

Right of City to Permit Building in Willson Park Disputed

No Deed Found For This Land

Heirs of Donor Believed To Have Some Rights; P. O. Deal Cited.

Have the heirs of W. H. Willson any claim of reversion in case the city should decide the Willson park property to be sold for use in constructing a state capitol building or group? This is the question that is facing city officials in moving to allow the state to use the property for construction work as a part of the capitol development. Attorneys contacted on the point are not in agreement.

Contrary to the general belief held by officials that the dedication of a deed to the park contained a reversion clause to the heirs of Willson in case the state or city sought to dispose of the property, no such provision can be found.

In fact no deed of the property to the city can be located. City officials know of none, county records do not show that such a deed was ever recorded and attorneys say that to their knowledge there never was one.

Plat Only Record
The only reference made to the park is found on the plat laying out the city of Salem. This plat was filed by William H. Willson. The explanation filed with the plat reads as follows: "Plan of the town of Salem in Marion county territory of Oregon as laid off by William H. Willson. The town of Salem is situated on a claim held by the said William H. Willson in the above mentioned county of Marion being on the east side of the Willamette river."

An explanation of the blocks and streets then follows with the only reference made to Willson park being: "On the east of the public square (court house block) an avenue as represented on the plat filed. Said avenue is 5 chains wide and 20 1/2 chains."

With this the only record by which to guide themselves, a disagreement has arisen among interested officials over the possibility of deeding the property to the state.

One school of thought is, that the land would revert to the heirs if any use was made of the avenue except that which was indicated on the plat. The other holds that the city would have the same right to vacate an avenue under dedication made, as it would have a right to vacate a city street for the capitol use.

Offered to State
The city council has already by resolution offered the park subject to the rights of the Willson heirs to the state for capitol construction. A move is now on among some councilmen and the mayor to give a deed to the park. There has been a feeling in the backs of the minds of some of the aldermen that even though the city did deed the property, the heirs would not consent to any buildings being put upon the park property, thus giving the city the opportunity of making a gesture toward being by giving more land for the capitol and at the same time not being in danger of losing the park.

If the Willson heirs have no interest in the property then the council is taking the sole responsibility in disposing of the park. In view of the fact that many Salem citizens feel that nothing should be done to destroy the beauty of the park by placing buildings upon it, there is serious doubt that under these circumstances the deed to the state would be granted.

Represent W. U.?
One claim that has been made by persons claiming to have knowledge of early Oregon history is that Willson held the patent to the property and was acting as trustee for Willamette university which could not hold title to the property. Their position is that Willson had no interest in the property personally, and that any rights remaining in the property would be in the university. Records which would show this fact are said to have been destroyed by fire, so they can not be substantiated.

Opposing this theory is the claim of other informed people that the records show no such trusteeship by Willson and they state that he owned the property solely on his own behalf.

One fact that lends weight to the theory that the Willson heirs have a reversion right, is the payment to them of \$3750 when they decided away their rights to a portion of the park in 1900 to allow the construction of the postoffice on a part of the park.

Heirs Were Paid
The city sold the property to the federal government for the construction of the postoffice for a price of \$7500. Half of this went to the heirs. Evidently federal attorneys at that time required the release from the heirs. While the fact that the release was obtained is shown upon both the county records and in the minutes of the city council, the negotiations leading up to it were handled by a committee from the council and by W. P. Lord as attorney for the committee, so their records of the transaction are not available.

Whether the heirs have a reversion right in the property or whether the city as an absolute right to dispose of the property probably will be determined only if and when the matter goes before the courts for decision. It has been suggested by some attorneys that while the reversion right may not exist, there might still remain the right to prevent by injunction, the use of the property except for what it was dedicated.

Santa's Aides Busy as Yuletide Near

Firemen, Elks Take Lead But Other Groups Active

Doll Dressmaking Volunteers Wanted

"Ho! Said Santa Claus For every boy and girl To see that none are overlooked My poor heads' quite a whirl."

By WILL CARVER
Here in Salem the good old saint's efforts to bring Christmas to all youngsters are being aided by many groups, especially the Salem fire department and the Elks lodge.

While the B. P. O. E. is preparing its annual treat for the kiddies all members of the Salem fire department are giving all possible spare time to the collection and repair of toys.

And what a task confronts the local firemen!
Toys of every description are being refinished and made good as new in the big fire department basement. Doll beds, wagons, scooters, boats and toys of all description and last but not least, DOLLS.

Want Dolls Dressed
And here is an S. O. S. call. Any Salem woman or organization that will volunteer to make doll dresses should telephone right away to the Y. W. C. A., phone 8878. Just say how many dolls can be presented with new wardrobes and members of the fire department will deliver the dresses and collect them when finished. Don't

Hop Control Plan Facing Opposition

Don't Control Land, Is Proposed

(Continued from Page 1)
This statement is made because of the fact that both Washington and California can obtain a yield on newly planted hops within a year after planting while the Oregon hops do not produce for a two-year period.

Not Meant to Control Plantings
Another objection which opponents are raising against the plan is the fact that no means of controlling new plantings has yet been devised. The contract under the proposed setup provides for a penalty for the sale of roots without permission of the board but no control is exercised over non-members.

Some Oregon growers are reluctant to reduce acreage in order to raise prices and then allow new plantings to be made to take advantage of the situation which the old growers by reduction have made possible.

The plan as adopted calls for the organization of a national hop growers' association and the organization of three state corporations. They will be on the order of a cooperative organization but will not act as selling agents nor will they set minimum prices.

The board of control of the national hop will be elected by the boards of the three state organizations. Under each of the control boards there will be a manager directly charged with the administration of the organization.

A requirement that 85 per cent of the hop tonnage must be signed up to the agreement before it becomes effective, was provided. Provision was made for the assessment of not to exceed 1 1/2 cents per pound to provide for the administration costs of both the state and national associations and to care for the disposal of surplus hops.

Final of Tourney Set Monday Night

(Continued from Page 1)
Statesman-Elks' tournament, as the final day starts at:

North-south:
Homer Smith-Geo. Henderson; Walter Cline-Harry Wiedmer; Mr. and Mrs. Don Madison; Mr. and Mrs. Max Gunter; Mrs. Fred Stump-Mrs. W. D. Evans; Geo. Waale-W. H. Quinn; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hout; L. S. Rankin-Max Jones; Mrs. Walter Bowersox-Mrs. George Henderson.

East-west:
Mrs. Erce Kay-Mrs. Geo. Flagg; Dr. J. E. Aldrich-Dr. W. D. Blatchford; Earl Fisher-Carl Armstrong; Mrs. L. S. Rankin-Mrs. Robt. Brennan; Walter Barch-Mrs. Dan McLellan; Erce Kay-Roy Gard; Mrs. Robt. Kreson-Mrs. Fred Stinnett; Mrs. E. D. Baker-Mrs. Oliver Locke; Mrs. Alton Hurley-Mrs. Lawrence Imah.

Millage Levies Will Be Slightly Higher, County
Millage levies on property throughout Marion county will range slightly higher than in 1935, it is the assessor's office announced yesterday, due to a slight decrease in assessed value and the fact that most budgets of tax levying bodies are as high or higher than in 1935. Complications of all levies cannot be completed until some budgets of school districts are sent in. As soon as the levies in mills are completed extension of the tax rolls will proceed so the tax books can be turned over to the sheriff for collection before March 15, 1936.

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Great Idea!

Political Grid Deserted Now

Martin Still Irked; New Shakeups in State Offices Loom

(Continued from Page 1)
eral Martin slipping a ten-spot down Peter Zimmermann's Christmas stocking.

P. J. Stadelman of The Dalles has been looking over the field preparatory to deciding on whether or not he shall run for treasurer. Stadelman, Meier appointed as secretary of state in the past several brave firemen keeping his eye on the fire going and at the same time wielding a sack needle on a dolly's whatdoyear.

And here is a dark secret, not to be even whispered. Times in the past several brave firemen had been brave enough to tackle the doll dress making problem with best results. But there are too many dolls this year.

Children Generous
And here is a good little story. In a certain Salem family where toys are scarce and times have not been too good, the mother called daddy to overhear the children talking of plans to send toys to the firemen's collection. Just to make a real sacrifice these children had taken their very best toys as their aid to Santa Claus.

This real Christmas spirit should make some of us oldsters a bit ashamed.

Here is for a real good time for Salem's needy children. The firemen can use more toys, old or new. Call 5445 or bring them to the fire department, city hall.

Sam Brown Off of Holman Reservation
Sam Brown of Gervais is not the ardent Holman man he once was—before he and the state treasurer crossed swords in their respective races for the republican nomination for governor in 1934. Sam would like to get back into politics and his name is among those mentioned for the state treasurer.

William McGilchrist, who seriously considered running for secretary of state a year ago, is not going to make a race for anything, he said yesterday, and talk about his candidacy for the treasurer's job is without a foundation in fact.

A boomlet for Walter Fisher of Roseburg to run for the democratic nomination for congress in this district is being wafted into the air from Douglas county. Fisher went down the line for the Douglas majority which wanted the old site and a cheap capitol and in the flush of his victory, went home to find some townsfolk holding his flag for congress. Fisher has certain strength; he is a man of integrity and of intelligence, albeit he is quiet and without great color. He has been well supported by the veterans in his home community.

Approach John Goss or even R. N. Turner as a speaker and he has no wit like W. A. Delsell to keep the political listeners merry. He might win the democratic nomination but he would have a tussle with "Jim" Mott.

Mott Unbeatable For Renomination
The latter has wound up a 10-weeks' junket through his territory and when Mott travels he covers the ground, and speeches roll out at the rate of two to six a day. Mott has nearly straddled the Townsend fence; he says he is for the McGary bill which sets up the revolving pension idea of the Los Angeles doctor but doesn't set \$200 as the specific monthly payment. Thus Mott can tell his Townsend friends he is one of them and yet declare to alarmed chambers of commerce that he has not endorsed the \$200 a month plan. Mott's ready speaking ability, his forcefulness, his ability to walk on political eggs and not crack a shell, will make him extremely formidable for Fisher or anyone else who opposes him. He would outstep, outpromise and outrun W. C. Hawley for the republican nomination, and after his cleanup canvass of his territory the last few weeks, is at the moment unbeatable.

The Oregon Democrat, house organ for that party, fired a double-barreled editorial at Senator Fisher after the special session.

Heavy Buying for Christmas Noted

(Continued from Page 1)
panded generally, harking back to the days of the boom.

In most sections the retail trend was coincident with better industrial operations. Continuing rain yesterday did not dampen the holiday enthusiasm of thousands of buyers who crowded Salem stores throughout the afternoon and early evening making Christmas purchases. An unusually large proportion of the customers were from rural districts, merchants reported, the bad weather being an inducement to come to town to trade. Holiday street decorations, scheduled to go up yesterday were delayed by the inclement weather.

Three Injured in Train-Auto Crash

(Continued from Page 1)
operation, Gueffroy said. The coach, demolished, was thrown over the curb at the northwest corner of the intersection.

John M. Paulson, engineer, told police he could not see the Dirks machine but "dynamited" the train when D. L. Read, Portland, fireman, shouted at him. The sudden application of the airbrakes broke the coupling knuckles between cars in two places, causing a 30-minute delay while repairs were being made. The engine ground to a halt about a block from the point of collision.

Police arrested Ervan Dirks on a charge of driving an automobile without an operator's license.

Great Idea!

I'LL TRY THE CLASSIFIED COLUMNS

closed, writing as bitterly as Verne Williams, editor, is capable. The idea expressed was that Fisher should have supported the democratic governor rather than making medicine with Senators Zimmerman, Carney and Burke. Whether the party deflection would hurt Fisher remains to be seen. If he runs from Roseburg he must support the Townsend plan for Douglas county is probably as strong for the Townsend plan as any area in the state.

Two able women are pondering in Portland on the old, old question of whether or not to run for office. One is Nanny Wood Honeman, who may seek the democratic nomination in the third district; the other is Dorothy McCulloch Lee who may go after the republican nomination in that district. Mrs. Lee's political bent was indicated in the last session when she stood for the old site and \$2,500,000 for the capitol. Ordinarily Mrs. Lee has been for progressive state politics; this time she was apparently feeling the political wind and deserting her political tilldum, Senator Harry Corbett, Plenty of Congress Aspirants in Portland

All manner of other congressional candidates are talked in Portland. There is Congressman Bennett, for whom the Townsendites averred form a strong boom. Homer Angell may seek again the republican honors; incumbent Ekwall will run again, boos or no boos from the ball fans. The perennial candidate, Senator Gleason is likely to announce. It is the third district where the congressional fireworks will be seen.

Senator Wallace of Bend is not going to run for congress, he tells his friends. He is going to go to the state capitol in Salem where he liked his senatorial term and where he wants "to do some things" to quote the senator direct. Ted Gillewater, who ran against Wallace last campaign, will probably not seek re-election. He is one of the most powerful senators eastern Oregon ever sent to Salem.

Walter Pierce, aging and forgetful, maligned by foes within and without his party, is going to run again and no one has yet mentioned who can beat him. Jay Upton of Bend is not expected to run, biding his time until Time does its work and re-moves from his competition the best campaigner in the outstanding political showman, eastern Oregon has produced.

Good judgment on the September primary law, submitted to Oregon voters January 31, is that the measure is sound. Some of the political minded persons among the citizenry are making a play that a poor man couldn't get around his territory in the allotted time. In truth the real campaign between the primary and the general election in November doesn't open until fall and it seems sensible for Oregon to follow the proved experience of other states and reduce the time for electioneering. If the primary law passes, the vote this coming year will be Friday, September 11, instead of Friday, May 18.

That would compel the two parties to choose their own delegates to the national convention and to elect their own national committeemen. Many partisans would like this change, believing the direct primary has so stripped the party organizations of responsibility as to leave them with little excuse for existence.

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Acceptable Gifts
LEATHER GOODS
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Key Cases50c up
Robinson Reminders\$1.00 up
Address Books50c up
Autograph Albums25c up
Zipper Brief Cases\$1.75 up
5 Pc. Desk Sets
2.00 to 8.00
These sets are exceptionally well made—genuine leather corners and in black, brown, green. Sizes for home or office use. Come in and look them over.

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Borah Whacks At New Deal

Talk Over Radio Eyed as Indication He May Be 1936 Candidate

(Continued from Page 1)
"unhappy economic power" which drove citizens out of business made constitutional government and political liberty a "mockery" to them.

Borah said thousands of young men of ability were stopped from their chosen business "by some hoary monopoly," and added combines and agreements "are raking off in the way of arbitrary prices the last penny possible from millions of American people."

"This accounts in a large measure for the fact that after four years of unprecedented unemployment, while some are put to work others exhausted of their means are forced on relief."

By O. A. MARTIN (Associated Press Staff Writer) TOPEKA, Kas., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Mention of Gov. Alf M. Landon as "the next president of the United States" touched off a boisterous demonstration tonight at a rally of young Kansas republicans attended by visitors from 11 other states.

The crowd of more than 1,500 rose, applauding and shouting, as United States Senator Capper of Kansas made the reference.

Landon, in a brief address, made no reference to any presidential aspirations.

He emphasized that the 1936 elections will determine whether Americans wish to "strengthen democratic institutions" or "accept more centralization of power."

"Governor Landon is the best equipped man in the nation to lead the nation back to fundamentals of sound government," Senator Capper said.

Hugh Biggs to Discuss Constitution at Rotary
Hugh L. Biggs, who formerly was an assistant United States attorney in Portland, is to address the Salem Rotary club here next Wednesday noon at the Marion hotel. His topic will be "A New View of the Constitution."

Attendance at Rotary is growing steadily, C. E. Wilson, secretary, reports. Membership of the club has climbed to 85 with 100 now set as the membership goal for the organization.

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Contract Let, High Building

Board Retains Rights of Changing Plan; Work May Start Soon

(Continued from Page 1)
\$125,000 normal school building at La Grande.

At least ten of the 30 alterations in the call for bids are being retained under present plans. These include auditorium main floor seats, classroom chairs, intercommunicating telephones for all rooms, stage equipment and lighting, clocks, buzzer system and locker room equipment. Although cafeteria equipment is not included at present, the directors are hopeful that at least a working unit for the student lunch room under the auditorium may be added before the building is finished. Contrary to recent plans, concrete floor and walls will be set for the cafeteria hall, concrete floors will be laid throughout the first floor of the building, hallways will be treated to keep down noise, and a movable partition will be provided for the gymnasium to permit two gym classes to be held at one time.

Stucco for Exterior Walls is Provided
The major change in the exterior building will be the covering of rear and auditorium walls with stucco. Face brick is retained for the front and ends of the structure and rigid asbestos shingle provided for the roofs.

The boiler and fan rooms will be located beneath the auditorium stage but will be fully enclosed in reinforced concrete, Chairman Walter B. Minier pointed out. By a slight shift in location of the building, which will face North 14th street, between Olinger and D street, and relocation of the shops site, the board has made it unnecessary to purchase three residence properties to the west on D street, thereby saving in excess of \$10,000. Four pieces of residence property near the south west corner of 14th and D streets are being bought for approximately \$26,000.

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A conference of the directors, Frank H. Struble, architect, and Dr. Huffaker last night led to a tentative decision to eliminate the community auditorium plan from the grade school building but to retain a small hall, seating probably 65 pupils, for school work purposes. Dr. Huffaker said this one change probably would bring the cost within the amount of money available.

Zone Change Will Not Be Harrier
W. C. Winslow, attorney for the board, said he anticipated no difficulty in securing a change of zone from class one to class two residential on the high school site by local option. A similar change and also vacation of Capitol street between Leslie and Mission streets is necessary for the grade school site. This building will face University street between Leslie and Mission.

Chairman Walter B. Minier expected to sign the contracts with Robertson, Hay and Wallace for the two Leslie additions Monday. Bids for purchase of the district's \$650,000 building bond issue and of \$25,000 remaining from an old Leslie issue will be opened Thursday.