

TRUMAN OPPOSES CUT IN RECOVERY FUND

General Rent Boost In New Bill

President Director Says General Boost In Rents Likely

Washington, March 31 — (UP)—President Truman today said that the new rent control law does not mean a general rent increase for all tenants.

Truman said in a statement that the new law's provisions for a "fair net operating income" for landlords is a liberalization of present regulations which grant financial adjustments.

"This provision," he said, "will take care particularly of any small landlords who may not be obtaining an adequate net operating income. The law leaves it up to the housing expediter to determine what is a fair net operating income."

"Clearly does not involve any administrative unworkable plan of fair return on some valuation, nor does it mean a general rent increase for all tenants. It is merely a continuation of a trend in our adjustment provisions which has been taking place over the past two years."

President Truman signed the bill yesterday and described it as a "trumping defeat for the real estate lobby." Present controls expire at midnight. The new law goes into effect tomorrow. It extends rent controls for 15 months, but gives local communities the right to decontrol rents with the approval of the state governor.

Woods indicated it will be many years before rent increases under the "fair net operating income" provision of the new law.

He said a new adjustment regulation will be issued to take care of landlords who are not earning a "fair net operating income" on their properties. This regulation, he said, will be based on a study of operating income of representative rental accommodations over an eight-year period.

"The study will cover operations both before and under rent control," Woods said. "Meanwhile, present adjustment provisions will continue the processing of petitions already on hand."

Under present regulations, landlords operating at a loss can petition for so-called "hardship" increases.

Woods listed eight improvements in the new act. These improvements were the one cited yesterday by Mr. Truman in signing the act.

They included giving the housing expediter authority to regulate evictions and the right to sue for trouble damages for violation of rent ceilings.

As for the "local option" provision, Woods said this merely represents an extension of the principle underlying the operation of local rent advisory boards. This principle has been, he said, to give greater discretion to local authorities to say whether or not federal rent control is necessary in their localities.

The national association of real estate boards also hailed this provision. A spokesman for the boards said the local option provision is a "positive decontrol measure as intended by congress."

Earlier this week, the association's executive vice president, Herbert G. Nelson, had warned the president in a telegram that by signing the bill, he might bring on "mass unemployment, a housing shortage and a general business depression."

In a statement accompanying the signing, Mr. Truman said the rent bill was passed by congress "despite the propaganda barrage which was designed to destroy rent control altogether."

"The passage of this effective rent control law," he said, "clearly demonstrates the purpose of the congress to maintain adequate protection for tenants until the housing shortage is relieved."

WEATHER
Cloudy and colder tonight with some light rain or drizzle north and east portions, possibly changing to snow flurries in extreme north. Friday generally fair.

Dow Chemical Head Dies In Air Crash

Dr. Willard Dow, Four Others Dead

London, Ont., Mar. 31 — (UP)—Dr. Willard H. Dow, 52-year-old president of Dow Chemical company, his wife, and three other persons were killed today when their plane crashed and burned three miles east of the London airport.

The victims were Mr. and Mrs. Dow; Mrs. Calvin Campbell, 45, wife of the company's general counsel who escaped with injuries, and company pilots Fred Clement and A. J. Bowie, all of Midland, Mich.

Campbell, 46, staggered from an emergency door of the plane as the craft crashed and burst into flames. The control tower at the London airport had been in constant contact up to the time of the accident and aid was sent immediately.

Campbell, taken to St. Joseph's hospital suffering from shock, lacerations on the legs and a possible back injury, told attendants that his wife was unable to unfasten her safety belt and was engulfed in flames with the other victims.

"The emergency door flew open and I got out," he explained, saying he was dazed and unable to help the other victims before the flames drove him back.

Sgt. George Blub of the Ontario provincial police and several other officers were the first officials on the scene and brought Calvin into London for medical treatment.

Dr. Dow, head of one of the nation's biggest chemical firms, and his companions took off from the Tri-Cities airport at Midland this morning en route to Buffalo, N. Y., in a company plane.

Bodies of the victims were badly burned, according to police dispatcher Harry Gilchrist. They were removed to funeral homes.

(Turn To Page Eight)

Noblesville Woman And Young Son Killed

Noblesville, Ind., March 31 — (UP)—Mrs. Charles Heaton, 30, and her four-year-old son, Charles, were killed yesterday in a two-car collision in which Mrs. Walter H. Miles was injured critically.

'Nubbins' Hoffman Dies, Ends Long Battle For Life

Cheyenne, Wyo., March 31 — (UP)—Seven-year-old "Nubbins" Hoffman died today.

His five-year fight for life had touched the nation's heart, and his courage had amazed the doctors.

"Nubbins" died in the modest home of his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Hoffman. Only Mrs. Hoffman was present. The youngster had been in a coma, broken by brief spells of consciousness, for the last four days.

Frank Smith Dies Suddenly In Oregon

Former Decatur Man Is Taken By Death

Frank Smith, 70, formerly of Decatur, died suddenly at his home in Oregon City, Ore., Wednesday afternoon, according to word received by his brother, Fred Smith, last night. Mr. Smith had not been ill.

Frank Smith was born in Adams county August 13, 1879, son of William R. and Nancy Rice Smith. For many years he was a farmer in LaGrange county, but about a year ago sold his property in northern Indiana and moved to Oregon City, where his son, William, lives. Before moving to Oregon, Mr. and Mrs. Smith came to Decatur a year ago and with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith they motored to Florida for a several weeks' visit.

Surviving are the widow, Grace Smicke-Smith; a son, William at Oregon City, and a daughter Mrs. William Thompson, Cincinnati, O. Two sisters, Mrs. Albert Lachnit, Indianapolis, and Mrs. Don Vanell, Cincinnati, O. and two brothers, Fred of this city and Robert of Indianapolis, also survive.

Funeral services will be held in Oregon City Friday afternoon and burial will be in that city.

Ask Probe Of FBI Chief On Wire Tapping

Urge Senate Probe Of Wire Tapping By Edgar Hoover

Washington, Mar. 31 — (UP)—A group dominated by new deal Democrats called on the senate today to investigate director J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI on charges that he violated the law by tapping telephone wires.

The charge was based on the following statement by Hoover in a recent issue of the Yale law journal:

"It is no secret that the FBI does tap telephones in a very limited type of cases with the express approval in each instance of the attorney general, but only in cases involving espionage, sabotage, grave risks to internal security, or when human lives are in danger."

The request for an investigation was addressed to chairman Pat McCarran, D., Nev., of the senate judiciary committee in a letter signed by Paul A. Porter, Joseph L. Rauch, Jr., and Wendell Berge, of Americans for Democratic Action, and Roger Baldwin, James Lawrence Fly and Arthur Garfield Hays of the American Civil Liberties Union. Porter and Fly are former chairmen of the federal communications commission which consistently has battled against wire tapping by the FBI under any circumstances.

Americans for Democratic Action is the organization of new deal Democrats which sought to prevent President Truman's nomination last June. It wanted either supreme court justice William O. Douglas or Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In connection with the request for investigation of Hoover, it was revealed McCarran already has junked a request by the justice department that the use of wire tap evidence be made legal in government prosecutions of spies and in the interests of national defense.

McCarran introduced in the senate a national security bill requested by the justice department but eliminated from it the sections which would have made wire tap evidence legal.

Although Hoover conceded that

Five Workers Killed As Bridge Collapses

Unfinished Section Of Bridge Collapses

Hinton, W. Va., March 31 — (UP)—An unfinished section of the new Bluestone river bridge collapsed today killing five construction workers and injuring four others.

The men were sent crashing into the river 150 feet below when the center span of five sections buckled from what was believed to be a snapped shear pin or a defective metal plate. Bodies of all but three of the victims were immediately recovered.

One of the injured was in critical condition.

Construction superintendent C. C. Stedenfeld said the section dropped without warning.

The section which collapsed was the center of five sections in which the bridge is being constructed over the Bluestone river at its junction with the New river near True. Highest highway bridge in the state, it stands 150 feet over the water bed and measures 1,150 feet from end to end.

Two of the injured were in critical condition.

51 Japanese Killed By Mine Explosion

Tokyo, March 31 — (UP)—The explosion of a stray mine today killed 45 children and three adults watching attempts to dispose of it at Nadachi on the Japan sea coast 170 miles northwest of Tokyo.

The blast injured 115 persons and damaged 150 houses.

Johnson Holds First Conference



DEFENSE SECRETARY Louis Johnson tells reporters at his first news conference since succeeding James V. Forrestal that he will end inter-service bickering. Seated beside the new cabinet member in the Pentagon is Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, chief of the Air Materiel command at Wright-Patterson field, Dayton, O.

Six Feared Killed When C-47 Crashes

Transport Wrecked In Missouri Pond

Edgar Springs, Mo., March 31 — (UP)—An air force salvage crew today removed two bodies from the wreckage of a C-47 transport that "hit a big black cloud" and crashed in a pond three miles south of here.

The bodies of at least four other airmen were believed still in the submerged craft.

The salvage crew was flown here from Scott Air base near Belleville, Ill. It dynamited a dam at one end of the pond in an effort to drain out the water to get the other bodies still in the craft.

Burvin Mace said the plane missed his farm home by just 50 feet.

"It flew low over the house at 7:10 last night," he said. "I looked out and saw it, and it seemed to strike a heavy, black cloud. When it hit it seemed to spin around and crash straight down into the pond."

Mace said he did not see any one parachute from the plane and air force officers said it was doubtful any of the occupants could have jumped safely at such low altitude.

High winds were buffeting the rough, hilly Ozark country at the time of the crash. The plane flew apart as it hit the pond, and debris was scattered over the hillside.

Capt. Lawrence Krogh, public relations officer at Wright-Patterson field in Dayton, O., said the plane was en route to Tinker field, Oklahoma City, from an undisclosed air base. It had refueled at Wright-Patterson yesterday afternoon.

Traffic Deaths In Nation On Increase

National Council Reports Increase

Traffic accidents killed 2,070 persons in February and there is "an upward trend in traffic deaths this year," the national safety council reported today.

The February deaths compared with 2,090 in February, 1948, but the one percent decrease was due to the calendar and not to better traffic behavior," the council said.

Last year February had 29 days while this year there were only 28. The average daily death toll was 74 this year, the council said, which is three percent higher than the 1948 February figure.

Traffic deaths for the first two months of this year totalled 4,400, an average of four percent over the 1948 total.

The three largest cities with perfect safety records for February were Portland, Ore., Providence, R. I. and Miami, Fla. The largest one reporting no fatalities for the two-month period were Worcester, Mass., Hartford, Conn., and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Mass Of Cold Air Moving On Indiana

Indianapolis, March 31 — (UP)—A cold air mass is moving in from the northwest and may bring light to moderate frost in central Indiana by tomorrow night, the weather bureau said today.

While Wabash and White rivers rose slowly in southwestern Indiana toward early crests considerably below those of the January floods, the weatherman warned of the new cool wave.

He said it might be a heavy frost day in northern Indiana. But in the central portion the mercury will dip not quite to freezing.

Continue Hunt For Absconding Banker

Theft Is Biggest In New York's History

New York, Mar. 31 — (UP)—Auditors checked the books of the National City Bank today to determine if 41-year-old Richard H. Crowe, accused of fleeing with \$883,660 in cash and bonds, might have been tapping the bank's funds for the 19 years he was a trusted employee.

Police pointed out that he could not have supported his \$30,000 Staten Island estate, a 35-foot power yacht, two cars and a luxurious mode of living for his wife and three children on an estimated \$7,500 salary as assistant branch manager for the bank.

FBI agents and police meanwhile searched along the Atlantic coast for the handsome, athletic executive accused of looting the bank's vault last Friday, then calmly spending the weekend with his family before fleeing, apparently to Florida.

Mrs. Crowe revealed to police that she had received two letters from her husband, one mailed in New York and the other from an undisclosed Florida city, which explained to her that he "wasn't coming back."

One letter contained \$800 cash with the explanation that he had cashed some war bonds to obtain the money.

Police said the embezzlement of \$193,660 in small bills and \$690,000 (Turn To Page Two)

Ask Suit On Bluffton Youths Be Dismissed

Bluffton, Ind., March 31 — (UP)—The trial of two Bluffton youths accused of kidnapping a Wells county farmer was adjourned until tomorrow morning to allow time for preparation of briefs on a defense motion for a directed verdict of acquittal.

Attorney for Kenneth Bennett and Joe H. Compton filed the motion on the basis that state evidence did not support the contention that farmer Jess Easterday was kidnapped from his home. The defense claims he left his home voluntarily. The state concluded its case yesterday morning.

Truman Backs Program For Tax Increase And Anti-Inflation Fight

Rain, Snowstorm Sweeping Midwest

Heaviest Rainfall Is In Chicago Area

By United Press

March roared out like a lion today as heavy rain and a snow storm swept the midwest, heading toward the Atlantic coast, and below normal temperatures chilled the far west.

The leading edge of the midwestern storm was over lower Michigan and Indiana, moving up the Ohio Valley toward New York and New England.

Behind it, the storm left heavy snow blanketing the great plains, inches of rainwater that flooded viaducts, and gorged streams which threatened to rise out of their banks and flood miles of farmland.

A delegation headed by Mayor R. H. Kohtz and chamber of commerce president V. C. Jelinek was scheduled to leave Bloomfield, Neb., via railroad handcar for Lincoln to enlist the aid of state officials in fighting mud that has isolated Bloomfield and three other villages for two weeks.

North Platte, Neb., was digging out of 15 inches of snow that was piled into towering drifts in a 60 mile an hour blizzard late yesterday. Goodland, Kans., had nine inches. Valentine, Neb., six inches and Dever five inches.

The heaviest rainfall was in the Chicago area. In the 24-hour period ending at 6:30 a. m., the city had 2.10 inches and the forecast called for more. Joliet, Ill., 40 miles away, had 1.5 inches.

The heart river was rising at Mandan, N. D., and flood waters poured through a break in the dikes caused by high water earlier this week. Water was pouring in to two neighborhoods in Mandan.

More trouble was feared six miles below Mandan where the Heart joins the Missouri river. A federal weatherman said the Missouri's ice appeared to be breaking up and that the chunks might (Turn To Page Two)

Veteran Chicago Merchant Is Dead

Henry C. Lytton Dies This Morning

Chicago, March 31 — (UP)—Henry C. Lytton, Chicago merchant since the late 1880's, died at Wesley Memorial hospital today. He was 102 years old.

Lytton was the last member of the original State Street council of 14 "merchant princes" who developed State Street into one of the world's leading shopping centers. He was active in business until last year and was known as one of the city's best-dressed men.

One of his original business ventures was in St. Louis, where he worked, at \$8 a week, for a firm which sold shoes to mustered-out Civil War soldiers.

Lytton was a business contemporary of such men as Marshall Field and Potter Palmer. He lived to see many of the advertising and merchandising principles which he helped pioneer accepted as standard by stores and businesses.

He had been ill for weeks and in an oxygen tent. He would have been 103 July 13.

He began his career as an office boy for a New York attorney, at 50 cents a week. Then he moved westward. He and his brother Isaac, a Civil War veteran, opened a clothing store in Ionia, Mich., in the late 1860's. They opened another in Grand Rapids, Mich., but the panic of 1873 wiped them out.

By 1887 he had saved capital of about \$12,000 and came to Chicago, where he opened a store which he called "The Hub." He invested a third of his money in advertising, and some of his publicity campaigns became a part of the State (Turn To Page Two)

Yugoslavia Is Boycotted By Soviet Russia

Soviet Russia And Satellites Putting Squeeze On Tito

By United Press

Yugoslavia's relations with its communist neighbors crumbled in several directions today and a poll showed that Russia and the communist satellites have squeezed a diplomatic boycott on Marshal Tito.

The Soviet, Bulgarian, Rumania, Czech and Polish embassies and the Hungarian and Albanian legations disclosed that all heads of missions left Belgrade from three weeks to three months ago.

Those countries participated last year in the expulsion of the Yugoslav communist party from the nine-nation cominform and the denunciation of Tito's regime as Trotskyist and nationalist.

Cominform leaders, meanwhile, announced that the Greek rebel government would be broadened to include Bulgarians, Albanians and anti-Tito Yugoslavs as part of a "United Macedonia" movement.

Yugoslavia suspended a 1946 agreement with Bulgaria because of "repeated brutal attacks" by Bulgarian frontier guards on Yugoslav militiamen escorting trains across the border.

The Yugoslav communist organ Borba accused Russia of crippling the "democratic peace front," playing into the hands of the west with its attacks on Tito. It also lambasted the Soviets for allegedly using capitalistic methods to make the satellites economically dependent on Moscow.

Meanwhile, the middle east calmed its nerves today. Syria, under firm army control after a bloodless coup yesterday, reopened its frontiers and communications and reportedly prepared to go ahead with armistice talks with Israel.

Berlin—The western powers protested the Russian use of live ammunition by maneuvering yak fighters in a Berlin airlift corridor. Delegates to the communist German people's congress — in (Turn To Page Three)

Disputed Highway Funds Are 'Frozen'

State Auditor To Seek Court Action

Indianapolis, March 31 — (UP)—A disputed \$6,500,000 in highway funds was "frozen" today and state auditor James M. Probst planned court action to provide a declaratory judgment as to its disposition.

The problem of whether the money should go to the state highway department or be split among the cities and counties of the state for highway use arose when the 86th Indiana general assembly enacted a new law for dividing highway revenues.

The 1947 law, which is in effect until midnight tonight, provides that the state should get the first \$30,000,000 of the annual highway receipts, and the remainder should be distributed 64 percent to the state, 16 percent to cities and 20 percent to counties.

The 1949 law, one of those passed in the 41 hours of "overtime" by the last legislature, carried an emergency clause and went into effect March 11, when Governor Schricker signed it. It gave 53 percent to the state, 15 percent to cities, and 32 percent to counties.

While waiting for the court decision Probst said he would go ahead and make the regular distribution of funds under the 1949 law tomorrow.

Opposes 10 Percent Slash In Economic Recovery Funds As Proposed By Taft

Washington, March 31 — (UP)—President Truman today stubbornly defended his tax, anti-inflation and foreign recovery programs against congressional attacks.

In response to questions at his news conference the President:

1. Said in defense of his request for a \$4,000,000,000 general tax increase that it is more dangerous to run the government in the red than it is to boost taxes. He asserted that Sen. Walter F. George, D., Ga., was wrong when the senate finance committee chairman said a tax hike could cause a depression.

2. Insisted that his requested inflation controls—which congress seems certain to ignore—are just as necessary now as they were when he first asked them in January. He credited the January request in part for recent price drops.

3. Said any cut in the \$5,500,000,000 asked for a 15-month renewal of European aid spending would be wrong and would impair efforts to put western Europe back on its feet.

Considerable bipartisan support has developed in the senate for a proposal by Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., O., and Sen. Richard B. Russell, D., Ga., to cut the Marshall plan spending request by 10 percent.

Science—Deltev Bronk, president of Johns Hopkins university, asked congress to authorize a broad program of scientific research sponsored by the government. He and other scientists want congress to set up a national science foundation.

Beer barrels—Sen. James P. Kem, R., Mo., called on recovery administrator Paul G. Hoffman to explain why purchases for Europe include "beer barrels, whiskey barrels and false teeth." Kem said he found these items in a report for the Nov. 16-Dec. 15 period last year.

White House—The house public works committee approved creation of a commission to supervise the \$4,400,000 job of rebuilding the White House.

Crop Insurance—The house agriculture committee approved a bill to expand the experimental federal crop insurance program.

In the debate on foreign spending Lucas appeared confident that the Taft-Russell reduction amendment would be beaten easily.

Other sources indicated that the administration expected a fairly close vote but thought the proposal would be killed. It was understood that administration leaders expected to lose a maximum of 12 Democratic votes and to gain some counter-balancing GOP support.

Despite the administration claims, Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., O., said the amendment had a "good chance" of being adopted.

The amendment, sponsored by Taft and Sen. Richard B. Russell, D., Ga., would slice \$543,000,000 from the \$5,580,000,000 requested (Turn To Page Eight)

Two Tennesseans Volunteer To Trap Churubusco Turtle

Churubusco, Ind., March 31 — (UP)—Two experienced turtle trappers were under contract today to capture the giant quarter-turtle of Fuls lake by April 16.

Farmer Gale Harris said "two young men from Tennessee" had volunteered for the job with a trap they believe will snare the beast "within 48 hours" after they set to work.

The fabulous turtle, rumored to be 500 years old and weighing 500 pounds and credited with attacking herds of cattle, has eluded all attempts at capture for the past month. Several experienced divers have failed to bring up the reptile, and traps have been baited to no avail.

Harris said he didn't know anything about the new trap. "That's their secret," he said. "I don't care how they do it, just so they get the turtle."