

FLAMING AIR CRASH KILLS 18

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
Incidental information:
The internal revenue offices in Portland stayed open last Monday, the 15th (the modern idea of March), until the stroke of midnight. Somewhat more than 580,000 federal income tax returns were received.
That's one from about each three Oregon people — from babies in arms up.

Maybe you might be interested in what federal spending COSTS OREGON.
It isn't mere vest pocket change. The federal government's 1954 budget is approximately \$164 billion. Of this tidy little sum, Oregon's share is \$294,839,600, or \$435.89 for each Oregonian. For the breadwinner of an Oregon family of four it is \$1743.56.

That's federal tax only. You pay your share of state, county, city and other local taxes on top of it. In the old BBG (Before Big Government) days, your total tax bill used to be divided in about a 25-75 ratio. That is to say, of each dollar of total taxes you paid about 25 cents to the federal government and about 75 cents to the local tax collectors.

The ratio is now reversed. It's 75-25 — with the 75 cents going to the kindly (but spendthrift) old gentleman with the whiskers and the 25 cents to local government from the state down.

It isn't all due, of course, to the spendthrift habits acquired in the past couple of decades by the old gentleman in the striped pants with the straps going under his ineptness to keep his breeches from creeping up around the calves of his legs.

We've been fighting wars — and wars are costly. For example: Of the nearly 695 millions Oregon people will pay in taxes as their share of the 1954 budget, 407 millions will go for military purposes. Wars tear down nations, and we now consider it our American duty to build them up again. Foreign aid will cost us Oregonians 41 millions this year. Wars make veterans. Veterans will cost us another 41 millions. Atomic energy (including atom bombs) will cost us still another 21½ millions.

Here's an interesting one: As you may have heard, the old gentleman we've been talking about has run up quite a debt in his spendthrift ways. Oregon's 1954 share of the INTEREST on this debt is \$44,580,000. That is \$40.58 for each Oregonian, or \$162.32 for the breadwinner of an Oregon family of four.

It all counts up, you see. What I really want to point out is that in the mellow years of the past we came to look upon money spent by Uncle Sam in our state as manna, drifting gently down from heaven and as such to be gratefully received by us as a GIFT.

In those halcyon days, we bore down hard on our senators and representatives to DIG INTO THE PORK BARREL. Anything they might drag out of it for us we regarded as lagniappe. If they didn't drag out ENOUGH, we were apt to retire them in favor of more efficient pork barrel diggers. Times are changing. Each year, when we are skinned on March 15 and our hides are hung on the fence to dry, the thought breaks upon us a little more thundering that maybe WE put something INTO THE KITTY as well as taking something out of it. The figures I've quoted here tend to confirm that suspicion.

You know, instead of urging our senators and representatives to reach into the grab bag as often and as deeply as possible, it might be a good idea to suggest to them that the less our old uncle spends the less we'll have taken out of our hides each year in federal taxes.

You might turn that thought over in your mind.

Police Smash Policy Ring

NEW YORK (AP) — Brooklyn authorities say they have smashed a three-million-dollar-a-year policy ring which may involve police officers and turn out to be "another Harry Gross case."

The Brooklyn district attorney's office announced early today 25 arrests had been made in the alleged policy racket. Three of those seized were women.

Aast, Dist. Atty. Julius Helfand told Kings County Judge Samuel S. Leibovitz the ring "could not have been operated without the connivance and protection of police officers."

Wiretap evidence, Helfand added, indicates "these people were protected not only by the ordinary police officer but by officials higher than the rank of detective."

"Do we have another Gross case here?" Leibovitz asked.

The judge was referring to the smashing in 1950 of the 20-million-dollar-a-year bookmaking empire headed by Harry Gross, who said he paid a million a year for police protection. Gross now is in jail.

TRADE PACT
VIENNA (AP) — France and Bulgaria have concluded a trade agreement providing for an exchange of goods worth three billion francs, Radio Sofia said Saturday.



"LET'S FILL 'ER UP" says Danny Peck, seated, with the gallon jug, who is helping with arrangements for the next visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile to Klamath County. Far left, Bill Jones, center, John Zumwalt, blood drive chairman, and gallon donor, all members of the VFW, sponsoring group in Klamath Falls. Mrs. Peck, member of the Women's Auxiliary, is also helping. The bloodmobile will be at the VFW Hall, Tuesday, March 30, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. in the evening. Pledge cards may be filled out at the hall or appointments made by calling the Red Cross office, 4125 or the VFW Hall, 2-9135. The truck will be at Merrill and Bonanza Monday, March 29.

Woman Dies After Modoc Point Crash

The third serious car accident in Klamath County in the last week resulted in fatal injuries to a Chiloquin woman on Highway 97, north of Modoc Point about 6 p.m. Friday.

Alice Parker Chocktoot, 45, died at the Klamath Valley Hospital at 11:20 p.m. from injuries received when a car she was driving went out of control and rolled over several times, according to Oregon State Police.

The Chocktoot woman and her companion Alvin McGivern Jackson, 45, also of Chiloquin, were thrown from the car as it rolled over the embankment.

Chocktoot was still in the hospital today with chest injuries, but his condition was not considered serious.

The Chocktoot vehicle was apparently traveling at a high rate of speed, officers stated. After swerving out of control the car traveled for a distance of 222 feet on the left shoulder of the highway before crossing to the right side and plunging into the ditch.

Spray Poison Victim Dies
HOOD RIVER (AP) — A poison with a tongue-twisting name took the life of a 6-year-old boy here Friday night, six days after some of it spilled on his legs.

Michael Orden was a victim of tetraethylpyrophosphate, which was an ingredient of a tree spray solution. The poison, usually referred to as TEPP, penetrated the skin and attacked his respiratory system.

The same solution was blamed for the death of another boy in Turlock, Calif., recently.

For several days volunteer firemen kept Michael alive by pumping oxygen into his lungs through a tube inserted in his throat.

Thursday night he was placed in an iron lung.

But it was to no avail. He died without regaining the consciousness he had lost when he was admitted to a hospital.

Weather
FORECAST—Klamath Falls and Vicinity: Partly cloudy through Sunday with high of 45; low Saturday night 27.
High yesterday 36
Low last night 24

'Friendly Deadlock' Ends PIRC And Union Meeting

A "friendly deadlock" was reached at the close of a meeting at Redding yesterday afternoon between an employer committee of Pine Industrial Relations Committee and a committee of the Northern California District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers-AFL.

The employer committee offered to extend the present contracts to the 1955 anniversary dates without change. The proposal was not accepted by the union committee. No arrangements were made for future meetings, although there was no refusal to meet in the future.

Chief Irving, PIRC secretary and spokesman for the employer group, explained the reasons why the committee could see no wage increase.

Ike Signs New Support Bill
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Saturday signed a bill providing an extra \$14 billion dollars for farm price supports this year.

The bill would increase to \$1.4 billion the borrowing power of the agriculture Department's Commodity Credit Corp.

This is the agency which supports farm prices and Sen. Aiken (R-Vt.) said in Senate debate on the bill that it was down to its last 250 million dollars. He explained it had invested 6½ billions in the program, accumulating vast stocks of surplus farm products — cotton, wheat, butter and other commodities.

Aiken said the new funds should be enough to carry out promised price supports on all of this year's crops unless there are unusually heavy harvests, or a sharp decline in business activity.

In either of those cases, Aiken said, the CCC will be back asking Congress for more money.

Police Quiet N.Y. Docks
NEW YORK (AP) — Heavy police patrols have brought quiet to New York's turbulent waterfront but most piers remained idle Saturday as dock workers carried their crippling strike into its 16th day.

Only about 1,000 longshoremen, out of 24,000 who usually handle cargo at the nation's busiest port, reported for work Friday despite police guards against harm from pickets. City police officials had assured an end to violence and safe passage through picket lines set up by members of the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA).

Forty-two ships were idled at the city's wharves. Many others had avoided the tie-up by heading into other ports.

ILA officials have declared the walkout an outlay strike and issued statements urging members to return to work. However, pier pickets answered they will continue the strike until the ILA is recognized as bargaining agent for dock workers.

Officials had hoped a ban against mass picketing and stern measures against violence would bring back - to - work movement among members of the rival AFL Longshoremen's Union.

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Stormy End To Winter Over Nation

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The fading winter season was making a stormy exit Saturday with a mixture of snow and rain over wide areas of the country and colder weather in the Midwest.

The three-month winter season, one of the mildest in years in most areas, ends at 10:50 p.m. EST Saturday with the arrival of spring.

The storm which whipped eastward across the Middle Mississippi valley Friday centered near Buffalo, N. Y., early Saturday. Precipitation extended from Florida to Maine and westward through the Ohio Valley and the Southern Great Lakes Region.

Heavy rains were in Eastern Pennsylvania and New York State. There was snow in Northern New England and westward to the Great Lakes. Strong winds were reported in many areas. Damage from a wind storm in Southern Ohio was estimated at more than \$30,000.

Light snow also fell over the eastern slopes of the Rockies from Colorado and Western Nebraska to Montana. In the Far West another storm off the California coast caused rains from Southern California to Washington. There were showers over the higher elevations in the Great Basin.

Below freezing weather was reported early Saturday from the Great Lakes westward across the plains into the Rockies. Lowest readings were around 15 above in Northern Minnesota. Temperatures also dropped over the plains as far south as Texas.

But temperatures were higher by 8 to 15 degrees over the Far Western and Eastern sections of the country.

Some early morning readings included St. Louis 42; Milwaukee 31; New York City 31; Miami 65; New Orleans 59; Denver 36; Seattle 41; Los Angeles 48; Chicago 34 and South Bend, Ind., 36.

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Police Seek Kidnaper
PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Police and sheriff's deputies combed the northwest Portland hills today for a man who fired several shots in a crowded school room while trying to kidnap 9-year-old George Brice III from the fashionable Catlin-Hillside School.

The boy's young mother, Mrs. George F. Brice Jr., her maid, Lizzie May Brown, and the faculty and some of the students at the school, helped foil the daring kidnap.

One of the teachers, Manuel Schaeffer, 29, was shot in the left hand while struggling with the man — described by Mrs. Brice as being drunk or doped. Schaeffer's wound was not serious.

French Bomb, Strafe Reds Digging In Near Fortress

By LARRY ALLEN
HANOI, Indochina (AP) — The French bombed, strafed and raked with artillery fire the Vietminh rebel forces besieging Dien Bien Phu today. Some Communist-led troops were digging in only 200 yards from the main barbed wire barricades of the fortress.

In the 12th day of siege, defending ground forces clashed in minor skirmishes with rebel units probing the defenses of the north-west Indochinese stronghold in the heart of the mountainous Thai country which borders on Red China.

There were no screaming frontal assaults by the enemy, however, as marked the first four days of this first major open battle in the seven-year war against the forces of Moscow-trained Ho Chi Minh.

But Vietminh artillery continued to pour into the 24-square-mile French-held plain, and the enemy carried out elaborate digging-in operations hard on the fortified area. This indicated they intended to try to crush the French at Dien Bien Phu for their first major military victory of the war.

The French said the rebels relentlessly shelled ambulance planes coming into Dien Bien Phu bearing Red Cross markings, making it more and more difficult to evacuate the wounded from the area. There was no indication, however, how the transport, helicopter and parachute airlift which has supplied the encircled fortress was faring.

The Vietminh turned deaf ears on broadcast appeals from the French for a brief cease-fire to permit the removal of sick and wounded by plane. After the first series of wild, almost suicidal Vietminh attacks were repulsed early this week, the French agreed to stop shooting long enough to permit the rebels to gather up their casualties, piled high by withering fire from within the fortress.

The French continued to express confidence they can repel any assault the Vietminh can hurl at Dien Bien Phu. But the enemy could continue the siege of the fortress for months by digging in the surrounding hills and avoiding further infantry frontal attacks.

French fighters and bombers ranged over the area at will, blasting away with half-ton bombs, fire bombs, rockets and machinegun fire at the enemy positions. First artillery duels also continued between the opposing forces.

Ike Backs Colorado Basin Jobs
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower Saturday approved recommendations for development of the Upper Colorado River Basin embracing power and irrigation projects estimated to cost \$230,343,000.

The President announced his approval in a formal statement saying the development — first big multi-purpose dam project to receive his support — calls for "sound financing."

He said that legislation is now being drafted setting up a fund for the entire project so it will be constructed and paid for as a "basin program."

The House interior subcommittee studying this project will vote on it early next week.

The President included in his recommendations two major dams and Glen Canyon and Echo Park, and authorization for 11 irrigation projects — all estimated to cost \$230,343,000.

In addition to the 11 irrigation projects he approved, he included the Eden Project, previously authorized, estimated to cost \$7,287,000.

He deferred, until additional recommendations are received from the secretary of interior, recommendations to carry out the Navajo Project, Shiprock Division, in New Mexico at a cost of \$178,825,000.

The project would provide power and irrigation affecting Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico.

House hearings on the project developed strong opposition from conservation groups last January.

Wreckage Strewn Over Wide Area

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Twisted pieces of wreckage and parachute-dropped bodies today littered a nearby cornfield where a big Air Force plane crashed in flames last night, killing all 18 aboard.

The plane, a twin-engine C-119 which had left Bolling Air Force Base a few minutes earlier, was seen ablaze in the air moments before it plunged to earth on a farm 19 miles south of Annapolis.

It grazed the edge of a wooded area just off Maryland Route 2 and exploded at or shortly before the crash, scattering its victims over several acres of the rain-soaked farm.

A spokesman at the airbase said 12 passengers and six crewmen were aboard when the ship took off at 10:12 p.m. A watch found at the scene had stopped at 10:20.

The Bolling Public Information Office indicated it would be late today before identities of the victims were made known. First there was the grim task of identifying their bodies. Their relatives had to be notified.

An official said the plane, belonging to the 774th Troop Carrier Squadron based at Ardmore, Okla., had stopped at Bolling to refuel on a routine flight from Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., to Mitchell Field, N. Y.

Virtually all the victims appeared to have been U. S. military personnel. Pieces of sailors' uniforms were found on the fringes of the crash scene. There was also a sleeve bearing the chevrons of a Marine corporal.

A detachment of sailors and Marines from the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis stood guard over the area as a group of investigators from Andrews Air Force Base, Md., examined the wreckage for clues to the cause of the tragedy.

For a radius of 500 yards pieces of the plane, bodies and parts of bodies lay under the harsh glare of ambulance and fire truck searchlights. Red-and-white striped parachutes had been spread over some of the victims.

Mrs. Robert Estep, who lives about a mile from where the plane crashed, said she saw it burning in the air as it roared over her house.

Mrs. Alice R. Ridgely, another resident, said it made "a terrible grinding sound—like a heavy truck in low gear." Seconds later she heard it crash and saw the surrounding area light up.

"The whole house seemed afire," she said.

Flames spread from the wreckage to surrounding brush and timber, but a heavy rain at the time and quick arrival of firemen from half a dozen southern Maryland communities prevented it from getting out of hand.

Dr. Elmer G. Linhardt, county medical examiner, was called on to help direct removal of the bodies.

The C-119 crash came at almost the same time another Air Force plane, a B-26 from Vance Air Force Base, Okla., crashed into a swampy area to the south, near Amel, Va. four persons perished in that mishap.

KLAMATH BASIN POTATO SHIPMENTS
Shipped Today 43 cars
Name Day Last Year 58 cars
Total For Season 1953-54 9121 cars 1952-53 10,015 cars

HIT AND RUN
PORTLAND (AP) — Obal E. Wilson, 30, was killed outright Friday when he was struck by a hit-run motorist, police reported.

He was the city's 10th traffic victim this year. There were 16 such deaths at this time last year.



SOAPING UP FOR THE WASH this morning at Bob's Self Service Laundry, 1711 Main Street were Dorothy Gaer and E. E. See, owner of the laundry.