

Mark Selects Duo For State Duties

SALEM (AP) — State Elections Director Freeman Holmer will become the new state director of finance and administration, and Eugene Police Chief Vern Hill will be motor vehicles director.

Gov.-elect Mark Hatfield announced today that he would appoint Holmer and Hill as soon as he takes office on Jan. 12.

Holmer, 41, will succeed John F. Richardson. Hill, 47, will replace James Johnson.

Holmer became elections director 18 months ago after serving as executive secretary of the legislative committee which drafted the new state election code.

He taught business and public administration at New York and Willamette universities and served on the Legislative Advisory Committee which led to creation of the

Department of Finance and Administration.

Holmer now is president of the Salem chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, and is chairman of the Research and Development Committee of the Citizens Conference for Intergovernmental Cooperation.

Hill has been Eugene police chief for four years, and served in the state police for 20 years in Salem and Eugene.

Hatfield also has resignations from Public Utilities Commissioner Howard Morgan and state Agriculture Director Robert J. Steward. He said he doesn't know when he will name their successors.

"In making these two appointments," Hatfield said, "professional qualifications and background prevail."

"Chief Hill will bring a recognized administrative ability as head of the law enforcement body of the state's second largest city. His remoteness from politics and political activity throughout his career will continue in this new assignment. His emphasis on traffic safety was one of the primary factors in considering him for the job."

"The many relationships the Motor Vehicle Department has with law enforcement agencies was also a factor. But overall, the significance will be upon service to the motoring public, service that is prompt, courteous and complete."

"Freeman Holmer has demonstrated administrative capacity as chief of the elections division as he provided improved services at the same time he reduced expenditures. He worked for two previous finance directors as a management analyst. He has a thorough grasp of state government from service on the state 'Little Hoover Commission' which created the department in 1951. He has the respect of legislators on both sides of the aisle."

Hatfield also announced that Mrs. Walter Socolofsky, Salem, would be secretary to his legal counsel, Oren D. Hicks. She served during several sessions as secretary to state Sen. Howard C. Belmont (R-Canby).

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In a recent issue, the Grants Pass Courier prints a piece entitled "No More Free Christmas Trees." It starts it off with this nostalgic lament:

"There was a time, only a few years back, when Dad could go to the nearest wooded hill, select a likely looking fir, and harvest the family Christmas tree without bothering to ask permission from anybody. Nowadays, however, Pop is likely to end up in the hoosegow, clink, bastille — whatever term one prefers to use for duration vile — if he tries such a thing."

Agreeing that IT HAS TO BE, rugged though it is, it winds up its editorial with this statement: "The day when Christmas trees were as free as the air definitely is no more."

Well —
That's the way it is. And that's the way it has to be.

Here in Southern Oregon and Far Northern California, we have two great assets—water and trees. There was a time when our water was a nuisance, to be got rid of, if possible. The Klamath river affords a good example of that. The first proposal to divert it away from its natural basin had as one purpose to DRY UP ITS BED so that the gold in the riffles could be more easily recovered.

That would have been wonderful then, but it would be TERRIBLE now. If it had been done, the valley of the Klamath would now be another Owens valley.

Early forest conservation programs were sharply limited by the fact that timber was worth so little that the early protectors of the forest had to be VERY careful not to spend more on fire protection than the timber was worth.

In those days, there was a big to-do about "Indian forestry." Indian forestry consisted in burning off the forests every year. It was argued that in that way the brush was kept down, the duff was got rid of and fire was thus prevented.

Indian forestry was all right in its day and in its way. It did just what was claimed for it. It did protect the big, mature trees. But, at the same time, it DESTROYED THE YOUNG GROWTH.

Thus it took care of the present, but wiped out the future. The future of Southern Oregon and Far Northern California is all bound up in keeping the timber crop growing. The timber crop MUST be kept growing if there is to be a continuing harvest of FIBER.

Just as the vines must be kept growing if there is to be a harvest of potatoes and the stalks must be kept growing if there is to be a harvest of corn. The only difference lies in the fact that if this year's potato crop or this year's corn crop is put out of com-

Goldfine, Aide Plan Appeal

BOSTON (AP) — Textile tycoon Bernard Goldfine and his secretary indicate they plan to appeal the jail terms imposed on them for contempt of court in failing to furnish company records to tax agents.

Goldfine, 67, a close friend of former White House aide Sherman Adams, was sentenced Monday to three months in prison for failing to produce the full records of his Lebanon Mills, Lebanon, N.H.

Miss Mildred Paperman, 43, his blonde secretary, was sentenced to 10 days in jail for failure to give tax agents some of the records of Goldfine's Northfield, Vt., mill and Strathmore Woolen Co. of Boston.

U.S. Dist. Judge Charles E. Wyanski Jr., who convicted them last Friday, specified the jail terms would begin Jan. 7 so they would not be imprisoned during "this holiday season."

He released both in \$1,000 personal recognizance. Attorneys indicated appeals would be prepared.

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GRAND PRIZE WINNER in the 1958 Christmas Lighting Contest was this entry by Felix Peace, who has given over the entire front of his house and lawn to this colorful display. The Peace residence is at 2331 Garden Avenue.

By winning the grand prize for the third time, Peace gained permanent possession of the trophy, presented by Copco, cosponsor with the Klamath Jaycees of the annual contest.

Living Costs, Earnings Reach Record

WASHINGTON (AP) — Living costs edged back up last month to their record peak of last July. And, at the same time, average earnings of factory workers climbed to record heights.

Influenced chiefly by the higher prices for 1959 automobiles, the cost of living index rose two-tenths of one per cent between October and November to 123.9 per cent of the 1947-49 base. This equals the record reached last July and is about two per cent higher than in November of last year.

Reporting this today, the Labor Department said November also saw a sharp rise in factory worker spendable earnings and buying power. This resulted both from higher hourly pay and increasing work hours.

The after-tax earnings of the average factory worker with three dependents rose to \$78.41 a week. For the single worker it was \$70.93. These were both new records, about \$1.30 per week higher than in October and about \$3 above November 1957.

Buying power of these earnings rose substantially, too, in November but worker dollar purchasing power still is below the November 1956 level.

The previous records on earnings were in September. Government figures for that month were \$77.43 for the average worker with three dependents and \$69.97 for the worker without dependents.

Ewan Clague, Labor Department statistics commissioner, said today that greater sales of 1959 model cars at higher prices in November was the major factor in the new living cost climb. Most other groups of goods and services advanced in price, but food and

gasoline prices were lower.

The rise in living costs will mean a one-cent-an-hour pay increase for about one million workers in the steel, aluminum and meat packing industries.

These workers have labor contracts providing for semiannual wage adjustments based on the government index.

Another group of 80,000 workers in scattered industries, including some municipal transportation systems, will receive varying in-

creases under a quarterly adjustment.

The Labor Department said that in November new cars being sold of the public averaged 6.4 per cent higher than in October. This rise reflected October discounts on the sale of 1958 models and the November sale of 1959 models.

New cars are selling at 4.2 per cent higher prices now than new cars sold in November 1957.

Clague said the new living cost rise was not much to worry over. He said the government index has actually been stable during the past six to eight months, without rising or falling much in any single month.

The government price expert also said the present price situation is not one to bother people from a standpoint of inflationary danger. But, he said it is something to watch.

The Rev. James Tidwell, Methodist minister, was credited by rescue directors with greatly speeding relief for the injured.

The minister, from the hospital grounds, saw the flash of the explosion. He alerted the hospital staff that injuries would be great because he had seen the large crowd around the gas truck.

Blood offers came from Brownfield citizens almost simultaneously with the explosion. There were more offers than were needed.

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Considerable cloudiness tonight with a few showers in the mountains. Partly cloudy Wednesday. High both days 40-46. Low tonight 26-34.

High yesterday 41
Low last night 26
Precip. last 24 hours 0
Since Oct. 1 1.18
Same period last year 6.59
Normal for period 4.23

Northern California — Rain from Ukiah northward, spreading to Santa Maria and Fresno late tonight or Wednesday. Otherwise, increasing cloudiness, becoming partly cloudy Wednesday. Little change in temperature. Southerly to southwesterly coastal winds 12-25 miles an hour from Cape Mendocino northward.

Bottled Gas Rig Explodes Killing Four, Injuring 200

BROWNFIELD, Tex. (AP) — Four men perished when a bottled gas truck blew up in a shattering eruption of shooting flames and flying steel Monday night. Possibly as many as 200 persons, most of them spectators, suffered wounds and burns.

About 45 remained hospitalized today.

"The whole sky seemed to be on fire," a witness exclaimed.

The cries of the injured filled the air at the scene, on the outskirts of this west Texas city of 7,000.

The community turned out to help the wounded and buried.

Soon the Terry County Hospital could receive no more, and doctors and nurses sent them to nearby towns.

Killed were the truck driver, two firemen and a spectator.

The fire which caused the explosion was set off by the collision of the bottled gas truck and a pickup truck. The cab of the cab-trailer truck overturned.

The spectacular fire drew an estimated 250 spectators.

Firemen said the three-compartment gas tank caught fire at both ends and the center tank exploded later, shooting metal and flames into the massed crowd, some standing in the immediate area and the remainder across the highway.

Twenty firemen were alongside the truck.

the categories in which they were entered. With exception of the winners listed above, they are given in the order in which the judges found it best to make their rounds:

Dr. Harry Scribner, 1620 Eldorado Boulevard, roof and lawn; Paul and Judy Angstead, 1208 Pacific Terrace, porch and window; Don Kelly, 1841 Manzanita Street, porch and window; Gust Vourchis, 832-834 Oak Avenue, roof, lawn, porch and window; Clara Ballantyne, 320 Lewis Street, window; Tommy Warmack, 2220 Garden Avenue, porch and window; Paul Sharpe, 909 Mitchell Street, window; Harry Scribner, 822 Main Street, window; and Paul L. Igou, 2449 Wantland Avenue, window.

Dolores Savio, 2530 Eberlein Avenue, porch and window; Emil Schiesel, 3803 Shasta Way, roof, lawn, porch and window; Patricia Anderson, 1436 McClellan Drive, window; Gordon Wymant, 4649 Cannon Avenue, porch; G. L. Seabrook, 4333 Onyx Avenue, porch and window; Laron Griggs, 4447 Laverne Street, porch and window; Mrs. B. K. Reimke, 3347 Home-dale Road, window; and Mrs. Carol Howe, roof division, whose residence may be reached by going two miles east of town on the Lakeview Highway, turning right just after the Gooding Poultry Farm and proceeding two miles to the south.

First prize winners in each category receive a plaque and a \$25 bond. The second prizes are \$15 cash each.

Following is a complete roster of entries in the contest, including

New Budget Met By Scorn, Cheers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower's plan for a 77-billion-dollar balanced budget next year was described by Democrats as unrealistic today, but Republicans called it a welcome Christmas present to the taxpayers.

Eisenhower's announcement of his budget plans, unprecedented in advance of the opening of Congress, said defense spending would be higher and other expenditures "consistent with the public interest" without any general increase in taxes.

His approximate 77-billion-dollar spending figure would be two billions below this year's estimated \$79,200,000,000 total. At that level, a 12-billion-dollar deficit is expected this year, partly because the recession cut expected federal revenues.

Eisenhower originally had forecast a 500-million-dollar surplus for this year, based on lower spending, higher revenues and a postal rate increase higher than that Congress later provided.

Without giving details, Eisenhower said "reductions in total spending will be achieved in part by reason of the ending of temporary programs in agriculture, unemployment insurance and housing."

Due to expire next year are part of the soil bank program and a recession-born program of extended unemployment compensation benefits.

Although no general tax increase is to be asked, Eisenhower said—again without giving details—that his budget will request higher postal rates and gasoline taxes, and some new user charges for government services.

Chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.), whose house appropriations committee will have first crack at Eisenhower's appropriations requests, said he is gratified at the plan for a balanced budget "but I am quite dubious about it. I don't see how he is going to get the extra revenue."

Sen. A. S. Mike Monroney (D-Okla.) said the announcement seemed to him to include "more wishful thinking than any realistic approach" to budgetary problems.

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Mill Owners, Truck Firms Re-Issue Plea

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — U.S. Dist. Judge Lloyd Burke Tuesday continued hearing the lamentations of Northern California lumber mill owners and trucking firms that new rail freight rates for lumber will ruin them.

Burke was asked for a temporary restraining order Monday by six mills and nine trucking firms. They want it applied against the four major railways in the state, Southern Pacific, Northwestern Pacific, Santa Fe and Western Pacific.

The roads since Sunday have charged less than before for hauling lumber from Oregon into California, between California points, and from California to Arizona.

Sunday was the expiration of a temporary suspension which the Interstate Commerce Commission had granted to the same complainants.

Arguments presented to Judge Burke were the same which had led the ICC to suspend the rate temporarily. Judge Burke told the attorneys to return Tuesday and finish their arguments.

The complaining firms say the lower rates will cause the lumber industry in California to be "destroyed or substantially damaged in preference to the Oregon lumber industry."

The lumber mills say the new rates are not uniform and that reductions on freight from Oregon into California are greater than those for traffic between California points.

The railways proposed the new rates in order to stimulate their freight business.

The trucking firms say they cannot compete with the new rates and will suffer either "irreparable loss or complete economic destruction" unless the court prevents their enforcement by a restraining order until the ICC can rule finally on the same question.

American Air Accepts Bid

NEW YORK (AP) — American Airlines today accepted a National Mediation Board proposal for settling the crippling strike of its pilots. The pilots had not yet announced whether they would accept.

The airline said of the peace proposal:

"We are hopeful that it will be accepted by the pilots and that resumption of service can begin in time to provide for much needed transportation during the holiday."

American said acceptance of the federally sponsored peace pact would establish American's pilots as the highest paid in the domestic airlines industry.

No End Seen In NY Strike

NEW YORK (AP) — Negotiators were exploring new approaches to ending a 14-day-old newspaper strike as they prepared today for another round of joint talks with federal mediators.

Publishers of the nine closed dailies and the striking deliverymen resumed joint sessions Monday after a five-day break.

Federal mediator Walter A. Maguire said both parties had promised to give serious study to a number of suggestions aimed at "establishing possible areas of agreement."

Neither side indicated any break in the deadlock.

In fact, Asher Schwartz, attorney for the Independent Newspaper and Mail Deliverers Union, indicated a possible stiffening in the strikers' demands on a go-it-alone basis.

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OREGON
December 24
OPEN 7:02 CLOSE 4:40
CALIFORNIA
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FELIX PEACE WON PERMANENT POSSESSION of this California Oregon Power Company trophy after he was declared grand prize winner of the 1958 Christmas Lighting Contest, jointly sponsored by Copco and the Klamath Jaycees. This is the third time Peace has won the local contest. Sam Ritchey, left, district manager of the power company, is shown presenting Peace with the \$100 bond which rewards the grand prize winner, along with entry in the nationwide General Electric lighting contest. John DeShazo, right, chairman of the Jaycee committee, is shown presenting the trophy to Peace.

JCs Announce Yule Winners

For the third time, Felix Peace, 2331 Garden Avenue, has won the grand prize in the annual Christmas Lighting Contest. John DeShazo, chairman of the Klamath Jaycees contest committee, announced today. Peace has now won perpetual possession of the California Oregon Power Company trophy, as well as the grand prize of a \$100 savings bond and entry in the nationwide General Electric contest.

Peace won the prize in 1955 and 1957 as well. The only other name on the trophy is that of Reuben Larson, who won the prize in 1956.

First and second prize winners in the different categories were, respectively:

Lawn lighting: Tom Trulove and Toby Schuh, 4055 Shasta Way; W. D. McNeely, 1935 Lawrence Street.

Porch lighting: Felix Peace; Charles E. Gibson, 826A Kincheloe Avenue, Kingsley Housing Area.

Roof lighting: Clarence R. Bertrand, Vermont Street; John J. Mousseau, 1617 Manzanita Street.

Window lighting: E. J. Boothby, 2919 Summers Lane; Howard A. Hall, 4507 Laverne Avenue.

First prize winners in each category receive a plaque and a \$25 bond. The second prizes are \$15 cash each.

Following is a complete roster of entries in the contest, including



FIRST PRIZE IN THE ROOF LIGHTING CATEGORY in this year's Christmas Lighting Contest went to this display by Clarence R. Bertrand of Vermont Street. Those wishing to visit this handsome display will find Vermont Street running to the north from the intersection of Hilyard Avenue and Highway 66.

— Photo by Kettler