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### New Plans For Downtown

The Democratic leadership in Congress plans to push programs for urban renewal at the net session as part of a broad legislative schedule outlined by Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Texas), majority leader, and House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Texas) on Nov. 7. Both are well aware that the Democrats on Nov. 4 showed great voting strength in urban industrial and depressed areas.

President Eisenhower has indicated that he will propose to Congress early in the session additional funds for urban renewal. The federal program goes back to the Housing Act of 1949, which provided \$500 million for that purpose. The President was to hold \$100 million of this in reserve, to be released at his discretion. The other \$400 million was to be committed at the rate of \$100 million a year.

Then in 1954 Congress voted another \$500 million and in 1957 another \$350 million. In his budget message for 1957, the President had proposed spending for urban renewal at the rate of \$250 million a year, but when his housing recommendations went to Congress that had been pared to \$175 million for one year.

Of the \$350 million additional voted in 1957, the administration initially released for commitment only \$250 million. In 1958 the administration proposed a six-year program, with spending at the rate of \$200 million to \$250 million a year. Also involved was a gradual change in matching requirements, reducing the federal share.

The Democratic omnibus housing bill which breezed through the Senate at the 1958 session would have authorized \$300 million a year for six years for urban renewal. Economy-minded Representatives, however, blocked passage in the House. Thereupon the President released urban renewal funds he had been holding in reserve.

So at the beginning of fiscal 1959, \$150 million was available to meet a backlog of projects totaling some \$340 million. In the previous year applications for federal funds had totaled \$680 million.

The \$200 million a year now suggested by the President—or even a more generous treatment of urban renewal by a Democratic Congress—probably wouldn't satisfy the city planners. For example, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials at its October convention recommended federal spending at the rate of \$600 million a year for the next 10 years.

The most dramatic project for downtown development, perhaps, is the \$1 billion program presented to New York City Oct. 14 by the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Association, of which banker David Rockefeller is chairman of the executive committee. Another scheme for drastic changes in a downtown area is the so-called Gruen plan for Ft. Worth.

Not all cities have depended on federal funds for cleaning up downtown blight. Under the leadership of Mayor David L. Lawrence, private backers pushed the Golden Triangle renewal in Pittsburgh, and private support has carried most of the load in New Haven.

So far downtown renewal—like urban renewal in general—has largely been confined to large cities. Hearings of a Senate Banking and Currency subcommittee in 1957 disclosed that "more than half of the cities with population of more than 100,000" were actively participating in the federally-supported program. But of 1,127 cities with "populations between 10,000 and 100,000," only 128 were covered.

### Barbs

Odd thing about 10-minute coffee breaks is the 20 or more minutes it takes to have them.

Little kids couldn't possibly do as many wrong things as their parents hope they won't.

### Side Glances



"Alvin—you shouldn't have! Just because I said I'd meet you at the candy counter!"



RECEIVE AWARDS—Ed McLaughlin and Tom Brown, La Grande, receive soil judging contest awards from contest chairman Arthur King, soil conservation specialist for Oregon State college extension service, at Baker, Thursday. The boys represented the La Grande high school FFA chapter in winning second place team honors among FFA contestants from throughout Oregon during annual meeting of the Oregon Association of Soil Conservation Districts.



TOP CONTESTANTS — Bill Butner and Bud Fischer, Enterprise, receive soil judging contest award from contest chairman, Arthur King, soil conservation specialist for Oregon State college extension service, at Baker this week. The boys represented the Enterprise FFA chapter in winning first place team honors among FFA contestants.

### Neutralizing Plan Studied

By WELLINGTON LONG  
 BONN, Germany (UPI) — The proposal by Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki for neutralizing Central Europe militarily may be an attempt to ease Soviet troops out of Poland. So believe West German and other diplomats who have studied carefully Rapacki's previous plan of a year ago, and the latest plan made public in Warsaw.

Rapacki's latest proposals call for great-nation agreement that no army in Central Europe not already equipped with atomic weapons shall receive them in future, atomic strength on either side, the Poles reason, thus would be stabilized.

Thereafter, his plan foresees discussion and eventual agreement to reduce both the existing conventional and atomic forces. In Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

The Polish Foreign minister's original plan, as published, called for simple agreement that no atomic weapons be on the ground in Germany, Poland or Czechoslovakia. No mention there was made of conventional weapons or forces.

It was this omission that caused most Western powers to reject the first Rapacki scheme out of hand. It would have left the Soviets, with their armies massed in East Germany and Poland, with a great superiority of force over the U. S. forces in Europe, whose strength depends to a great extent on their atomic weapons rather than on numbers of men and conventional weapons.

But Rapacki's newest plan, at first glance, pretty well meets this criticism. West Germans who still oppose it now say the chief difficulty is that it does not attack the key problem of Central Europe, which is the continuing division of Germany into two states, one free, one Communist.

Nevertheless, the reaction here to the newest version of the Rapacki plan has been much less violent than it was to his first scheme. For one thing, many diplomats here are convinced that Rapacki is not just a tool of the Moscow Communist bosses, but really is trying to conduct an independent foreign policy.

Poland's chief difficulty, and the most delicate part of Poland's relations with the Soviet union, is the continuing presence of Soviet troops in Poland itself, and to Poland's west in East Germany. This bulk presence seriously restricts Polish sovereignty.

At the Dec. 14 meeting of the League, members will go to about five houses, eating a course at each home before completing the dinner. The main meal will be served at the church about half way through the program.

## Central School PTA Membership Drive Won By Millering's Room

The Central School PTA met recently to hear and discuss various problems facing parents and teachers concerning schools. Mrs. Robert E. Clark, president, presided over the business meeting. The Webelo Den of Pack 112 presented the colors. The boys participating were John Craig, Rusty Lew, Mike McChane, and Mickey Jordan. These boys are being prepared prior to entrance into the Boy Scouts by Jack Lew and Bob Kelley.

A membership contest, under the direction of Mrs. Cecil Cooper, membership chairman, was held recently in the school for PTA members. This was won by the sixth grade of Avery Millering, with his room boasting the first 100 per cent membership. Nadine Hallmark and Danny Nicosen of the sixth grade were on hand to receive a check from the PTA with which they will buy a teaching aid for their room. The membership count to dates is a record 888.

In preparation for their Carnival, Mrs. Don Farnum and Mrs. John Turner, Carnival chairmen, presented a clever skit depicting various events highlighting the Carnival. Clint Bellows was the "Man on the Street" and introduced "Three Old Bags" doing a sack dance. They were Nita Bellows, Charlene Larsen, and Betty Drummond.

Mrs. Ed Craig, program chairman, introduced Mrs. Ted Sidor, Central PTA representative to the School Citizens Committee. Mrs. Sidor gave an introductory report of divisions of the Committee. These committees are, Population, Growth, and Transportation; Existing plants and attendance zones; and School curriculum.

Mrs. Don Stiff, secretary of Population, Growth, and Transportation committee, presented an interesting report flavored with comical situations and recommendations made by the committee. She stated that the present enrollment of the elementary schools is 2,386 students, a gain of 473 in the past eight years. This being the case the total enrollment for elementary students through the sixth grades would be 3,265 by 1968.

Dr. Douglas Spear, chairman of the Curriculum Committee, was present and told of the recommendations that had been presented to the school board last July, of those that had been acted upon, and those still under consideration by the School Board. Presented to the School Board were nine specific and five general recommendations. He stressed how each committee is working to find a solution to the overcrowded situation existing in all our schools today. Dr. Spear said the ideal number of students per classroom is 25 for grades one through three and 30 for grades four through six. The present situation puts far more than this desired amount into each class, creating the overcrowded problem we are facing today.

Several guests representing the committees were present, and J. Dale Standley, chairman of the School Board, announced the re-organizational meeting to be held in the High School auditorium on Friday, and stressed the importance of attendance.

This being American Education Week, Ladd Laughon, principal, extended an invitation to all parents to visit their school, not only this week but anytime during the school year. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers is one of the sponsors of American Education Week.

Room count was won by Avery Millering and Miss Audet.

Mrs. Clark announced the special party for daddies and daughters to be held Friday, Dec. 5. Fun and entertainment will be provided with refreshments to be served by mothers of the fifth grades.

The next regular meeting will be held the afternoon of Jan. 9. Refreshments were served by mothers of the third grades.

## Surprise Rock Auction Held By Gem Club

A potluck dinner, previous to a regular meeting and a surprise rock auction were attended by Blue Mountain Gem Club members, when they met for their first November meeting at the Woman's Clubhouse at Union. Thirty-four members and one visitor were in attendance. Roland Schaad introduced his brother, Stanley Schaad, as one of the visitors.

Ralph Gerards reported the passing of a long time member of the club, Mrs. Howard Wallis, who had been ill in a Baker hospital a few days. She died Nov. 14. Pall bearers were appointed by Ralph Gerards and were: Alvin Burford, Ray Barnhart, Ralph Gerards, Charles Taylor, Roscoe Furman and Willard Hill. All were Blue Mountain Gem Club members.

Ralph Gerards conducted a brief order of business with a report that the Union members had brought specimens to him and they would be arranged in the Club show case at the Public Library by Norma Mayger, who is chairman on the committee. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taylor's specimens will be displayed until Dec. 14 when another display will take its place. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor will be leaving soon to winter in California.

Weather conditions kept Blue Mountain Gem Club members from going on the PowWow to Brown's Ranch — near Beverly, Wash., on the Columbia river. The location is open only by previous arrangements with the owner. Picture wood of good quality is found there.

An invitation was read and accepted from "The Stonecrafters" of Enterprise to a Christmas party, the first Monday in December (Dec. 1) at 7 p.m., held in the Medical Dental Building at Enterprise. Dinner will be furnished (bring your own table service) by the Enterprise Club. About 15 members present planned on accepting the invitation and decided to take along thunder eggs and petrified wood as gifts.

President Gerards appointed Herbert Speckhart, Ray Barnhart and Gladys Maxwell as the nominating committee to select new officers for the coming year.

The Christmas party this year will be on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Woman's Clubhouse at Union, with turkey and ham on the menu. Committee appointments will be completed at the second meeting, Nov. 29, which will be on a Saturday evening, at 7 p.m. A chili feed is planned with Gladys Maxwell, Norma Mayger and R. Dean Young to make the chili. Carrie Taylor and Lois Stowe will bake fresh rolls and members are to furnish their own table service.

Ralph Gerards reported he had attended the Centennial programmes meeting when they met at La Grande. Dr. and Mrs. Koester will attend the next meeting along with Gene Detrick and himself.

## Union Pacific Old Timers Attend Thanksgiving Dinner

The Union Pacific Old Timers and Auxiliary met in McAllister hall on Friday, Nov. 14, for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Approximately 175 members were seated at five rows of tables, attractively decorated with fall decorations of pumpkins, fall flowers and red tapered candles. Mrs. W. C. Daniels gave the invocation.

Mr. and Mrs. L. G. McMahon and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Knight of the Junior Old Timers were guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Colon Eberhard and George Walker were honored with their fifty years anniversary. Mrs. Walker was unable to be present. Both ladies were presented with corsages.

Other guests were L. R. Schou, examiner for the rules car; Larry Hanson, Safety and Courtesy; Mr. and Mrs. G. Baker (He is the Superintendent of the Northwest division); Mr. and Mrs. Earl Chantry (Mr. Chantry is Assistant Superintendent); and Mr. Tinsley, father of Mrs. Chantry, who is a retired engineer.

Mr. McAllister and Mrs. Ward VanDolah sent their regrets by not being able to attend.

## Mrs. Millering Hosts Sorority Model Meeting

The Model Meeting for Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha was held at the home of Mrs. Grant Millering on Nov. 10. Guests were introduced and welcomed by the President, Mrs. Vern Pridgen. They were, Mrs. George Birnie, social sponsor, Mrs. William Bohnenkamp, a former member, Mrs. Rollie King, Mrs. Leonard Knight and Mrs. William Lewis.

The scope of ESA was given by Mrs. John Groupe. Each officer and committee chairman told of her duties and responsibilities preceding her report.

Plans are underway to sell packaged Christmas holly during the first part of December. Money from this project will be used for financial support of the Crippled Children's Home in Eugene, which is the state-wide philanthropic project of Epsilon Sigma Alpha.

Mrs. Donald Otten presented the program on "What's New in Christmas Crafts and Decorations." Many clever ideas with miniature trees, evergreens, pine cones and other Christmas decorations for centerpieces, mantle pieces and table arrangements were demonstrated, as were new and unique gift ideas for Christmas.

The committee in charge of the program was Mrs. Robert McMullan, Mrs. David Wyde and Mrs. Robert Falow.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. W. E. Fulton and Mrs. Millering.

## Happy Circle Holds Banquet

The Happy Circle Club held their annual banquet, Nov. 13, in the Maverick Clubhouse. Table decorations were done by Mrs. Mabel McCoy, and following the Thanks giving theme and autumn colors.

There were 17 members and two guests, Miss Blanche Herzinger of La Grande and Mrs. Patrick of Summerville.

During the business meeting following the meal, plans were made for the Christmas party to be held at the home of Mrs. Grover Grimmett, Dec. 11. There will be a gift exchange. Items for the Christmas baskets for the needy families are to be brought at that time.

Committee for the banquet included, Mrs. Stella Grimmett, Mrs. Grover Grimmett and Mrs. John Beddingfield.

## Elgin Club Holds Fall Flower Show

ELGIN (Special) — The Elgin Garden Club held a Fall Flower Show Tuesday in the Methodist Fellowship Center. Due to the snow storm not many persons attended the showing. It was then decided to continue on Wednesday. There were displays of winter arrangements, drift wood and other outstanding settings.

## Play Presented By Drama Club

ELGIN (Special) — The High school Drama Club presented the play, "Time Out for Ginger," Tuesday, Nov. 18. It was held in the school gym under the direction of Mrs. Eunice Burns, and assistant director, Mrs. Lee Ellen Coe.

Bernis Conaster took the part of Howard Carroll; Marilyn Sherwood, his wife; Eva Blinkenstaff, their daughter Joan; Marilyn Scott, another daughter, Jeannie; and a third daughter Ginger, who was played by Janet Osburn.

Others taking part were Cella Colcazure, as Liz; Ellis Cheney, as Eddie Davis; David Ober, as Tommy Green; Tom Hunt, Mr. Wilson; and Jim Griffin, as Ed Hoffman.

The play was very well cast and each did a good job of acting their parts. A good attendance was present, considering the weather.

### PUBLIC PULSE

The matter of Union County Reorganization is of vital concern to all people of Union County.

You will have the opportunity to vote for the reorganization plan which you feel best serves the interests of our young people, and our communities.

This matter is vital to you from a tax standpoint.

You have an obligation to yourself to learn all you can about the proposed plans for school reorganization.

I urge you to take advantage of the earliest opportunity to attend a public meeting or public hearing on Union County School Reorganization.

Sincerely,  
 Averitt Hickox,  
 President,  
 Chamber of Commerce

### DIVORCE GRANTED

NEWCASTLE, England (UPI) — Thomas Jeans, 43, was granted a divorce on grounds of cruelty when he testified his wife Mary 46, wrecked his hearing aid so he couldn't eavesdrop when she was talking with friends in the next room.

### Luther League Plans 'Progressive Dinner'

Members of the Luther League in La Grande will stage a "progressive dinner" Sunday night, starting out at 4 p.m. from the church.

League members will go to about five houses, eating a course at each home before completing the dinner. The main meal will be served at the church about half way through the program.

### Luther League Plans 'Progressive Dinner'

Members of the Luther League in La Grande will stage a "progressive dinner" Sunday night, starting out at 4 p.m. from the church.

League members will go to about five houses, eating a course at each home before completing the dinner. The main meal will be served at the church about half way through the program.

At the Dec. 14 meeting of the League, members will practice the annual Christmas service which will be given in the church Dec. 24.