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IMPROVEMENTS AT FAIRGROUND ARE EXTENSIVE

Beautification Along With Important Changes in Arrangement Noted

Nearly Every Building Has New Paint; 80 Men Get Jobs on Project

Improvements rivaling any of the past in scope are rapidly nearing completion at the Oregon state fairgrounds here. Under the civil works program virtually all of the buildings and grounds have undergone altering or refinishing operations and notable additions have been made.

New concession policies, all-weather access to the chief exhibit buildings, betterment of racing facilities and beautification of the grounds are the outstanding changes wrought through expenditure of \$30,000 CWA money and \$9000 state fair administration funds, according to Max Gehlar, state director of agriculture. An average of 80 men have been working on the grounds daily since mid-November.

Nearly every building on the grounds has been repainted inside and out. The 13 stock barns now shine for the first time in years with fresh coats of red paint outside and the traditional white-washed inner walls have given way to a sheath of aluminum paint; all have been repaired, one entirely rebuilt and all dirt floors leveled off. The hay barn, which has stood bare for 25 years, has just received its first painting. Future Farmer chapters will use the old poultry building. New Stucco Front On Auto Pavilion

Across the central lawn, to the south, construction of 450 feet of new stucco fronts has provided a continuous covered promenade from the old automobile pavilion, hereafter to be the poultry pavilion, to the grandstand. The promenade from the 4-H club building to the grandstand will serve as a uniform front for amusement and dining concessions.

No concessions of any sort will be permitted on the front half of the grounds. Mr. Gehlar stated. Instead the amusement devices will be concentrated near the grandstand and the horse show pavilion.

Four acres of new lawn has been put in and half a mile of new flower beds. In the summer 20,000 plants will be set in, including cannas, zinnias, marigolds, verbena, castor bean, petunias and geraniums.

The new poultry building, repainted, has been equipped with an acre of exhibit cages of uniform height and special arrangements have been worked out to keep the place airy and free from objectionable odors. The state fish and game commission is planning on exhibiting 25 varieties of game fish and a number of pens of wild birds in the front section of the pavilion.

Every county will have display space. A dine and dance combination is to occupy the new building connecting the poultry and agricultural building. The connecting structure between the 4-H club and agricultural buildings will be given over to special federal exhibits.

Every county in the state will have main floor space for exhibits in the agricultural building, Director Gehlar declared. To improve dairy exhibits, a 40-foot glass-front refrigerator is now under construction here.

All booths on the balcony of the main exhibit building have been torn out to be replaced by ones of uniform height. Demanding this uniformity, Gehlar (Turn to page 4, col. 6)

JUDGE BELT HEADS WALTON LEAGUERS

Formation of a sportsman's club with the intention of obtaining a local chapter of the Isaak Walton League was decided upon at a meeting of 25 local sportsmen at the chamber of commerce last night. Judge H. H. Belt of the state supreme court was elected president, William S. Walton vice-president, Thomas A. Roberts, secretary, and Henry R. Crawford, treasurer.

Named as a steering committee to draw up a game conservation program were Mr. Walton as chairman, M. Clifford Moyalhan and Curtis B. Cross. The membership committee consists of Ben Claggett as chairman, J. A. Hermann and Frank H. Spears.

As soon as 50 applications for membership have been received by the committee, the secretary is directed to close the charter and apply for a charter in the league. There has been no chapter here for two or three years.

The next meeting will be held February 14.

What if Groundhog Does See His Shadow? He Doesn't Seem Afraid



Citizens of Salem and the Willamette valley may be dubious about it, for a year ago today the sun shone, and sure enough, there were six weeks of the foulest weather. But here we have evidence that Mr. Groundhog isn't a bit afraid of his shadow. He's standing right in front of it eating candy provided by a visitor to Yellowstone Park who thus lured him forth into the sunlight.—International Illustrated News photo.

Groundhog Expected to Glimpse Shadow Today

But What of It — Belief in Tradition Dying Out Even if it Proved True in 1933; Candlemas to Be Observed

By JESSIE STEELE
IF today follows the sunny example of yesterday, Mr. Groundhog will surely scamper back into his hole and winter's rain followed by poor crops will ensue. This is according to tradition, and though few people believe in it today—still, there is last year's experience to back tradition. In the first place, there are no real groundhogs in this

Bullet Shatters Windshield Says Corvallis Demo

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—How a bullet shattered the windshield of his car while he was driving home in Corvallis last night was related here today by U. S. Burt of Corvallis, vice-chairman of the Benton county democratic central committee. Burt said he was unwilling to believe that the shot was deliberately fired at him, although a thorough investigation had been instituted. He said if the bullet had not ricocheted it would have struck him in the face.

GOTHAM HAS SNOW
NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—(AP)—A fall of more than four inches, made Manhattan's streets slippery tonight and put a force of 2600 men to shoveling, scraping and hauling. The weather bureau expected the snow to continue throughout the night.

Oregon Briefs

150 READY, REPORT
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Approximately 150 loans on homes will be made in Oregon this week, J. P. Lipscomb, state manager of the Home Owners' Loan corporation predicted today. Since the federal government commenced guaranteeing interest on the corporation's bonds their value has increased from \$22 to \$36, he said. Home mortgage holders are becoming more willing to exchange their mortgages for bonds as the result. Lipscomb said loans as high as 80 per cent can be secured on corporation bonds, whereas owners can get not more than 50 per cent on good mortgages. About 6500 loan applications aggregating \$14,000,000 are on file in the state.

MARKET IS DOUBTED
ALBANY, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Farmers should not rush into flax farming until more definite assurance of a market is given, Professor G. R. Hyslop of Oregon State college told chamber of commerce members here. However he said there was much land in Linn county adaptable to growing of flax.

BANK SAYS IT'S LOOT
KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Disposal of \$810 found by

HUEY POKES AT REPORTER BUT DODGES MAYOR

Louisiana Senator Angered at Question; Scribe is Not Badly Injured

Walmsley Looking for His Ex-Pal; Says He Plans to "Beat Him Up"

By LENWOOD H. BOWMAN
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Neither Huey P. Long nor Mayor T. Semmes Walmsley of New Orleans, who aspires to "beat him up," got hit today but a reporter did.

Ray Moulden, a reporter for a Washington newspaper, sought to ask the Louisiana senator a question after Long had climbed into his automobile at the end of a side door exit from his hotel, and was poked on the arm with a cane. Moulden slipped in the snow but said he was not painfully hurt.

Walmsley, recently reelected mayor in the fact of Long's opposition, said yesterday he intended to make Long "swallow" certain statements made in the campaign. He registered at the Hotel Mayflower where Long lives.

More difficulties arose in the senate for Long. An elections committee decided it did not have authority to oust Long or his colleague, Senator Overton, on the basis of petitions now before it. The committee was not thoroughly satisfied, however, and agreed to hold open hearings and have the petitioners submit evidence.

Senator George (D. Ga.) the committee chairman, said hearings probably would be started here in about two weeks. Petitions signed by hundreds of Louisianians have been filed with the committee charging Overton, supported by Long, was elected fraudulently.

George said both Long and Overton as well as petitioners and their representatives would be heard.

Lon left his hotel earlier than usual this morning by a side entrance, avoiding the main lobby. Walmsley had said he deliberately stopped at the same hotel and that if he ran into Long in the lobby he would "beat him up."

Other than to say, "Well, I hope I don't run into him," Long had no comment to make today on the threat of Walmsley, a 200-pound former college football player.

TREASURER OF KING COUNTY IS FUGITIVE

SEATTLE, Feb. 1.—(AP)—George G. Wittenmyer, 63, King county treasurer, was a fugitive tonight, wanted on a charge of misappropriating \$31,816. He had been connected with the treasurer's office for 32 years, over half his lifetime.

Authorities here telegraphed a "pick-up" order to all coastal cities. His wife, with whom he had stayed north from San Francisco Tuesday night, was bewildered. She said he had seemed disturbed and preoccupied and after leaving her to go to the smoking car of the train they were on, failed to return, leaving his suitcases behind. She did not notify train officials.

The state's complaint alleges Wittenmyer took the money in small sums, beginning June 22, 1931 and continuing until last October 9.

Three bonding companies are sureties on the missing treasurer's \$200,000 bond. Chief Deputy W. W. Shiel Percy Shields, in charge of the "mail account," advanced tax payments mailed in during the war, gave the treasurer a check for \$31,816, the full amount in the fund. Percy Shields said Wittenmyer declared he wanted the money with which to retire some county warrants.

Examiners for the state auditor said they traced the money to the First National bank but have not found its present whereabouts.

Warren Jones is Being Discussed For City Office

A Warren Jones, deputy county assessor since 1921, is being talked up as a candidate for the office of city recorder here, Jones late Thursday said he had not decided whether or not to make the race. He indicated that he thought the recorder's work in the city would give a valuable opportunity to be of value to taxpayers in the administration of city affairs.

Jones has been active in affairs of the Elks lodge both here and throughout the state, serving for years as secretary of the state organization and being elected last year as exalted ruler of the local group.

The Washington Spotlight

(By Associated Press)
The senate invited President Roosevelt to present his ideas for a nationwide network of power, flood control, irrigation and navigation projects.

Secretary Ickes disclosed an "understanding" with Comptroller General McCarl had cleared the way for federal housing and slum clearance.

Sponsors of the devalued dollar closely watched foreign market reactions that fell somewhat short of expectations.

Senate banking committee members found loans to 43 judges recorded on the books of the First National bank of Detroit.

Huey P. Long poked a reporter with his cane but did not encourage Mayor Walmsley of New Orleans, who wants to "beat him up."

Postmaster General Farley urged democrats to back state legislation sought by Fiorello LaGuardia, New York's "fusion" mayor.

Postmaster general debated cancellation of mail contracts while senate investigators heard that the Columbian steamship line had received a mail contract uncontracted despite United Fruit company's low bid.

House committee members decided Secretary Morgenthau should have ten expert assistants and new income taxes should apply on 1934 incomes.

Senate administration forces lost a round in their effort to block new veterans' legislation.

President Roosevelt considered creation of a foreign trade financial agency.

BANK AT SILVERTON BEING REORGANIZED

Coolidge & McClaine Group Issue Statement but Details Few

SILVERTON, Feb. 1.—(Special)—First announcement that reorganization of the Coolidge & McClaine bank here was started last Thursday, January 25, was made in a statement released to the press late today by the reorganization committee. The bank has been on a restricted basis since the mortgagors of last March.

The statement given out yesterday was not augmented by additional information. The complete statement follows: "Plans for reorganization of the Coolidge & McClaine bank got under way Thursday evening, January 25, when a small group of business men met with officials for the purpose of discussing the situation and appointing a committee to handle the sale of a limited amount of stock in the proposed reorganization.

"At the present time a stock sale is being carried on and at a later date full details of the plans will be announced. The committee handling the sale of stock is: George W. Hubbs, chairman, George W. Steelhammer, Norris Ames, L. C. Eastman and Roy Morley.

"The committee reports that the plan is receiving favorable support."

Mahoney Boomed; Martin Will Not Run, Indicated

John Morrow, editor of the Northwest Democrat, indicated in Klamath Falls yesterday that General Charles H. Martin of Portland will not be a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor this spring. Morrow made his statement on a telegram he had received directly from Martin.

Morrow said he was solidly behind Mayor W. E. Mahoney in the latter's possible race for the nomination. He said Mahoney stood well with democratic leaders as indicated in a recent poll in Portland.

Cann Resigns as New York Coach

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Howard Cann resigned as head football coach of New York university tonight.

Cann, who succeeded John F. (Chick) Mehan in January, 1932, announced his voluntary resignation in a letter to the board of athletic control, dated January 30.

RUSSELL SENTENCED
DALLAS, Feb. 1.—(Special)—Miles Russell was sentenced to serve 30 days in the county jail and pay a fine of \$150 and costs by Judge Artie G. Walker here today. Russell was convicted on a charge of drunken driving here last week in the second trial in circuit court. Russell filed notice of an appeal on the decision today.

STABILIZATION FUNDS WILL GO TO WORK SOON

Stocks, Commodities Rise but Gold and Exchange Status is Doubtful

Flood Control Program is Outlined; Roosevelt Hobby Aired

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Uncle Sam planted himself in the front seat of a 1934 model gold bullion standard today and looked around to see what the rest of the world thought about it.

The immediate effect was about what administration officials had expected. Stocks rose. Commodities were more cheerful. The dollar lost some of its stiffness abroad.

From the status of foreign gold and exchange markets, however, opinion among financial students was strong that the stabilization fund must go to work soon or there would be large and early imports of gold into America. The metal was cheaper abroad than the \$35 an ounce figure set by President Roosevelt yesterday when he devalued the dollar at 59.06 per cent of its previous gold content.

Secretary Morgenthau described the action as putting the country on a gold bullion standard, under which gold as money may not be circulated domestically, but gold bullion may be used in paying international debts.

The day's developments in a monetary way saw a clarification of the gold buying order; yesterday; approval by a house committee of the employment by Morgenthau of experts who might be used in the operation of the stabilization fund; and Professor Irving Fisher telling another house committee a federal monetary authority was needed.

On Capitol Hill, another plan that finds a definite place in the Roosevelt program was taking shape. The senate asked the president to submit a general plan for utilizing the nation's river flowage.

The plan asked for would consider power development, flood control, navigation and irrigation. The government in a non-coordinated way has many hundreds of millions invested in separate developments involving all four phases.

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ILL-FATED BALLOON CREW PAID HONORS

MOSCOW, Feb. 2.—(Friday)—Fully authenticated records said to show that the three young Russian balloonists killed after an ascent to the stratosphere had reached a height of 72,178 feet instead of 67,565 feet as previously reported were made public early today.

MOSCOW, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The bodies of three young Russian balloonists, martyrs to a mid-winter exploration of the stratosphere, were brought in scarlet coffins to Moscow tonight to await an honorable burial tomorrow.

A military band played a funeral dirge. Relatives and close friends of the three men, whose bodies were found in the wreckage of their gondola yesterday, were allowed a few minutes alone with the bodies before they were taken to the house of the central executive committee on Red square.

Improper Signs Said Carried by Anti-Nazi Group

PORTLAND, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Fines of \$5 each were today assessed five men charged with carrying improper signs at a mass demonstration of protest over showing of a film depicting the Nazi triumph over communism in Germany.

"Down with Hitler" and similar statements appeared on the signs. Approximately 500 persons picketed the theatre and heckled those who attended.

Community Service "Saws Wood" to Make Expenses

The heavy wood deal handled during the winter by Community Service has made it possible for this charitable organization to function without asking for additional funds, and has made possible a February 1 balance of \$1582.03, the annual report shows.

The annual report was submitted yesterday at a meeting of the directors, and shows receipts of \$7445.83 and disbursement for relief, stampage on wood, hauling and storing wood of \$5863.80.

The receipts include: Balance, Feb. 1, 1932, \$2,523.26
Donations and refunds, 2,726.47
Sale of wood, 2,191.00
Total, \$7,445.83
Sales of wood are reported as follows: 461 1/2 cords at \$2.60 a cord, for total \$1200; 193 1/2 cords at \$2.80 a cord, 43 cords at \$3.50; 150 cords at \$4.00; 43 cords at \$4.32; eight cords at \$4.50, \$36.

Withdrawal of Large Area From Cultivation Administration Plan

World News at a Glance

(By the Associated Press)
Domestic:
NEW YORK—Scramble for securities follows dollar devaluation; bonds highest since 1931 in heavy trading.

CHICAGO—Vernie Sankey taken to Sioux Falls, S. D., as Boettcher kidnaper. Jury deliberates Touhy's fate in Factor kidnapping.

AUSTIN, Tex.—Doctor and wife of university professor found dead in a hotel room; narcotic suicide pact seen.

Foreign:
TOKYO—Gen. Hayashi, new war minister, says Japan is "out for peace"; scouts talk of possible war with U. S.

BERLIN—German foreign minister denies Nazi interference in Austria in note to Vienna.

ATHENS—Insult expulsion ruling awaits new medical examination.

HICKAM IS HERE TO VIEW STORE SITES

Announcements Relative to Liquor Establishment Here are Delayed

Several additional sites proposed for the state liquor commission store in Salem will be inspected today by Laurence Hickam, regional supervisor. Mr. Hickam arrived in Salem late yesterday prepared to spend today on business connected with the establishment of the store here and also on details connected with the central office which is being established at the capitol.

Mr. Hickam said last night that an announcement of the store's location and also of the personnel for the local establishment would not be made until a final conference had been held with Administrator George Sammis and the commission. Hickam said that meeting would take place this weekend.

"We will have the Portland stores going shortly, and certainly not later than February 10," Mr. Hickam said last night. "The valley stores will be opened shortly thereafter. We intend that the personnel of the upstate stores go to Portland for a day or two of training, this to be immediately followed by the opening of the upstate stores."

The supervisor, who has been traveling extensively throughout his territory, said he had been impressed by the uniformly courteous and helpful cooperation he had received from Oregon citizens.

Sankey is Taken to South Dakota

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Attempts to link him with the fatal abduction of the Lindbergh baby unsuccessful, Vernie Sankey, notorious northwest outlaw, was started to Sioux Falls, S. D., tonight to stand trial for the kidnaping of Charles Boettcher, 2nd, Denver capitalist.

Guarded by five agents of the department of justice headed by Melvin Purvis, chief of the department's bureau of investigation here, Sankey was loaded aboard a Milwaukee road train and started for Sioux Falls at 6:00 p. m. central standard time.

The move came swiftly at the end of 30 hours of grilling by federal men concerning the kidnaping of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., during which Purvis announced nothing could be made public and that his reports were going to Washington.

Although apparently understanding the government's questions in the Lindbergh matter, Sankey confessed, Purvis announced, that he and his gang kidnaped Boettcher last February for \$60,000 ransom and posing Jackell Bohm of St. Paul later for \$12,000 ransom.

Special Officer Draws His Gun; Misunderstood

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 1.—(AP)—Special Police Officer T. E. Smith might advise his friends never to draw a gun unless they meant business.

Tonight he was a nickel short of the price for his supper, so he pulled his revolver from his pocket to offer it as security for the required funds.

Christ Malstein, one of the store owners, grabbed Smith by the wrist, took the gun away from him and then called police. Two prowl cars came to the rescue, but not of the store owner.