

Oregon Events Reviewed By The Associated Press

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republicans recaptured the Oregon governorship and the Democrats took control of the state Senate for the first time this century.

Unemployment cut so deeply into compensation funds that taxes were raised sharply, but the lumber industry joined business generally in a mid-year recovery.

The news of these things—of the election and the economy—touched, in greater or lesser degree, everyone in Oregon in 1958.

But the story that warmed the hearts of all the people was one of courage and devotion.

On April 24, a 36-year-old Fresno, Calif., orchestra leader, Bruce Davis, stumbled out of the Blue Mountain wilderness to the Gus Robertson ranch home near Dayville.

His report triggered a dramatic search and rescue effort that brought his injured wife from beside their crashed plane to the hospital at John Day.

In all of 1958 there was no single story more gripping than the tale of this man who drove himself, for two and a half days, through numbing cold and waist-deep mountain snow, and who then brushed aside his own hurts in his concern for his wife's recovery.

As her long convalescence began, news interests of the people turned to politics, to achievements, to adventures and misadventures of many kinds.

And as the year ended, it centered on the fear of tragedy. The mystery of the Ken Martin family took on a melancholy tone as day followed day without a hint of what had become of Martin, his wife and their three young daughters.

They left their Portland home Dec. 7 to find Christmas greens. They did not return and there seemed to be no clue.

The often-reminded breach between Oregon's United States senators captured headlines, too, as a major news development of the year.

Publication of an exchange of letters between Sen. Wayne L.

Morse and Sen. Richard L. Neuberger brought the disagreements out of the field of speculation where they had been and into a field where their depth and extent became subject of extended discussion.

Failure of the fish ladder at Oxbow Dam on the Snake River put that Idaho Power Co. installation in the news again and the failure soon became surrounded with charges — and denials — of wholesale fish losses and of news suppression.

Ivan R. Miller of Milwaukie objected to the presence of his daughter Alice, 19, in the Roman Catholic convent of St. Mary's at Beaverton. He went to court in an effort to extract her, but in this clash the daughter's right to pursue the course of her own conscience was upheld. It was an Oregon news story in which interest was expressed not only throughout this country, but in Europe, as well.

The First National Bank at the small Eastern Oregon town of Halfway closed. Its cashier, Clair Ritter, a well-regarded and quiet member of the community, pleaded guilty to embezzlement of nearly a hundred thousand dollars. It was the first bank in the United States insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. to close in 1958.

On July 5, the plant of the Signal Fireworks and Specialty Co. on the southeast outskirts of Portland exploded. The shattering blast killed Mary Beth Howe, 4. It damaged 203 homes and 20 business establishments. Long afterward, a state hospital patient, Richard G. Wagner, 20, admitted he had been in the plant and a cigarette was presumed at fault.

Hugh D'Autremont, an inmate of Oregon's prison since 1927, was a parolee from his life sentence. This stirred recollections of the 1923 train robbery attempt and the killing of four trainmen for which he and his older twin brothers, Roy and Ray, were sentenced. That was one of the great national stories of its day. The parole, with its implications of rehabilitation, was one of the important Oregon stories of this year.

It was a year that started off on a note of pride for all of the people of Oregon—the manner in which the football team from the state's university distinguished itself in losing, 10-7, in the Rose Bowl.

Strangers to the state had a hand in its major news. Pat Boling hadn't intended to land in Oregon when he took off in his light plane from Manila. But he ended his flight at Pendleton, setting a distance record.

Russian and American scientists put their satellites into orbit, and Oregon shared in the news as the Moonwatch team at Portland kept tabs on them and prepared reports on when the state's residents would be able to see them in their flights through the sky.

In March the Southern Pacific's streamliner, the Cascade, hit a broken rail near the summit of the line between Klamath Falls and Eugene. Cars bounced and skidded on their sides through the snow and 27 passengers were injured seriously enough to be hospitalized. No one was killed and within minutes of the accident, dispatchers knew of it both from their automatic signaling and from short wave radio reports from the engineer.

Oregon's centennial celebration made news, not only through preparations for the observance in 1959 but through difficulties climaxed late in the year by discharge of the managing director, Floyd Maxwell, and his replacement by H. Quenton Cox of Portland. Throughout the state, communities were preparing their special activities to mark 100 years of statehood.

The summer was a dry one—just as the summer before had been—and rangeland fires swept large acreages in Eastern Oregon. Forest fires, a constant threat all summer long and into the dry fall, were mostly small.

The infestation of meadow mice in the Klamath Basin and some other areas of the state persisted from 1957 but with diminishing numbers.

The Klamath Indian Reservation bill was amended by Congress to assure the future of the vast timber stands.

The Portland vice story, born in 1936, continued at intervals. One of the highlights was the state Supreme Court's denial of a rehearing to William Langley, the district attorney who was ousted for failure to prosecute gambling.

And the grim toll of Oregon's highways continued. The story was mostly a day after day repetition of one person killed at a time but now and again tragedy struck its sharper blows—six killed in a collision near Portland was the year's record—and the number dead continued to climb.

Guide Dog Assists Master Inspite Of Gnawing Cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sheba dies a little bit every day. And a piece of Ray Myers' heart goes with her.

They're buddies, you know. Close as only a blind man and his dog can be.

For three weeks the gray German shepherd has lived on will power and love. She goes right on working, guiding her master through the city hubbub.

The scores of people who scurry past them at the little sidewalk stand where Myers sells novelties little know she's in agony from the cancer eating her intestines and throat.

"She should have been put to sleep three weeks ago," said Morris Kaufman, a cafe owner, and a friend of the blind man. "The vet is trying to keep her alive until Ray gets a new dog."

Sheba's not old. Ray trained her himself when he bought her for a dollar 2½ years ago when she was young.

He won't be training his new dog. Professionals will do that. On Jan. 10 he starts two or three weeks of schooling with the dog which will become his new eyes. This was one of the things arranged by Kaufman.

Kaufman also got a new room for Ray when he was evicted because of Sheba. And patrons of the cafe and employees of a large store nearby chipped in on expenses for the new dog and its training.

Sheba scarcely touches her food now. Each day she gets more gaunt and finds it harder to get to her feet. She gets pills three times a day, for the pain.

She'll go to her well-earned rest just before the new dog enters her master's life, if she lives that long.

For Ray it's a sad New Year's. But there's a silver lining. Even though he can't see them, friends have come out of nowhere to surround him with warmth.

New Type Landing Muled By Young PNW Physicist

By RENNIE TAYLOR

Associated Press Science Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A young Seattle physicist reported today he is studying possible ways of using meteor trails and the wakes of satellites as brakes to slow down supersonic aircraft for earth landings.

The idea is to determine whether the trails and wakes contain magnetic fields to regiment the electric particles which they are known to contain.

If magnetic fields are present they may force the electrical particles to move within a long, cylindrical mass which could act as a kind of headwind for slowing test aircraft, said Ira L. Karp of the Boeing Airplane Co.

Karp delivered a paper on the subject before the American Physical Society.

Citing work done by other scientists, Karp said tests already have shown that satellites produce trails of electrified particles by colliding with atoms in the upper atmosphere.

Meteors have long been known to produce these particles. Scientists regularly aim radar waves at meteor trails and record their reflection back to earth.

But investigators so far have not determined whether the trails themselves contain magnetic fields, Karp said. If they have their own magnetic fields it is possible that these fields keep the particles momentarily in line so they can act uniformly against objects of opposite electrical charge.

Thus an aircraft might put a positive electrical charge on its nose and encounter a repelling force when it enters the field of the negatively charged particles in the trail.

Meteor trails thin out too quickly to act with any considerable force. However, an aircraft traveling at 20 times the speed of sound, roughly 12,000 miles an hour, might be able to slip in behind a satellite and slow itself down to a safe landing speed.

Karp said he hoped an experimental test of the theory would be made with laboratory equipment.

Committee Members Say Aides To Be Questioned

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Members of two Senate committees said today Pentagon officials will be asked about reports that the Soviet Union will have 300 intercontinental ballistic missiles within 18 months.

A report to that effect, without any verification, was made public at a weekend meeting of the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science. It said half the 300 ICBMs would work, with a range and accuracy that could destroy the U.S. Strategic Air Command's retaliatory power.

There was no comment from military officials.

Roger Hilsman, deputy research director of the Library of Congress' Legislative Reference Service, said he got the report second-hand from a meeting of a minority group of the Council of Foreign Relations in New York early this month.

But members of the Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations committees said the estimate calls for an early statement by the Defense Department to the two groups.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (Mont.), assistant Senate Democratic leader, said closed door sessions of the two committees to receive the appraisal "unquestionably will be among the first orders of business" after Congress meets Jan. 7.

Senators John Sparkman (D-Ala.), Prescott Bush (R-Conn.) and John S. Cooper (R-Ky.) all said Congress will need some early comment from the Defense Department on what the known facts are.

Mansfield said the estimate, if it is found accurate or even nearly so, "ought to wipe away any complacency" stemming from this country's feat in sending the talking Atlas ballistic missile into orbit.

Mother-In-Law Of Nurse Will Be Arraigned Today

VENTURA, CALIF. (UPI)—A 54-year-old mother whose fear of losing her son allegedly led her to mastermind the "for hire" slaying of her daughter-in-law will be arraigned on a murder charge today along with two confessed killers.

Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan, a Santa Barbara, Calif., matron, and Augustine Baldonado, 25, and Luis Moya, 22, both ex-convicts, were indicted by the grand jury Friday for the bludgeon-strangulation of Olga Duncan, 30.

District Attorney Roy Gustafson said he would seek the death penalty against all three when the case comes to trial.

The attractive victim who was seven-months pregnant when she was killed Nov. 17 had married attorney Frank Duncan, 29, last June 20. They separated only two weeks later but continued to see each other and were planning a reconciliation at the time of the slaying, according to Duncan.

At the same time the three defendants accused of Olga's death were to be arraigned, it was believed a private funeral service for the attractive Canadian-born nurse would be held at the First Methodist Church.

Olga's father, Elias Kupczyk, 61, a railroad worker from Benito, Manitoba, Canada, arrived in Los Angeles about 65 miles south of here, on Sunday and Monday held a tearful meeting with Duncan. They had never met before.

The grieving father, accompanied by a son, William, 31, and a friend from Los Angeles, refused to reveal the time when the private services would be held.

Kupczyk and his son-in-law agreed to comply with a wish expressed by Olga several years ago that she be cremated. They said cremation would take place at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park.

Another development in the case which has featured an admission by the elder Mrs. Duncan that she posed as Olga in order to obtain an annulment of her son's marriage before the slaying, was the disclosure by Barbara Reed, 26, a carhop at a drive-in opposite the Santa Barbara home of Mrs. Duncan, said she testified before the grand jury that she had been approached by Mrs. Duncan to commit murder.

"I can disappear too," she said, when pressed for details about the meeting. She said she feared some harm might come to her for testifying before the grand jury, but she refused to name any possible assailants.

Miss Reed was one of at least five persons believed to have testified Friday that Mrs. Duncan approached them to get rid of her daughter-in-law.

Rudolph Romero, a kitchen helper in another Santa Barbara restaurant, allegedly testified that the senior Mrs. Duncan offered him \$2,500 to kill Olga, dump her body in a bathtub and pour lye over it.

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Club Holds Yule Party

TULELAKE—The annual Christmas party for the Homestead Community Club on December 19 honored husbands of members; hostesses for the planned potluck dinner held in the grange hall were Mrs. William McClymonds, Mrs. Ronald Ward, Mrs. Otto Haynes and Mrs. H. T. Street. Mrs. A. E. Ryckman offered the grace.

Tables centered with gay Christmas decorations of silvered juniper branches, Christmas tree balls, candles and figures and the brightly lighted tree were arranged by Mrs. Stone Bowen, Mrs. Ralph Powell and Mrs. Otto Haynes. Mrs. Walter Klink made cookies wrapped in Christmas colors for the tree.

Mrs. A. E. Ryckman and Mrs. Hildur Larson arranged the entertainment of pinocle and rook. Lloyd Bradbury took high and Frank Holzhauser low in rook. High in pinocle went to William McClymonds and low to Carl Jensen.

Secret pal gifts for the club members and other gifts for guest husbands were presented from the tree by Santas William McClymonds and Lloyd Bradbury assisted by Dale Bowen, home from Chico State College for the holidays.

Members of the Homestead Community Club are largely wives of homesteaders who came into the Tulelake Basin in 1932 and 1933. The club was started in 1938 and has since functioned cooperatively with the Farm Bureau and has participated in the Modoc County Home Demonstration program. After this service was discontinued the group has continued to meet once a month at the homes of members. Several community projects have been successfully completed, including the making of road identification signs on roads, 100, 101, 102 and 112. These signs name all persons living on the identified miles. The project was accomplished in 1957.

Last year the club sponsored the first annual reunion of the 1932 and 1933 homesteaders which drew a large attendance, many from long distances.

During December of this year, members stuffed toys to give to the Rotary Club to distribute to children in the community who might otherwise have been forgotten. Other projects are planned for the coming months.

Teamsters May Supply Drivers

PORTLAND (AP) — If the Teamsters Union can provide competent covered wagon drivers, the Oregon Centennial Commission will recommend they be hired to lead the Calvacade of Covered Wagons along the Old Oregon Trail this summer.

Mrs. Lee A. Baumhauer, new labor representative on the commission, had jokingly asked the commissioners Monday what they were going to do for drivers for the Roseburg-sponsored trek by six or seven covered wagons from Independence, Mo., to Portland.

Teamsters Union officials said they would supply drivers for the trek.

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