

# Grain Probe Challenged By Thomas

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Senator Elmer Thomas (D-Okla.) said today Senate investigators "raided" the office of one of his business associates "hoping to find something on me."

The senator insisted anew that he regards the inquiry into his commodity trading as "a closed incident."

Thomas told a reporter he has waited long enough for Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) either to call upon him for further information or to close the investigation by the senate appropriations subcommittee which Ferguson heads.

"He has done me all the harm he can," Thomas said.

Thomas and Dyke Cullum, his financial adviser, said six senate employees armed with "a handful of subpoenas" visited Cullum's office here last January 10 and carried off an awful lot of records. Some were lost, they added.

**Hurried Call**

Thomas said investigators for the subcommittee called on another of his friends "and tried to take him out without a hat, a coat or even a necktie" for questioning about Thomas' commodity transactions.

These were the incidents he had in mind, the Oklahoman said, when he wrote Ferguson a letter of protest.

Ferguson had no comment on the letter.

He previously had announced plans to hold public hearings on Thomas' trading, but he left that question open today.

Ferguson said a public session will be held "if the evidence merits it." But the committee has not yet passed upon the evidence, he added.

## Director U of O Singers



Prof. D. Allton, director of the University of Oregon Singers who will appear in concert at the Klamath Union high school auditorium Sunday, February 22, at 3 p. m., is well known to residents of Southern Oregon and especially University of Oregon families. Among those who will sing with the group is Stephen Stone, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Stone, 1503 Canby. Steve is a tenor with the University Singers, a choral group of 40 voices. Steve is a major in music.

## Farm Bureau Articles OK

Articles of incorporation were signed by the board of directors of the Oregon Farm Bureau federation at a special meeting held in Pendleton Saturday.

There were six members present from Klamath basin, Lee Holliday, Will Blackman, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rueck and Mr. and Mrs. John Tuffell.

The formation of this farm bureau insurance company is the result of a decision made by members of the farm bureau at the annual meeting at Hood River last fall. Financing of the company was over subscribed by 141 members in less than five weeks.

The Oregon Farm Bureau insurance company will be a legal reserve stock company owned and controlled by the farm bureau membership as a service to the members. When licensed the company will offer a full automobile and farm truck coverage and general comprehensive or farm liability coverage. It will not be a mutual or cooperative company.

## Surplus Crop To Be Bought

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—The government is preparing to buy up surplus 1947 apples in Washington and Oregon to help support prices.

W. J. Broadhead, Portland agent for the department of agriculture, said the purchase would be made with \$2,400,000 provided for price support programs.

Growers must make offers of apples in lots of one or more carloads. The department will accept or reject offers before March 10 and wants delivery completed by March 31.

The apples will be distributed to schools for student lunches. Acceptable varieties are Winesap, Yellow Newton and Orley fancy grades or better.

## Japs To Double Silk Output

TOKYO, Feb. 17 (AP)—Increased American demand for Japanese silk has prompted a plan for doubling the output by 1952.

Japanese government officials said production this year is estimated at 140,000 bales. Improved techniques and use of reclaimed lands for mulberry trees—on which silkworms feed—are planned.

## Eugene Man Wins Butte Contest

CORVALLIS, Feb. 17 (AP)—The Oregon Dairy Manufacturing association has awarded its junior buttermaking championship honors to Marvin Mikkelsen of Eugene.

Butter scored 95.5 in competition with others in the state at judging yesterday as the association's three-day convention got under way.

Other scores in the junior contest were: Marshall Morris, Farmers Cooperative Creamery, McMinnville, 94.75; Clair F. Lewis, Green Valley Creamery, Corvallis, 94.5; C. J. Jackson, Raven Creamery, Portland, 94; and Ira Strauss, Dallas Creamery, 93.

## FIRE

LEBANON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Firemen extinguished a fire at the Crown Zellerbach paper mill here late yesterday and reported damage was confined to web belts on machines.

The mill was put out of operation. Cause was not immediately determined.

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## Oregon Group Holds Party

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Members of the Oregon Society of Washington celebrated the 89th anniversary of the state's admission to the union at a dinner last night.

Oregon was admitted to the union February 14, 1859.

The menu for the occasion, held at the Press club, included Oregon products. On the list were Maraschino cherries, grapes, potatoes, preserves, nuts, pears and cheese.

Rep. Norblad (R-Ore.) was toastmaster. Forrest Finley, Washington correspondent for the Oregon Journal directed the party. Guests included all members of the state's delegation in congress, members of their staffs and a number of government officials.

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- "Public Relations"

**Friday, Feb. 20** 1:30 P. M. — Legion Hall  
6:30 P. M. — Willard Hotel

The clinic was originated and is conducted by the Oregon Advertising Club. It is sponsored in Klamath Falls by the Herald and News, KFJI, KFLW, Foster and Kleiser Co., United Outdoor Advertising Co., and the Klamath Shopping Guide.

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All persons interested in advertising are invited to attend. The registration fee of \$2.00 covers the 6:30 dinner at the Willard. Tickets can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce or from representatives of the sponsoring media. Reservations should be made by Wednesday noon.

# Price Break Holding Up HCL Bills

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Senator Tobey (R-N.H.) said today the market price break probably will put off action indefinitely on bills to control high living costs.

"I think the peak of the high price range has passed. I think the edge is off the price problem," Tobey told a reporter.

He said his senate banking committee probably will wait a while before acting on anti-inflation measures.

Bills before the committee propose to:

1. Give President Truman power to regulate limited rationing and wage-price controls if necessary.
2. Tell the agriculture department to prepare for meat rationing. A subcommittee already has voted three to two against this bill sponsored by Senator Flinders (R-Vt.).
3. "Freeze" all prices temporarily.

Chairman Wolcott (R-Mich.) of the house banking committee has suggested that congress hold up for two weeks all economic bills except rent control.

Wolcott said congress could size up effects of the commodity price drops by then and decide whether controls are needed.

Tobey said he agrees with Wolcott on this. He said he believes most senators on the banking committee feel the same way.

## Construction Men To Arbitrate Pay

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—Construction employers and building trade unions have agreed here to arbitrate wages and subsistence pay demands of the union.

L. C. Broll, chairman of the Portland labor-management committee, said the agreement averts a possible strike in the industry. Hearings before the arbitration board are to begin Thursday.

The agreement involves teamsters, ironworkers, carpenters and laborers and the Associated General Contractors and Portland Home Builders association.

J. M. Sulzinger, employers' spokesman said the agreement will conform to the Taft-Hartley act. Also settled were issues over use of certain materials. He said the contract calls for a union shop and that employers have agreed to call on the union for workers.

## Barley Export Ban Eased

Efforts of the agricultural committee of commerce to limit governmentally restricted exports of barley apparently have been partially successful.

The campaign was carried on through Oregon's congressional delegation and Senator Wayne Morse has informed the chamber that exporters have been granted licenses to ship out 1,800,000 bushels of malted barley during the first quarter of 1948.

If similar licenses are granted for the other quarters of the year, the problem may be solved.

Hanchem barley is the type grown in the Klamath-Tulelake country and much can be marketed in barley formerly produced in Europe.

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# Fort Stevens May Be Sold

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Fort Stevens, Ore., at the mouth of the Columbia river, was one of 26 old military forts which the senate armed force committee proposed yesterday should be sold.

The committee suggested the Oregon site would be suitable for a state park, radio station or school. It proposed \$60,000 as a fair value. It would be purchasable at half its "fair value," under the bill, if used as a recreation area.

Three other Northwest sites were mentioned by navy representatives as surplus properties. With their original cost and intended use, they included the Seattle Navy hospital, \$5,775,000, county hospital, Tacoma naval supply depot annex, \$3,518,574, city commercial use, and Hoquiam, Wash., training center, \$699,550, state park.

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## Lumber Pay Talks Slated

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—CIO Woodworkers and Northwest Fir Operators are to open wage negotiations here Wednesday on the union's demand for a 40-cent hourly wage boost after a preliminary session yesterday.

James E. Fading, international president, said operators of the Willamette valley and coast-Columbia districts would be represented along with the lumbermen's industry.

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trial relations committee. Pine employers declined to join in the session, he said.

The 40-cent an hour request includes a 7 1/2 cent health and welfare fund.

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