



KENNETH WILLIAMS, student in the Industrial Arts Class at Fremont Junior High School, is shown in the foreground building wooden Christmas toys. The toys will be given to the needy children of Klamath Falls through the United Fund office. Under the direction of Walter Munn, class instructor, the students do all the designing and work of building the toys.

Farm Income Affects Firms

PORTLAND (U) — Small town businesses are already feeling the effect of reduced farm income, Oregon's agricultural co-operators were told Tuesday by Robert B. Tipton, governor of the Farm Credit Administration.

The next five years are going to be the most critical years in the national economic picture, he said, and farm income must move in the same direction as the national income if trouble is to be avoided.

Still, he said, the future holds no likelihood of a business collapse such as that of 1929. Better distribution of income, wider distribution of savings and a stronger banking system all combine to strengthen the economy. A semi-managed fiscal policy also contributed stability, he said.

Paul T. Rowell, chief of the Oregon Department of Agriculture's market development division said his new division was established as a coordinating agency in seeking new markets and improving old ones. It is not, he said, an active promoter of commodities, but rather a clearing house.

Men Get Release Following Arrest

FRESNO (U) — Three Fresno men were released from jail yesterday after sheriff's deputies learned their arrest for theft of \$27,000 worth of cotton was a mistake.

Norman F. Sandberg, Donald Alexander and Edward Ross were taken into custody Sunday night at Five Points after they had picked up 14 bales of cotton in two trucks from the H and H Cotton Company.

Lloyd Harnish, one of the gin owners, reported later the men's "intentions were all right but they should have waited to be checked and should not have taken the bales receipts with them."

Police Probe Possible Suicide

SAN FRANCISCO (U) — Police investigated a possible suicide today after finding a truck registered to Albert Bender, 31, San Francisco contractor, abandoned with an apparent suicide note on Golden Gate Bridge.

"Bender," the note read, "I can't take it any more. You don't know how I'm suffering. Please don't call me a coward. God bless you all. A.L."

The wife of the missing man, Mrs. Bernice Bender, told police the note was in her husband's handwriting, but said that he had disappeared once before and was found later in Los Angeles.

MATS Plane Lands Safely

SAN FRANCISCO (U) — A Military Air Transport Service C-97, with 26 passengers and a crew of nine, landed safely with only three engines at the International Airport today after developing motor trouble 500 miles out over the Pacific Ocean.

The plane, carrying military personnel to Hawaii, left Travis Air Force base at 1:45 a.m., but landed here at 7:56 a.m. because Travis field was closed in by fog.

Because of fog at Travis, three other MATS planes bringing military personnel and their dependents here from Hawaii were diverted to International Airport.

Portland Bank Merger Backed

PORTLAND (U) — Boards of directors of the Coos Bay National Bank and of the United States National Bank of Portland have recommended a merger of the two banks, it was announced today.

Notification has been given to the comptroller of the currency at Washington asking his approval as is required under national banking regulations, the statement said.

The Coos Bay National Bank was organized at the Scandinavian American Bank of Marshfield in 1916.

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Defense Begins Arguments In Burton Abbott Trial

OAKLAND, Calif. (U) — The defense called new witnesses to the stand today in an effort to unravel the mesh of circumstantial evidence which the state has thrown around accused girl-slayer Burton W. Abbott.

Attorneys for the 27-year-old University of California student began attacking the prosecution's evidence yesterday, as soon as District Attorney J. Frank Coakley rested the state's case.

Chain Letter Racket Probed

SAN FRANCISCO (U) — Postal inspectors today were working at breaking up a chain letter racket that offers a trip to Uruguay for \$1-but profits its sponsors \$399,625.

J. H. Van Meter, assistant postmaster here, said the nationwide fraud originates from Montevideo.

San Francisco residents have been getting airmail letters from there reading:

"Uruguay, South American Riviera is awaiting you... this most wonderful trip is all yours for just \$1."

The letter tells the receiver to mail a check for \$5 to the company and sell four accompanying coupons for \$1 each to friends who go through the same process.

"When the process is completed seven times," says the letter, "you, your family, and automatically a free round-trip to Uruguay."

Meanwhile sponsors of the chain letter would have received replies from 78,125 persons and collected \$399,625.

Hounsell Reveals 1956 Candidacy

HOOD RIVER (U) — State Sen. John P. Hounsell (R-Hood River) Tuesday announced he will run for the state Senate in the newly formed 18th senatorial district. He is the first to announce his candidacy.

The new district, larger than a number of eastern states, includes Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow counties.

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Ten Houses Abandoned On Hill Slide

ASTORIA (U) — Ten houses have been abandoned on sliding Coxcomb hill and officials said Tuesday the city is facing the greatest potential disaster it has ever had from slides.

The city council Monday night gave emergency powers to Manager Brewer Billie and other officials to take whatever steps they could to ward off further damage.

The rain-soaked earth began moving downhill Sunday in renewal of the trouble which has plagued the city for years.

Irving avenue began to crack and buckle. Water pipes and sewer lines split. Ten houses were damaged or immediately threatened.

A freeze Monday night seemed to stem the advance of loosened earth and Billie ordered maintenance crews to keep Irving avenue passable as long as they can.

There are only two ways of getting to the Astoria business district from the east. One is on Franklin avenue, the route of U.S. 30, which runs near the Columbia River below the slide area, and the other is on Irving avenue.

There was some speculation that the slide might go all the way to Franklin avenue. Officials said that was a highly pessimistic view.

However, Billie and Harold Oldick, city engineer, said the situation was probably more grave than any time in the past because the sliding has started so early in the winter. The earliest date in any other year was Jan. 21. The hillside is considered a potential slide area throughout the rainy season. The early start means, Billie said, a longer period in which damage may occur.

The slide is due to wet clay slippage on soapstone and shale beneath a highly permeable layer of sand.

Part of the area, Oldick said, is thought to be a fill placed in a gully some 40 years ago.

Of the 10 houses affected Monday, one had been vacant about three weeks. Occupants of the

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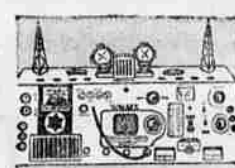


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