

Hershey, Pa., Found to Have Excellent Facilities for Social, Cultural and Athletic Events

(Editor's note: Col. Mark Hillary, executive secretary of the Salem Memorial Auditorium association, is now on a tour of eastern cities inspecting auditorium facilities which might be applicable to Salem. One of the most interesting of his stories follows.)

HERSHEY, Pa. — This city, like the fabled towns of children's stories, has been built by candy, but unlike the fairy tales it has been by candy and not of candy and its origin is rooted in practical rather than ideal values.

Hershey is a small city of 4000 to 5000 almost solely dependent upon the Hershey Candy company and the trade which its workers

afford, yet it has facilities for culture, recreation, athletic and social life of which many cities 30 to 40 times its size would be proud to boast. First, though, a word about its political organization which is novel, to say the least.

Trustees Rule City
The community is governed, not by a mayor and council like most of the cities we know, but by a board of trustees. There are certain elective offices such as constable, etc., for whom the people may vote, but the major portion of control of the local community rests in the board of trustees who are representatives of the Hershey company. The factory interests of the Hershey company are directed by a factory board and the community interests by a group known as Hershey Estates. This latter controls all the municipal buildings and projects which have been built for community betterment.

These include an amusement park, a stadium which will seat 5000, an arena which will seat 7500, a theater which will seat 1950, and many other projects. The stadium and arena are located in a park area some six blocks from the city center and have been so laid out that parking facilities have been provided for some 6000 cars. The parking area is taxed to capacity when first-line attractions such as Sonja Henie, Oklahoma, Annie Get Your Gun, or Ice Follies are playing one week stands as they have for the past several years.

Quality Attractions
Hershey Estates has built a reputation of providing quality attractions. For this reason, patrons by the hundreds flock to Hershey from Harrisburg, Philadelphia and entire eastern Pennsylvania. Hershey is only 14 miles from Harrisburg and about 65 miles from Philadelphia.

An interesting note here is that the arena manager told your reporter that because of the increasing demand for tickets the Philadelphia Symphony orchestra must be moved this year from the theater to the arena in order to provide greater seating space and it will also have the advantage of reducing the cost of the seats from a \$3 top to about \$2.

The arena is a monolith construction with a floor area of 80 x 200. This width can be increased by removal of portable boxes located around the main floor. The floor is in sections and can be taken up and stored when attractions such as the ice follies, hockey games, etc., are scheduled. Hershey has a hockey team which for many years has placed in the top six of the American league. Seats are tiered rather steeply in order to bring the spectators closer to floor activities.

Two Faults Noted
Two faults, however, were noted and pointed out: roof floodlights were fixed and this requires extremely longer ladders for servicing (this could have been corrected by using a winch control), and the ticket office lobby is too small and lacks the necessary ramps leading off from it to feed the attendance to their sections.

The theater is located in the Community Center building and is a magnificent building of remarkable acoustical accuracy. It has a sloping floor and all seats on main floor and balcony are upholstered. The stage is about 65x135 feet with a stage opening some 50 feet wide by 30 feet high. The cat-walks in the flies are about 60 feet above the stage floor. The stage is sectional with hydraulic lifts for each section which makes it adaptable for all types of stage productions. Elevators move stars to their dressing rooms and ramps at the back of the stage lead to the basement for the movement of properties. A large foyer stabilizes the flow of patrons to the theater proper. Huge bouquets of roses from Hershey Show gardens decorated the foyer on the day we visited.

Hershey Estates may well be proud of the facilities which they have provided to the people of Hershey at such reasonable cost.

Coy Asks Racing News Firm Face Anti-Trust Laws

WASHINGTON, June 22 —(AP)—Chairman Wayne Coy of the federal communications commission proposed today that the government consider prosecuting a million-dollar-a-year racing news service under the anti-trust laws.

He told the senate crime investigating committee there is a "strong probability that the Continental Press Service of Cleveland holds a monopoly in furnishing racing information to distributors who in turn pass it along to sub-distributors of their own selection."

Continental is the chief source of racing news for bookmakers, Coy said.

Cattle Worker Said Slain by Thief

JOHN DAY, June 22 —(AP)—A Gr. county coroner jury has decided that Clarence Willingham, 64-year-old Long Creek cattle worker, was slain by a thief. Willingham's body was found June 8 in Long Creek. Several hundred dollars was missing from his purse. State police and Clifford B. Olson, county district attorney, are looking for the assailant.

Portland Still on 'Biscuit Diet'

PORTLAND, June 22 —(AP)—Portland's bakery workers went on striking today and Portland's housewives went on eating crackers and biscuits.

The AFL union's negotiating committee met with the 'union rank and file today and reported "no progress" from negotiations with employers and the federal mediation service.

"No further conferences were scheduled.

Efforts to cultivate truffles domestically have been successful in the past century, according to the National Geographic Society.

Drug Stores Said Turning Back to Drugs

PORTLAND, June 22 —(AP)—Drug stores are abandoning the idea they must sell everything from hardware to novelties, the president of the American Pharmaceutical association said today.

Henry H. Grett, Minneapolis, said druggists are learning they "should not cover up the professional side" with too much emphasis on kick-knacks. "They are promoting pharmacies, stressing the professional side," Gregg reported. He is here for the 61st annual

convention of the Oregon State Pharmaceutical association. Delegates to the convention elected Don Mitchell, Taft, as president; J. G. Densen, Portland, vice-president; Nick Siskavone, Portland, treasurer; and Pete Head, Klamath Falls, secretary.

Bids Sought on Sprinkler Systems For Institutions

Bids for installing a sprinkler system, for fire prevention, at the state home for the deaf and Fairview home, were sought by the state board of control Thursday. Cost of the installation was estimated at \$71,000. At the deaf school the sprinkler

Washington County Census Totals 61,221

ASTORIA, June 22 —(AP)—Washington county has 61,221 residents, a 60 per cent increase over 1940, the district census supervisor reported today.

Hillsboro continued to be the county's largest city with 5,122, system would involve the administration building and at Fairview home the administration building and all of the cottages. Bids will be considered by the board of control late in July

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an increase from 3,747. Forest Grove has 4,332, up from 2,449. Beaverton showed a 250 per cent increase, from 1,052 to 2,504.

The county's eight urban centers reported 14,508, an increase from 9,092. The rural population, much of it Portland city overflow, went up from 30,102 to 46,713.

HOUSE CRUSHES PAIR

QUITO, Ecuador, June 22 —(AP)—An elderly woman and child were crushed to death today when a house collapsed in the village of Saquisilí during an earthquake.

Panama, according to the Book of Knowledge year book, is an Indian word meaning plenty of fish.

Hospital Rate Increase Due

PORTLAND, June 22 —(AP)—Hospital rates will be increased throughout Oregon on July 1.

Franklin T. Smith, Grants Pass, president of the Oregon Association of Hospitals, who made the announcement, said "steadily rising costs involved in operating hospitals; 24 hours a day while the work week in general tends to contract" caused the increase.

As an example, basic ward rates in the Portland area will jump from a \$9 base to \$10.50 daily.

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