

Gigantic 'Jigsaw Puzzle' Put Together in Downtown Salem

The most gigantic jigsaw puzzle in all of Salem's history is being put together these days in the heart of the downtown business district.

Pieces in the puzzle are the thousands of white slabs of marble which workmen are carefully fitting onto the outside walls of the new \$1,500,000 Marion County Courthouse, now under construction.

"Jigsaw is right," says Lloyd Allan, foreman of the skilled crew of marble mechanics. "The pieces run into a number of different sizes. Each individual slab is quarried in Vermont to an exact size, taken from the architect's blueprint."

Every Block Numbered
"So every block is numbered, according to the blueprint, and it must go in a certain place. It can't be put anywhere else on the building. Workmen installing the slabs on this building work from the blueprint. They must see to it that each slab is placed correctly where it belongs within a fraction of an inch."

Allan and his 14-man crew of the Lutz Marble Co. of Portland are installing the Danby White marble surface using a fairly new method. Despite the ancient use of building marble, Allan says, new innovations are constantly being perfected.

"The slabs on this building," he said, "are about one and a fourth inches thick. We install them so there is a space between the slab and the building wall of an inch and a fourth. We fill this space solid with white cement. When it dries and sets you have a strong, waterproof, clinging wall."

"Old Method"
The Capitol building and the post office building in Salem, were both marbled by the Lutz company using the "old method." On these buildings the marble slabs are from three to six inches thick and are cemented right to the building face.

"By using thinner slabs of marble and filling the space with cement we get a more economical and stouter job," Allan said. In addition to the cement the slabs are secured to the wall with brass pegs, called "straps."

It takes about five years to turn out a skilled marble "mechanic." Main requirement are a steady eye and hand, a good head for measuring true and a strong back. Because blocks must be hoisted, fitted and often cut to fit around obstructions like drainpipes, fire escapes and watermains, a skilled marble man must be "able to do anything," said Allan.

They hope to complete their

present job, "one of our largest," by Christmas.

Allan and many of the men under him have worked on jobs all over the Pacific Coast including the recently-completed state service building and state highway building in Salem, and St. Joseph's Catholic Church. The slabs they fit together so carefully weigh from 30 to 800 pounds. They range in size from fairly small pieces to others 3 feet by 5 1/2 feet.

Don't Ruin Any
Asked what happens if a man breaks or otherwise makes a slab unfit for use, Allan said, "We just don't ruin any. If we did we'd have to send back to Vermont for a replacement. So far we haven't had to do that on this job."

To show how delicately balanced is the whole operation Allan pointed to a slab leaning against a wall.

The marble comes from the Vermont quarry in carload lots. Each carload contains the proper amount of slabs, all numbered, for a certain section of the building. The slab Allan had pointed out had arrived among the first carloads.

By its number, however, workmen knew it didn't belong in those shipments. It was set aside. Later as the work progressed and the marble facing crept up the walls of the building and more carloads arrived workmen found one piece of their jigsaw puzzle missing on the north side of the building.

Then Allan remembered the almost-forgotten orphaned slab which had been discarded from that first shipment. Sure enough it was the missing slab and it went into the space held open for it.

Middle Grove Club Holds Fall Meeting

MIDDLE GROVE—It will be the Middle Grove Community Club, Inc. now, as a result of a revision of the constitution of the Middle Grove Associated Clubs at the fall meeting here. Annual meeting date was changed from December to April. A nominating committee of Mrs. Gil Blankenship, Ernest Crum, Harold Anglin and Mrs. John Schaffer was appointed and new officers will be elected and installed at the Oct. 16 meeting. A discussion was held on development of a community party.

Marble 'Mechanics' Fix Slab



Engrossed in the skill-demanding job of fixing a slab of exterior marble facing to the new Marion County Courthouse building in Salem these two marble "mechanics" carefully measure a section. Ed Linder of Los Angeles, Calif., (left) works on a slab while Lloyd Allan, Portland, foreman of the Lutz Marble Co. crew, looks on. Allan has been a marble "mechanic" for 25 years.

Sweepstakes Tickets in Conspiracy

WILMINGTON, N. C. (AP)—A gambling conspiracy involving nearly two million dollars worth of Irish Sweepstakes tickets was uncovered on the Wilmington waterfront Saturday, officers reported.

New Hanover County Sheriff Marvin Register said a Wilmington cab driver, a laborer, and a waitress were arrested for allegedly participating in a plot to unload 20 cases of tickets from an Irish merchant ship.

He said the cases, containing 672,000 tickets, were stored in a tiny cabin near here to await an unidentified "pickup" man from New York.

Police said the tickets, valued

Firemen's Auxiliary Meets at Mill City

MILL CITY — The Firemen's Auxiliary met for their first meeting of the fall, Thursday evening. The evening was spent in playing canasta and pinocle, with Mrs. Aray Podrabsky and Mrs. W. C. Stewart Jr. receiving high and low prizes for canasta and Mrs. Don Flatman and Mrs. H. M. Agee, the prizes for pinocle.

Hostesses for the evening were Mrs. Lee Knowles and Mrs. D. W. Stewart.

at one English pound each (\$2.80), are worth \$1,881,600. Register said the trio will be charged with possession of lottery material.

Annual Mack Reunion Held At Champoeog

CHAMPOEG — The annual reunion of the Mack clan was held in Champoeog Park Sunday, September 13 with 36 descendants of William O. Mack present for the occasion.

William O. Mack settled in the Macksburg area in 1853. Oramel Roscoe Mack, son of the early pioneer, was the honor guest at the reunion. A history of the clan is being compiled by Mrs. Wayne Gurley and to date they have traced the family back to one John Mack, born in Scotland in 1653 and married to Sarah Bagley in 1681. It has been found that at least one direct ancestor fought in the American Revolution namely, Col. Joel Mack, grandfather of William O. Mack.

There was a short business meeting presided over by Wayne Gurley. Hilton Mack of Jennings Lodge was elected as the new president; M. O. Mack of Albany was elected vice president; Mrs. Ashel Mack of Canby, secretary-treasurer and Mrs. Wayne Gurley re-elected historian.

There were descendants from Portland, Albany, Eugene, Sweet Home, Corvallis, Oregon City, Jennings Lodge, Canby and Salem at the meeting.

Pioneer Clans Given Use of Library Room

JEFFERSON — At the city library board meeting Saturday afternoon in the library rooms, a special concession was made to members of the Gunaules and Conser families, in ruling them the use of the library rooms. It was thought that since the building was built by Jacob Conser, an ancestor of both families, and the building marks the spot where the Gunaules and Clark families spent the night on their arrival here 100 years ago, they should be free to inspect the building.

Survivors include his widow; two children, Connie and Kathy all of Willamina; his parents of Grand Ronde; a brother, Gordon of Grand Ronde, and a grandmother, Mrs. Neptalma Townsend of Hillsboro.

Ed Tripp
SHERIDAN — Funeral services were held Sept. 19 in Kelo, Wash., for Ed Tripp, 39, of Dallas, a former Sheridan resident. He is survived by his widow and two daughters.

of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Phelps on Talbot road were the latter's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Casenbury of Chase, Kans. While here, they enjoyed a trip to Clear Lake and fishing in the Lewis river at St. Helens.

THE VALLEY NEWS COLUMNS

From The Oregon Statesman's Valley Correspondents

Valley Obituaries

Rosa Kochis

WILLAMINA — Funeral services for Rosa Kochis were held at the Sheridan Funeral home Sept. 18, with interment in Green Crest Memorial Park.

Mrs. Kochis, 74, wife of Joseph Kochis of Grand Ronde, passed away as the result of a gunshot wound reportedly inflicted by her husband. The couple came here in 1905 from Hungary.

Rosa Bors was born in Hungary Jan. 10, 1879, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bors. In 1897 she was married to Joseph Kochis, who came to the United States in 1904, and she with a baby daughter followed in 1905. She was a member of the Evangelical Church.

Besides her husband, she is survived by three sons and three daughters, nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren; two sisters and four brothers in Hungary.

Glen Spurgeon

WILLAMINA — Funeral services were held Sept. 19 at the Christian Church for Glen Spurgeon, 23, who passed away in a Portland hospital following a woods accident near Sand Lake. Interment was in Green Crest Memorial Park in Sheridan.

Glen William Spurgeon was born Feb. 14, 1910, at Forest Grove, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Spurgeon. He had lived here the past 12 years, attended the Willamina High School where he was active in sports, and was student body president in 1949.

Survivors include his widow; two children, Connie and Kathy all of Willamina; his parents of Grand Ronde; a brother, Gordon of Grand Ronde, and a grandmother, Mrs. Neptalma Townsend of Hillsboro.

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Jefferson — The Parent-Teachers Council meeting will be held Monday night, Sept. 21 at 8 p.m. in the high school library. Mrs. Darwin of Conser is this year's P-TA president.

Butteville—Word has been received by Mrs. Ella Leavy that her youngest son, Edward John Leavy, a graduate of Notre Dame University in June, successfully passed the state bar examination held in July.

Sheridan — Sheridan High enrolled 164 students on the first day of school, several below last year's enrollment. A total of 473 were registered at the two Sheridan grade schools with 82 entered in the first grade.

Willamina — Fall term night classes will begin Monday, Sept. 21 in Willamina with offerings in music reading and ear training among classes under direction of department of higher education.

Keizer—Keizer P-TA will hold its first meeting of the year Thursday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium with President Leo Johnson presiding. Mrs. Carmalite Weddle will introduce the faculty which will be honored at a tea following a musical and poetic program on the theme "School Days."

Mill City — A cooked food sale is planned for Oct. 31 by the Altar Society of St. Catherine's Church here. Plans for the sale were laid at a meeting last week at the home of Mrs. Russell Hoffman.

Willamina — Opening day registration at the high school showed a total of 262, about 20 more than a year ago. New teachers include Miss Esther Burch, librarian, Brian Pendleton, science teacher, Robert Collins, music and band, and Richard H. Schoenborn, vocational agriculture and drivers training.

SILVERTON — Clifford Swartout, Molalla, was treated for bruises and cuts at the Silverton Hospital Saturday night and able to return to his home Sunday. Swartout figured in an automobile accident, particulars of which were not known here. No one other than Swartout was reported injured.

Semantic Suggestion Accepted by Chamber

PORTLAND, (AP)—The Minnesota Society of Oregon, whose members refer to themselves as Webfooted Gophers, wants theed.

Servicemen Of Willamina Area at Home

WILLAMINA — Several servicemen from this area have been home recently on furloughs from their units. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Houck have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Dewalt Houck while on a 25-day furlough from Sacramento Air Force Base.

A. I. C. Merle Leno is home on a 30-day furlough after concluding a tour of duty on Johnson Island, near the Hawaiian Islands. He will report to Colorado Springs for duty at the end of his furlough.

Buddy and Keith Ellis, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Ellis, have been home on emergency leave from the Navy to attend the funeral of a cousin, Jimmy Crawford, 16, of McMinnville.

A Sheridan man will return to the states soon according to word received here by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Lux. He is Wilford Lux who has been on duty in Korea and Japan.

Frank I. Keyton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Keyton of Grand Ronde, has returned to the states after a tour of Korean waters aboard the heavy cruiser the USS St. Paul.

Valley Births

SILVERTON — A son to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Martin, Silverton, Sept. 17, at the Silverton Hospital. A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jacobson, Mt. Angel, Sept. 18, at the Silverton Hospital.

A son to Dr. and Mrs. Edgar K. Anderson, Silverton, Sept. 18, at the Silverton Hospital.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis R. Smith, Molalla, Sept. 18, at the Silverton Hospital.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jell, Canby, Sept. 18, at the Silverton Hospital.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Rex Meyers, Hubbard, Sept. 18, at the Silverton Hospital.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Dewey McBride, Silverton, Sept. 19, at the Silverton Hospital.

A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William Scharar, Silverton, Sept. 20, at the Silverton Hospital.

Portland Chamber of Commerce to publicize Oregon's rain as "gentle dew from heaven." The Chamber, which has been known to refer to rain as "liquid sunshine" accepted such a petition from the ex-Gophers, adopted at the annual society meeting here. An estimated 5,000 attend-

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