Bullets Cut Down State Hospital Escapee

(Story in Column 8)

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

107th Year | 12 PAGES | Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, December 31, 1957 | PRICE 5c | No. 279

Land Acquisition for Recreation Proposed; Aerial Photo Shows Site

Acquisition of land for development of a recreational area on west side of Willamette River at Salem was proposed in petitions Monday. Aerial photo (looking west) is area being studied. Right side of photo is north. (Wallace Road is at upper left). Project would adjoin present Wallace-Albert Marine Park (far left) and be called Wallace Memorial Park in honor of R. S. Wallace family of which the late Paul B. Wallace, donor of Wallace-Albert tract, was a descendant.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

The Red-oriented Asian-African conference at Cairo probably will adopt a resolution endorsing nationalization of industry. It is aimed, one may assume, at foreign investment rather than native. The resolution under consideration justifies the takeover of property as "lawful means and a right which is acknowledged for every nation in accordance with the principles of national sovereignty."

From a legal standpoint that is correct. We call it the right of eminent domain. In its exercise units of government condemn private property for public use.

The distinction lies in this, that under our constitution private property may not be confiscated. On its seizure by government the owner is entitled to receive just compensation. The Red resolution, inspired by the Soviet spokesman, contemplates no compensation to the former owners.

This attitude toward foreign investment prevails in many circles among under-developed or backward peoples. It has bobbed up frequently in the economic committee of United Nations. In 1952 the committee adopted a resolution professing to recognize the right of governments to nationalize industry. The advanced nations didn't oppose the principle of nationalization—after all Britain had resorted to socialism for transport, coal mines and steel. What they did urge was

(Continued on editorial page 4)

Petitions Ask 3-Mile Recreation Area on West Side of Willamette

A long-range program for a three-mile recreational area on the west side of the Willamette River was disclosed Monday.

Petitions on which 10,000 signatures are sought were being readied by a group of Polk County residents in the Brush College area, headed by Emmett Rogers.

The petitions asked Polk County Court to obtain aproximately 350 acres of land along the river extending from the present Wallace-Albert Marine Park in Salem northward to a point just across stream from the Keizer and Manbrin Gardens area. It would in effect increase the present park area about 12 times.

Encompasses Farms

The land now encompasses the Leo Nelson, Clyde Carpenter and Willard Bachellor farms as well as parts of other plots. It is largely in bean and mint fields and small trees.

A separate petition proposes that the new area be named Wallace Memorial Park in honor of the R. S. Wallace family, Polk County pioneers.

The main petition asks the Polk County Court to obtain the land "on a fair and just basis by purchase, condemnation, legislation, option, contract or assignment" and "correlate the functions of existing committees in the creation, engineering, designing and operation of the projected Recreation Center for the health, welfare and entertainment of the citizens of the Mid-Willamette Valley, their posterity and guests."

A companion petition seeking county zoning of adjacent areas, to prevent undesirable development, was understood to be in the making. The zoning, if the petition is successful, would affect the area now included in the Wallace-Sheridan-Orchard Heights Roads Fire District.

No plan of financing has been worked out, Rogers said, pending study and determination of public reception of the program. He said his group felt it essential to start working on the project now before major development in the area might preclude it later on, and that leadership on the part of the Polk County Court was essential to assure orderly progress and coordination.

Considerable diking would be necessary, as well as dredging. A major feature would be a long water-racing course and large mooring.

Experimental Gardens

Included in the projected development would be a community building; golf course; parking areas (three entrances); group picnic sites; facilities for tennis, archery, badminton, handball, horseshoes, volleyball and softball; experimental gardens; clubhouse; service station; scull house; boat rental and fishing grounds.

Major use of the water-racing courses by colleges and universities would be contemplated, Rogers said.

The Weather

Today's forecast: Partly cloudy with fog tonight and Wednesday morning. Little temperature change. High today 44; low tonight 30.

(Complete report page 2)

Red Skelton Suffers Attack

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Dec. 30 Comedian Red Skelton was hospitalized tonight with what firemen described as "acute congestive heart failure."

At St. John's Hospital, Red's press agent, Milton Weiss, said doctors had diagnosed Skelton's ailment as cardiac asthma. Weiss said the comedian was in "quite serious condition at the moment, but he's resting comfortably."

Firemen said the diagnosis of the heart condition came from Skelton's physician, Dr. Garth K. Graham.

Skelton was stricken at his home in Bel Air, a section of Los Angeles east of here.

Weiss said that Skelton was stricken while working on a script for a skit he and Bing Crosby planned to tape tomorrow for a show benefiting Gonzaga University at Spokane, Wash.

But at a late hour tonight the hospital said Skelton was still unconscious and under oxygen.

Ike Okehs U.S. Aid to Education

GETTYSBURG, Pa., Dec. 30 UP —President Eisenhower approved today a four-year, billion-dollar program of federal aid to education, designed mainly to bring this country abreast of Russia in the production of scientists.

The bulk of the billion dollars would be spent to improve education in the high school level. And in this field the states would be expected to match federal allotments.

A key feature of the program, which will be submitted to Congress in 1958, is the granting of 10,000 federal scholarships in each of the four years to overcome a tragic waste in young American talent. There are also provisions for grants in aid which the states would match on a 50-50 basis,

Ike Stamps Okay

Eisenhower stamped his okay on the unprecedented seven-point program after an hour-long conference with Secretary of Health, education and Welfare Folsom at the President's country estate here.

Folsom emphasized that the program will be limited to four years.

Plans include:

1. Awarding of some 40,000 federal scholarships—divided among the states on a population basis—to provide college training for talented youngsters who wouldn't get it otherwise. These scholarships would average $750 to $800 a year and would be awarded by state commissions or boards.

Graduate Fellowships

2. Provision of fellowships for graduate students — 1,000 the first year, 1,500 in each of the following three years — to encourage more able college students to prepare for teaching careers.

3. Grants to states, on a 50-50 matching basis, to stimulate better testing of student abilities and aptitudes. This would start at the seventh grade level.

4. Matching grants to the states for improved counseling and guidance of young students. The object here is to encourage talented pupils to remain in school.

5. Matching grants to states for more and better teaching of science and mathematics. Funds would be used to employ more teachers, provide additional teaching materials and increase teachers' pay.

Financing Centers

6. Financing centers for training in foreign languages — particularly those of "emerging nations" in Asia, Africa and the Near East. These centers, under the auspices of regular educational institutions, would train teachers and government personnel.

7. A "substantial increase" in the present 40-million-dollar budget of the National Science Foundation. This group currently carries on a number of activities directed generally toward improving the quality of research, training and teaching in the sciences.

The program calls for an appropriation of 225 million dollars in the first year, with a four-year total of one billion dollars. An estimated 800 million dollars would go for the 50-50 matching grants in aid to the states.

Accordionist Contino Broke

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30 UP — The federal court clerk's office said accordionist Dick Contino filed a voluntary bankruptcy petition today. Contino said he is $51,983 in debt.

Contino, who was fined $10,000 and sentenced to federal prison for six months in 1951 on draft evasion charges, listed liabilities of $64,803 in unsecured debts.

Contino, who started his career by winning a Horace Heidt amateur contest, later served in the U.S. Army in Korea.

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Midnight To Herald New Year

At the stroke of twelve tonight bearded Father Time will carve a new notch in his eternal scythe while Salem residents welcome the birth of a new year and record the passing of an old one.

Spirits promise to be high this New Year's Eve with many special parties, suppers and celebrations planned.

Salem hotels, clubs and dance floors will be crowded with dancing feet, horn tooters and "old acquaintances."

Liquor stores in Salem will close at 6 p.m. tonight and remain closed all day tomorrow. The stores open today at noon.

While some are whooping it up, others will celebrate the coming of 1958 by attending one of many scheduled Salem church services. For others the exchange of a casual "Happy New Year" will suffice.

To Step Into Past

In the din of the celebration, old Mr. 1957 will relinquish his hour glass to fledging 1958 and sullenly step into the past. He will be a year remembered and one that has obviously left his mark. For 1957 was a year in which the space age was actually launched.

Most Salem stores will be closed New Year's Day. Virtually all public offices close.

The Salem police department has issued a warning to all drivers to proceed with caution tonight. Salem police Chief Clyde Warren says: "Our patrolmen will be on the lookout; intoxicated drivers will just go to jail."

Dances Planned

Dances are planned at Salem Elks Club, Fraternal Order of Eagles and American Legion Club."

Salem's two downtown movie theaters will have midnight shows, and Crystal Gardens is staging a carnival dance.

The Senator and Marion Hotel are also planning special festivities.

Adding to the din of noisemakers will be the resounding blasts of diesel locomotive horns according to Southern Pacific which allows its engineers to sound off at midnight Dec. 31.

(List of church services on page 5)

Cloudy Day, Fog Expected

McNary Field weathermen said it will be partly cloudy today with the fog rolling in for New Year's Eve.

As the temperature skidded to 28 degrees early this morning, spots of ice made travel on some roads in the Salem area dangerous, state police said.

The Salem bureau said there would be little change in temperature. Monday's high was 39 degrees with a low of 29.

Associated Press reported Northern Oregon beaches as partly sunny today with rain tonight.

500 Employes Return to Work At Paper Plant

Masses of machinery at Oregon Pulp and Paper Co. started whirring again Monday as some 500 employes returned to work after an eight-day Christmas layoff.

All plant operations resumed and full crews were on hand in all departments, said Karl Heinlein, mill superintendent.

Officials said reason for the extra-long holiday shutdown was to take care of accumulated vacations due about half of the employes.

Regime of Ben-Gurion Steps Down

(Picture on page 2)

JERUSALEM, Israel Sector, Dec. 30 UP — Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and his 16-member Cabinet resigned tonight in the climax of a dispute involving leftist Laborite ministers.

The five-party coalition government has been in office since Dec. 3, 1955.

The resignation becomes effective tomorrow when submitted to President Izhak Ben-Zvi. It is expected the President will accept the resignation and call on Ben-Gurion to form a new government.

If Ben-Gurion agrees, he likely will exclude members of the leftist Achduth Avodah (Labor Unity) party, with whom he has been feuding the past two weeks.

A Cabinet resolution indicated an Israeli need for arms was at the bottom of the dispute. Some said the quarrel involved a plan to buy arms from Western Germany. The West Germans, however, denied they intended to sell armaments to Israel.

Woman Faced By Dilemma In New Year

The 57th birthday anniversary this New Year's Eve of Mrs. Sylvia B. Allen, 1360 Clearview Dr. NE, is worrying some minds.

Mrs. Allen boasts of having been born the last hour of the last day of the 19th century.

"Eleven p.m., Dec. 31, 1899?" someone said.

"No," she replied. "Eleven p.m., Dec. 31, 1900."

The confusion comes in trying to decide if 1900 winds up the 19th century or begins the 20th. If 1900 is the year of the 20th century, then the 1st century A.D. began with the year Zero. But, on the other hand.

Many people have worried about this problem, "but not me," Mrs. Allen said as she made plans to celebrate tonight—working in a restaurant.

2 Convicts Flee Criminal Ward; Civilian Knifed

By ROBERT L. STEVENS
Staff Writer, The Statesman

A State Hospital escapee, James Johnson, 22, was shot twice Monday afternoon while resisting arrest just nine hours after he and a companion, both convicted burglars, broke out of the hospital's criminal ward.

His companion, Vernon Street, 38, described as "potentially dangerous," was still at large early Tuesday, state police reported.

Two bullets, one in the left leg and another which penetrated the pelvis and lower back, felled Johnson as he fled across a plowed field northeast of 4725 Swegle Rd. in east Salem, State Patrolman Lloyd Riegel said.

Hospital physicians later described Johnson's condition as "fair." He was returned to the State Hospital by the Salem first aid car.

Johnson, who along with Street had been sent to the hospital from the State Prison, was apprehended about two miles northeast of the hospital. Before he was wounded, he slashed the hand of a civilian pursuer, Harry Shively, with a knife believed stolen from the hospital shoe shop. One of the shots that wounded the fugitive came from Shively's rifle.

Spotted by Guard

The escapee was first spotted about 1 p.m. by state prison guard J. R. Johnson who was patrolling the area of D Street and Salem Bypass. Johnson told state police he yelled at the fugitive to stop but that the man began running.

The prison guard jumped out of his auto and ran after the escapee, chasing him for about two miles until the burglar cut across the field, the officer said.

Correctional Officer Johnson, who was armed with a .38 caliber pistol, fired seven shots over the fleeing man's head, yelling for him to halt.

Shively, called to aid in the chase, grappled with the escapee in Shively's backyard at 3777 Maynard Dr. NE, and suffered the hand slash. Shively then recounted getting a .22 rifle from his car and after firing several warning shots, hit the fleeing man in the left leg at 50 yards.

Fugitive Shot in Back

When the fugitive continued to run, Officer Johnson, ammunition almost gone, struck the escapee in the back with a shot.

Several state, city and county officers entered in the final moments of the muddy chase.

Johnson and Street, both convicts, escaped from the State Hospital about 4:25 a.m. Monday by lowering themselves from their third floor cell on sheets and blankets tied together, hospital superintendent Dr. Dean K. Brooks said.

The men escaped from their cell by breaking loose a heavy wire screen over the barred window of their room and using a sashweight in the window frame to batter a hole in the brick wall beside the frame.

(Add. details on page 5)

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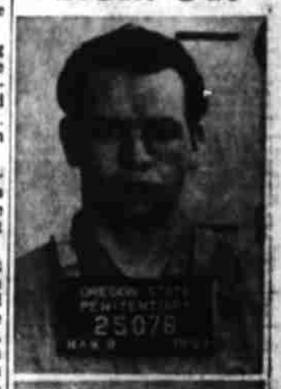
Break Out



James Johnson (top), shot and captured Monday after he and Vernon Street (bottom), escaped from State Hospital's criminal ward. Street was still at large early this morning.

Six Hostages Set Free as Guns Boom

(Picture on page 7)

INGLEWOOD, Calif., Dec. 30 UP—Scores of lawmen ended nearly three hours of drama today by firing a tear gas barrage into a neighborhood bar, flushing two bandits who had been holding five men and a woman at gunpoint.

Hundreds of fascinated bystanders watched as the proceedings—televised live locally — unfolded like scenes from a B movie. . .

Officers with sub machine guns and other weapons crouched behind cars surrounding the bar . . . pleas to the gunmen to throw down their weapons and come out . . . a scene through a window of a pistol held against the captive woman's head . . . a huge crowd, necks craned . . . finally the boom of tear gas guns, and the bandits stumbling out bleary-eyed to surrender.

Pair Booked

Booked on suspicion of robbery are Howard Lee Scott and Roger A. Hoskins, both 19, Inglewood.

The scene was a street corner bar-cafe in this community 15 miles south of Los Angeles. The action began shortly before 7 a.m., when two men with nylon stockings over their heads surprised the bartender and customers. They demanded money, and herded five men and Evelyn Shane, 37, into a rest room.

Then suddenly police appeared.

The pair demanded a car to get away in, and a head start. When this was refused, one called: "Then come on in and get us."

Through a screen door, officers could see one man with a gun against Miss Shane's head.

Street Packed

Re-enforcements—and the curious—soon packed the street. While police, armed with shotguns, submachine guns and pistols took up positions on the cafe roof, behind cars and buildings, detectives kept up rapid fire pleas to surrender.

Hours later the bandits did.

Other hostages were identified as the bartender, Charles Czik, 38, Allan Desmore, 45, Silven E. Hively, 54, James Triggs, 45, and James Best, 31.

Miss Shane, reliving the hours of terror, told police that one of the men told her "he'd blow my head off." Later he said he was "only fooling, that he wouldn't really have hurt me."

Statesman Ballot Box

Brickbats and Plaudits Greet Query on Statesman's Course

Brickbats and plaudits came to The Statesman this week — and some fine suggestions. (Details on Page 4).

They were the result of this newspaper's weekly Ballot Box which asked the question: "What do you wish your Statesman to do in 1958?"

The answers ranged all the way from a literal translation of drop dead to "keep up the good work." They came from nearly everywhere in the valley, including Corvallis, Silverton, Woodburn, Brooks, Turner, Dallas, Jefferson and other points.

Some had to do with circulation —keep the paper out of the rain and don't paste address stickers over the date.

Others had to do with coverage of valley points—more.

Several urged editorial campaigns for health insurance and power development, against sex literature and parking meters.

A few objected to the subscription price which was raised several months ago for the first time in six years.

A few others asked for specific features such as Drew Pearson, the accuracy of whose column has been increasingly questioned, and Sylvia Porter, whose copyrighted tax reviews are available in some areas.

One wanted more ski news; another objected to Family Weekly, and still another opposed publication of specific Safety Valve letters.

All suggestions are being sifted, sorted and evaluated to the end that reader-opinion will be given every consideration.

This week the Statesman Ballot Box, after enjoying a generous response to queries about the newspaper itself, reverts to sampling its subscribers' views on the news of the day. The new question, the answers to which will appear next Tuesday, is:

"Would you favor Daylight Time for Oregon?"

Statesman Ballot Box

The advent of the New Year, as usual in the last decade or so, will bring new suggestions to place Oregon on Daylight Savings Time come spring. In a poll some years ago, Statesman readers opposed it better than 3 to 1. Since then, many states have adopted it routinely and the plan has spread. Oregon has declined to participate. But maybe opinions have changed. There is only one way to find out. Today's question:

Would you favor Daylight Time for Oregon?

Yes .....; **No** .....

Comments: .....

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Mail to or leave with: THE OREGON STATESMAN, BALLOT BOX EDITOR, 280 CHURCH ST. N.E., SALEM, OREGON.

On the Brighter Side . . .

By John Ericksen

Not Even Boats? This no parking sign in Wallace Marine Park doesn't carry much authority this winter since high water flooded a section of the park. Milton Bressler (left) and Millard Todd took a boat out to look over the park Monday—decided to break the law and anchor in the no parking area.