

City Veterans' Colony Assured Action to Relieve Street Mud, Lack of Sidewalks, Playground

Who's to blame for the mud-bound plight of the Salem veterans' housing colony and what can be done to improve the 175-unit residential site for some 350 adults and 300 children drew the attention of the city council Monday night.

Spokesmen for both the council and the city housing authority, including Mayor R. L. Elfstrom in "a certain carelessness in following through" but promised the war veterans steps toward speedy relief.

Approximately 100 veterans over-looked the city manager's office at city hall as their spokesman, Allan Barber, requested the site improvements — including street paving, sidewalks and children's play areas — which he said were promised when veterans began moving in the project near 18th and Cross streets 19 months ago.

Financial aspects aired by City Manager J. L. Franzen, Housing Project Manager Joseph Hopkins

By Robert E. Gangware
City Editor, The Statesman

and Authority Member Steve Anderson included:

Of the \$11,000 turned over to the city by the housing authority, \$4,000 remains, the remainder having been put into street improvement.

Besides this \$4,000, the project now has another \$4,000 on hand and expects a balance near \$10,000 by end of the fiscal year June 30.

But not all surplus can be used for street and related improvements as the project must have enough of its \$34,000 federal — set budget for ordinary or emergency maintenance work on the buildings.

The project may operate as long as five years and the buildings and furniture then become city property.

Barber told the council that much of the graveling has disappeared in the mud, that the few asphalt streets are separated from houses by water that will not drain off and that presence of so many children, almost all of them under 7 years old, requires paved sidewalks "so they may use their bikes and trikes."

The council instructed the mayor, city manager, city engineer and housing authority to meet with representatives of the veteran — tenants to work out an improvement program for submission to the council January 26.

SINGAPORE SHAKES
SINGAPORE, Tuesday, Jan. 13. —(AP)—A slight earth tremor shook Singapore at 10:30 a. m. today (7:20 p. m. Pacific Standard time, Monday), the government meteorological office reported.

Officers 'Jug' Initiates for Bulb-Snatching

Three raggedly dressed men, described as "desperate, incurable bulb snatchers," were thrown in the "clink" Monday night after they were "arrested" by city police when they were caught in the act of "sawing" a streetlight in downtown Salem.

They were Ralph Schlesinger, Doc Whitman and Rudy Prail, who pleaded in vain that they were Cherrians, in an attempt to escape the lockup. The men were arrested after police received an anonymous "tip" that three hoboes would attempt to make off with a city light bulb.

Arriving at the scene, officers found Prail sliding down a light standard, bulb in hand. His two companions stood by admiring his agility. They were taken to the hoosegow and locked up for 30 minutes on a charge of "bulb snatching."

They were "sprung" by brother Cherrians who told police it was Henderson's initiation. Prail explained that he is particularly adept at climbing light standards because he does it every day while working for Walton-Brown Electric company which has the contract to replace the city's worn out bulbs.

Groups Seek Death Stay For Henderson

PORTLAND, Jan. 12. —(AP)— A plea for the life of Wardell H. Henderson, 25, sentenced to die in the state's lethal gas chamber January 23 for the murder of Walter Poole, Vanport, was sent today to Governor Hall.

It came from Irving Goodman, attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He said 100 Portland attorneys had signed it. Goodman said Henderson had repudiated a "confession" that was made under duress; that there was only circumstantial evidence of his guilt; that the jury foreman recently urged clemency; that Henderson's previous record was good, and that several murders attributed to Henderson today, which he said were committed by white soldiers who had the car.

Henderson was convicted of killing Poole on Christmas eve, 1945, and stealing his automobile. Henderson denies the slaying and maintains he knew only that he was hired to drive to Colorado some white soldiers who had the car.

Stolen Bus Ends Up in a Ditch

A bus stolen from its parking place on D street between Front and Commercial streets late Sunday night was found in a ditch on Lancaster road and D street early Monday morning, city police reported.

The bus belongs to the Hamman Stage company. Police said residents living near the scene telephoned headquarters to report that a car had crashed into the ditch. The thief, however, fled before officers arrived. Police said the driver apparently skidded into the ditch when he attempted to round the corner at high speed. The bus was only slightly damaged, police said.

Ike Fails to Halt 'Draft'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. —(AP)— Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower passed up an opportunity today to crack down on a New Hampshire "draft Eisenhower" movement — and some political analysts immediately interpreted this to mean he is virtually a candidate for the republican presidential nomination.

Although an army spokesman declared the chief of staff still "wants nothing to do with politics," Eisenhower declined comment on the filing in New Hampshire of a state of nominating convention delegates pledged to him.

Trucker Asks \$7,000 Damages In Cave-in of Lumker Bridge

A possible \$7,000 damage suit against Marion county as a result of the Lumker bridge cave-in December 30 looms today following a receipt by county court Monday of a letter from the attorneys of John Philpot, Salem, owner of the log truck which crashed through the bridge.

Otto W. Heider, Sheridan attorney, said in the letter that his client expects the court to make a settlement on the truck and trailer, valued in excess of \$7,000.

Members of the county court said Monday they would take up the matter with District Attorney Miller B. Hayden, who was in Portland on business. County Commissioner Roy Rice also said that the county is gathering data from state engineers regarding the weight of the truck and trailer and their load-weight.

Commissioner Rice said that a new bridge at the site would cost \$10,000.

The letter declared that there was no negligence on the part of Arthur Anderson, driver of the truck, or on the part of owner Philpot, who, it alleged, had no knowledge that the bridge was unsafe. A statement that gas pipes were installed in the construction of the bridge was emphatically denied by Ted Kuenzi, county bridge foreman.

Heider also declared that the bridge was not posted in any way, that it should have been able to hold up three trucks because of its length, that county officials were grossly negligent for allowing even automobiles to cross the bridge and that the supports and timbers of the bridge were in rotten condition.

The bridge is located on the Elkhorn road, the Little North Fork of the Santiam. A week following the crash, a new steel Bailey bridge, borrowed from the state highway department, spanned the river in place of the 12-year-old structure.

Defense Budget Figures Climb

(Story also on page 1)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. —(AP)— An \$11,000,000,000 fund to maintain armed forces of 1,423,000 men next fiscal year and to help re-amp the nation's defenses for the atomic era was urged by President Truman today, with a warning that if Europe goes red the costs will soar.

The proposed outlay is the biggest single item in budget recommendations Mr. Truman made to congress for the year beginning next July 1. It is 22 per cent of the total, and is \$279,000,000 above the estimated defense spending for the present year.

The manpower strength of 1,423,000 recommended for the army, navy and air force is about the same as at present.

Divorce Court Found Illegal

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 12. —(AP)— Nearly 2,000 divorces granted by an attractive red-haired woman judge here became a legal question today when the Arkansas supreme court held that her court "does not exist" because it was created unconstitutionally. The judge is Mrs. Ruth Hale.

The ruling threw a cloud over the marital status of several thousand persons and their children — some of them now residing in other states.

The supreme court held that the special domestic relations court in Pulaski (Little Rock) county created by the 1947 legislature was in fact no court at all, and specifically set aside two divorces granted during the past year by Chief Justice Griffin Smith told newsmen that all other acts of the special court would be affected by the decision.

Valley's Flood Loss \$11 Million

CORVALLIS, Ore., Jan. 12. —(AP)— The Willamette valley flood of the past week caused \$11,000,000 damage, Col. O. W. Walsh, district army engineer, estimated here today.

Col. Walsh said proposed flood control works in the valley should ultimately prevent 100 per cent of flood damage in 1,300,000 acres beyond the mouth of the Long Tom river, and 85 per cent of damage to areas below that river.

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Salem Electric Trio in Court This Morning

Harry Read, manager of Salem Electric, and two company linemen face charges of installing wires across a city street in violation of city ordinance in municipal court at 8:30 this morning following their arrest by city police Monday.

Read and the linemen, Robert E. Nordyke, 162 W. Lincoln st., and Robert Ladd, Salem route 4, were arrested Monday afternoon for allegedly reconnecting several electric wires on Donald road, Carlton way and Portland road. The wires were cut January 2 after Read's arrest on a similar charge. Read is now free on \$200 bail posted after his previous arrest. Both charges were brought by J. H. Davis, city engineer.

The Salem Electric manager has already filed notice of appeal in Marion county circuit court from a September 1947 conviction in municipal court which fined Read \$150 for a previous violation. Read and his assistants were released after posting \$100 bail each.

Salem Electric is now operating under a limited franchise granted by the city council which provides the company may serve customers given connections before Oct. 1, 1947. A bill to give the company unlimited franchise was killed by the city council at the same time the limited franchise was granted.

Negro Rights To Schooling 'Now' Upheld

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. —(AP)— The supreme court held today that Negroes are entitled not only to receive in state institutions any sort of educational training that whites can get in such schools, but also to get it as quickly as any other group.

Strict application of the order would give the state of Oklahoma just three days to admit a Negro girl, Ada Lois Sipuel, to the law school at the all-white University of Oklahoma, or set up separate and equal facilities for her.

A new semester in which white students can enter begins January 15. There is no Oklahoma state law school for Negroes now. The applicant already has been waiting two years while the case was in litigation.

Speed was the main point in today's ruling. Negroes' rights to equal facilities, and to have them in institutions of their own states, had been affirmed by the high court in a Missouri case 10 years ago.

Auto Crash Fatal; 2 from Scio Hurt

EUGENE, Jan. 12. —(AP)— One woman was killed and her husband and two other persons injured today east of Dexter on highway 58 when a station wagon they were riding skidded on an icy portion of the road and plunged into a ditch.

State police said Mrs. Winnie Childs, Portland, was dead. Henry Childs and Judith and Lynn Taylor, of Scio, are in a hospital here.

Jews Form Plans For New State

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12. —(AP)— Against a background of virtual civil war between the Jews of the Holy Land went forward today with their plans for a provisional government for the separate Jewish state to be established in accordance with the decision of the United Nations.

There was no success from the crackle of gunfire which has sounded day and night since the November 29 decision of the United Nations, and new killings today boosted the unofficial death count to 699 in Palestine for that period.

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Woodburn Farmer Injured in Crash

OREGON CITY, Ore., Jan. 12. —(AP)— H. H. Jacobson, a farmer in the Woodburn, Ore., area was in a hospital here tonight for treatment of head injuries after an automobile he was driving crashed into a parked car.

State police said Jacobson became ill while driving and lost control of his car.

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MORGAN JAMES WYMAN JAMES PAIGE BRUCE BENNETT
in **Cheyenne**
• Thrill Co-Hit! •
Trudy Marshall
"Alias Mr. Twilight"
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"Jungle Riders"
Cartoon — News!

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Cary Grant - Myrna Loy
Shirley Temple
- In -
THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER
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Music to Thrill You Anew!
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