

Police Department Shaken Up; City Manager Names Captains, Vows Backing 'If You're Right'

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman

City Manager J. L. Franzen mapped out a new deal for the Salem police department last night, demanding an end to "gossip and rumors," stressed the department's "tremendous responsibility" and turned back the reins to Chief of Police Frank Minto for execution of the program.

In a 60-minute talk to nearly all of the 40-man department, Franzen set up an entirely new line of succession, created two captaincies, paved the way for a split-up in the coveted detective (plain-clothes) detail and told the men he would "back you to the limit so long as you're right, if you're not right, it won't take long."

Room Mergue-Silent
"My work and my hobby are to make the city of Salem have the finest municipal government possible. It is up to you to help."

One of the major changes announced by Franzen in his January 16 reorganization plan is the merging of the room-mergue-silent office places a higher officer over the desk sergeant in each of the three daily shifts.

The three officers, answerable only to the chief, are Assistant Police Chief E. C. Charlton, who takes charge from 6 a. m. to 2 p. m.; Capt. Hobart Kiggins, previously head of the detective detail, who heads the 2 p. m. to 10 p. m. shift, and Capt. Walter Espin, in charge from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m.

Will Don Uniforms
Under the new plan, both Charlton and Kiggins will don uniforms. Espin, until now a "roving sergeant," is an up-from-the-ranks appointment. The other three sergeants retain their present rank but are answerable to their superior officers on each shift—Sgt. Stanley Friese to Charlton, Sgt. Don Nicholson to Kiggins and Sgt. Ersei Mundinger to Espin.

All are to be under civil service except the chief.

The present detective detail, as a unit, is abolished unless Chief Minto finds it practicable to lump the detectives for certain work. Minto said last night, Detectives George Edwards and Wayne Parker would serve under Charlton on the 6 a. m. to 2 p. m. shift, and that Detectives Ernest Finch and David Houser would be assigned to the other two shifts.

Succession Defined
Franzen laid out definitely the line of succession:

"If Minto quits, Charlton would take over and Kiggins would move up to assistant chief; Espin would take Kiggins place." He also said there would be difference of pay for the top three officers.

(Charlton will retain the \$290 monthly pay he receives as assistant chief, Kiggins the \$280 he has been getting as head of the detective detail, and Espin will draw \$270—a \$5 increase from the regular sergeant's pay).

The same line of shift — succession would be true for the three sergeants, Franzen said.

Declaring that "there is no politics in this," the city manager stressed throughout his talk, during which Mayor R. L. Elfstrom was the only city official present outside of the police department, that the police are essentially the first line of contact in the city government.

He also emphasized public relations by pointing out specific instances of good and bad.

Welcome Card Lauded
Regarding the former, he cited a visitor's "welcome card," made available by the Salem Kiwanis club last year and placed by police in tourists' cars, sometimes in a full-size car, sometimes in a garage, in a building well, and in a rose bush, all went out at once.

AMATEURISH ARSONIST
PORTLAND, Jan. 16 (AP)—An inefficient arsonist was on the loose today. He — or she — set three blazes in the same east side district last night. But the sites were badly chosen: The fire started in a garage, in a building well, and in a rose bush, all went out at once.

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, republican chief in the senate, promptly "commended" Dewey's action and said:

"The more candidates whose names will be before the convention, the better it will be for the party."

Taft, Dewey's chief rival for the nomination in 1940 before it was snatched by the late Wendell L. Willkie, said he did not expect to enter the Oregon primary.

Weather
Max. Min. Precip.
Salem 50 27 .00
Portland 44 29 .00
San Francisco 62 40 .00
Chicago 9 3 .00
New York 10 3 .00
Portland river 5.3 feet, falling.
FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy today and tonight. High today 50, low tonight 30.

Animal Crackers
By WARREN GOODRICH

Franzen also said he had heard it rumored that he had brought in Harvey Tautfest from Oregon City (Franzen's former home town) and added him to the police department. The city manager explained that Tautfest had applied for a position and that the (Franzen) had told him it was up to Chief Minto. The latter, Franzen commented, had said he was in need of experienced men and hired Tautfest accordingly.

Franzen stressed repeatedly that men in all brackets were to take up their problems with their immediate superiors, and that if some things still remained to be ironed out, Chief Minto was to be consulted. If difficulties still remained, the problem must be brought to Franzen "and we'll settle it right here."

Confidence Expressed
The city manager, directly and by inference, made it plain he had confidence in the ability of the police department, and said it was not under the onus which sometimes had been the case with departments of other cities.

He commented also that he had

Head Shifts



Assistant Police Chief E. C. Charlton, who last night was named to head the 6 a. m. to 2 p. m. shift in the Salem Police department.



Hobart Kiggins, currently head of the plain-clothes detail, who was named a captain in charge of the 2 p. m. to 10 p. m. shift.



Walter Espin, a roving sergeant, who was elevated to the rank of captain and placed in charge of the police department from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m.

"no liking for speeches" and that "this is probably the last one I'll give you," and indicated that any further problems within the department would be dealt with on an individual basis.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mayor Elfstrom spoke briefly on the importance of public relations and the police department's part in it, and indicated confidence both in the department and its plan of reorganization.

Chief Minto, as the session adjourned, pledged his "fullest cooperation" in activating the reorganization plan in the best interests of the department and the city, and said it would go into effect at 6 a. m. Monday.

Rumor Explained
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Nationwide Rail Strike Set Feb. 6

Veto Held GOP Tax Cut Fate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (AP)—In an angry exchange in which both sides raised the cry of "politics," Secretary of the Treasury Snyder virtually told the republicans today that another presidential veto awaits their \$5,600,000,000 income tax reduction bill.

GOP leaders went ahead nevertheless with plans to pass their bill and junk President Truman's \$40 - for - everybody cut. Snyder clipped his words as he gave this argument to the opening session of the house ways and means committee:

1. The republican bill, offered by Chairman Knutson (R-Minn.), would blast hopes for debt retirement and actually put the treasury \$2,100,000,000 in the red in fiscal 1949.

2. As for the prospect of a veto of Knutson's bill, he said "the same consideration which impelled the president" to veto two \$4,000,000,000 tax cut measures last year "are controlling today."

3. The best interest of the country would be served by prompt enactment of the president's own tax proposal.

When Snyder had finished his formal statement, Knutson fired: "The secretary has a weak case" indicating the committee will proceed with his own \$5,600,000,000 bill with little, if any, serious consideration of the president's substitute.

Elfstrom, Four Aldermen Seek Re-Election

Mayor R. L. Elfstrom and four city aldermen Friday announced they would be candidates this year for re-election. No other candidates have as yet appeared.

The aldermen — only ones of the seven whose terms expire Dec. 31, 1948 — are Claude Jorgensen, ward 3; Howard Maple, ward 7; James H. Nicholson, ward 1, and David O'Hara, ward 5.

Mayor Elfstrom, in a prepared statement, said his early announcement was prompted by recent queries as to his candidacy.

Elfstrom's statement pointed out that he considers his experience of the past year as head of the new form of city government enables him to do a better job, as mayor this year and, further, the experience of a complete two-year term would better qualify him for a second term.

Delfel Given 4-Year Term

PORTLAND, Jan. 16 (AP)—A four-year sentence was meted today to Charles W. Delfel, 47-year-old real estate operator who pleaded guilty to two charges of embezzlement.

The state board of parole and probation recommended that Delfel not be placed on probation.

The real estate man, who had offices in Salem, Portland, Sherwood, and Vancouver, Wash., was arrested last summer at Salem after a month's search.

Farm Crop Committees Face Problem of What To Substitute for Rained-Out Fall Plantings

By Lillie L. Madsen
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Farm crops committees, now meeting under the county agricultural program planning committees in the Willamette valley, are confronted with the problem of what crops to plant this spring as only about 50 per cent of the ordinary seedings were made last fall. Heavy rains made normal seeding impossible.

In Yamhill county, crops listed by the committee and suggested for farmer consideration are Hannchen barley, seed flax (which again this year has a \$6 per-bushel guaranteed price), and spring oats and grey oats that would be planted during February.

Members in the various Willamette valley counties report that the spring planting of common or Willamette vetch has not given satisfactory results in many sections because of aphid damage. However, Yamhill committee members point out that where a heavy seeding of vetch was made some good hay has been harvested. A doubled rate of normal seeding should be made if

vetch is to be sown in February, according to recommendation. Also in the opinion of the Yamhill committee, grey oats seeded during February for oat hay would give the next best emergency hay crop.

As Hannchen barley acreage is expected to be considerably greater than last year, committee members suggest that farmers arrange for their seed as soon as they are able to determine their needs.

While the Marion county committee will not hold its formal meeting, from which the annual report is made, until February, members have discussed the problem. They feel that Marion county farmers should not seed too heavily to barley as a heavy crop was harvested last year. Recommendations will likely call for approximately the same acreage for flax for seed as last year. The shortage of flax seed is world-wide, it is stated. Grey or winter oats will automatically be seeded in February because of the shortage of fall-planted oats.

Rex Warren, extension specialist from Oregon State college,

Funds Approved for Start of Local Veterans' Colony Improvement Plan

Housing Board Votes \$4,000 To Begin Plan

By Robert E. Gangware
City Editor, The Statesman

At least a good start on a possible \$23,000 improvement program for the site of Salem veterans' housing colony is assured today, following a Friday conference among city officials, veteran — tenants' representatives and the Salem housing authority.

Authority members voted to approve use of \$4,000 for immediate installation by city crews of graveled parking areas and catch basins to reduce the mud and standing water conditions of which a tenants' petition complained to the city council this week.

The colony astride Cross street between South 18th and 19th streets houses 172 veterans and their families, with the total population of well over 600 including nearly 300 children, most of them under six years old. It is operated by the housing authority headed by W. J. Braun.

Fias Submitted
After studying the veterans' requests, City Manager J. L. Franzen and City Engineer J. H. Davis submitted the \$23,000 plan incorporating virtually all elements of improvement sought by the tenants.

But city officials and housing authority members agreed there is no method of financing the entire program this year. Since the housing project was started some 20 months ago with receipt of U. S. government buildings, the city (and the then-separate water commission) put \$7,000 of city funds in site improvement, and as well as some street maintenance not charged against the project, and the housing authority devoted, through the city, another \$7,225 to improvements over and above normal maintenance of the project.

Allowed Budget
Under contract with the federal government, the project now is allowed an annual budget of \$35,290 to spend on upkeep. Enough surplus must be kept on hand to meet emergencies and carry on all maintenance of the dwelling units, but the funds may also be used for such improvements as streets and grounds repair. This comes from rent receipts which also provide \$22,096 annually to the federal government.

Under this plan, the project has accumulated funds enough to turn over \$11,300 to the city which in turn paved a street and put other improvements costing \$7,225 and now holds the balance of some \$4,000 which will finance the immediate improvements directed Friday by the authority.

Additional Surplus
Colony Manager Joseph Hopkins reported he expects to show a surplus in addition to that \$4,000 of between \$5,000 and \$11,000 by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, "if we have no hard luck."

The five-man authority adopted a resolution to start the improvements and notify veteran-tenants that other improvements in the city plan will be made "as funds become available."

The complete \$23,000 project envisions the following improvements: Off-street parking areas on the

Advances



Irwin F. Wedel, who on Friday became the third of his family in succession to serve as superintendent of Salem Memorial hospital, since its founding in 1916 as Deaconess hospital. (Story on page 2)

Communist Held For Deportation

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 16 (AP)—Alexander Bittelmann of New York, said by immigration authorities to be a Florida vacationing communist national committeeman, posted \$5,000 bond today following his arrest for deportation proceedings.

He will be given a hearing before a two-man immigration examining board on four charges brought by Attorney General Tom Clark at Washington, all alleging that Bittelmann advocates the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence.

Justice department spokesmen in the national capital said the arrest followed months of investigation.

periphery of the housing colony, \$1,400.

Installation of 47 catch basins, starting at the north section of the area, \$1,598.

Drainage Lines
Full drainage system requiring 18-inch excavation, grade breaking, probably eight-inch pipe and rock fill, aggregating \$9,750 but expected to be done in smaller units along gutters until 6,500 feet of drainage lines is installed.

Road oiling aggregating 5,120 square yards and including all unpaved streets, \$3,840.

Asphalting 6,290 feet of four-foot sidewalk, \$6,290. Veterans representing the tenants agreed this project, which must be undertaken in summer, will provide the desired play area for children who hitherto have had no place to ride their bicycles and tricycles.

Allan Barbour and Joseph Law, representing the tenants at the meeting, said an organization of the tenants is being formed to cooperate with housing administration in such matters as enforcing parking in the new off-street areas.

Auto Workers Ask 30-Cent Pay Boost
DETROIT, Jan. 16 (AP)—The CIO United Auto Workers demanded a 25 cents an hour wage increase of the car industry today, plus "fringe" demands bringing the estimated total to 30 cents.

In demanding 25 cents an hour, the big auto union of more than 900,000 members took the role of pace-setter in the CIO's national drive for a third postwar wage increase from American industry.

Father-Son Act at Relief Ship



VALLEJO, Calif., Jan. 16 — Gov. Earl Warren of California hands a case of canned food to his son, Midshipman Earl Warren, Jr., as the California relief ship, Golden Bear, is loaded at Valjejo, Calif., with foodstuffs it will carry to Italy, France and Greece. (AP Wirephoto to the Statesman.)

Mediation Will Stall Walkout

CLEVELAND, Jan. 16 (AP)—Three railroad brotherhoods representing about 125,000 operating workers today set a strike date of Feb. 6 following collapse of efforts to mediate their dispute with the nation's carriers, reported President D. B. Robertson of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.

Other unions joining in setting the strike date of 3 a. m. (PST), February 6, were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Switchmen's Union of North America, Robertson said.

To Present Case
"The next step under the railway labor act," said Robertson, "will be for the president to appoint an emergency board of three public members. The unions will present their case to the emergency board."

Under the railway labor act, a 30-day "cooling off" period must elapse after the board reports its findings to the president before a strike can start. The board has up to 30 days to hold hearings and prepare its report.

To Appoint Board
The setting of February 6 as a strike date makes it urgent for the president to appoint a board, but once the board is appointed that date automatically becomes ineffective and no strike may be called during the fact-finders' investigation and for 30 days after they complete their work.

Robertson declared the Brotherhoods involved were "far behind most other unions on the wage question."

The strike, if effected, would virtually paralyze the nation's rail system as all three of the unions are composed of operating employees.

The three unions voting to strike have demanded a 50 per cent pay boost with a minimum increase of \$3 a day and several changes in working rules.

Salem Realtor Succumbs to Heart Attack

William L. Habernicht, prominent Salem realtor and Oregon realtor since 1913, died unexpectedly of a heart attack at his home, 1925 Myrtle st., about 7 p. m. Friday night.

Members of the family said he had just completed a phone call and had started to read the evening paper when he was stricken. He died about 10 minutes after the attack.

Habernicht was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 5, 1887, and came to Astoria from that city in 1913. During 24 years in that city he was a ticket agent for the old Oregon and Washington Navigation company and was in the automobile business for 23 years. He was married to his wife Rose, who survives, in that city 31 years ago.

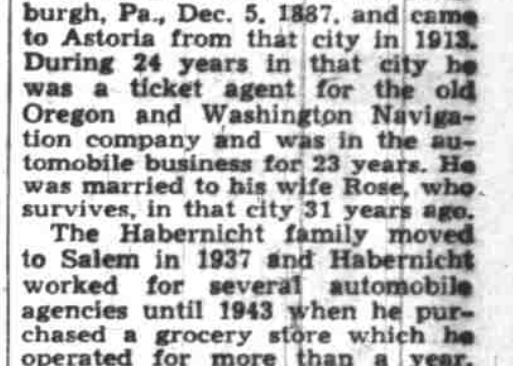
The Habernicht family moved to Salem in 1937 and Habernicht worked for several automobile agencies until 1943 when he purchased a grocery store which he operated for more than a year. At that time he entered the real estate business and on May 15, 1946, he and Rudy Calaba purchased the real estate business of Charles Sanders. He was co-owner of the firm of Calaba and Habernicht until the time of his death.

He was a member of the Salem Board of Realtors and the First Methodist church.

Surviving besides his widow are a son, William Habernicht of Salem, and two sisters, Mrs. Hazel Russell of Portland and Gladys Bockoven of Walla Walla, Wash.

Clough-Barrick company is in charge of funeral arrangements and time of services will be announced later.

QUICKIES



"Here's an interesting Statesman Want Ad giving — a man wanted for gardening and his wife to do supervising."

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"If this guy gets in I'm going to be mad!"