

Y Open House Draws Throng

Whether they ran, or played or sang nobody could be sure, but Salem YMCA officials said that more boys showed up for Tuesday's open house program than on Monday. The day's schedule included first play in a city-wide ping pong tournament.

On the morning tour, 90 boys went through Valley Packing company plant. Today's trip from the YM at 9:30 a. m. will be to Kay Woolen mills.

In the ping pong matches, all daubles, John Gaylord and Neil Scheidel were leading among the grade schoolers, while Gerald Wright and Merle Griebnow were ahead in the junior high division.

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Wondering Why the Fuel Bill's High? Blame 'Degree Days'

Your rising fuel bills living you worries this winter? You can put most of the blame on Old Man Winter, it appears, though a part of the increase is due to higher prices for the many various fuels used here.

A high number of "degree days" is the way weathermen explain the situation. Degree days are the temperature and 65 degrees, a point at which no heat is considered to be needed. For example, Monday's maximum in Salem was 37, the minimum 19. The day's mean reading was 28 degrees. The degree days are the difference between that and 65, or 37.

This fall and winter, those degree days have been accumulating at a high rate here, according to U.S. weather bureau figures, showing the period has been colder than last year's though 10-year averages are not available. September's degree days this year total 168 degrees compared to 98 in 1947, October's rose from 330 to 410, November's from 552 to 654. In the first 26 days of December the number was 712, already above the total of 709 during December, 1947.

All this means that more heat—thus more fuel—has been required this fall to bring houses and offices up to a comfortable temperature.

The fuel dealers also remind their customers that houses need heat principally during the winter months and so the cost is much higher than for an average month. One firm has figures to show that house heating in January requires about 19 per cent of the normal year's fuel supply, February 16 per cent and December 16 per cent, or a total for the three months of about one-half the full year's needs. These figures are based on average consumption in Portland for the past 10 years, which the firm said would vary but slightly from Salem's situation.

Jobless Pay, Unemployment Still Climbing

Claims for unemployment compensation and requests for work are creating a surge of activity for the state employment service office here. The situation is credited principally to the large number of seasonal shutdowns.

Little immediate improvement is expected by the Salem office, which reports only a few odd jobs available at the present time.

In addition to several hundred persons reporting through the office each day, the staff processes unemployment claims at other points in Marion and Polk counties. These include Detroit, second and fourth Tuesdays, a new service begun yesterday; Mill City, first and third Tuesdays; Woodburn, Wednesdays; Dallas, Fridays.

Governor Hall Takes Vacation over Holidays

Gov. John H. Hall, who left Salem Thursday to spend Christmas with his family, will not return to his desk until early next week, he advised the state executive department Tuesday.

The governor and his family are now spending a few days at his summer home south of Taft.

The name "Idaho" is taken from a Shoshone Indian expression meaning, "Look, the sun is coming down the mountain!"

★ DANCE

New Year's Eve
New Year's Night
★ Ernie Carles ★
Orchestra
GLENWOOD BALLROOM

Safe-Cracker Doesn't Even Make Wages

Whoever cracked the safe in the Keizer Building and Supply company office Monday night didn't even make wages on the job, Marion County Sheriff Denver Young reported Tuesday.

The "punch" or "knob-knocking" type of work performed to open the safe was probably done by experienced hands, Deputy Sheriff William DeVall said. The dial was chiseled off and the safe door removed—the work of several hours.

Items taken from the safe included one old half-dollar, a 1891 silver dollar, 26 Indian-head pennies, a small amount of raw gold valued at about \$2 and a miscellaneous amount of valueless keepsake jewelry.

The office was ransacked but nothing else was reported missing by Theodore L. Johnson and Walter T. Robinson, owners. Entry to the office was gained through a pried window. The company is located just west of the Keizer corners. State police assisted in the investigation.

Bank Displays Photographs

Students' work and Statesman photographs picturing classes of the Salem public night school Tuesday were placed on display in the lobby of Salem branch, First National Bank of Portland.

About 30 articles made by adult students in ceramics, flower arrangement and metal foil work are in the display which will remain at the bank for two weeks.

The new term of night school will open January 3. Registration is being accepted at the night school office in the public school administration building.

China Pheasant Hunters Fined

Shooting a China pheasant out of season cost two men \$100 in fines and loss of a .22 calibre rifle when they appeared in Marion county district court Tuesday.

Oliver Perry Markham, Aumsville, and Oval Orval Markham, West Stayton, both charged with possession of a pheasant in closed season paid a \$50 fine each. Oval Markham also was charged with shooting from a public road and a \$25 fine was suspended. In other district court action Tuesday Walter Nelson, charged with rape, was bound over to the Marion county grand jury.

Central Howell — Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Herr, Clifford and Loren are on a trip to California during the school holiday vacation.

C. A. Cole of State Agriculture Office To Retire Dec. 31

Charles A. Cole, for nearly 25 years associated with the Horticultural division of the State Agricultural department, will retire December 31, department officials announced Tuesday.

Cole first joined the old State Board of Horticulture as secretary and in 1931 came into the Agricultural department as chief of the plant industry division. He had served as horticultural inspector since 1935.

Bearss Assistant In State Crime Lab

Appointment of Jack H. Bearss as assistant director of the Oregon state police department crime detection laboratory in Portland was announced Tuesday by H. G. Malson, state superintendent of state police.

Dr. Howard L. Richardson will continue as director. Bearss is a veteran of world war II and has

the rank of captain. He has been a member of the state police department since 1939 and connected with the laboratory in Portland for the past year.

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An Insurance Inventory

With end-of-the-year inventories in progress are you giving any thought to an insurance inventory? Are you getting the most for your insurance money? If not, it may be because the trend in insurance has not been called to your attention. The trend is toward a broad-form "package" policy which eliminates the need for as many as a dozen individual, limited types of policies. The result is broader liability protection, no overlapping of coverage, one premium to pay and one company to handle losses. We believe it may be well worth your while to investigate the Blanket Liability Policy written by SALEM'S GENERAL OF AMERICA AGENT. Call us for details.



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