

State Highway Commission OKs Park, Travel Budgets

PORTLAND (AP) — Budgets of \$1,001,000 for the State Park Department and \$274,711 for the Travel Department were approved here Monday by the State Highway Commission.

The commissioners reported that these budgets and the general budget now under consideration would have to be revised if the constitutional amendment banning weight-mile taxes for trucks is approved at the Nov. 4 election.

The commission said the amendment, if approved, would result in a loss of 17 million dollars in highway revenues in the next two years.

The trucking industry, which is sponsoring the amendment, contends the weight-mile tax program, approved by the last Legislature, is unfair to truckers.

In other action the commission: Discussed asking the Legislature for an amendment to the law to allow the commission to sell logs which weightmasters force overloaded truckers to dump at weighing stations.

Approved an access road from Lakeside, Coos County, to the new Coast Highway one mile north of Lakeside.

Approved an agreement with Salem for cooperative traffic signal installations.

Agreed to divide the costs with the city of Coos Bay for installation of a traffic signal, providing the signal is operated only at peak traffic hours.

Refused to reconsider its rejection of a plan calling for an overpass at the intersection of Bookman Road and the Portland-Salem expressway in Clackamas County.

Approved expenditure of \$400,000 when funds become available for improvement of the Territorial Secondary Highway between Crow and Gillespie Corner in Lane County.

Filed for later consideration a communication from the Lane County Economic Development Committee and the Eugene Chamber of Commerce urging early construction of the Clear Lake Road linking the McKenzie and Santiam Highways.

Food Prices To Follow '52

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department said today that retail food prices are likely to average about the same in 1953 as in 1952.

In a report on next year's food outlook the department gave these prospects: some increases in civilian buying of beef, veal, chickens, margarine, frozen fruits, juices and vegetables. These increases will be countered somewhat by lesser purchases of pork, eggs, turkey and butter.

The outlook for food production next year is for some larger marketing of meat animals and increased output of fruits and vegetables if weather conditions are more normal than this year.

Little change in military food buying is in prospect unless the international situation should change markedly. Export shipments of food, the bulk of which are food grains, are expected to decline, due to larger wheat crops in many countries this year and the shortage of dollar exchange.

City Plans Parking Lot

The City of Klamath Falls probably will go deeper into the parking business about Nov. 1.

It plans to open up an off-street reserved parking lot at 5th and Klamath, next door to City Hall, on property the city acquired a couple of years ago.

The lot is big enough to accommodate 36 cars, and City Engineer Taxl Thomas has been instructed to smooth out the surface and install bumper-timbers and nameplates for reserved space purchasers.

The fee will be \$5 a month, or if reserved by the year, \$48 (54 a month).

The revenue from the lot will be put in a fund for eventual surfacing of the parking area, and the plan is later on to put several-hour parking meters on the lot.

The city already is in the parking business to the tune of about \$50,000 a year—the take from its on-street parking meters.

Highlights At KUHS

By HAROLD McKAY
Klamath was crowded with delegates to the Regional student body convention yesterday and today. Between 175 and 200 delegates from over 40 schools attended the convocation.

The Pelican gridsters received their first victory assembly in three years yesterday. The 7-0 victory puts the Pels out in front in the District.

This year the students have the most school spirit that they have had in a number of years. The students proved it by yelling continuously for three minutes and 22 seconds. Even this time is a far cry from the over 12 minutes the students whooped it up before the Redding game. Either the students have a lot more enthusiasm than in previous years, or the rally squad this year knows how to get the most out of the students. But then again, this year's football team has given the school more to yell about than in the past three years.

The freshmen elected their officers late last week. Here are the results: President, Orvin Perkins; Vice President, Modesto Jiminez; Secretary-treasurer, Shano Bilas; and yell-song leader, Gloria Mahan.

Remember to listen to the Klamath Sports Album tonight at 8:30 over KPJI.

Power Group Plans Meeting

TACOMA (AP) — The Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee planned another survey of the area's water reserve Tuesday to determine whether an electric power cutback will be ordered next month.

C. A. Erdahl, the committee chairman, said Monday's rainfall, which ended a drought in many parts of the Northwest, was "just a sprinkle," and power curtailment probably will be necessary.

Erdahl said Northwest power officials would be linked in a telephone conference call to survey conditions. The group then will report to the Defense Electric Power Administration which will issue a power "drawdown" order, if the need for one is determined.

Twins Suffer Double Blow

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Trouble just naturally comes double to Charlotte and Georgia Steves. They are identical twins.

The 22-year-olds were decorating a tractor for the homecoming parade of the University of California at Los Angeles. They were in the earth-moving tractor's scoop, which somehow went into gear and tossed them eight feet to the ground.

Both girls suffered the same injury—fractures of the left elbow. Today both are wearing identical casts.

"Sometimes," moans Charlotte, "we think we carry this twin thing too far."

Local Girl On Book Staff

LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE, Portland (Special)—Flo Ann Perkins, Klamath Falls, has been appointed copy editor of the 1953 yearbook, according to an announcement made by the office of the Voyager.

A senior education major, Flo Ann is a transfer student from Stanford university where she was in the staff of the Stanford Daily on the staff of the Stanford Daily, the Lewis and Clark newspaper, the Voyager, Log.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Perkins, 1527 Pacific Terrace.

FINE PHOTOGRAPHY

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At Woodwards
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HE FOUGHT—A GI, his face showing pain, his fighting togs torn and bloody, can barely stand as a hospital corpsman helps him from a jeep that has just brought him to a first aid post at the foot of Triangle Hill in Korea. (Ed. Note: The soldier's eyes are painted out by censor to prevent identification prior to notification of next of kin.)

Army Brass Denies Report That GIs Use Poor Weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army described as untrue and "extremely destructive criticism" the statement of two former intelligence officers that the GI in Korea is armed with outmoded weapons and that this results in needless deaths.

Garret Underhill, formerly of the Army's G-2 section, and Ronald Schiller, a naval intelligence officer in World War II, said in a Look Magazine article that soldiers in Korea carry antiquated arms, although the Army has a variety of new weapons either in existence or on drawing boards.

Maj. Gen. Ward H. Maris, Army deputy chief of staff for research and development, said Monday this was "conjecture" and challenged Underhill and Schiller to show that "any more reliable weapons exist and can now be produced."

The American soldier, Gen. Maris said, carries the most modern arms of any foot soldier in the world.

The intelligence officers, calling what they termed the alleged obsolescence of weapons an "unparalleled national disgrace," said the GI:

"Fires a 1906 cartridge from a rifle first built in 1928, hurls the same type of hand grenade used in World War I, uses machine guns developed between 1917-19 with a mechanism patented by John Browning 'in the days of Queen Victoria.'"

The article said civilian and military leaders are "so dazzled" by such things as guided missiles and atomic explosives they are "bored" with minor weapons.

They said the U. S. has been lucky in Korea because Chinese also have old weapons, but added: "We do not know what unpleasant surprises the Russians may have in store."

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Corporations Report Profits On Upgrade Again

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP) — Profits are on the upgrade again — if the first companies to report prove typical.

The first 45 corporations to announce their net earnings after taxes for the July, August and September quarter show:

1. Profits of 29 running ahead of the same period of 1951: sixteen making less.

2. The 45 having combined profits 15.4 per cent higher than in the third quarter last year — \$189,493,431 this summer, against \$164,186,179 a year ago.

These early combers are but a handful of the hundreds yet to report and contain only two of the industrial giants. Thus they are far from conclusive evidence of a trend.

Also, they may prove to be

heavily weighted by a few companies who made striking gains this summer.

But they make cheerful reading for stockholders when compared with the profit trend earlier this year.

In the April, May and June quarter much more complete reports showed U. S. corporate earnings running 13 per cent behind the 1951 second quarter.

In the first three months of this year corporate profits after taxes ran around nine per cent behind the 1951 quarter.

Stockholders have another cause for cheer. In spite of lower earnings during the first half of this year, directors of many corporations maintained or raised dividend rates.

For the first nine months of this year total dividend payments ran four per cent ahead of the same

period last year.

In many industries, earnings prospects appear even brighter for the final three months of 1952 than for the quarter just ended.

Year-end extra dividends may not be as generous as formerly, but many observers feel that total dividend payments for the year may equal, possibly top, last year's record.

The 45 corporations so far reporting show the usual wide variance in profit pattern. Four of them operated in the red in the third quarter. Two others were sharply lower.

One was a steel company, reflecting losses from the strike.

The four small iron and steel companies to report so far showed combined net profits 49 per cent below earnings in the 1951 third quarter.

On the bright side, nine of the 29 with higher earnings show substantial gains.

A food processing and grocery wholesaling firm reports profits six times higher than a year ago. A household appliance company's earnings tripled. Two others were more than double their year ago figures.

A leather company reports a gain this year, against a loss in last year's third quarter.

Other to gain notably were in the cement, textile, container, transportation and communication industries.

In some cases, of course, the 45 companies are now reporting net profits which contrast with the

slump their particular industries were experiencing last year. And the flood of reports from others in the next three weeks could easily reverse the showings of the early 45.

Theater Owner Released In Chester Slaying Case

By ED OLSEN and ROBERT W. WELLS

RENO (AP) — What does it feel like to be jailed for six days on suspicion of brutally killing a father and three small children?

"It's worse than a nightmare," says Louis Edmond Blair, 37, Chester, Calif., movie operator.

Blair was freed after two lie detector tests yesterday. Dist. Atty. Jack Streeter of Reno said the results were inconclusive.

"They neither clear this man nor indict him," Streeter said. District Judge John Belford freed Blair on a writ of habeas corpus.

Blair never was formally accused in the \$7,128 robbery-massacre of grocery Guard Young and three children near Chester Oct. 10.

He was taken into custody here for questioning at the request of Sheriff M. H. Schooler of Plumas County, Calif.

Blair said he had had "neighborly disagreements" with Young but knew nothing of the killings.

In an exclusive interview Blair said today:

"Every statement I would make about my whereabouts that terrible afternoon of the killings the officers would tell me I was a liar."

"Why they almost convinced me I was nuts — then I would regain

my reason and know I was innocent."

"I believe in religion, but I haven't gone to church regular and I haven't done much praying."

"I did a little praying this week, though, and from now on I think we'll both go to church a little more often."

Sheriff Schooler and Plumas County Dist. Atty. Bertram James were to return to Chester today to continue their investigation.

Also released yesterday after two days in jail at Quincy, Calif., was Martin Russell Ryan, 30, service station operator at Crescent Mills, Calif.

Hans Norland Auto Insurance, 627 Pine St.

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