

## Face-lifting of City's Schools Being Rushed

The annual face lifting of the Salem public schools, with less than a month to go before some 1,025 school children troop back into halls and classrooms.

Only one project appears as if it might race to the wire, and that is the completion of the new Baker school which, according to M. H. Drake, superintendent of buildings and grounds for the city schools, is slightly behind schedule.

Contractors have said that delays in getting materials may hold up completion of the new school for children in grades one through three until close to Christmas.

**Completion Expected**

The remaining large projects, the remodeling of five elementary schools, should be completed well in advance of the opening date, September 10. And a good thing, Drake says, for after the contractors finish their end of the building, crews from the school district must begin the task of laying wax, cleaning windows and readying things for the arrival of children and teachers.

Painting, as usual, comprises the principal work of crews from the school district which annually repair damages to insides smudged from heating systems and masked by chalk dust, pencils, scuffs and a host of other things, and outside walls, battered from rains, winds and snow.

But improvements are noted this year in fields other than mere renovating.

**New Cafeteria Set**

A new cafeteria will greet students at Grant school. The cafeteria was formerly a portable building, used for storage, at the north-east side of the school grounds. It will feed some 150 children a day, Drake said.

But, outside of Baker school, the biggest summer job has come in remodeling and building at Richmond, McKinley, Highland, Pringle and West Salem schools, where a total of 24 new classrooms are being built, in addition to offices and multipurpose rooms at McKinley and Richmond schools. A library is being built at Pringle. The older parts of all the buildings have been completely remodeled, Drake said.

Work has been continued on the school district's visual education facilities. Drake estimates that with that part of the project completed this summer, mostly in the way of dark curtains and light proofing, the district's visual education facilities are about 60 per cent completed.

Another heavy outlay has come in acoustical work. A room at the senior high school has been fixed up so that now it can be used for a radio broadcasting room, which Salem high presently does not have. Acoustical work has also partially soundproofed the cafeteria at Liberty school.

**Play Fields Improved**

In playground facilities, Drake said that most of the work this summer has been spent in installing backstops and fixing up baseball and softball fields. Fences have been put in at several schools.

Some modernization was undertaken at Leslie junior high school, which was originally built without any electrical outlets. Those have been installed in all the school's classrooms.

The Englewood school auditorium floor was sanded and varnished over the summer, one of the biggest examples of that annual job.

**New Warehouse for Schools**

One other large project, of material importance to the school system, but which won't be seen by too many taxpayers, is the new district storerooms and shops, located at 13th and Ferry streets, in quarters formerly occupied by the city shops. They will be put all the district supplies — plumbing material, paint, glass, wax, varnish — which now are found scattered through the school administration building on north High street.

And an impressive lot of material will be stored there, according to Drake. There is no accurate estimate of the amount of paint the district uses each year on these summer cleanup jobs and spot jobs through out the year (although Drake figures no store in Salem keeps the needed amount on hand) but for some other materials estimates are known.

During the next year, Drake figures the district will use from 800 to 1000 gallons of wax, 500 to 600 gallons of varnish, and 600 to 1000 gallons of roof coating. In addition, tremendous amounts of glass are used annually.

But the "touching up" of the schools won't end with September 10. On the contrary, such tasks as carpentering, plumbing, wiring, landscaping, gardening and a host of others will keep the grounds and buildings department busy for the next nine months.

**Barely Wins Race 'Youngster', 70, With Oldster, 100**

STRUGA, Yugoslavia—(P)—Here in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the people—like an aging rooster—grow tougher as they grow older.

Joel Belevski turned 100 years old recently, still proud of his vigor. Nikola Kratovski, an old enemy, scoffed that Joe was getting old. Naturally, Joe was annoyed, so he challenged Nikola to a foot-race at 800 meters.

Nikola won. But only by the length of Joe's whiskers, carefully cultivated over the past century. It probably proves the old saying that a good young man is faster than an old one. For Nikola is just a youth—only 70 years old.

## Those Oklahoma Children Really Do Own an Elephant



Inspection — Some of her owners look over Judy.

**By Saul Feldman**

OKLAHOMA CITY—(P)—"Most any child in Oklahoma will tell you he owns part of an elephant. And he isn't fibbing!"

Of course, it might be just a nickel's worth, but just the same, the tyke has an interest in Judy, a five-year-old beauty — as elephants go.

Judy has just been graduated from elephant school magna cum laude. There's no doubt about it, her professor said, Judy is a baby elephant genius.

With mortar board and diploma, she paraded before many of her owners here and displayed what she learned in her search for higher education. Now she performs every day for zoo visitors.

Judy lives at Oklahoma City's famed Lincoln Park Zoo, but she was purchased by donations of children in the state. It all started in February, 1949 after Luna, the ancient and beloved pachyderm at the zoo, had to be put to death because of illness brought on by old age.

At Kingfisher, Okla., Duane Andrews, a high school student, sent a small contribution and suggested a fund be started to buy a new elephant. The idea mushroomed and the first day more than \$700 in contributions were received. At the same time, each contributor was asked to suggest a name. The goal was \$4,500 but before the drive ended, it went past \$7,500.

The additional money was used to buy other animals for the zoo. Contributions even arrived from as far off as Alaska and South America.

And a child who contributed — even a penny — had his name inscribed in the elephant owners' log which now is displayed at the zoo. There are more than 50,000 names and address recorded. The name Judy was selected because it was suggested more times than any other.

With the money in hand, zoo keeper Julian Frazier went to the west coast to inspect a shipment of elephants arriving from Siam. But actually, he didn't select Judy. It was the other way around. As he circulated among the elephants, one dainty, gentle 950-pounder playfully felt Frazier's ankle with her trunk. She 950-pounder playfully felt Frazier's ankle with her trunk. She butted him and trumpeted loudly.

"That's the one," Frazier announced. "I thought so before and I'm sure of it now."

Judy was taken to the Fort Worth Zoo for keeping until her formal coming out party could be arranged here. That's where she got her first taste of southwest weather. Floods hit the Fort Worth area and the water lapped up to her pen.

However, she managed to keep her feet dry and she was hurriedly trucked to Oklahoma City. More than 15,000 children turned out for her debut in Oklahoma City. There were bands, clowns, a magician, free shows and refreshments.

The first day Judy was at her new home in the zoo, 50,000 persons turned out to see her.

Last January, Frazier decided Judy was old enough to go to school so she could perform tricks for her benefactors. She packed her trunk and went to Perry, Okla., where Animal Trainer Bert Pettus started teaching her.

Judy immediately showed she was a precocious pachyderm. Only one thing kept her working after class — how to sit up. She received 80 per cent in that subject.

However, the rest of her report card would have made her jungle mother trumpet with delight. It read:

"Department 100; catwalk 90; turnabout on catwalk 95; dancing 85; curtsy 95.

## Sad-faced Dan Says He Won't Frustrate Men

**By Gene Handsaker**

HOLLYWOOD — Movies frustrate American men, argues Danny Thomas, by starring extraordinarily handsome guys like Robert Taylor and Tyrone Power.



The chinless or elephant-eared customer thinks, What chance have I with a beautiful dame?

Now all that is changed. Danny himself, the sad-faced comedian, is starred opposite Doris Day in "I'll See You in My Dreams". He marries her in this musical biography of the late lyricist, Gus Kahn. Kisses her seven or eight times in the course of the movie.

Will this pairing, which brought cries of "What?" among several top Warner aides when Director Mike Curtis first proposed it, be believable?

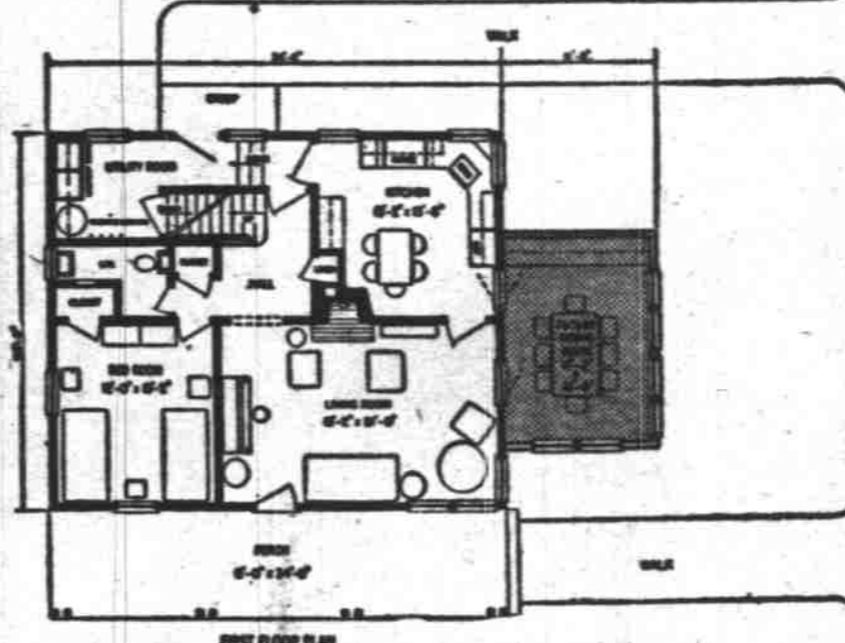
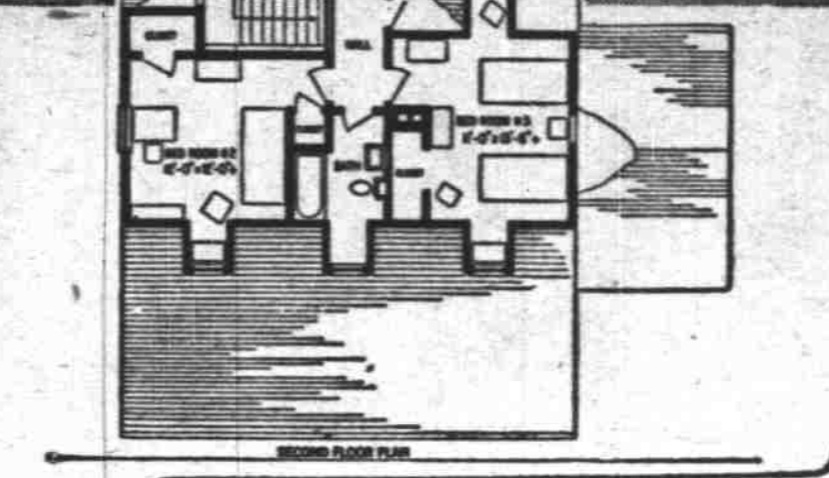
"We think so," Danny said, "I've made Doris cry in two rehearsals." She's supposed to be in love with his beautiful spirit. "Happens all the time in real life. People say, 'How could a beautiful woman like her ever marry a guy like him?'"

Danny did a stage act in Chicago and New York a few months ago with Marie (The Body) McDonald. In it he argued that, for realism, he should play a romantic lead in the movies. Marie would laugh, and Danny would turn to the audience and say:

"Look at these poor men—men with big noses, too large ears, or no chins at all. Think of the chisel-chinned Adonises who are being squirted on the screen week after week. Naturally the men in the audience feel a sense of frustration. For the morale of American men, it's high time a man with a puss like mine played a romantic lead."

Danny told me that "practically to a man," the male customers stood and yelled phrases like "You tell 'em, Danny!"

## Houseplan Available From OSC



This attractive one and one-half story farm home contains 1,144 square feet of floor area on the ground floor, 654 square feet upstairs. The artist's drawing and floor plan shows the dining wing attached, but it may be added later. Plans are available through the Oregon State College Farmhouse Plan Service, Corvallis. When ordering working drawings, ask for plan number 7017 and enclose \$1.00. Other plans may be seen and ordered through the county extension office.

## German Red Draft Planned

BONN, Germany—(P)—West German socialists claim that general military service will be introduced in the Soviet zone of Germany soon.

A review of East German rearmament, published by the headquarters of the socialist party here, says the "Volkspolizei," a military cadre of approximately 55,000 officers and men, is ready to handle a flood of recruits. Paper work for the large call-

up has already been done, the review states, under the pretext of collecting workers for uranium mines. Mass medical examinations were given to determine fitness for underground work. This information, the review says, can now be used as the basis for the future draft.

### TRADITION TO THE WINDS

NEW YORK—(P)—Reversing long standing policy, the William Waldorf Astor estate has bought 10 parcels of upstate realty, in Syracuse and Rochester. Traditionally, the estate has concentrated its holdings in Manhattan and vicinity.

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## Thought Brother's Head Was Melon

CAIRO—(P)—Ismail Hassen appeared before a court charged with attempting to murder his brother.

"My brother was sleeping in a watermelon field," he told the judge. "All of a sudden I had a dream. I dreamed my brother's head was a watermelon. So I tried to cut it open with my knife to find out if it was a good one."

Other witnesses testified Hassen was jealous because his brother

won his girl away. He was sentenced to hard labor for seven years.

### DANES HAVE PROBLEMS

NEW YORK—(P)—Hamlet, the melancholy Dane, still has a lot of relatives in Denmark. The suicide rate in Denmark is far higher than in Holland or Finland, and so is addition to drugs, says a report of Dr. Alf Yde in the Journal of the American Medical Association. He says this indicates a far higher incidence of mental depression in Denmark.



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