

BUILDING OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT GROWING IN SALEM

YMCA EQUIPMENT CONTRACTS GIVEN

Committees Spend Much Time and Make Final Decision Last Week

The Medart sporting goods company of St. Louis, Missouri, has been awarded the contract to furnish the new YMCA building with all the equipment to be used by the physical department. The equipment includes lockers, mats, and all of the gymnasium equipment. There was keen competition for the contract, the Spaulding sporting goods company, and the Narragansett sporting goods company competing with the Medart company for the contract.

In addition the Durabilt Lock company and the Lyons Lock company bid for the contract

for the lockers. But it is understood that the bid for the entire equipment submitted by the Medart company was several hundred dollars lower than any of the other companies.

The entire equipment, as purchased from the Medart company, represented by J. J. Sullivan of Portland, costs \$3700. This price includes the installation of the equipment, and the cost of the freight.

The committee appointed for the purchase of the equipment consisted of Col. Carle Abrams, chairman, John Farrar, J. D. Jarman, members of the general purchasing committee; George Hug, chairman of the physical department committee, Paul Wallace, chairman of the building committee and W. I. Staly, president of the Salem YMCA. The equipment is to be shipped from St. Louis immediately.

Read the Building Pages in the Sunday Statesman. A wealth of information is contained for the home owner and the prospective home builder.

ZONING COMMITTEE TO BE NAMED SOON

Mayor John B. Giesy Urges Realtors to Help Make Salem "City Beautiful"

"Salem is known as the city beautiful. Nature has done her part, and we should do ours in trying to make it as beautiful as possible," Mayor John B. Giesy declared in his address before the Marion Polk County Realtors association at their weekly luncheon Thursday. For this reason, the mayor is in favor of a zoning system, and called upon the realtors to do all they can in bringing about the realization of the plan.

The council has passed an ordinance calling for a special committee to be appointed by the mayor for the purpose of planning

the zoning system. Mayor Giesy informed the realtors that the committee would consist of seven members, besides the mayor, the city engineer, and the city attorney, all three of whom will serve in ex-officio capacity.

"There should be a way for a man to know whether or not he can build as he contemplates before he buys the property," Mayor Giesy asserted, citing the case of a man who recently bought a lot on North Capitol, planned to erect a service station, and at the last minute was refused permission because of the protests of the residents adjoining the property. He expressed it as his belief that there should be some way of determining whether a man should be allowed to build, without leaving it up to the city council.

Declaring that a city practical as well as beautiful must be kept in mind, Mayor Giesy showed that the traffic problem might enter into the zoning system, but said he believed this would not be much trouble because Salem fortunately has such wide streets.

Mayor Giesy expressed himself as being highly in favor of a zoning system, and declared the committee would be appointed this week, so that they could begin investigations immediately to find the best plan for zoning. He said the zoning system is advisable, because now there is no sure way to stop the erection of buildings out of harmony with their neighborhood. He said he hopes that with the working out of the zoning system, that the sight of ill-kept parking strips and lawns, and vacant lots will be remedied.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK EMPHASIZED

Nation Making Observance October 4 to 10; Materials Discussed

What is the lesson of National fire prevention week to the prospective home builder and to those more closely connected with the building trades? It is stated in the resolution passed at the National conference on home-building which recently met in Chicago:

"Whereas, the annual fire loss in the United States has reached the rate of \$16 per second, or \$60,000 per hour, day and night, more than doubling in the past decade, bringing American losses to the total of \$4 per capita while those of England are 90 cents, France 49 cents and Holland 11 cents; and

"Whereas, this tremendous loss in the United States has been estimated to equal the cost of a row of dwelling-houses 2,000 miles long; and

"Whereas, the loss in human life by fire exceeds 15,000 per annum, be it hereby

"Resolved, that this conference accord preference to fire-resistant methods and materials in the construction of American homes and dwellings."

Statistics indicate that this preference, if generally adopted by the builders, will materially affect our national annual fire loss of \$535,372,782. The actuarial bureau of the national board of fire underwriters reports that the number of claims made on fire insurance companies as a result of fires in dwellings classifies as follows: frame houses, 162,427; brick dwellings, 37,531; fireproof homes, 282.

This means that the number of fires in frame houses is five times the number of those in brick dwellings, and 666 times the number of those in fireproof homes. The number of fires in brick houses is 133 times the number of those in fireproof houses.

Yet we, as a people, go on building homes that represent the maximum fire hazard. The division of building and housing of the United States department of commerce tells us that there are 20,697,204 dwelling-houses in the United States and that 83.34 per cent of them, 17,247,670, are of ordinary wood frame construction. Supporting this general conclusion the United States Geological survey, in a publication on "Building Operations in the Larger Cities in 1919," made this observation:

"In the larger cities, where it would be expected that wooden construction would be limited, both by expediency and by law, nearly three-fourths of the number of all new buildings erected in 1919 were of wood, and only 24 per cent were of brick or hollow tile; 0.3 per cent were of stone, 2 per cent of concrete, and 0.4 per cent of steel skeleton construction."

OREGON BUILDING SHOWING DECLINE

Operations During September Drop Slightly Under Those for August

Building permits calling for a total of \$42,052,161 in construction costs were issued during September in 82 principal cities of the

OREGON	Sept. 1925	Sept. 1924	Aug. 1925
Astoria	\$ 41,000	\$ 147,860	\$ 92,225
Enterprise	256,500	99,000	288,750
Klamath Falls	155,892	230,050	255,295
La Grande	20,765	27,390	48,214
Medford	229,090	52,250	48,214
Portland	3,589,685	2,548,575	3,544,130
Salem	113,050	107,230	151,600
Total	\$ 4,385,982	\$ 3,218,715	\$ 4,380,769
Grand total 82 cities	\$42,052,161	\$41,270,967	\$42,684,965

seven Pacific coast states, comprised in the monthly building survey of S. W. Straus & Co. The shows a reduction of 3 per cent from the August figure noticeable in all states except Washington and Utah. All states, excepting California, Arizona and Idaho, however, show substantial increases over September of last year.

In Oregon, seven cities, as a whole, show a slight reduction from the August total, but increases of 35 per cent over last September's total, 60 per cent over that of September, 1923, and 140 per cent over the comparable figure of 1922.

These, again, are only examples of what the builder with a limited budget can do to "build fire-safe." For this principle is not too expensive to be applied by the builder of the moderate-priced home. The plan to be followed is not to use one material for a structural purpose, an "extra" for insulation, another "extra" for fire-proofing, and so on, but to choose one material which combines in itself the three functions—structure, insulation and fire-protection. Materials chosen from this point of view are cheap insurance!

Most builders plan their homes on the basis of such questions as these: "Will it be desirable located?" "Will it be big enough and comfortably arranged?" "Will it be pretty?" "Will it contain all the comforts and conveniences my wife talks about?"

Too frequently the builder ignores the questions, "Will it be permanent?" "What chances will it have of burning up?" "Will it be expensive to heat?" "Will it be so built that the repair bills will be low?" There is a type of builder who would sacrifice insulation for a built-in ironing board, who would give up a fire-resistant first floor which would act as a fire-barrier between the furnace room and the body of the house for an unnecessarily showy bathroom. It is to this type of builder that National fire prevention week and the slogan, "Build Fire-Safe," comes as a direct challenge.

THEATRE REDECORATED

RENOVATION OF OREGON NOW WELL UNDER WAY

The renovation of the interior of the Oregon theater is coming along in a satisfactory manner, but it will be another week before the work is completed entirely, according to word received Saturday from Mr. Guthrie, owner of the theater. The ceiling has been retinted during the past week, and part of the walls have been gone over. Mr. Guthrie plans to have the entire interior done over. The theater has been kept with such excellent care that this is the first time in seven years that it has been necessary to retint the theater.

Are you planning to build, repair or remodel? Our building materials and Spaulding lumber insure you the best obtainable. We have ample variety and quantity of construction material for building almost anything complete from cellar to roof. Our location favors you for prices and delivery. Come in and let us talk over your building problems.

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BUILDING SHOWS FLURRY

PERMITS DURING WEEK INDICATE CONSTRUCTION

Building has taken on a slight flurry during the last week, judging from the number of building permits issued at the office of the city recorder. In spite of the fact that winter is rapidly approaching, and the poorest season for building is almost at hand, the amount represented during this week in building permits is about double the amount represented last week. Permits taken out during the past week represent an outlay of \$26,800. City Recorder Poulsen expressed the hope that in spite of the lateness of the season, the building permits will go well over the \$1,000,000 mark.

HAM BONE CLUB

CLUB AFTER QUARTERS

LONDON Oct. 10—Members of the Ham Bone Club, a London resort of artists and writers, are in search of a home where they can in peace and quiet pursue their avocations. They plan to have their own village in the south of France.

Cozy Home of Seven Rooms at Small Cost

Plan No. 585

HERE is a cozy home of seven rooms designed to give the maximum of comfort at moderate cost to the family of average means. The outside of the house is attractive and it will fit nicely on a 50x100 site.

There are two good-sized bedrooms on the ground floor and space for two additional chambers in the upper story. Ample closet space is provided and windows insure plenty of light and ventilation.

The central hallway connects with all parts of the house and gives entrances to a large linen closet and coat closet. The living and dining rooms are bright and cheery.

Kitchen space is well adapted to needs of the housekeeper and the adjoining breakfast nook offers room for four or five people.

Two sets of blue prints and specifications for the above house or other houses will be supplied at nominal cost upon application to

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