliver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tolliver of the Hill road near Merrill, will be held from Ward's chapel Saturday at 10:30 a. m.

Dwight suffered fatal injuries Monday afternoon when he fell while hiking on Stukel mountain with his two brothers, Lawrence, 15, and Clarence, 11. When Dwight was found unconscious on the rocks where he had fallen and struck his head, Lawrence ran a mile to neighbors while Clarence stayed by Dwight's side. Dr. F. E. Trotman of Merrill was summoned as were the child's parents, and they brought him down the mountain side and after first aid treatment, Dwight was rushed to Hillside hospital where he died later that night of brain injuries.

Halsey Joins Rubber Company

CARLISLE, Pa., Dec. 26 (AP)—Fleet Admiral William F. Halsey Jr. has been elected a member of the board of directors of the Carlisle Tire and Rubber company.

Company President Furber Marshall, who announced the election of the famed Pacific naval leader at a Christmas party for employes, said Halsey has been relieved of active participation in naval affairs at his own request after 46 years' service.

Former Local Man Killed

Aaron Manuel Mogch of Prineville, fatally injured in an accident near Rawlins, Wyo., Monday night, is known in Klamath county and is a former resident of Sprague River, friends here advised today. Mogch's mother, Mrs. Minnie Mogch, visited recently from Prineville for a two weeks' period at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Eggers of Olene.

Mogch was employed by Alexander Yawkey Lumber company at Prineville but was en route to South Dakota to take over his father's ranch. He was also a member of the Portland police department at one time and served for two years in the merchant marine. A sister, Mrs. Agnes Williams of Prineville, also survives.

Injured in the accident was Henry Vacknitz, 35, Malin, who is in a Rawlins hospital suffering from a fractured leg and other hurts. His wife, Marie, is expecting to leave soon to be at his bedside.

Man Confesses To Slaying

TACOMA, Dec. 26 (AP)—Detective Capt. Al Farrar said today James Mitchell, 20, had signed a confession to the fatal shooting the night of December 18 of Dr. John R. Thompson, 78, a physician and optometrist.

Dr. Thompson was found dead in his downtown office by his daughter.

Farrar said Mitchell's confession stated he had shot the physician while in a "drunken stupor."

He was linked with the case when a ring, stolen from Dr. Thompson, was found on his finger after his arrest Tuesday night in connection with the shooting and knifing of a cab driver, Farrar said.

The detective captain said Mitchell had also signed a confession admitting that he shot and knifed Bruce Cullett, 28, the cab driver. Cullett is in a serious condition at the county hospital.

No charge has yet been filed against the prisoner.

11-Year-Old Boy In Juvenile Court

An 11-year-old boy, found drunk on the sidewalk at 8th and Klamath last night, spent the remainder of the night in juvenile custody and was brought into the juvenile office today.

The lad was found lying on the sidewalk by city police early last night.

Newsboys' Skating Party



Some 70 newsboys and girls were guests of The Herald and News last Monday when they gathered for a Christmas skating party at Skateland. Refreshments and holiday treats completed their activities. Maurice Miller and Forrest Alter of The Herald and News circulation department were in charge.

U. S. Demands Investigation Of French Activities In The Saar Territory

BERLIN, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Americans have officially demanded from the French an explanation of reports that they have been stripping industries from other sections of their zone in Germany and transferring them into the Saar, around which they have now established a customs frontier, it was learned today.

Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, deputy American military governor, asked specifically about the big Robert Bosch electrical parts plant, which the French are said to have moved from southern Wuerttemberg into the Saar.

Clay, it was learned, requested

that the French present the facts in this case to the quadripartite allied control authority here. He rejected a French contention that it was a unilateral matter and not of quadripartite concern.

The dispute over the French zone industries was another facet of the Saar issue, which came into prominence when the French last week-end sent 1200 customs officers into the Saar to set up the customs frontier between the resources-rich territory and the remainder of Germany.

Clay protested that operation as an "entirely unilateral action which was not presented

to the allied control council for consideration."

Although the French asserted the customs action was an anti-black market measure to safeguard the Saar's food supply and shield its fiscal economy, German political parties here charged that it was, in effect, a change of the frontiers and "amputation of the Saar from the German economy."

German political spokesmen said it was a step by the French toward annexation of the Saar and they expressed the hope that the foreign ministers council at its Moscow meeting in March would "rescue the Saar for Germany."

Crash Victims Found On Ice

MONT JOLI, Que., Dec. 26 (AP)—The fifth and sixth survivors of a sunken Quebec airways plane were rescued today from an ice floe in the frigid St. Lawrence river after three tortuous days in which they drifted toward the sea.

The seventh person aboard the plane, which crashed in the river Monday, had disappeared in the waters of the river and was believed to have drowned. Four survivors previously were taken ashore.

A small boat which set out from the fishing village of Petite Vallee on the Gaspé coast, 350 miles east of the city of Quebec, picked up the two men after a Canadian Pacific air lines plane spotted them in the river, 60 miles wide at the point. The 5617-ton American freighter Colabee had been pushing up through the St. Lawrence ice when the last men were taken to safety.

Albert Morin, one of the rescued men, was reported to have a leg injury aggravated by the three-day exposure to ice. Aurel Gagnon, the other saved man, was reported in good condition. The lost man was Florian Simard.

Catholic Priests Burn To Death

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., Dec. 26 (AP)—Two Catholic priests burned to death today in the rectory adjacent to St. Joseph's Catholic church here.

They were the Rev. Charles A. McCauley, 42, pastor of St. Joseph's, and the Rev. Francis T. Dollarton, about 55. Father Dollarton came here Christmas Eve from St. John's seminary at Little Rock to assist Father McCauley, who had been ill, in Christmas services.

The two died in an upstairs bedroom when a blaze of undetermined origin swept the second story of the brick rectory,

Klamath Pilot Freed Of Fire Damage Charge

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26 (AP)—A pilot was freed from a government claim of forest fire damages today when Federal Judge Claude McColloch held he was not negligent in hitting a power line.

The power line, four miles south of Newport, Wash., broke when Louis W. Soukup, Klamath Falls, flew his over-heated plane into it as he approached the Columbia river for an emergency landing July 21, 1945. The wires caused a fire burning 570 acres of timber in Colville national forest and the government sought reimbursement of \$6782 for cost of fighting the blaze.

The judge held that the power line was unmarked and almost invisible. Soukup testified that he did not know his plane hit the wire. The case was tried at Medford October 3.

McComb Rites Set For Friday

Final rites for Mary L. McComb, since 1934 Klamath county librarian, will be held at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon at the First Presbyterian church with Ward's in charge. The Rev. David Barnett will officiate and special music will be presented by Carl Hagel, soloist, and Mrs. George W. McIntyre, organist. Miss McComb was a life-long member of the church.

Friends are invited to attend the services for Miss McComb, who died Saturday, December 21. There has been an excellent response to the Mary McComb memorial book shelf at Klamath county library it is understood from friends here.

WHALING FLEET

TOKYO, Dec. 26 (AP)—Allied headquarters today reported the Japanese whaling fleet caught 39 in its first six days in the antarctic.

Jap Quake Toll Reaches 3650

TOKYO, Dec. 26 (AP)—The U. S. army revised the casualty toll in Japan's earthquake and tidal wave disaster to 3650—400 more than previously reported.

The army's totals were 1108 killed and 2542 injured. They surpassed for the first time the Japanese home ministry's figures, which were 1289 killed, 162 missing and 1800 injured.

The U. S. fifth air force said Saturday's tidal wave, first reported at 7 to 10 feet high, actually swept the Wakayama peninsula and Shikoku coasts at heights of 25 to 27 feet.

Col. Crawford Sams of General MacArthur's public health and welfare section revised upward his report on the number of homes destroyed to 18,262 and those damaged downward to 33,500.

As U. S. and British planes and a British destroyer carried supplies to the shivering, bedraggled homeless tens of thousands on Shikoku, Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger officially reminded the Japanese government of its responsibilities in rehabilitation. Eichelberger, commander of the U. S. eighth army, promised full cooperation.

MacArthur's staff so far has provided the impetus and most of the supplies and transportation for the disaster regions.

CONVICTED KILLER GIVES EYE TO BLIND

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26 (AP)—A 29-year-old Alcatraz murderer—soon to die in the San Quentin gas chamber—has offered his eyes to some blind person, preferably a war veteran.

Miran E. Thompson, serving a life term for kidnaping and killing an Amarillo, Tex., policeman, was sentenced to death last week for his part in the unsuccessful attempt of a group of Alcatraz criminals to escape last May from the federal penitentiary.