

Herald and News These Days

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Today's Roundup

By MALCOLM EPLEY THAT standardization program on the Willamette highway, stalled for a long time now because the federal bureau of public roads rejected all bid offers as too high, should be brought up immediately for action so the work can be done this year.

The Willamette highway's double function as a major cross-state and coastwise highway link makes it imperative that this important construction project be pushed through as rapidly as possible.

That the work was in order a long time ago was recognized by the bureau of public roads when it called for bids. It is time now to get down to cases and get this job done.

Because of the tremendous pressure of traffic demands when the original construction of the Willamette was under way, that important thoroughfare was never brought up to the full standards required for a road of its importance.

It is one of the Pacific Coast's great trans-mountain highways from the standpoint of general alignment and engineering. It carries heavy traffic, including passenger, bus and freight lines. It qualifies in every way for the work needed to bring it up to specifications.

When the BPR called for the first bids, they were rejected as too high. Another bid call resulted in another rejection, and the offers were even higher than that. Naturally, they would be, and they might be still higher now. But if the BPR is going to build roads, as it seems to be doing, it will have to do the job in these times of higher costs, and certainly the Willamette highway belongs in the current construction program.

It is time to push for this important project.

Briefs From The Pocket File

HERE were 22 accidents, including seven fatalities, in the 1947 big and small game hunting seasons in Oregon. . . The number includes 12 deer, 1 elk, 1 bear and 8 small game hunters. . . Nine persons were hit by other hunters, an unpleasant statistic that tells of double tragedy for both parties. . . To correct a misunderstanding, our carrying of the Gallup poll in this newspaper doesn't mean that there is anybody here polling people on their opinions. . . There may be, but it doesn't have anything to do with our introduction of this feature in The Herald and News. . . We just carry the results. . . The week-end's murder case development has recalled an unusual telephone inquiry that came over The Herald and News wire a month or so ago. . . A woman's voice asked if it was necessary for the burial of a body to be conducted through an established funeral home. . . It being a woman's voice, it evidently had no connection with the Franklin case, but it provided some speculative material for the mystery thriller fans around this office. If you're interested in the answer to the question, it is required. . . A realtor friend of ours says that the housing situation here isn't good yet, but it's a lot better than it was for a while. . . The area rent control director was here for a session of the Klamath rent control board the other night, and told the local board members they had functioned as one of the top boards in his jurisdiction. . . Bill McAllister, prominent Medford attorney and ex-speaker of the state house of representatives, was here over the week-end duck hunting. . . He is considering running for the senate post over there vacated by the resignation of Earl Newbury, the new secretary of state. . . Which reminds us that something ought to be popping pretty soon on the 17th senatorial district job.

Lakeland Sale Told

Among first-of-the-year business changes is one at the Klamath airport.

Gene Durant has sold his interest in Lakeland Flying service in order to devote his full time to the Farmers Air service. Durant is affiliated with Muel Long in the Farmers Air service which was organized late in 1946. Offices will be maintained in the Lakeland building and the same telephone, 3330, will reach both services.

James Baker of Baker Brothers, concrete materials, bought Durant's interest in Lakeland with Thomas Lenhart, who has been flying for the company. The transaction was completed Friday, January 2, 1948.

PROMOTION

SALEM, Jan. 5 (AP)—Ward Reynolds, who has been motor vehicle drivers' examiner in Medford for several years, today was appointed by Secretary of State Earl T. Newbury as chief drivers' examiner for the state. His headquarters will be in Salem.

McReynolds has worked for the department since 1931.

The Doctor Says— Surgery Aids Harelip

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D. Written for NEA Service A split in the bone and in the soft tissues at the center of the roof of the mouth is called a cleft palate. A few persons are born with this defect, but it is never acquired after birth.

Cleft palate results from a failure of the bone and soft tissues to grow together as they should before birth. It is almost always accompanied by a split upper lip, called harelip.

The exact cause of harelip or cleft palate is not known. Probably, however, it is a result of defective inheritance. Possibly, in some cases, it may be caused by some injury during the growth period of the unborn child. The recent studies on German measles in the mother during the first three months of pregnancy and the appearance of congenital defects of the infant may have some bearing on this.

The presence of a cleft palate or harelip at birth not only affects the appearance of the child, but also interferes with the production of voice sounds and, therefore, results in serious speech difficulties. Treatment involves surgery. The first step is to decide what operation should be used, and at what age it should be started. All of the operations are somewhat alike, since they involve bringing the separated bones together.

A successful operation for cleft palate and harelip can greatly improve the speech as well as the appearance. A boy who has had a successful operation can often completely ignore the past difficulty, since he has the additional advantage of ultimately being able to grow a mustache to cover whatever slight scar might remain.

As it is unlikely that any preventive method will be found in the near future, it is a great comfort to know that many victims of this defect can be successfully treated by surgery.

ANSWER: Yes, there is a danger in attempting to remove excessive hair by X-ray. Skin specialists say dosages of X-ray, which are enough to remove hair, can also damage the skin.

Only Fools Predict

WHOEVER wrote that editorial should have known better than to prophesy what is going to happen in China. Foreigners have been doing that since the late 1830's when they first began solving China's problems with few results as are now apparent. It is almost axiomatic that just the opposite of what they say usually happens. When Chiang Kai-shek first began to move out of Canton, all the foreigners at the long bars in Peking and Shanghai, to say nothing of Hankow and Hongkong, were sure that he would fizzle out. And their argument was that no southerners could ever beat northerners!

Well, 20 years have passed since Chiang established his government first at Hankow and then at Nanking, and he has stood up against communists, northerners and the Japanese with fortitude and power since. It is true that his government is insufficient. What can be expected during 30 years of unending civil war and a war against Japan in which Chiang stood alone for 11 years? Could he have fought such wars and organized a model country besides? Look what a few years of war did to England and to us!

If war could end in China, that country might be able to settle down to some reorganization of its political and economic life. But it is the communists who have kept China at war since 1927 when they broke into Nanking and ravaged that city as anyone with any memory must recall. What is the use of praising such a man as Peng? He ought to be sent back home, to China, where he belongs. We have too many alien propagandists in this country, anyhow.

These Days

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY GENERAL FENG

THE Washington Post says: "... Actually Marshal Feng is in the doghouse so far as Chiang Kai-shek is concerned, but Chiang was so constrained by Feng's prestige with the people and the armies of China—all of them, communist as well—that he gave him a mission abroad and a high-sounding title as the mark of his displeasure. Feng's 'crime' is that he refused to participate in Chinese killing of Chinese. In other words, he was opposed to the civil war, and, in protest, resigned his post as vice generalissimo of the Kuomintang armies under Chiang Kai-shek."

Unfortunately for the record, General Feng Yu-hsiang has been an active participant in China's civil wars since 1920 to my personal knowledge. He did not mind killing Chinese as long as his armies did the killing. Some of his private wars, particularly those in which he turned on his old colleague, Wu Pei-fu, were senseless and were more responsible than any other cause for the rise of the T'uchuns and the disorganization of North China and the ultimate success of the Kuomintang-communist revolution of 1925-7.

What will Feng do if the course of events and American negligence force the Chinese government to turn a favorable ear to Russian blandishments? That may come to pass, for, unaided, the Nanking government is helpless. Will he then praise Chiang as a wise statesman because he joined forces, by the coercive power of circumstance, with America's enemy?

The Washington Post further comments: "It is wrong to think that the present war is a war between Chiang Kai-shek and the communists. It is a gigantic melee in which many factions and dissidents, as well as the communists, are engaged against Chiang Kai-shek. A bare chance remains of mediating this fratricidal strife, but if this is impossible, and furthermore, if Chiang is defeated, any new regime in Nanking would certainly not be communist. Marshal Feng, whose view this is, merely confirms what most sober observers of the confusion in China report."

Did you ever sit down with a map of the world and contemplate the extent of the British Empire and commonwealth of nations which so encircle the globe that, as the Briton points out with justifiable pride, the sun never sets upon them?

If you have done so, you will know that this mighty combination of nations and dependencies occupies something like one-fourth of the world's known territory, and that its population is about a quarter of all mankind, that is, more than 500,000,000. A round-the-world traveler will I should guess off-hand, strike British territory more often than that of any other "Mother Country." And an enemy nation would find the British flag flying over a vast number of strategic defensive "bases" in both hemispheres.

Great Significance With this information in mind we can appreciate more fully the great significance of British Prime Minister Attlee's blast against communism in his week-end speech which, by implication, emphasized Britain's solidarity with the rest of the western democratic bloc. Certainly his address ranks as one of the most important developments of the New Year thus far.

"Today in Eastern Europe," declared Attlee, "the communist party, while overthrowing an economic tyranny of landlordism and capitalism, has renounced the doctrines of individual freedom and political democracy and rejected the whole spiritual heritage of Western Europe."

The prime minister took a disapproving glance at the American capitalism "with the characteristic extreme inequality of wealth in its citizens," but asserted that "the United States of America stands for individual liberty in the political sphere and for the maintenance of human rights."

Attlee said the British labor party is following a middle course. Apropos of this remark, I pointed out last Friday in my forecast for the year that Britain's fight for economic recovery "is being accompanied by a political swing of both left and right toward the center."

It is important to note that Prime Minister Attlee's slashing attack on communism followed a campaign inaugurated a couple of weeks ago by Morgan Phillips, general secretary of the labor "socialist" party, to oust communists from controlling positions which they hold in some British trade unions. Last Saturday gave the first concrete results of this crusade when Jim Hammond, communist president of the Lancashire area of the National Union of Mine-workers, was defeated for reelection by C. L. Tyrer, laborite, who had been the president.

This hardening of the British attitude toward aggressive communism lends fresh strength to the Marshall plan for European rehabilitation—a program which Moscow has vowed to defeat. A positive stand by London in this dangerous crisis is vital to maintenance of solidarity among the western democracies. It is a great morale builder.

Probe Slated In Fire Death

HILLSBORO, Jan. 5 (AP)—Coroner and sheriff office deputies today were investigating circumstances in the fatal burning of Mrs. Edward Welch, 63, in her home here.

Deputy Coroner James Deirick ordered an autopsy after determining that the woman suffocated and burned to death in her flame swept residence early yesterday morning.

Fire Chief Wilbur Dillon said the woman, who lived alone, apparently used an oil lamp; although the residence was wired for electricity.

The body was found by firemen in a bedroom, where the woman appeared to have fled from a fire damaged bed in another sleeping room. An overturned oil lamp was found in the sleeping room. The fire was discovered about 8:05 a. m. by neighbors.

Deputy Sheriff Richard Brush said it was possible the woman spilled kerosene from the lamp when attempting to light the lamp on arising Sunday morning.

Salem Wreck Fatal To One

SALEM, Jan. 5 (AP)—David Murray Doherty, age 17, Rt. 1, Pendleton was fatally injured and three other persons injured yesterday in a two automobile collision north of Hubbard on the Pacific highway.

State police said Doherty was a passenger in a car driven by Donald Dean Webb, Pendleton, and that the second car was driven by Charles R. Stamper, Coos Bay.

Doherty died soon after being admitted to a Salem hospital. Injured were Webb, Stamper, and Ralph M. Rathjen, Portland, a passenger in Stamper's automobile.

State police said Stamper's car, en route to Eugene, was attempting to pass another vehicle when the brakes locked, throwing the machine in the path of Webb's car.

Britain Rejects Red Proposal

LONDON, Jan. 5 (AP)—Britain rejected today a renewed Russian demand for a four-power foreign ministers meeting to prepare a Japanese peace treaty and reaffirmed her view that the settlement should be drafted first by the 11-nation Far Eastern commission.

A foreign office spokesman said this country favored neither the Soviet proposal nor a Chinese plan. China had called for a conference of the 11 Far Eastern commission states, but simultaneously insisted that decisions should be subject to unanimity of Britain, the U. S., China and Russia.

Local Woman Hurt In Auto Wreck

Mrs. Nina Currier, 1143 Pine, owner and operator of the Currier apartments, is in Klamath Valley hospital with painful injuries received late Sunday afternoon between Alturas and Tulelake when the car, driven by her son John, struck the rear of a truck.

Mrs. Currier was brought to the hospital here and it is thought she has a broken arm as well. John, an Alturas merchant, suffered bruises and shock. He was bringing his mother back to Klamath Falls after Mrs. Currier had made a business trip to Alturas.

SIDE GLANCES



"I'm not saying that appliance you're selling won't pay for itself—but we haven't finished paying for the last gadgets we bought that pay for themselves!"

The World Today

By DEWITT MACKENZIE AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Did you ever sit down with a map of the world and contemplate the extent of the British Empire and commonwealth of nations which so encircle the globe that, as the Briton points out with justifiable pride, the sun never sets upon them?

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The Gallup Poll

Truman Leads Taft In Opinion Test; Ohioan Runs Strong In Midwest

By GEORGE GALLUP Director, American Institute of Public Opinion PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 5 (AP)—Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio was to be the republican presidential candidate running against Mr. Truman, he would run strongest in the East Central section of the country comprising Ohio—his home state—and Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

This is shown in a "trial heat" between Taft and Truman, which also brings out the fact that among the various occupational groups the Ohio senator is strongest with business and a professional people. A strong manual workers, and labor union members in particular, however, Mr. Truman runs ahead.

With the election still ten months off, today's trial heat between the two men shows views on public issues differ so markedly in inconclusive politically; a great deal can happen in coming months to change the picture. The results are interesting chiefly in showing where each candidate is strongest and weakest today, and what their relative standing is with different groups in the voting population.

A scientifically-selected cross-section of voters in all 48 states was polled on the question: "If a presidential election were being held today, and Truman were running for president on the democratic ticket against Taft on the republican ticket, how do you think you would vote?"

The result nationally is: Truman 55% Taft 33% No opinion 12%

If the vote is confined only to those expressing an opinion it would be 63 per cent for Mr. Truman, and 37 per cent for Mr. Taft.

One matter for speculation is whether the entrance of Henry A. Wallace into the political arena on a third party ticket would take away enough democratic votes from Mr. Truman to result in the election of a republican. Judging by today's trial heat, the Wallace forces would have to draw a huge total from the democrats in order to put Mr. Taft ahead. But under existing election laws it will be difficult for the Wallace party to get on the ballot in many states.

Mr. Taft has very substantial popularity and backing in the section of the country from which he hails, and his next best section is the New England and Middle Atlantic area. When the poll results are analyzed by geographical sections, they show the following:

Table with 4 columns: Region, Truman, Taft, Opin. N. Eng. and M. Atlantic: Truman 52%, Taft 35%, Opin. 13%. E. Central: Truman 50%, Taft 40%, Opin. 10%. W. Central: Truman 55%, Taft 34%, Opin. 11%. South: Truman 74%, Taft 16%, Opin. 10%. Far West: Truman 60%, Taft 28%, Opin. 12%.

The Taft forces can also count on more support from citizens who have had college training than from other education levels. The poll results according to degree of education of the voter is as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Education, Truman, Taft, Opin. College: Truman 55%, Taft 36%, Opin. 9%. High school: Truman 57%, Taft 32%, Opin. 11%. Grade or no school: Truman 57%, Taft 28%, Opin. 15%.

Among the major occupation groups, Mr. Taft's candidacy faces substantial opposition among manual workers, and to a lesser extent among white collar workers and farmers. The vote:

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, Truman, Taft, Opin. Bus. and Prof.: Truman 48%, Taft 42%, Opin. 10%. White collar: Truman 58%, Taft 32%, Opin. 10%. Farmers: Truman 58%, Taft 31%, Opin. 11%. Manual Wkrs.: Truman 60%, Taft 27%, Opin. 13%. Labor union members: Truman 65%, Taft 22%, Opin. 13%.

RECOMPENSED

Blonds, because their scalp and hair textures are finer, lose their hair more rapidly than either brunets or redheads, although they have double or treble the amount of hairs possessed by either of the latter.

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Lydia E. Pinkham's TABLETS

Two Fishermen Upset, Drown

COOS BAY, Jan. 5 (AP)—George Cleveland, 62, and Dan Van Hoy, 30, both of Bay Park, drowned Saturday in the choppy waters of lower Coos bay when a small boat in which they were fishing capsized. The coast guard said a third man, Harold Van Hoy, 37, managed to reach shore by clinging to the boat. Cleveland disappeared when the boat overturned, but the other victim was seen struggling toward shore for a while after the accident.

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A New Year But The Same Old Funeral Price Problem

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Next Monday Mr. Whitlock of the Earl Whitlock Funeral Home will comment on "A Timely Topic."

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