

**Housing Demand Undiminished By Winter's Boom**

WASHINGTON (AP)—The demand for housing was reported today just as high as ever, after the biggest winter homebuilding boom in the nation's history. Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, said February completed a three-month period during which builders started dwellings at an 80,000-a-month clip—an unusually high wintertime record. Housing construction in 1949 topped the 1,000,000-dwelling figure for the first time—yet the winter construction rate a year ago was only at a 50,000-a-month mark. In spite of this mammoth construction "housing demand continues virtually unabated," Clague said, adding that this demand is "buoyed by high consumer income and the continuing high marriage and birth rates." Clague's survey matched the housing construction rates with boosts in the population and came up with this conclusion: "Indications are that the new dwelling units started each year will have to exceed 1,000,000 for several years to wipe out the backlog, as well as to meet current population increase and effective demand." The country will have to continue its all-time record of 1,025,000 dwelling units started in 1949 for "several years" to come, Clague predicted, if this housing deficit is to be eliminated. He said a general belief that building costs will remain stable in 1950 is probably one reason for the big wintertime housing boom. Favorable weather was given as another. Most attention was centered on the 41 percent increase in apartment construction in 1949 as compared with 1948, Clague said. He added that a fact overlooked is that the 790,000 one-family homes started in 1949 also set a record.

**Civil Defense Agency Heads Are Named By McKay**

SALEM, March 20.—Gov. Douglas McKay appointed Friday 15 men to be chiefs of divisions under the state civil defense agency. He said they would deal with peacetime emergencies as well as war problems. The appointments are: James E. Singleton, Salem, public utilities commission, to be chief of the evacuation division. Joseph M. Mjolsness, Salem, state relations officer of the Red Cross, to be chief of the food and clothing division. Leslie H. Warfield, Salem, highway commission, to be chief of the shelter and housing division. State Public Welfare Commissioner Jack H. Luhn, Portland, to be chief of public welfare division. Col. William C. Ryan, Salem, state coordinator of institutions, to be chief of planning division. State vocational director Oscar I. Paulson, Salem, to be chief of training division. Thomas Lawson McCall, Salem, secretary to the governor, to be chief of public relations. Col. Edward C. Snow, National Guard, Salem, to be chief of mutual aid division. State police Capt. Walter Lansing, Salem, to be chief of plant protection division. Major Irvin Ail, Portland, National Guard, to be chief of warden services. Deputy state police Supt. Lee Bown, Salem, to be chief of police services. O. R. Blair, Portland, to be chief of transportation division. W. C. Williams, Salem, assistant state highway engineer, to be chief of engineering and rescue division. Capt. Robert L. Clark to be chief of ground observer section. Lt. E. W. Thomas, Portland National Guard, to be assistant chief ground observer. Because of the many tasks to be performed it takes a staff of 74 to produce an average variety hour on television.

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