

By FRANK JENKINS Today's word from Washington: President Truman said this morning he is considering calling an extra session of Congress to ask for a stronger price control law.

It appears that Price Stabilizer Arnull has told the President that prices may get out of control and skyrocket. It appears also that between now and September 1 O.P.S. (Office of Price Stabilization) must release more than half of its 12,000 employees in Washington and in about 100 field offices.

Could it be that Mr. Arnull (like all good bureaucrats) looks upon REDUCTION OF HIS STAFF as the worst calamity that could happen and wants to head it off?

I wonder about this price business. I suppose everybody wonders about it. There are so many confusing angles to it. And so many conflicting stories.

For example: While all the politicians are yelling bloody murder about the awful rise in prices (which, they contend, is caused by the actions of a wicked Congress that wouldn't heed the wishes of the President and his appointive bureaucrats), the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, which keeps a price index of its own, says in its latest bulletin:

"The general level of basic commodity prices CONTINUED TO DECLINE during the 30 days ending on July 15. The wholesale price index of this company for July stands at 170.2, showing a decline of 1.9 points BELOW the June figure. This is the NINTH CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY RECESSION registered by the index."

The report continues: "The index numbers of wholesale prices of basic commodities for July and comparable months are as follows:

July 1951 192.7
July 1952 173.1
July 1953 170.2

"Eight of the commodities included in the index declined during the period under review, while an equal number advanced and six remained at the levels reported a month ago."

It is at least worthy of note that the bureaucrats who are screaming about the RISE in prices are politicians who seek to discredit the Congress that wouldn't give them more power, whereas the Guaranty Trust Company, which says prices have been DECLINING, is merely seeking to give information for the guidance of the business men who are its customers.

I know all this sounds cynical in the extreme. I don't like to be cynical. I'm deeply ashamed of it. I'd give anything to be able to feel otherwise.

But I find I simply CAN'T swallow ANYTHING that comes out of Washington and HAS POLITICAL ANGLES—as this price business certainly does.

What wouldn't I give for national leadership that I can BELIEVE and TRUST!

But enough of politics. Let's turn for a moment to Korea.

The temperature rose to 100 on the Korean front yesterday. Hardly better for hard fighting. And yet, during a 13 1/2 hour period, one advanced post on the central front changed hands three times. At the last word, red troops held the position.

If you think fighting your way up a hill under a blazing sun isn't hot and desperate work, just try it some time. Add to the heat the fact that at any moment you may be cut down by a commie bullet or a splinter from a commie shell or a commie hand grenade.

But our boys over there do it. They do it unhesitatingly. They KEEP ON doing it.

I can't help thinking that if we on the home front would tackle our problems in the same spirit that our boys on the fighting front tackle theirs we'd soon have everything running smoothly and efficiently.

Koreans Elect Syngman Rhee

PUSAN, Korea (AP)—Aging President Syngman Rhee was swept back into office by an overwhelming majority in nearly complete unofficial returns from the Republic of Korea's first direct election of chief executives.

Rhee's choice for vice president—Hann Tai Yang, a little known Presbyterian minister—pledged commanding lead over eight opponents in late returns from Tuesday's election.

The 71-year-old Rhee puttered in the garden of his palatial presidential residence in Seoul as the vote count, gathered over police communication channels, assured his return to office for four years.

Carrier Jet Plane Blast Kills Nine

WASHINGTON (AP)—An explosion of a jet plane aboard the U.S. carrier Boxer in Korean waters killed nine men and injured an unannounced number of others, the Navy reported Thursday.

Twelve jet planes were destroyed by raging fires that followed the explosion.

Helicopters and lifeboats picked up 63 crewmen driven overboard by the flames.

A Naval officer said the explosion occurred off the coast of Korea Tuesday night. The 27,000-ton carrier normally carries a crew of 2,900 officers and men.

No enemy action was involved. The officer who reported the fatalities said he did not know how many men were injured.

He said damage to the ship was comparatively slight.

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It is believed that an accumulation of gases built up after a land, caused the blast. The plane at the time was on the hangar deck.

The fire which followed was described as "bad."

Names withheld

Names of the dead were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The nine dead included one officer.

The Navy said that a sister ship, the Bon Homme Richard, will take the place of the Boxer in Korean operations.

The Boxer is to proceed to the Naval base at Yokosuka, Japan, for repairs.

The commander of the Seventh Fleet has ordered a court of inquiry into the disaster.

The court investigation will probably begin soon after the carrier reaches the base.

The Boxer played a prominent role in World War II. At the start of the Korean war it crossed the Pacific in eight days and seven hours with what was believed to be the largest number of planes ever carried on a carrier.

It also set a Pacific record of seven days and 18 hours on a return trip to San Francisco.

The carrier began a third tour of Korean duty April 1.

SEoul, Korea (AP)—The U. S. Fifth Air Force said its Sabre jet pilots Thursday shot down four Russian-made jets and damaged five in the fourth straight day of jet battles over North Korea.

On the ground, grenade-tossing South Korean infantrymen won back a Central front height called Capitol Hill three hours after they had lost it at dawn.

A U. S. Eighth Army briefing officer said it was the sixth time in two days that the steep hill had changed hands.

Thursday's toll of Communist jets boosted the Red's losses to 15 MIGs destroyed and 19 damaged in four days. U. S. losses, if any, will be announced later in a weekly summary.

One MIG was shot down and one damaged in two battles near the Yalu River around noon.

Two more were destroyed in a battle near Sinuiju. Sabres shot down one and damaged three in a clash south of Sinuiju in North-west Korea.

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Report Tells Damage of Steel Strike

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Defense Mobilization report, censored before it was published, says 25 million man-days of work were lost in the steel strike, knocking mill output a whole year off its stride.

The report to President Truman was made by Acting Defense Mobilization Director John R. Steelman, who released excerpts Wednesday after deleting secret data.

Steelman estimated 25 million man-days of work slipped during the idleness of 600,000 striking steel workers.

Stoppages in steel-using industries before the 54-day strike were reported to have cost the country about 1,400,000 man-days.

"The effects of the steel stoppage will be felt heavily for the next three to six months," Steelman said, "and will not be completely worked out of the military production program for an entire year."

He added that the impact will delay the planned program to step up production of many major items.

He estimated steel output this year will be about 90 million tons, 14 per cent below 1951 and the lowest since 1949.

There were some bright spots. 1. The new T-48 medium tank is now rolling off the assembly line.

2. Total warplane output continued upward, despite the strike.

3. Serious loss of perishable foods was avoided.

Aside from the military phase of mobilization, the report also said:

1. After removal of price ceilings from many items, no commodities climbed as high as the ceiling level.

2. Easy-payment credit reached a new high of \$14,300,000,000.

The report also said that draft calls, now running about 30,000 a month, will jump above 40,000 in October and stay that way until June 30, 1953.



Blaze Rages In California Pollution Problem In Klamath Lake May Be Solved By Fish Introduction

EUREKA, Calif. (AP)—Firefighters battled Thursday to keep under control a raging 600-acre brush and timber fire near Klamath.

More than 250 men, using bulldozers, tank trucks and hand tools, are fighting the blaze which broke out Monday during logging operations.

Berl Lewis, state forestry headquarters dispatcher at Fortuna, said all available equipment was being rushed to the area in an effort to encircle the fire, centered about six miles southeast of Klamath.

The blaze was reported almost under control Wednesday.

The Klamath Falls Eagles Lodge is to sponsor the next visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile here Tuesday, Aug. 12, and 225 donors are needed.

The hours this time will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., with the blood unit operating at the Eagles Lodge. It is for Eagles, members of the Auxiliary, families and friends.

The auxiliary is to act as hostess group, and will handle the canteen, according to the Red Cross office here.

Eagles are recruiting donors and appointments may be made either with them, or by phoning the Red Cross at 7184 or Mrs. Madeline Swaney, blood chairman, at 3213.

Bobco Starts Street Work

The Bobco Paving Company yesterday started work on its job of repaving Klamath Falls streets.

The company, which went into business just about three months ago, has located a plant at S. 6th and Washburn and was low bidder on the city's street-patching job.

Its price was \$46,570.

City Engineer E. A. (Taxi) Thomas said the contract with Bobco for the work has not been signed yet, but the company was notified to go ahead with the work.

The contract was held up while the new firm obtained equipment to enlarge its mixing plant.

Thomas said the work may take about two months.

Street work is late this year because the city went through the procedure of calling for bids twice, the first time setting just one bid for the repair work and the second time just two.

Another big job now underway is the replacement of an old six-inch steel casing water main running along S. 6th from Main to Walnut, being done by the Oregon Water Corporation.

The old pipe in the block between Main and Klamath was installed in 1909 and in the next block down in 1910.

It is being replaced with 12-inch cast iron mechanical joint pipe, the first of that particular type used here by the water company, and will tie in to a 10-inch main at Walnut Street.

Graham Brothers is doing the excavation, with Fred E. Seutter operating the power shovel, and Ralph Nelson is foreman on the job for the water company.

At the alley between Main and Klamath the excavation had to be put down about seven feet to get under a concrete tunnel heating line owned by Consumers Heating Company.

Greek Army Opens Fire On Bulgars

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP)—United Nations observers on the Greek-Bulgarian frontier Thursday said big forces from both countries are ready for action. They said the situation is "very dangerous."

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greek troops opened fire Thursday morning on Bulgarian soldiers on the Greek-claimed border island of Gamma, in the Evros River, the Greek general staff announced.

A communique said the Greek fire—from machineguns and mortars—was not returned by the troops from Greece's Soviet satellite northern neighbor.

The attack began at 8:30 a.m. (An Istanbul dispatch said that a top Turkish official at Adrianople, Turkish border town 10 miles from Gamma, reported that the firing continued for about an hour and a half, stopping around 10 a.m.)

The attack came after Bulgarian troops had been noticed on the island during Wednesday night, the announcement said.

Earlier the general staff had issued a communique saying no Bulgars had been seen on the island after expiration of an earlier Greek ultimatum demanding that all Bulgarian troops quit Gamma by 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Press dispatches from correspondents in the area, written after the expiration of the ultimatum but apparently prior to the Greek attack, said those on the Greek side of the Evros river could see the Bulgarians on the island.

Thursday, army announcement said the United Nations peace subcommittee was present when the Greeks attacked and that just prior to opening fire, the Greeks warned the Bulgars by loudspeaker.

The island was the scene of a Bulgarian attack on a Greek patrol July 27.

Three Greek soldiers were killed. Reporting the incident to United Nations headquarters, the U. N. Balkan subcommittee condemned the Bulgarian attack.

(Greek diplomatic sources in Istanbul described the incident as local, one of a series of flare-ups in the area over the past five years.)

The Gamma dispute arose when the Evros river was dammed. The Greeks insisted the boundary remained the same. The Bulgarians argued it shifted with the river and part of the newly created island was theirs. The Evros rises in Bulgaria southeast of Sofia. It flows to the Greek-Bulgarian border and finally into the Aegean sea.)

McKay Denies Long Reprieve

NEskowin, Ore. (AP)—Gov. Douglas McKay will not commute the death sentence of Wayne LeRoy Long and the convicted killer will die Friday morning in the new state prison gas chamber at Salem.

McKay, vacationing at his beach resort, said he would let the law "take its course."

He said he understood Dale Jacobs, Long's attorney, was coming here Thursday to appeal for a commutation, but the governor said "the answer is no."

The only time a governor has authority to use executive clemency in such a case is when he finds the convicted man has not had a fair trial or new evidence is uncovered, the governor said.

"Long had a fair trial and there has been no new evidence," McKay added.

Informed of McKay's stand, Jacobs agreed that Long had been given a fair trial but said he would make the trip here anyhow, because "we feel we owe it to Long to make this one last effort."

He said no court appeal was planned, and that his request to McKay would be made on the grounds that Long might become a useful inmate at the prison.

Long, who has made many unsuccessful attempts to escape, was convicted of the murder in June, 1950, of Walter Rucker, a Portland carpenter.

He killed Rucker to get his truck, used later in the robbery of an east side branch bank. Long was wounded and captured by FBI agents as he fled.

President Wants New Control Law

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman said Thursday he is considering calling an extra session of Congress to ask for a stronger price control law.

He told a news conference that no decision has been made, but he has the matter under consideration.

If it is necessary to call a special session, he declared, he will call it.

A decision will await developments, he added.

Truman declined to comment on reports that Ellis G. Arnull is preparing to quit as price stabilizer.

Arnull went to the White House Wednesday bearing his resignation, effective Sept. 1, and a report to Truman that food prices again are rising sharply.

Arnull said he told the President it may be necessary to call Congress back into special session "if food prices continue to get out of hand and skyrocket."

The price boss told reporters Truman "was very attentive—he said he was quite concerned about the rising prices."

Arnull added that he also disapproved the decontrol he introduced in the food prices law written just before the end of the session of Congress.

Arnull said he suggested that the act is "very weak due to crippling amendments."

Among these factors he mentioned the decontrol by Congress of fruits and vegetables in raw and processed forms.

He also mentioned that the Office of Price Stabilization (OPS) is unable to do what he called an effective job because of a slash by Congress in its operating funds.

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OLD SIX-INCH WATER MAIN pipe is being replaced now with a 12-inch main, accounting for the deep ditch which has been put in S. 6th between Main and Klamath this week. Next Monday the ditch is to be extended across Klamath Avenue and on to Walnut Street.

Cake Named To Ike Staff

DENVER (AP)—Ralph Cake, former Oregon Republican national committeeman, Wednesday was named to the personal staff of Gen. Eisenhower, GOP candidate for President.

Cake, who arrived here Wednesday to begin the assignment, will be an aide to Gov. Sherman Adams of New Hampshire, chief of Eisenhower's political staff.

The Oregon man was a pre-convention backer of the general and took part in campaign strategy conferences after Eisenhower returned from Chicago, where he was nominated.

Cake was Oregon committeeman for about 12 years. He did not seek re-election this year.



VERN BRONKEY, 2251 Garden, a Standard Oil truck driver, greets the 9 o'clock Photographer this morning.

Weather forecast table for Klamath Falls and Northern California, including high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.