

SHOT KILLS FLEEING PRISONER

Herald and News

PRICE FIVE CENTS KLAMATH FALLS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1947 (Telephone 8111) ** Number 10848

Drive For Income Tax Cut Opens

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS (From San Francisco)

AS of today, San Francisco's historic cable cars are doomed. Definite announcement of their impending demise was made yesterday by the city utilities commission, and it made the big top headlines in this morning's paper. It has been a leading topic, at luncheon and elsewhere, throughout the day. The conversations are nostalgic in tone. These bumpy little open-faced cars have been a feature of San Francisco's life for more years than it would be easy to count up. At the moment, people can't see how San Francisco is going to be San Francisco without them.

The cable cars are going to miss them. How, for example, can shore leave be properly celebrated without trying to bog down the little cars when they start to climb the Powell street hill?

At present, the municipal service operates 22 of them. It operates them at a LOSS of about \$700 PER DAY. That is admittedly quite a price to pay for a landmark.

So, as soon as the new equipment is available, they are to be scrapped and heavy duty buses will replace them.

PROBABLY the city will go forward without them. It got along without the ferries when they were replaced by the great bridges.

It's really surprising what we can get along without when we get something better in its place.

THERE is the instance of skinny pants for men, for example. If you will look back in the old prints, you will discover that for generations men appeared in public in trousers into which they had to ease themselves in the morning with the aid of a shoe horn and powder.

But somehow the world still moved after skin-tight breeches were replaced by the roomier kind about the time when automobiles came along and we all began to sit more and walk less.

SOMETHING HAD to happen then, for sitting down in trousers that fitted the human form as a frankfurter couldn't be managed conveniently with any degree of success.

GOVERNOR WARREN is urging upon the California legislature a break with tradition that is more important, in this day and age, than replacing San Francisco's old cable cars with buses.

He wants at least a limited system of prepaid health insurance—to be financed somewhat as we finance old age pensions, by payroll deductions matched by employer contributions.

Because it is a break with the "laissez faire" (which is a fancy term for just letting things slide) tradition, we look with lifted brows at all these forms of tax supported "insurance." We call such things "regimentation" and "socialism."

WELL, that is true. But it is also true that the fear of sickness, with resulting huge bills for hospitalization and medical care, hangs over most people like a dark cloud. It is a very real fear, indeed. Millions of people awake at night clammy with the sweat that breaks out after the nightmare of realization that such a fate could cloud their whole future.

Getting rid forever of such nightmares is something that people are increasingly determined to bring about. If the only way in which it can be brought about is by GOVERNMENT aid, that is what we will have.

You can paste that in your hat.

Removal Of Many From Rolls Hit

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—Rep. Mason (R-Ill.) took up the battle today for a 20 per cent across-the-board tax slashing bill, and objected vigorously to dropping millions of small income persons from the tax rolls.

These millions are becoming "tax conscious," Mason declared. Their votes, he continued, were cast last November "against deficit spending and for tax reductions."

Mason prepared his house speech after Chairman Knutson (R-Minn.) of the house ways and means committee announced he is standing firm on his measure proposing a 20 per cent slash for each tax payer.

The measure has been under an attack led by Rep. Engel (R-Mich.), who told the house last week it would give small taxpayers slight relief, but benefit persons with high incomes.

Counter-Proposal

Engel's own measure proposes larger benefits for small incomes, by raising individual exemptions from \$500 to \$1000. Mason said that Engel proposes to remove 20,000,000 of the approximately 38,000,000 taxpayers from the rolls. He pointed out that the tax reduction of 1946 erased 12,000,000 small income persons from the rolls, and declared:

"I opposed the removal of those taxpayers' names from Uncle Sam's tax list, and today I am opposing the removal of any more names from the list. I am convinced that we must make the American public tax conscious if we ever expect to get public approval for the reduction of federal spending."

Mason said Engel's measure would cause a \$5,000,000,000 annual loss to the treasury, as compared to a tax reduction in Knutson's bill of \$3,500,000,000.

On the other side of the capital, Senator Lucas (D-Ill.) spearheaded a new attack on GOP tax policies with an assertion that republican plans thus far offer no hope for the \$10 taxpayer to get off the government rolls.

Senator Asks Portal Recall

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—Rep. Walter (D-Pa.) declared today that the supreme court "ought to recall" the case on which portal-to-portal pay suits have been based and "lay down a clear-cut yardstick" to follow in the future.

The Pennsylvania, speaking to a house judiciary subcommittee as it began hearings on the portal pay problem, said that the supreme court would be "derelict in its duty to the people generally" if it does not recall the case.

Walter said that it is possible that the "decision in the Mt. Clemens case has been misinterpreted by the court below."

He added that the "district court judge is leaning over backward to place an interpretation on the case the supreme court did not intend to place on it."

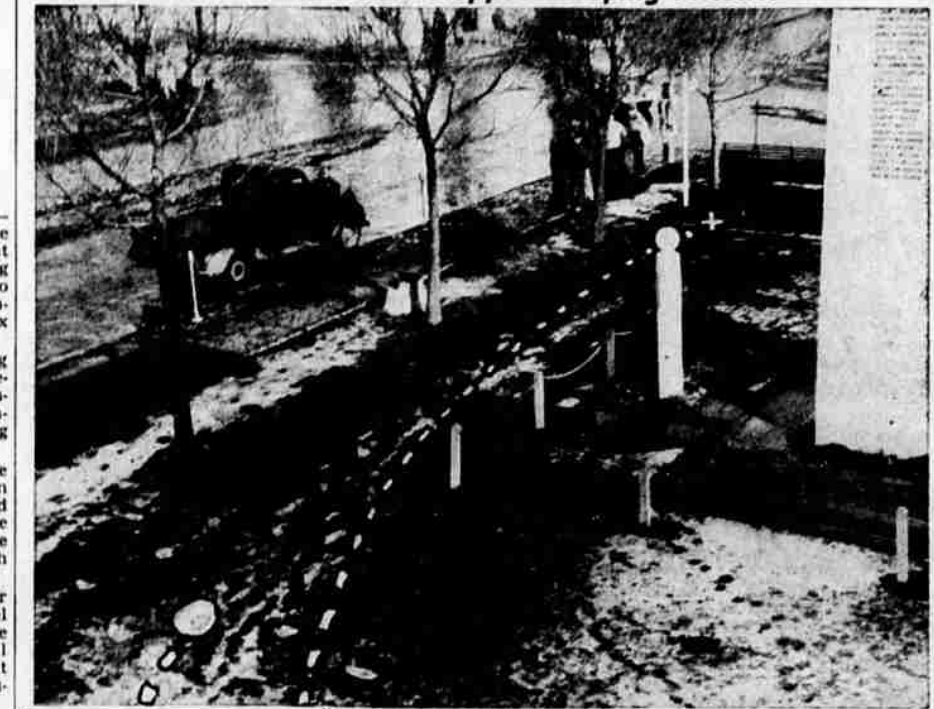
Red Reluctance To Tell Plans Holds Up Treaty

LONDON, Feb. 3 (AP)—Hope that the Russians might reveal this week their views on the evacuation of occupation troops from Austria was expressed in American circles today as the deputy foreign ministers council passed the halfway mark in its deliberations on the German and Austrian peace treaties.

An American official said yesterday that the Russians' "reluctance to show their cards" with respect to Austria had definitely slowed work on that treaty. This source asserted that the American, British and French deputies could have completed a tentative draft of the treaty in two weeks, but he said it was uncertain whether the work could be completed by the February 25 deadline unless the Russians changed their tactics.

So far as the evacuation of occupation troops from Austria is concerned, the French and British have let it be known

Scene Where Shot Stopped Escaping Prisoner



Rent Rumor Draws Blast

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO, told senators today the testimony of Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming on a general rent increase was "sufficient to call for his resignation" as chief of the office of temporary controls.

Carey referred to Fleming's statement to the senate banking committee last week that while he felt no overall rent increase was justified, he was prepared to order one because OPA did not have a big enough staff to handle individual adjustments.

Carey told the banking committee today that Fleming should have asked congress for an adequate staff, rather than deciding upon a general increase as the solution.

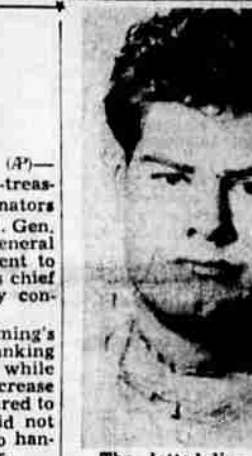
In testifying last week, Fleming took full responsibility for a never-issued order for a 10 per cent rent increase. The order was quashed by President Truman.

Carey also told the committee a boost in rent ceilings now—while labor unions are trying to work out "harmonious" wage agreements—will have the gravest effect.

Two Men Held For Rent Fraud

PORTLAND, Feb. 3 (AP)—Two men charged with obtaining \$30,000 from eight families as advance rent and then skipping town are to be returned here from Cicero, Ill., where the pair have been arrested.

Police identified the two as Orman F. Avanzino, 30, and William E. Campbell, 33, charged with grand larceny. Police explained that Avanzino was about to be evicted from his new home for failure to pay the monthly charge and advertised the house for rent with six months advance rent at \$50 a month. He is accused of collecting from eight families who tried to move into the house on the same day.



The dotted line in the above picture shows the route taken by Donald Gordon Roberts in his wild dash for freedom across the courthouse lawn this morning to where a pistol shot fired by Deputy Sheriff Marion Barnes knocked him to the ground.

Roberts died on the ground a few minutes after the shot. The circle indicates the approximate position of Deputy Barnes when he fired at the fleeing man. The lower left picture of Roberts was taken at the county jail, and the other picture is of Barnes.



Passengers Spend Exciting Time Aboard Sinking Ship

SEATTLE, Feb. 3 (AP)—The Alaska Steamship company's steamer Alaska lay at a Cordova, Alaska, wharf today, her 90 passengers and 100 crew members safe after an exciting 18 hours in which the ship ran aground and later narrowly avoided sinking in Cordova harbor.

The Alaska awaited arrival of a navy tug from Kodiak to determine extent of damage caused to the vessel's forward hull when she grounded in Orca bay, off Cordova, in a storm early Sunday.

Alaska Steamship company officials here said navy divers would examine holes in the hull to see if temporary repairs could be made.

Dies



Blandy Named Fleet Head

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—Command of the navy's Atlantic fleet was given today to Vice Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, ordnance expert and director of the atomic bomb tests last summer in the Pacific.

The former commander in chief of the Atlantic fleet, Adm. Blandy, died early this morning at Norfolk, Va.

Blandy's previous job, commander of the second task fleet, will be taken over by Arthur W. Radford, deputy chief of naval operations for air, the navy announced.

Radford's successor in the top administrative air job of the navy will be Vice Admiral Donald B. Duncan, who became deputy commander in chief of the Pacific fleet with an accompanying promotion from rear admiral three days ago.

Blandy's promotion to the rank of full admiral is expected to follow his assignment as fleet commander.

Deputy Barnes Shoots Donald Gordon Roberts To Halt Escape Attempt

By Hale Scarbrough

Attempting to break arrest just as he was to come to trial in circuit court this morning, Donald Gordon Roberts, 28, was shot and killed by Deputy Sheriff Marion Barnes on the courthouse lawn about 10:30 o'clock.

Barnes fired one shot from his service revolver, hitting the fleeing prisoner in the back. He crumpled to the lawn close to the base of memorial shaft.

Roberts fell in the corner of the courthouse yard, just a few feet from the intersecting sidewalks at 4th and Main. He lived for only a few minutes and was dead by the time a police car arrived to move him.

The shooting took place in view of many courthouse employees and persons on the street. Barnes said that Roberts was about 30 steps ahead and getting away when he drew his pistol and fired.

Roberts had been indicted for taking and using a motor vehicle without consent of the owner, and had been held in the county jail since October 18, the day he was supposed to have stolen a Bend-Portland company transfer truck.

He was due for trial today and Deputy Barnes had taken him into the courtroom from Roberts' jail cell.

During the business of opening court, Roberts asked to go to the washroom and Barnes went with him. Coming out of the washroom on the second floor of the courthouse, Barnes said that Roberts went out the door first and ran down the steps.

Barnes ran after him, shouting a half dozen times, "Stop." The man raced past several persons at the door of the courthouse and cut across the lawn toward 4th street. Wearing tennis shoes, he was outdistancing the deputy and was about 30 steps ahead, running at full speed, before Barnes, still warning, fired. The bullet from the veteran peace officer's .38 Smith and Wesson revolver went into Roberts' back and passed out his chest.

Within two minutes after the shooting a throng of several hundred had gathered along the sidewalks and street and police held back the crowd in a circle around Roberts' body while waiting for an ambulance. The ambulance was out at the time and the body was put on a stretcher and taken to Klamath Valley hospital in a police wagon.

At the hospital Dr. George H. Adler determined that the man was dead and said that there would be an autopsy and inquest at 3 p. m. Wednesday. The body was removed to Ward's Funeral Home.

After the body had been taken from the courthouse lawn, there was a minor disturbance and some loud talk about the circumstances of the shooting, and Chief of Police Orville Hamilton ordered a group of young men, nucleus of the disturbance, to move on.

U. S. Balentine, attorney who was to represent Roberts in court this morning, said that the man had acted "very nervously," asking how long the trial would take, whether he would have to go on the witness stand and what would happen if he were found guilty.

When Roberts asked to be (Continued on Page 7, Column 1)

Chinese Communists Cut Off American Escape Line

PEIPING, Feb. 3 (AP)—Trains moved cautiously along the communist-harassed Peiping-Tientsin railroad today as a government official promised "drastic steps" to eliminate the red threat to the line which 2000 Americans would use for their imminent withdrawal from Peiping.

Gen. Li Tsung-jen, director of the generalissimo's Peiping office, told newsmen garrison forces had been increased in this area and the rail line soon may be free of interference.

Fighting still was reported, however, at some points along the corridor from Peiping to the sea.

The departure date of the U. S. troops headquarters personnel and their wives and children is expected to be announced within 24 hours—a part of the general American withdrawal from China.

Unless a truce should end the fighting along the 115-mile route to the coast, they will have to leave by air, which would mean abandoning much equipment in Peiping, or run the gauntlet on the Peiping-Tientsin railway under U. S. marine guard.

The American staff of the now defunct peace-seeking headquarters here were informed that 5000 Chinese communist guerrillas were attacking along the railroad yesterday. The Chinese government said it was still able

to use the line. Government sources said the communists troops were active near the right-of-way 80 to 20 miles southeast of Peiping.

Sections of the track were torn up by communists Thursday. The government regained control and made repairs Friday. Communists cut the route again Saturday; and the government restored traffic again Sunday.

Railways south and north of Peiping also were sporadically attacked by communists presumably in an effort to isolate the city.

Father Dies To Save Son

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (AP)—Police said today that Edward Henning, 45, sacrificed his life to save that of his 14-year-old son after their frail kayak overturned in Little Neck bay.

"Hang on to the boat, son, and keep kicking," were the last words that Edward Henning Jr. heard his father say after choppy waves had overturned the single cockpit kayak yesterday.

Police said that Henning, a 200-pound man wearing a heavy sheepskin coat, then let go of the kayak and drowned, knowing that the craft could not support both weights.

Young Henning followed instructions and was rescued by Patrolman Stanley Bukunt, 27, who waded 60 feet through waves that splashed over his head to reach the shivering boy. Men on a police launch later recovered the body of the father.

United Books 5614 Seats

United Air Lines carried 5614 passengers to and from Klamath Falls in the first six months of major airline operation here, it was announced today by W. T. McIntyre, station manager.

A total of 3084 passengers boarded United planes at the Klamath airport, and 2530 got off the planes at Klamath.

The company reported carrying 12,376 pounds of mail to other points from Klamath Falls, and 6954 pounds of mail arrived here by plane. Mail poundage totaled 19,330.

Express aggregated 6202 pounds, with 4336 pounds leaving and 1869 pounds arriving.

United officials, who expressed considerable satisfaction at the volume of business done in the first half year, said that planes were able to operate 95 per cent of the schedule into Klamath Falls.

Gas Consumption Record Broken

SALEM, Feb. 3 (AP)—Oregon motorists used an all-time record total of 378,000,000 gallons in 1946, or 100,000,000 more than in 1945, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr., said today.

Gasoline tax collections during the year totaled \$16,650,000.

Three Alternatives To Be Considered In Tax Problem

SALEM, Feb. 3 (AP)—The house assessment and taxation committee started work today on the state's taxation problems, with the committee deciding it would consider three alternatives.

They are whether to adopt Governor Earl Snell's program of using about \$6,000,000 of corporation excise tax surpluses to balance the budget; to accept the state tax study commission's program for a business tax and stiffer levies on incomes, liquor and other new taxes; or to adopt a program of its own.

The committee indicated it would start with the governor's program, which some members said they favor as being "the simplest way out." But first,

they will ask the attorney general for an opinion on whether it would be legal, because some legislators believe the corporation excise surpluses must be used to reduce property taxes.

The Association of Oregon Counties today placed on each legislator's desk a statement endorsing a sales tax limitation. It is the first time the association has endorsed a sales tax.

Taxation and budget balancing is one of the legislature's two big obstacles, the other being distribution of the \$16,000,000 basic school support fund. A hearing on the school bill will be held Thursday afternoon. After those two problems are settled, the legislature can quit.

82 Below Recorded In Yukon Village

SEATTLE, Feb. 3 (AP)—The little Yukon territory village of Snag moved back in the weather news over the weekend.

The weather station there recorded an 82.6 degrees below zero reading at 6:04 p. m. Saturday—the coldest ever recorded on the North American continent. The previous low, the Seattle weather bureau reported, was 80 degrees below recorded at Fort Reliance, Y. T., in January, 1893.

Werchojansk, in Siberia, reported 94.4 below Jan. 15, 1885.