



This is the original drawing for a Marion county courthouse made in 1937 when a new structure was approved at the polls. The estimated cost of the building then was set at \$550,000. The prospect of a new building was given a boost Thursday when the county court declared its intention of beginning a courthouse in 1949.

The Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Precip. and locations like Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, New York.

NEW QUAKES HIT CARIBBEAN

Lumber Pay Hike Rejected

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8-(AP)—The government today refused to approve a second round of post-war wage increases for the west coast lumber industry...

In Portland, Ore., a spokesman for the west coast lumber industry said the industry would appeal the ruling.

Reconversion Director John R. Steelman said that a pattern of increases 15 cents an hour above those in effect on V-J day had been established for the industry.

Steelman's ruling reversed a decision of the national wage stabilization board which had approved the 3 1/2 cent increase on top of the earlier-approved 15-cent pay boost for more than 45,000 lumber workers in the Pacific northwest.

The action taken by Steelman in the case, in a letter dated Aug. 2, was disclosed today by the NWSB. The reconversion director's ruling does not prohibit payment of the second wage increase to the workers but it does bar its use as a basis for seeking price relief from the OPA.

Recovering from 13,500 Volts



BALTIMORE, Md., Aug. 8.—Robert Steinbach, 14, is being comforted by his brother, James, 10, in a Baltimore hospital after he came in contact with a 13,500-volt power line of the Pennsylvania railroad while playing atop a steel freight car. His condition is serious, but doctors said he would live. (AP Wirephoto)

Two Patrolmen Added to Salem Force Wednesday

Vernard Schmidt, 2165 Hazel ave., and Richard C. Boehringer, 594 N. Liberty st., new patrolmen started work Wednesday night on the Salem police force.

Chief Frank Minto said he intended to hire two more to fill vacancies in the force. The new men will serve on a temporary basis until a civil service examination is held, he added.

The city council this week authorized two additional men for the police force.

Bring On Panic In 2 Nations

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Aug. 8-(AP)—Fresh earthquakes rocked Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico today causing panic among residents in many areas and sending a new tidal wave swirling into an already leveled town of the Dominican Republic.

The new blows fell in a Caribbean region which has suffered intermittent earth shocks since last Sunday. Once again towns on or near the Mona passage—the rough stretch of water separating the Dominican Republic from Puerto Rico—appeared to be the hardest hit. Casualty figures were not immediately available.

Reports from that neighboring country said panicky people jumped from balconies into the streets. Others were injured by careening cars. Fearful residents refused to sleep tonight in their homes and stretched out instead in parks, streets and open places.

Tidal Wave Strikes Mantanzas, Republic's northeast coast, felt the full force of the new tidal wave. Fortunately many residents of that town and the surrounding region had fled in the last few days to higher ground in the interior. Military planes dropped food and medicine supplies to these refugees.

A ship captain who arrived at Ciudad Trujillo, capital of the Dominican Republic yesterday, said Sunday's tremors caught his ship about three miles off-shore and stopped the vessel's engines.

Doctors, Nurses Called. The U.S. embassy at Ciudad Trujillo requested the naval district headquarters in San Juan, Puerto Rico, to send doctors and nurses.

The tremors hit the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico at 9:35 a.m. The shocks came as thousands of citizens in Ciudad Trujillo were preparing to attend a giant mass today to give thanks that Sunday's quake had been worse than it was.

A plane flying over the Dominican Republic today reported that a river between Julia Molina and Cabrera had changed its course.

Midwest Corn Crop Suffers From Drought

By The Associated Press. Steady winds blowing down from the plains of central Canada brought new drought damage to the United States corn crop Thursday and more moisture to the rain-soaked eastern states.

The winds, weather forecasters said, have been blowing strong in the upper atmosphere for the last five or six weeks, pushing aside the moisture-laden air moving up from the gulf of Mexico.

As a result, the worst drought conditions since the mid-thirties have damaged corn and vegetables in northern Illinois, eastern Wisconsin, northern Indiana and lower Michigan.

State Credit Group Elects Chris Seely

Chris Seely of the Merchants Credit bureau, is to be back in his office today after a flying trip to San Jose, Calif., to meet with the California collectors' organization following his election as president of the Collection Agencies Association of Oregon. Loring Grier, also of Salem, is new secretary of the state association.

OFFICER TOTAL UPPED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8-(AP)—President Truman signed into law today a bill authorizing an increase in the army's officer strength from 25,000 to 50,000.

PBY CRASHES INTO SEA

HONOLULU, Aug. 8-(AP)—A navy PBY with eight men aboard crashed into the sea off Oahu today and sank immediately, 14th naval district announced.

Our Senators

Won 9-1 12-4

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

The old GOP elephant which hasn't done any trumpeting for 16 years is definitely snuffing the air this summer. He is waving his trunk around and gives occasional snorts premonitory of victory in the fall elections. The GOP leaders are predicting republicans will gain control of the house of representatives in November, and for effect are adding there's a possibility of gaining the senate too, though they don't honestly think so.

For one thing, this is an "off-year." Their candidates will not have to run against FDR this year. In 1938, republicans gained 80 seats in the house, but lost ground in 1940, in 1942 they came back to win 47 seats, leaving the democrats a very skinny majority, but 1944, another FDR year, they dropped a dozen seats. This year if they can gain 26 seats they will have bare control of the house.

Political strategy calls for centering attack on the doubtful districts and this is what republicans will do. The United States Weekly sorts out weak spots where the democratic margin was not over three per cent in 1944, and believes the election will hinge on results in these areas. By picking off the weak ones the GOP hopes to get its 218 votes necessary for control. Here is the way they would gain on a vote shift of three per cent: four seats in Illinois; three seats in California, Ohio, Connecticut; two seats in Minnesota, Missouri, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, one each in Washington, Wisconsin, Michigan.

(Continued on editorial page)

Fairgrounds Midway Space In Big Demand

Concession space is a scarce item on Oregon state fair listings today. Manager Leo Spitzbart, receiving last minute bookings for allocations on the six-block midway yesterday, said that applications of both private and commercial exhibitors is by far the heaviest in history.

Eating spots on the grounds already have been completely painted and a number of operators are now on the grounds improving their stands. Work is now going ahead in the main agricultural building.

Fair officials received one check Thursday in the amount of \$1200 as rental for one concession. A number of new amusement rides will be installed on the grounds during the next 10 days.

Spitzbart has closed the fair racing stalls to occupancy until August 15 at which time all of the barns will have been repaired and painted. Fencing of Lone Oak track was begun this week.

Animal Crackers



One drink and it goes right to his head.

Public Hearing To Air New Building Financing

By Conrad Prange, Staff Writer, The Statesman. A new Marion county courthouse is a little closer to reality today as a result of an order issued Thursday by the Marion county court, declaring an intention on the part of the county to build a new \$1,050,000 courthouse, raising the question of an additional tax levy for the purpose and calling a public hearing for September 10 to discuss the project.

Describing the present structure as "old, inadequate and unsafe" the order noted that the county voters had voted for a new building some time ago. "It was contemplated then that there would be federal matching money," it continues, "but now the federal matching money may not be available." It is considered necessary by the court to provide a new source of funds.

The court deemed it "advisable to initiate new proceedings," to make a new tax levy and to submit the question to voters in a special election to be held simultaneously with the general election in November, 1946.

Proposed construction on the new building is set for 1949 on the site of the present structure.

The court has the fund provisions figured out something like this: Present accumulated fund of approximately \$83,000, plus the other funds levied by the court during the next three years at approximately \$75,000 per year, together with an additional fund of \$200,000 per year for the next three years. This last levy will be the 64th question presented to the voters in the fall.

Lewis Mitchell First to File For Alderman

Lewis G. Mitchell, 494 S. 17th st., Thursday was the first candidate to file for the Salem city council when he signified his intention of running for the ward 4 position.

Also filing Thursday was R. L. Elfstrom, 1656 Center st., who filed for mayor. He was unopposed in the May election, nominations of which were invalidated by passage of the city administrator bill.

Peter Cleary, former deputy city recorder, has announced his candidacy for the municipal judge position but was told by Alfred Mundt, city recorder, that his application must wait until a special committee to be appointed by the mayor has clarified some parts of the administrator bill.

Under the new system the duties of the present recorder are divided between an elected municipal judge and an appointed city recorder.

Tam Gatch Likes Salem As Is—'Don't Cut Trees in the Square'

"Other things about Salem may change but I think that (Marion) square should stay as is."

The voice was that of Vice Adm. Thomas M. Gatch, who commands the United States navy's service force in the Atlantic, speaking informally Thursday in the home of Miss Sally Bush where he was a luncheon guest.

The sentiment was born when the boy, Tam Gatch, "heard President Teddy Roosevelt speak in Marion square," and it was aroused when the nationally prominent navy man this week read in a news story the suggestion that the old park be denuded of trees and turned into a parking lot.

"I drove from Portland Thursday and couldn't believe this was Salem until I reached the center of town," Gatch told a Statesman reporter. He referred to the "great residential and industrial building program evident along North Capitol street" and expressed appreciation over the addition of new and clean industries. "Salem is a beautiful city but it can be spoiled," he declared.

The admiral, hero of Pacific engagements in World War II, laughed as he spoke of his retirement seven years hence, premised on the usual condition of health. Oregon, he intimated, will attract him then—"It's the only place I've ever called home." Gatch came west to represent the navy at the Purple Heart convention in Portland, Thursday after lunch at the Bush home he drove to Corvallis for brief inspection of NROTC facilities at Oregon State college where training for naval reserve officers has recently been instituted.

Probers Turn To Bad Shells; May Still Sick

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8-(AP)—The senate was investigating committee received today a physician's report that Rep. Andrew J. May (D-Ky.) must have an "indefinite period of rest" before there is any possibility of his testifying in the war profits inquiry into the Garsson munitions combine.

At the same time it obtained from a former technical sergeant a written account of how barrel bursts of defective mortar shells knocked out two or three gun crews of the 86th chemical mortar battalion in the critical battle of the bulge. Other former G.I.'s told of similar bloody incidents.

The committee has asked the war department to trace defective shells through its contracts with companies which manufactured 4.2 inch mortar ammunition. Erie Basin Metal Products Co., one of the associated 19 firms headed by Dr. Henry Garsson and Murray Garsson, held such a contract.

Heirens Case Postponed for Mental Exam

CHICAGO, Aug. 8-(AP)—The state agreed today to hold up its murder charges against William Heirens until the multiple killer can undergo a mental exam.

Chief Justice Harold G. Ward of criminal court continued the youth's arraignment on three murder charges to Sept. 4 and directed that he be examined by psychiatrists.

The 17-year-old Heirens, who was a model student at the University of Chicago, was brought before Judge Ward today on a murder charge in the fatal stabbing of Mrs. Josephine Ross, 43-year-old widow. The youth has confessed he stabbed Mrs. Ross and Miss Frances Brown, 33-year-old ex-WAVE, and strangled six-year-old Suzanne Degnan.

Crippled Ship Towed to Port

FALMOUTH, Eng., Aug. 8-(AP)—Capt. Sagar Johnson of the American Ranger, whose crewmen have brought the crippled American Farmer to safe harbor, said tonight he agreed with the principle that the little British steamer Elizabeth had salvage rights for her first efforts to tow the drifting ship.

But, he said, he believed the Elizabeth "could never have brought the ship to port, and that is why I boarded her."

Johnson said there was no truth to reports of a fight between Americans and British seamen on the collision-damaged American Farmer, and the Elizabeth's second mate also said there was no violence.

Wholesale Prices Up 10.9% Since June 30

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8-(AP)—Led by food prices, which rose 1.1 per cent during the week ended Aug. 3, wholesale prices were reported by the bureau of labor and statistics today to be 10.9 per cent above the end of June when price controls were suspended.

Thief Returns Purse, Less Money, by Mail

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 8-(AP)—Thelma C. Kotch found her stolen purse today. It was in the mail box, wrapped and posted by the thief who had taken \$65 from it—less the postage money.

Food Process Work Nearing Peak in Salem

Peak of the food processing season in Salem approaches today as canneries issue calls for additional women workers, preparing to start work on pears on or about August 14.

California Packing corporation is starting a new night shift to handle beans, which also are in full production at Stayton, Silverton, Woodburn, Blue Lake in West Salem, and at Paulus Bros. plant in Salem. The Paulus Bros. cannery is starting a night beet crew next week, while Hunt Foods, Blue Lake and Calpak are running full shifts on beets.

First pears are to be handled about next Wednesday at Producers' cooperative, Paulus Bros., Reid Murdoch, Hunt Foods, and BirdsEye-Snyder in Woodburn. Star Fruit Products Co. is processing berries, while United Growers at Liberty is cold-packing early variety peaches. Willamette Cherry Growers is putting a night crew to work reprocessing cherries for market.

The Salem canners' committee, operating through the U.S. employment service, advises women where help is needed, or persons seeking work may call canneries directly.

Oklahoma Bank Robbers Chased

WALTERS, Okla., Aug. 8-(AP)—Local authorities, reinforced by state highway patrolmen, FBI agents and volunteers, tonight were carefully searching a wooded area near the Texas border south of here for two brazen, armed bandits who held up the First National bank of Walters today and escaped with an estimated \$35,000.

Federal bureau of investigation agents said they believed only two men participated in the hold-up. Earlier, the bank cashier, E. H. Minton, asserted five men made up the bandit band.

Sand Lake Forest Fire Razes Mill

TILLAMOOK, Ore., Aug. 8-(AP)—State forestry officials tonight said a forest blaze which burned a small sawmill at Sand Lake last night and covered 50 acres before being controlled was inactive tonight.

The Siuslaw forest fire originated from a welding torch and quickly razed a mill which employed 12 men. Estimated loss is \$8,000-10,000.

Two Precincts Added For New Salem Areas

Salem has 422 additional voters and two new precincts today as a result of a meeting of county and city officials who met Thursday to set precinct and ward boundaries of the newly annexed territories within Salem's city limits.

Meeting in the county court rooms were County Judge Grant Murphy, County Commissioners Roy Rice and Ed Rogers, County Clerk Harlan Judd, District Attorney Miller B. Hayden, City Aldermen David O'Hara and Albert Gille and City Engineer Harold Davis.

The boundaries agreed upon were as follows: In the new northeast corner of Salem—Valley Packing Co. and Capitol districts north and south of Silverton road comprise a new precinct, No. 32, included in ward 5. The area has 137 registered voters and 377 persons over 21 years of age. It is taken from Hayeville and Fairground precincts outside the city.

In the east section—all of Garden road district north of Garden road to be included in precinct 28 and that south of Garden road to be added to precinct 25. Both precincts already are included in ward 6. This area has 84 registered voters and 94 persons over 21. It is taken from Englewood and Auburn precincts.

In the south—Haight-Summer streets area is to be formed into a new precinct, No. 33, included in ward 7. This area has 227 registered voters with 476 persons over 21. The deletion of this area practically eliminates the McKinley precinct, the remainder of which will be added to Salem Heights precinct.

In the southeast—South 22nd street area is to be added to precinct 6, ward 7. This area has 20 registered voters and is to be deleted from the Pringle district.

Judge Murphy expressed the thought that several residents of these changed areas who have filed for precinct committees will now have to change their candidacy registration to conform with the new precinct designations.

Jewel Theft Trial Planned

FRANKFURT, Germany, Aug. 8-(AP)—The U. S. army charged WAC Captain Kathleen B. Nash Durant today with larceny, embezzlement, conspiracy and being absent without leave in the story-book theft of the \$1,500,000 Hesse crown jewels from Kronberg castle.

The trial of the stocky, dark-haired, 44-year-old former manager of the Kronberg castle recreation center probably will begin within five to 10 days, according to Capt. Harold H. Chase of Salina, Kans., the lawyer who drafted the charges.

E. Burr Miller Heads New War Memorial Association

Salem's new War Memorial association is headed today by E. Burr Miller, who is president also of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, vice president of the Salem Lions club and active in Community Chest and other civic projects.

Miller heads a slate elected at Thursday night's formal organization meeting of the association which proposes "to promote a civic living war memorial for the city of Salem, Oregon, and to plan cooperatively with other organizations and with the city as to its location, financing and construction."

Don Ballantyne, veteran of the recent war, is first vice president; Mrs. Charles A. Sprague, wife of The Statesman's publisher and herself a church and civic worker, is second vice president; Dorothy Cornelius, state supreme court clerk and former president of the Business & Professional Women's club, secretary; and Clarence Gregg, veteran of World War II and member of the First National bank staff, treasurer.

A surprise conclusion to the meeting was the numerous apparently unsolicited pledges of cooperation from individuals and organizations of Salem. Representatives promised support from World War II post of the American Legion, from the women's post of the same organization, Legion auxiliary, Meadowlark and Marion posts of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hollywood Toastmasters, Salem Lions club, musicians, Community Concert association and Soroptimist club. (Additional details on-page 2)