CHAMBER COMMENTS

by GEORGE T. CALLISON
Manager
KLAMATH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

With the exception of the Local and State Affairs Committee, whose members must feel sometimes that they should be drawing legislators' salaries for the time they spend studying and discussing State Senate and House bills of concern to Klamath County, the chamber's busiest committee still is the Aviation Committee.

The committee director and chairman, Jim Bocchi and Les Biston, and the 16 committee members, have several projects in the works, but work is being concentrated currently on another attempt to establish a commerical airline route between Klamath Falls and Reno.

The effort got off to a flying start two weeks ago when some 30 persons met for luncheon at Reames Golf and Country Club and, for about two hours discussed problems connected with the project. Among those present were two representatives of the Oregon State Board of Aeronautics, a Public Utilities Commission representative, a vice president of West Coast Airlines and aviation committee members from the chambers of commerce in Lakeview, Redmond, Medford and Eugene. Several other communities, unable to send a delegate, did send along their pledge of full support.

The two state agencies have promised to spearhead the effort, but a great deal of detail work in assembling data and preparing exhibits will fall upon the aviation committee of this and other chambers throughout Southern Oregon.

Of particular interest to the committees is information regarding the volume of business traffic between Klamath Falls, other Southern Oregon points and Reno. As an example, one local businessman who attended the Feb. 26 meeting, volunteered the information that his firm does three-quarters of its business in Reno and Northern Nevada and that this necessitates up to 20 trips a month — trips that would be made by air, if the service were available.

A mail questionnaire to elicit information such as this is now being readied by the local aviation committee. But since it would be impossible to poll more than just a representative sample of the community, anyone having information of this sort is asked to mail or telephone it to the chamber office or to the office of Joe Sawyer, manager of the Municipal Airport, who is subcommittee chairman of this particular project.

Opening an air avenue to Reno is only a part of the story, of course. This in turn, would provide additional and improved connections by air to Denver, Salt Lake City and the Southwest. But most important, as Tom Croson, WCAL vice president, pointed out, this should be considered not so much a matter of taking Southern Oregon people to Reno but rather one of bringing Reno and Nevada people to Southern Oregon, where recreational opportunities are so great the year around.

Error Noted In Divorce Suit Story

A notice published in the court records of Thursday's edition of the Herald and News which stated that William S. Metler had filed for divorce against his wife, Gladys, is incorrect, it was learned Friday.

There are no records at the courthouse indicating that either of the Metlers has ever filed such a suit, it was further revealed.

At the time of the erroneous divorce announcement, the Metlers had filed a civil suit against Dale G. Osborn and Edith M. Osborn. It was the file folder of that lawsuit which was inadvertently placed with other folders containing divorce actions. The names on those folders subsequently appeared in the divorce action column of the Herald and News.

The lawsuit filed by the Metlers requests payment of $2,250 (including interest) due them on a promissory note they made with the Osborns in exchange for a lot in Altamont Acres April 19, 1960.

The Metlers stated in their complaint that the defendants have failed to make a payment on the note since April 17, 1961.

Cars Bashed In Accident

Two cars received moderate damage in an accident that occurred at 6:45 p.m. Thursday near the intersection of South Sixth Street and Shasta Way, city police reported.

Jack F. Moore, 58, 4255 Freida Street, driver of one of the cars, was cited for failing to yield the right of way to another vehicle.

Moore was driving south on Sixth when he made a left turn in front of a vehicle driven by Juanita S. Goode, 32, Route 3, Box 55, Klamath Falls, who was proceeding north on Sixth, police said.

No one was injured in the crash, but both vehicles had to be towed from the scene.

Moore claimed he didn't see any headlights from the Goode vehicle and Mrs. Goode said she didn't see any directional signals from Moore.

Six Arrested For Gambling

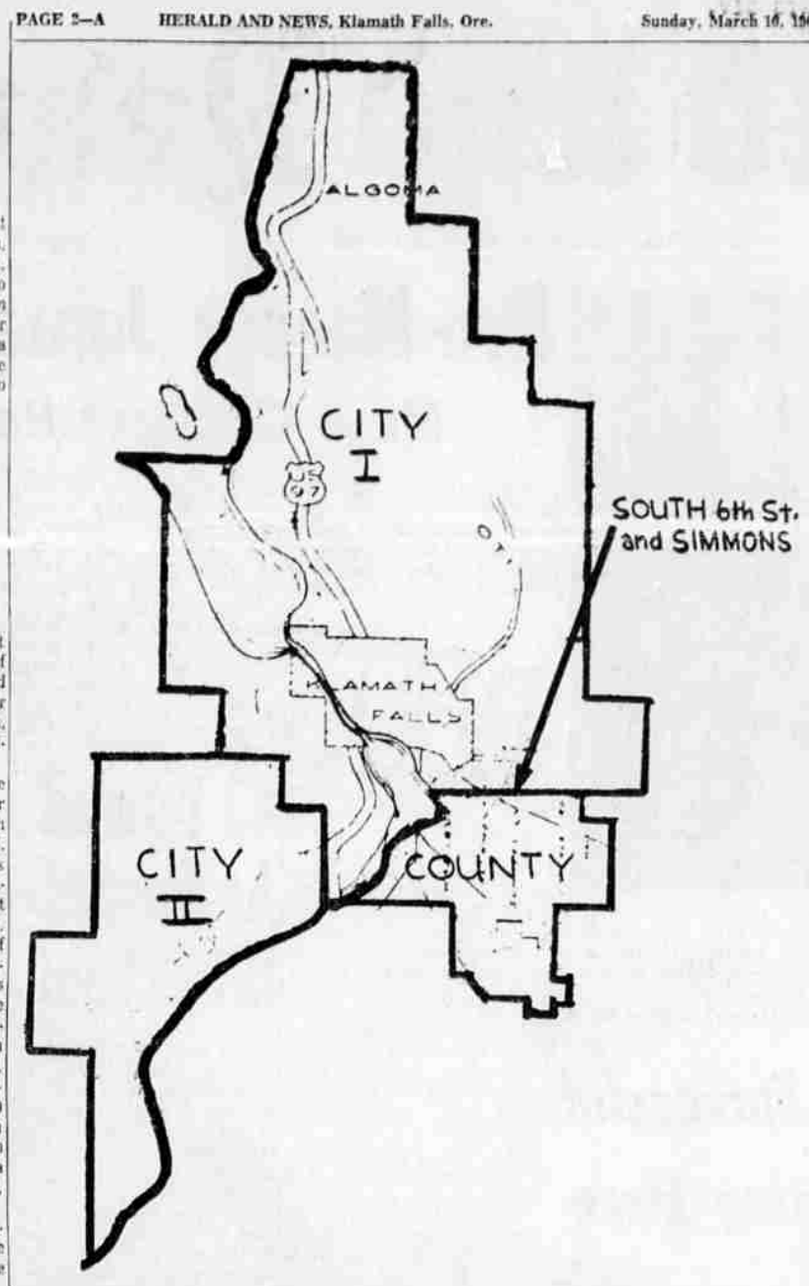
PORTLAND (UPI) — Internal revenue agents and city police arrested six persons Friday in connection with alleged operation of a numbers game.

The charge involved failure to purchase a federal gambling tax stamp.

Agents said gambling paraphernalia and some money were confiscated in the raid on a building on northeast Tillamook street.

They said the numbers game involved selling various numbers with a winning number drawn from a basket.

Preliminary hearings for the six are scheduled next Wednesday.



GERRYMANDERED SCHOOL DISTRICTS — This is a map of the proposed school district boundary changes entailed in the gerrymander plan adopted by the Joint School Boards Association Feb. 28, and reaffirmed at a later date by each of the school boards at special board meetings. The proposed city district would be comprised of the present city elementary district plus the Stewart-Lenox, Weyerhaeuser area and that part of the suburban area now serviced by KU and part of Henley, that is north of South Sixth Street and the Simmons Avenue extension. The part of the suburban are a marked County on the map above, would be brought into the county district for both elementary and high school purposes. The division line, again, is the present city elementary boundary and South Sixth Street extended to the end of Simmons Avenue.

New Series Of Soviet Atom Tests Predicted In Late Summer Or Fall

WASHINGTON (UPI)— Senate disarmament chairman Hubert H. Humphrey predicted Saturday that Russia, balking at any test ban agreement to gain time, will fire another series of nuclear explosions late this summer or early next fall.

The Minnesota Democrat told United Press International in an interview:

"Their refusal to accept a test ban agreement convinces me that they are getting ready for new tests."

At the same time Humphrey said Congress and the country must be told—and understand—that the effectiveness of America's nuclear test detection system has been greatly improved by "close-in" seismic stations on the perimeter of the Soviet Union.

Humphrey's information on the nuclear test dilemma was broadened and fortified by his attendance at closing sessions of the Geneva test ban talks several weeks ago. He said then and still believes that if an agreement is not reached this spring, the world is in for a stepup in the nuclear arms race.

As part of his campaign to streamline congressional consideration of the problem, he proposed this week that Congress create a joint committee on national security affairs. His disarmament subcommittee starts hearings Monday on nuclear policy, while the Senate preparedness subcommittee plans other early hearings on the overall disarmament subject. The joint atomic committee is now reviewing technical data on nuclear test detection and identification.

Humphrey told UPI that the "national" system of seismic stations to check underground Soviet tests has been greatly enhanced by others in friendly countries close to Russia. Some of these are only a few hundred miles from the Soviet Union—rather than the 2,000 miles or more of continental U. S. stations.

Actual locations of these overseas stations is classified. So is the way they are maintained and paid.

But the Minnesota Democrat, who agrees with President Kennedy that the detection system is still "not good enough" to justify abandoning insistence on some on-site inspection inside Russia, feels the case for a test ban agreement "suffers" from lack of public information.

Phone Fraud Confessed

GRANTS PASS (UPI)—Roberta Jean Hoffard, 19, Portland, entered a guilty plea in Justice Court Friday to a charge resulting from a telephone call.

It is believed to be the first charge of its kind filed in Oregon.

A complaint signed by Police Chief Philip Averill charged Miss Hoffard conspired on Feb. 27 with an unnamed woman here to obtain $1.25 worth of service from Pacific Northwest Bell without paying.

Chief Averill said a call was placed person to person from Portland to Grants Pass asking for Roberta Jean Hoffard. He said the local woman replied "Miss Hoffard is not in but probably will be back tomorrow." He said this was a prearranged code which meant "No new orders signed, but may be signed tomorrow."

Mother Of Six Tells Of Shooting Husband

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—"I knew he had to be dead."

A hushed courtroom heard these somber words Friday, uttered by a young mother of six children.

Mrs. Shirley Carlson, 25, charged with fatally shooting her husband, Robert, last Oct. 27 only a few hours after talking him out of a suicide attempt, told the court her husband beat her almost every day of their 10-year marriage and kept her in near slavery.

"He hit me every day," she testified, "but I got a real going over once or twice a month."

She told the jury of nine women and three men that her husband —an insomniac—kept her awake for three days prior to the shooting.

"He kept me awake for 50 hours. Every time I dozed off he would slap me awake,'" she said. "He finally dozed off.

"I felt that I had to shoot him. I had never handled a gun but I put bullsts in it. Then I walked up close. I shot three times."

Asked if she was thinking about her six children at the time of the shooting, she replied, "I had to protect them. I knew he had to be dead."

The prosecution charged she shot her husband after he eventually fell asleep.

Mrs. Carlson, whose children have been in court through much of the trial, said that on one occasion her husband asked why she wasn't smiling.

"I told him I had a cold and bad headache, and he said 'That's not a good excuse for not smiling,' and then he started in on me. He threw me across the floor up against the refrigerator," she testified.

"On another occasion he fired a shot at me for not finding a telephone number fast enough to suit him."

One defense witness was the slain man's brother, Richard Carlson, Columbia, S. C., who testified he saw Mrs. Carlson beaten repeatedly by her husband.

"I'd say that almost every time I was over at their house he was either beating her or the kids," Carlson's brother said.

He said he once suggested the defendant have his brother committed to an institution, and she had replied:

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Jury Finds Pair Guilty Of Murders

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — A Superior Court jury Friday night found Iva and Ralph Kroeger guilty of first degree murder in the strangulation slayings of an elderly invalid and his ex-wife.

The panel of eight women and four men deliberated for five hours and 12 minutes before returning the verdict in the courtroom of Judge Harry J. Neubarth.

Mrs. Kroeger, 44, a glib grandmother who interrupted the eight-week trial dozens of times with shrill courtroom outbursts, had pleaded innocent by reason of insanity as well as innocent. A sanity trial for her will follow under Californua law.

Kroeger, 61, a slow-talking hod carrier and former ranch hand from Colorado, had entered a straight plea of innocent.

Basement Graves

The state claimed that the Kroegers strangled invalid Jay Arneson and his former wife Mildred and buried their bodies in the basement of the Kroegers' San Francisco home.

The motive, the prosecution argued, was the possession of the Santa Rosa motel owned by the Arnesons.

Mrs. Kroeger, whose demeanor ranked from hysterical to placid during the trial, stared impassively at the jury foreman Aldo Cima as he read the verdict. But Kroeger strained forward in his chair as if he hadn't heard the decision correctly.

Mrs. Kroeger told newsmen, "At least I can sleep tonight. That's more than I can say for some."

'Never More Wrong'

She added, "All I can say is that someone must have paid off . . .I'm going to ask for a new trial."

Her husband, asked if he expected the verdict, replied grimly, "Nope." As an afterthought he added, "They never was more wrong."

The Arnesons disappeared from their motel in December, 1961 and January 1962, but their bodies were not discovered until August following a tip by a truck driver who had been acquainted with Mrs. Arneson.

The truck driver, Walter Hughes, told police that he drove Arneson and Mrs. Kroeger to the Kroeger home in January. Police then descended on the modest home and unearthed the bodies in two days of digging.

Kroeger, who was home when the bodies were discovered, denied any knowledge of the crime. "I didn't know we had permanent guests," he was quoted as saying.

STUDENTS AID FIREMEN — Bellport, N. Y., high school students hold fire hose as they assist firemen in battling blaze in the school's gym Friday. More than 100 persons were injured. The most seriously injured were students trapped on second floor, who sustained broken bones and contusions as they jumped from windows.
— UPI Telephoto

Heroic Children Save Classmates As Flames Race Through Building

BELLMORE, N.Y. (UPI) — "Don't worry about me, dad. Help the other kids."

Smoke billowed from the roof and windows of the Bellmore High School on Long Island as Fire Commissioner E. Floyd Hassell ran to the scene shortly after 2 p.m. EST Friday. With horror he became aware of screaming students trapped on the second floor.

Lying on the ground was his son David, a senior. The youth, witnesses said, had left the building when the fire alarm sounded, then raced back inside to rescue others, until choking smoke forced him to leap from a second story window.

The plunge shattered his kneecaps, but his concern still was for the others.

Terror Hits School

David was not the only youngster to jump—nor the only one to show heroism—when a mysterious "blast of flame" transformed a pleasant Friday afternoon into terror within minutes for 900 Bellmore teen-agers.

Forty-three students and one teacher were hospitalized in the fire and 100 others treated at the scene by doctors summoned in a county-wide emergency call. One of the terrified youngsters who leaped from a window was reported to have broken both legs.

Some of the 65 teachers in the school, an official said, "were carrying youngsters down ladders and out of windows." Others on the ground improvised nets of blankets and coats to catch the hurtling bodies.

Some of the boys caught other leaping children in their arms.

Thomas Feeney, school principal, had been sitting in his office. Two girls rushed in to report a fire. "I ran into the auditorium and saw the fire in the ceiling," he said. "I could hardly believe my eyes. I pulled the alarm."

The children on the ground floor and in the new section of the building got out without incident. But smoke blinded many of those in the old section, and when the roof collapsed they began screaming and jumping.

Workers from a bank across the street rushed ladders to the scene. Three men uprooted a small tree and used it as a makeshift ladder for children to escape. Firemen rushed equipment to the building.

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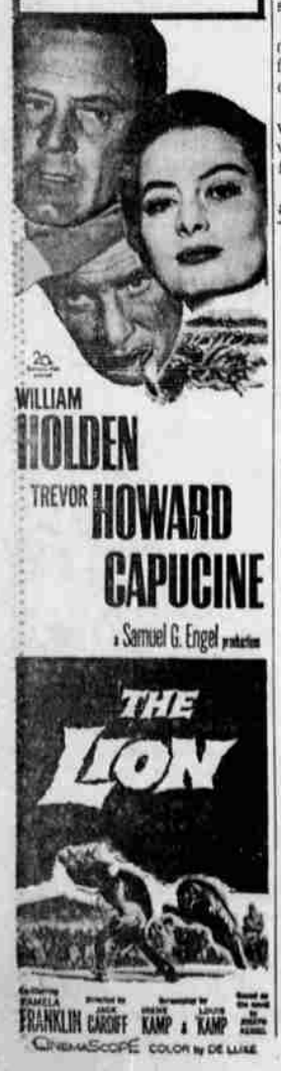

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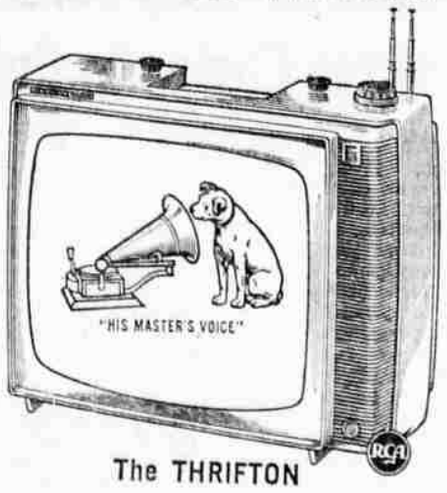

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