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Town Purchased 'Just for a Laugh' To Become Resort

DIXIE, Idaho, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The men who bought this North-Central Idaho village last year have settled down to developing their plans for a new outdoor sports and tourist center.

Paul Richardson and Wendell Stout were residents of Alaska until they answered a newspaper advertisement "just for a laugh," then got interested and finally bought this old mining town.

Richardson was formerly superintendent of maintenance for the Cordova Air Service at Cordova, Alaska, and Stout was an employee of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They read the advertisement of Earl T. Scott, former owner, who placed his "whole town for sale in Idaho" notices in numerous newspapers.

"We thought it was funny, so we wrote to the owner just for a laugh," Richardson explains. "Scott answered us with a real proposition. So we closed out everything we had in Alaska, flew down to Idaho and bought ourselves a town."

Dixie includes a store, post office, service station and 153 acres of patented placer land. It is located at an elevation of 5,600 feet, 29 miles south of Elk City and 75 miles east of Grangeville, Idaho, in rugged mountain country bordering the Salmon River. The town was founded in an 1863 mining boom, but dwindled in size with the years.

The new owners plan to lay out 50 by 100 foot lots for use for summer cabins and hunting lodges, and otherwise develop facilities for a hunting and fishing resort. Richardson will take over the duties of postmaster and Stout will be mining recorder and notary public. They also plan to raise husky dogs for use as sled dogs in the winter.

"We won't worry about who is to be mayor until next year when we incorporate the town," the partners explained.

Truman Requests Pay Boosts For Cabinet Officers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP)—President Truman asked yesterday to raise the pay of cabinet officers from \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year and to boost salaries of other top-level government officials.

The President presented his recommendations through Budget Director James E. Webb who said the government must pay higher wages to pull the best men into government.

Webb told a Senate Postoffice and Civil Service Subcommittee the President favors overhauling the entire pay structure, on the higher level.

Webb proposed salaries of \$17,500 to \$22,500 for undersecretaries, assistant secretaries, heads of independent agencies, boards and commissions.

"I submit," Webb said, "that the government cannot continue on a sound basis over a long period if its most important positions of leadership and responsibility must be filled by men who have private salaries or by men without private means who serve at too great a personal sacrifice."

Webb told questioners that he has not discussed with Mr. Truman the question of the President's salary, but suggested that \$150,000 a year, double the present rate, "would be far more acceptable."

In addition, he said, the President should be given a "realistic" expense account so that he is not required to dip into his salary for office and social expenses.

Webb said he hopes the committee also will consider the vice president's salary, now \$25,000 a year, in the light of "the present great disparity" with that of the President. He said he would increase it "perhaps by several times."

Ants, bees, wasps, saw flies, gall-wasps and ichneumon flies are all members of the same insect family: hymenoptera.

Sale of 'The Trail Led North' Outpaces Author's Trip To Cities to Autograph Copies

Mrs. Archie W. McKeown, author of "The Trail Led North," a recent publication which has received widespread acclaim and early sales far in excess of expectations, says she now knows the meaning of the saying "a wild goose chase."

Argentina Fraud Victim in Deal For Fictitious Plant

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Police said today they had discovered the Argentine government had been defrauded of a sum which may exceed 12,000,000 pesos (\$2,400,000).

Persons close to President Juan Peron were arrested. These included Lt. Col. Juan Basso, coordinator of the five-year plan in the president's office, and Herminda Fassio, federal police inspector who directs the presidential bodyguard.

Horacio Ramallo, vice president of the Banco Credito Industrial and who was awarded the main Peronista medal for loyalty a few months ago, also was among the 14 persons arrested.

Federal Judge Oscar Baltra, who investigated, gave these details:

A group of public officials high in Peron's confidence conspired with a party of Italians to obtain credit from the Banco Credito Industrial for transferring an aluminum factory from Italy to Argentina.

The countries have been engaged recently in transfers of entire industries with all their workers in order to relieve Italy of excess population and to help industrialize Argentina, which mainly is agricultural. Although the aluminum factory did not qualify under the program, the judge said the credit was cleared through intervention of presidential advisers.

The judge did not say how much the alleged fraud amounted to. He did say that 12,000,000 pesos worth of property has been embargoed in order to cover the reported loss.

The case has been under scrutiny for a month. Two suspects fled to Italy before their connection with the plot was alleged, officials said.

Judge Baltra said the fugitives obtained a loan of about 11,000,000 pesos and transferred the sum in dollars and Argentine pesos to Italy. He said the deal was for a fictitious plant.

Soldier Confesses Slaying Student

TACOMA, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Detective John Kenders said yesterday that Pvt. Woodrow McEntire, 34-year-old Fort Lewis soldier, admitted he had killed Robert Kellogg, 18, Olympia High School student, in self-defense on the night of Nov. 12.

McEntire's signed statement corroborated in large part the story of Christopher Barker, 19, a high school pal of Kellogg, who earlier had said the youth was killed in a roadside fight at Seattle.

McEntire said he had been picked up by Barker and Kellogg at Fort Lewis the night of Nov. 12 and brought to Seattle. The car was parked near the Aurora bridge and one of the youths slugged the soldier.

In an ensuing battle in and out of the automobile, McEntire was shot twice, one bullet grazing his head and the other hitting him in the shoulder.

"I saw the one fellow coming at me with a gun and I stabbed him in the stomach with a screwdriver I had grabbed," McEntire's statement said. "I don't remember much after that because I was too dazed from the fight and bullet wounds."

No motive was given in Barker's statement for the attack on McEntire but the soldier said they apparently were intent on robbing him.

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days and Mrs. McKeown insists she will stay in Portland until she finally meets up with some of her books.

"The Trail Led North" already has gone through two editions, a third edition is on the press at present and is to be shipped to Oregon in time for the Christmas trade, and a fourth edition is being prepared for printing early in the year.

Mrs. McKeown is very proud of the "rave" reviews from all over the country, but says she treasures most the words of her "hero" Mont Hawthorne who, after reading an advance copy, said: "You've wrote it good."

The word "robot," used to describe mechanical devices, is derived from the Czech word "robota," meaning work.



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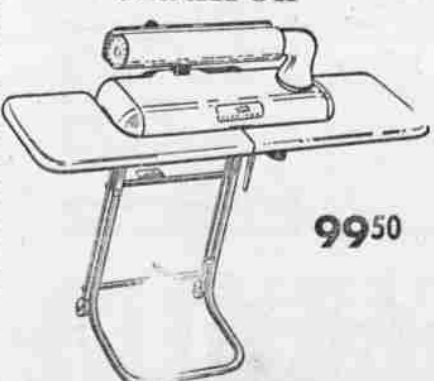
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