

# SINGAPORE AIR CRASH KILLS 82

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
Supply and demand note:  
Strong buying entered the wheat market on the Chicago board of trade yesterday. IT WAS STURBED BY NEWS OF STRONG WINDS AND BLOWING DUST OVER MUCH OF THE WINTER WHEAT BELT.

By 9 a.m. (Chicago time) wheat futures had been bid up as much as 2 1/2 cents a bushel.

How come?  
If there's a drought in the wheat belt, THERE WILL BE LESS WHEAT.

That's the long and the short of it.

More supply and demand stuff. Coffee is becoming a major target of truck cargo thieves (we called 'em hi-jackers back in prohibition days.) A private eye detective agency back East that gets reports from insurance companies says that from \$50,000 to \$75,000 worth of coffee was stolen in this manner in the month of February of this year.

These hawkshaws think the stolen coffee is going into BLACK MARKETS.

At a coffee black market at a time when coffee is neither rationed nor price-controlled?

Well, it works like this: There is PUBLIC INDIGNATION over coffee prices. This public indignation acts as a restraint on legitimate roasters, wholesalers and retailers of coffee. They hold down the price to keep from making their customers sore.

But—  
The hi-jacker and the black marketer have no such scruples. They are unscrupulous characters and they are aware that people will pay almost any price for coffee rather than do without it.

So they are taking steps to see to it that they have coffee AT A PRICE to sell to people who are willing to PAY THE PRICE.

Because of wartime rationing and price control and what happened as a result, we tend to think of black markets as selling invariably at high prices. Oddly enough, a LOW PRICE black market system is building up in our country. It works this way:

Over the dozen years or so of continuous war economy when competition was light and selling was easy, we built up a system of price control in REVERSE. That is to say, we took steps to protect the SELLER against LOW prices instead of protecting the buyer against high prices. Much of this protection took the shape of what we have come to call "fair trade" laws, which provide that certain types of merchandise shall not be sold at less than a price that is fixed for the retailer by the manufacturer. Of our 48 states, 45 have such laws.

These laws were designed to protect the legitimate merchant dealer against the inroads of what we call "chiselers." They worked quite satisfactorily over the years when competition was comparatively light and selling was easy and buyers were unwilling to spend time and effort in hunting bargains.

But—  
The situation changed. Buyers now ARE willing to hunt bargains. So institutions known as "discount houses" are springing up. They are selling goods at LESS than the prices established under the fair trade law system.

(Continued on Page Three)

# Klamath Basin News

Price Five Cents—16 Pages  
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1954 Telephone 8113 No. 2789

## Dust Storms May Affect Beef Prices

WASHINGTON (U) — Two senators with special interest in farm conditions said Saturday they fear dust storms and continued drought on the Western cattle ranges may push beef prices down again this year and force emergency government purchases.

"Widespread drought might do this," Chairman Aiken (R-Vt) of the Senate Agriculture Committee said in an interview. "If it does, they can't blame the Republicans."

Sen. Anderson (D-NM), former secretary of agriculture, said weather conditions might force liquidation of cattle herds for a second consecutive year.

Both senators agreed that if this happens Secretary of Agriculture Benson must step in again with an emergency beef buying program to keep cattle prices from sagging too low.

Aiken and Anderson also agreed with statements by some cattlemen that a government price support program or purchase of live cattle would not work.

During last year's drought, the Agriculture Department bought some \$50 million pounds of beef, chiefly lower grades used for hamburger or for canning, the equivalent of \$65,000 head.

This was only a tiny portion of the record 36 1/2 million head of cattle that went to market in 1953. Despite these heavy marketings the cattle population at start of this year was up nearly a million from January, 1953, at \$4,677,000.

Because supplies of pork and poultry are slightly lower than a year ago and indicated demand strong, Aiken said he expects beef and cattle prices to remain stable or improve, unless there is another severe drought.

## McCarthy Curb Asked By GOP

SALEM (U) — The Oregon Republican Club's executive committee Friday wired Sen. Guy Gordon asking him to use his influence to curb Sen. Joseph McCarthy's investigating activities.

It said the Senate "should draw up rules for Senate investigations."

The telegram, signed by George Haley, Salem, club president, said the club is "greatly disturbed by actions of Senator McCarthy in his conduct of investigations, and particularly by his antagonism toward members of the executive department."

KLAMATH BASIN POTATO SHIPMENTS	
Shipped Today	Same Day Last Year
52 cars	67 cars
Total For Season	
1953-54 8822 cars	1952-53 9643 cars

## Northwest Search For Bank Robbers Pushed By Police

There were "more than a dozen" one and two man parties, some of which were the objects of a virtually clueless search throughout the Pacific Northwest today.

The policemen never fired a shot yesterday morning as they were out down by the three men who had just finished robbing the Greenwood Bank of \$97,000—\$90,000 of which they dropped in their getaway.

The bandits, wearing horned spectacles and false noses which some bystanders first thought were part of a joke, entered the bank at 10:40 a.m.

An employee pressed a concealed alarm bar with his foot and three policemen in one-man patrol cars responded—their sirens screaming as they neared the bank.

"George, somebody's sounded the alarm," one bandit shouted as he ran toward the front lobby. Police Sgt. Howard Slesman, shogun at his side, was running through the outer door. The bandit fired and Slesman fell, a bullet wound in his neck.

As Slesman fell, Patrolman Frank W. Hardy, 30, arrived and jumped from his car, running toward the parking lot on the east side of the bank. A second bandit fired through a window, hitting Hardy in the head. He dropped to the sidewalk, mortally wounded.

The third officer, Vernon R. Chase, arrived just as two of the gunmen broke through a side door. One fired quickly and Chase was down a few feet from Hardy, a bullet wound in the chest.

The third kicked out a plate glass window and jumped through. He dropped a sack containing \$90,000 as he fled.

The robbers' getaway automobile was found later, a few miles away. Its motor still warm and a .45 caliber bullet on the front seat. No further clues of real import have been uncovered, police officials reported late last night.

## Judge Backs Burn Case Sentence

A one-year jail term imposed on Harold Greenwood, 28-year-old Klamath Falls stonemason, for forcing his 4-year-old stepson to put his hands three times on a hot stove, was affirmed Saturday by Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg.

Greenwood had appealed the sentence imposed by District Judge D. E. Van Vactor on January 2.

Greenwood was arrested on complaint of County Juvenile Officer Francis Mathews after relatives of the child complained of the defendant's cruelty to his stepson, Barney Allen Best.

Greenwood denied he placed the little boy's hands three times on the stove. He said he ordered the child to place his hands three times on the stove. He added he "was trying to teach the boy not to play with fire."

Dr. Robert M. Mueller, who attended the child, said he suffered first and second degree burns on both hands.

Mrs. Mary Greenwood, mother of the boy and wife of the defendant, testified her husband loved his stepson and showered him with fatherly affection.

Judge Vandenberg had taken the case under advisement 10 days ago after hearing pleas for clemency by defendant's attorneys, U. S. Balentine and A. C. Yaden.

"I do not find the sentence imposed in district court excessive or cruel," the judge said.

"The sentence is affirmed and the defendant is remanded to the custody of the sheriff for execution of the sentence."

Greenwood had been at liberty on \$3000 bail. The district court sentence specified that he serve the sentence at Rocky Butte Jail in Multnomah County.

## Award Given At Soil Meet

Roy Glenger, Chiloquin merchant and rancher, was elected to serve a three year term as a director of the Poe Valley Soil Conservation District, at the annual supervisors meeting in Chiloquin Friday night.

At the direct request of Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay, S.B. Murray, area conservationist for the Portland area, presented Harry Pearson, reservation farmer and a conservation district supervisor, with an award from the Interior Department for being the outstanding conservation farmer on Indian lands in the United States. Pearson resides at Modoc Point.

Joe Rogers, area conservationist, spoke briefly on "what is a soil conservation district." He explained the duties of elected and appointed directors and stressed the need for all farmers to cooperate with their supervisors and field men.

The need for pasture fertilization was demonstrated by Al Halforson, assistant superintendent in charge of soil research at the Klamath Experiment Station when he showed figures and colored slides on test plots of pasture lands near Fort Klamath, which produced over three and three quarter tons of hay in one year, with proper fertilization, as compared with less than three quarter ton on unfertilized soil.

Bill Anderson, range specialist for Eastern Oregon SCS, explained some of the problems facing stockmen in that area, which he stated were much more difficult to overcome than range problems here. He emphasized the importance of good rotated deferred grazing and the need for good range management.

A large crowd attended the meeting. Movies were shown and refreshments served at the conclusion of the meeting.

**DATE CORRECTION**  
In Friday evening's paper, the date of the American Legion birthday party was given as March 1. This was a typographical error. The correct date is Tuesday, March 16. The birthday party will be held on that date at 8 p.m., at the American Legion Hall.

## Red Rebels Routed On Hanoi Road

HANOI, Indochina (U) — French Union troops, backed by tanks and a night artillery barrage, Saturday routed Vietminh troops blocking France's vital North Indochina supply line.

Sweeping into the heart of the Red River delta Friday night, the rebels blasted five gaps in the mainline railway linking Hanoi with the coast. They also blew up bridges and captured, burned and destroyed many watchtowers and small forts along the route.

The 64-mile railway and road paralleling it are a pipeline for most of the U. S.-supplied war equipment entering Hanoi by ship.

The French said the coordinated Vietminh attacks appeared to have been an all-out attempt to smash the supply line.

Fighting spread almost to the outskirts of Hanoi, with fierce clashes between French Union troops and the Vietminh's hard-fighting Regiment 42 just eight miles from the city in the village of Nhu Quynh.

The Vietminh moved into Nhu Quynh after blowing up a long stretch of railway track. For a time they also threatened to cut the highway, over which about 6,000 French supply trucks move each day.

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## Gun Fire Hits Courthouse

The bark of a tree was nicked, a small piece of brick chipped from a corner of the courthouse, and employees in offices along the east side of the courthouse badly startled when a gun blast was heard nearby about 2:30 p.m. Friday.

Investigation by city police disclosed that a 300 Savage automatic rifle in the back seat of a car parked on South Fourth Street had been accidentally discharged. The car and gun belong to Nathaniel Baker, Beatty, who told sheriff's deputies he had brought the gun in for repairs and thought it was empty.

The missile after going through the car door, nicking the tree and courthouse apparently spent itself in space as no further damage could be found.

## Nixon, Stevenson

Re-broadcasts of both Vice President Nixon's speech tonight and Adlai Stevenson's address of a week ago will be carried over KFLW tonight.

Stevenson's speech of March sixth will be carried first at 9 o'clock, followed by Nixon's address at 9:30. Nixon's speech, slated for 7:30 tonight, will not be heard over KFLW prior to the 9:30 tape recording.

## Snowstorm Wets Down Dust; High Winds Over Wide Area

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
A snowstorm moved northeast out of Colorado and Kansas today, wetting down clouds of dust that had reduced visibility to zero in parts of five states. The blizzard dumped up to 10 inches of snow in its wake.

As the storm progressed, winds that had buffeted the Plains States with gusts up to 100 miles an hour diminished slowly. But hail borne by a howling wind and accompanied by lightning lashed Grand Rapids, Mich.

Nebraska bore the brunt in the early stages as the storm substituted snow for dust in its drive across the midcontinent.

Snow to depths of 10 inches was reported at Chadron in western Nebraska. The Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. reported 1,630 long line circuits out in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota. It said 3,600 farm phones were out of service in the three states.

In Kansas City, the Weather Bureau said the storm would move northeast through Iowa and Minnesota into Wisconsin and Michigan, and eastward out of Oklahoma and Texas. The weatherman said some rain was in prospect north of a line extending roughly eastward from St. Joseph, Mo., northeast of St. Louis to Cincinnati. He said falling temperatures were in prospect for the South as warm air gave way to cold.

High winds continued to buffet Missouri last night, fanning dozens of forest fires, some covering more than 500 acres each.

The State Conservation commission said the worst danger was in southwestern Missouri, where more than 20 fires raged.

Dust blown in from the Plains States hampered fire watchers in planes and towers.

In Kansas, whose wheat plains



NAVY CROSS WINNER ROBERT D. KOHLER AND WIFE, KAREN

## Navy Cross Awarded To K.F. Marine

The Navy Cross, the second highest award of the United States Navy, has been presented a Klamath Falls man, Robert D. Kohler, for extraordinary heroism in action.

Kohler, not only singlehandedly knocked out an enemy machine gun, but while administering first aid to wounded marines, he stepped on a grenade which had landed in the area thus saving their lives.

Kohler is now discharged from the Marine Corps, but on March 29 he will again don the uniform of the United States Marines and will serve as an instructor in training for privates.

The presentation of the Navy Cross and an accompanying citation from the President of the United States was made Thursday at the courthouse by Major W. F. Simik, Portland, with permission from the commandant of the Marine Corps.

"The citation reads: 'For extraordinary heroism while serving as an automatic rifleman of Company 2, Second Battalion, Fifth Marine, First Marine Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea March 3, 1953, when his unit was engaged in fierce combat with the enemy during an assault on a strongly fortified hostile position near the front line.'

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MRS. IRENE GEIGER

## Late Filing For Treasurer

A last minute filing for the office of Klamath County treasurer was announced just before the deadline Friday by the county clerk's office.

New candidate for the office on the Democratic ticket is Mrs. Irene Geiger, 711 Roseway Drive. She has served previously in the office of county treasurer, as a deputy.

Mrs. Geiger will be unopposed on the Democratic ticket in the May primary.

Republicans who have filed for the office are Eva Cook, former deputy in the office, Mrs. Elsie Siemens, public official in the sheriff's office for many years and Roy Murphy, former manager of Hermann's Men's Store.

Mrs. Geiger's statement follows: "As a resident of Klamath Falls for 27 years, I attended school here and have two boys in school. I am sincerely interested in my community."

"Having served as deputy county treasurer for two and one half years, I feel that I have thorough knowledge of the position, plus additional work in the same field in University Extension accounting courses.

"I feel that I will serve as treasurer ably, efficiently, and enthusiastically."

## Local Singer To Be Soloist

Athena Lampropoulos, soprano, is scheduled for a recital March 24, in Mills Auditorium, 8 p.m. The talented young University of Washington music major will be assisted by the KUHS a cappella choir, under the direction of Andrew Loney Jr.

She has been heard as a featured singer many times by Seattle audiences, and local music lovers have demonstrated their interest in her slated three-voice program Wednesday night, by the large number of tickets sold.

Some tickets are still available at Derby's Music Company; and those on sale by music students will be honored. All holding tickets for the Wednesday concert are requested to be in their seats by 8 p.m. After that time, if any are available, single admissions will be sold at the door.

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## British Air Liner Burns On Landing

SINGAPORE (U) — A BOAC Constellation airliner crashed and burst into flames on landing at Kallang Airport here Saturday, killing 82 of the 40 persons aboard. BOAC officials said two Americans and one Canadian were among the passengers.

The Singapore Standard said the Americans were believed to be Vice President Grant P. Olson, of the W. A. Shaeffer Pen Co., and Michael Shatin, far east supervisor of Warner Brothers.

In Sydney, Australia, Qantas Airlines, which operates the run jointly with BOAC, said the dead included R. F. Matson, a 52-year-old American railroad official who gave his last address as Melbourne, Australia. He was bound for Singapore.

Qantas said the plane also was carrying two bags of mail from Queen Elizabeth's touring party in Western Australia, and films and photographs of the royal tour for British newspapers.

The plane, bound from Australia to London had been flying in a clear sky. On landing, it skidded, tore up the runway for about 30 yards, swerved to the right, then somersaulted on the grass about 100 feet away.

Women among the relatives and friends waiting at the airport stood horrified and crying as the aircraft burst into flames after a loud explosion.

Black smoke rose 300 feet. After the firemen put out the blaze, rescue workers, mainly Europeans spending Saturday afternoon at the Singapore Swimming Club, rushed onto the field and began the task of extricating passengers.

Eight crewmen survived the crash and were hospitalized but released after treatment.

BOAC said eight passengers were British, six New Zealanders, four Australians, two American, one Canadian, one South African, one Filipino, three Indonesians, two Indians, two Dutch and one Chinese. One crew member also perished.

The big four-engine plane, operated by a British Commonwealth company, was coming in from Jakarta, Indonesia, where it had stopped over on its regularly scheduled flight from Sydney, Australia, to London.

It crashed at the end of the runway after skimming over rooftops as a normal approach for the landing. Flames enveloped the plane and roared out of control for more than an hour.

When the blaze was quelled, the firemen broke into the plane with axes to pull out the charred remains of the victims.

Some of the injured crewmen in the forward part of the plane managed to crawl to safety. One of these was the stewardess, Josephine Butler, who was said to be in serious condition. An aged civilian in the tail of the plane was the first to be removed by the rescuers. His condition was reported as critical.

Horror-stricken eyewitnesses, including friends and relatives of some of those aboard, said they saw only one of the plane's retractable wheels come down as the Constellation approached. One witness said he heard two explosions as the plane hit the ground.

An ambulance rushing some of the survivors to a nearby hospital was involved in a road accident and the patients had to be transferred to a police radio car for the rest of the trip.

## PURGED

DAMASCUS, Syria (U) — Syria's new government purged the National University Friday and fired Dr. Mahmoud Kubbani, former speaker of Parliament and acting national president, from his last job.



ATHENA LAMPROPOULOS as "Sandrina" in Mozart's opera "La Finta Giardiniera", one of many featured roles which has established the talented soprano as a favorite of Seattle music critics. She is scheduled to appear in recital March 24 at soloist with KUHS a cappella choir.

Photo by Sneddon, Seattle.



ON THE WAY TO WORK this morning was J. L. Maddan of 320 North 5th street, manager of the J. C. Penney shoe department. With him is his friend, young Robert Trivitt of 510 North 7th Street.