

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER IN ADAMS COUNTY

Vol. XLVII. No. 76.

Decatur, Indiana, Thursday, March 31, 1949

Price Four Cents

# TRUMAN OPPOSES CUT IN RECOVERY FUND

## No General Rent Boost In New Bill

### Rent Director Says No General Boost In Rents Likely

Washington, March 31 — (UP) —

Rent director Tighe E. Woods as-

sured tenants today that the new

rent control law does not mean

a general rent increase for all

tenants.

Woods said in a statement that

the new law's provisions for a "fair

net operating income" for land-

lords is a liberalization of present

regulations which grant financial

allowments.

"This provision," he said, "will

take care particularly of any small

landlords who may not be obtain-

ing an adequate net operating in-

come. The law leaves it up to the

housing expediter to determine

what is a fair net operating income.

"It clearly does not involve any

administratively 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 "crushing defeat for the real

estate lobby." Present controls ex-

pire 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

get any rent increases under the

"fair net operating income" pro-

vision of the new law.

He said a new adjustment regula-

tion 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 con-

trol," Woods said. "Meanwhile, pre-

sent adjustment provisions will

continue the processing of petitions

already on hand."

Under present regulations, land-

lords operating at a loss can peti-

tion for so-called "hardship" in

increases.

Woods listed eight improve-

ments in the new act. These im-

provements were the one cited yes-

terday by Mr. Truman in signing

the act.

They included giving the housing

expediter authority to regulate

evictions and the right to sue for

treble damages for violation of

rent ceilings.

As for the "local option" provi-

sion, Woods said this merely repre-

sents 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 authori-

ties to say whether or not federal

rent control is necessary in their

localities.

The national association of real

estate boards also hailed this pro-

vision. A spokesman for the boards

said the local option provision is

a "positive decontrol measure as

intended by congress."

Earlier this week, the associa-

tion's executive vice president, Her-

bert U. 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 de-

pression."

In a statement accompanying the

signature, Mr. Truman said the rent

bill was passed by congress "des-

pite the propaganda barrage which

was designed to destroy rent con-

trol altogether.

The passage of this effective

rent control law," he said, "clearly

demonstrates the purpose of the

congress to maintain adequate pro-

tection for tenants until the hous-

ing shortage is relieved."

### 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.

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### 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 seen.

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 Smucke-Smith; a son, William, at Oregon City, and a daughter Mrs. William Thompson, Cincinnati, O. Two sisters, Mrs. Albert Lachant, Indianapolis, and Mrs. Don Vancil, 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.

### 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.

### 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 yesterday 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. Stedefeld 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 48 children and three adults working 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.