

Astoria Lawyer Named Justice On High Court

Gordon Sloan, 46, prominent Astoria attorney, was appointed Thursday by Gov. Robert D. Holmes to the state supreme court.

Sloan, son of a former Kansas supreme court justice, will succeed Randall B. Kester, who will resign March 1 to re-enter private practice.

New Judge



Gordon Sloan, Astoria, appointed Thursday to the Oregon Supreme Court.

Court procedure is not foreign to the justice, who was three times Circuit Judge pro tem in Multnomah County, and has appeared before the supreme court many times. He will be the youngest member of the seven-member court.

He is a former vice-president of the Board of Governors of the Oregon State Bar.

Sloan has been active in other branches of the legal profession and in community affairs of his home town. He is a Democrat—the only Democrat appointee now on the non-partisan bench is Justice Hall S. Lusk.

The governor's office said Sloan's "high integrity, legal ability and age" were all factors in his appointment.

A member of the board of governors of the Oregon State Bar from 1949 to 1952, Sloan served as vice president in 1952. He was a member of the Bar Examiners in 1953 and 1954 on appointment by the supreme court. He is presently a member of the Bar's judiciary and disciplinary committees.

In Astoria where he has practiced since 1940, Sloan has been an active leader in the Astoria Community Chest, Red Cross, school board, Chamber of Commerce, Clatsop County Public Health Association and the Astoria Inter-Club Council.

State Senate Nominee

He was his party's nominee for the state senate for Clatsop and Columbia counties in 1946, but was defeated by the late Merle Chessman.

He was born in Kansas, graduated at University of Kansas in 1933, and received his doctor of laws degree from Washburn Law College at Topeka.

Prior to 1940 he practiced law with his father in Kansas and was assistant U. S. attorney there. He is married and has a daughter, Sally, 16, and a son, William, 13. Sloan is a Mason, a member of the Methodist Church and of the Elk and Moose lodges.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

PALM SPRINGS, Calif., Feb. 20—This is our first visit in Palm Springs in 22 years. In 1936, we drove here from San Diego, over the San Jacinto Mountain highway, through a light snowfall, as I recall. We spent a few hours here, found it hot in the sun, but a chill wind was blowing off the mountains and we drove on to Pomona. In the interval, of course, the city and its environs have been transformed. About all we recognize are the surrounding mountains and, in the distance, desert space still untrammeled. For the rest, man (with water) has triumphed.

An important contribution to the transformation is the "mobile home" (see house trailer). Only here it has largely lost its mobility. Here extensive trailer parks with lots and streets and community centers flourish in varying degrees of luxury. Some, of course, are primitive—metal cases fronting on bare ground. Others, though, are dressed with colored awnings, a green dooryard, and some are elaborate with cabanas (attached rooms) which are furnished like a home, perhaps complete with fireplace. They offer the combination of luxury and simplicity in living arrangements.

Mostly there are acres of hotels, mostly one-story, with swimming pools in patios. Here, too, are private dwellings ranging from ordinary domiciles to expensive residences. Palm Springs is a favorite of the movie colony and their houses rate with their income brackets.

But everywhere the Sun God claims adoration. Life in the sun (Continued on Editorial Page 4.)

Flier Lands in Clover Patch

HAZEL GREEN, Feb. 20—A Hubbard pilot was forced to land his private plane near Hazel Green School northeast of Salem this morning after he became lost in fog while flying from Redmond.

Jack Lenhardt, a 21-year-old crop duster, landed safely in a clover field owned by P. E. Sanders about 9 a.m.

He told witnesses he had just purchased the plane in Las Vegas, Nev., and left Redmond this morning for Woodburn.

The field will allow a normal take-off, probably Friday, Sanders said.

Ship Blast Toll 53

MANAMA, Bahrain, Persian Gulf, Feb. 20—An official figure of 53 dead was posted today after an explosion ripped apart the 7,440-ton British freighter Seistan last night.

'Thrill Slayer' Leopold Wins Parole in Illinois

(Picture on Page 1)

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 20—Nathan Leopold received a parole today, and he vowed to go out into the world and "justify the faith shown in me."

The Illinois Parole and Pardon Board decided to free one of the nation's most widely known convicts.

But officials estimated it would be three or four weeks before the prison gates open—time needed to check and approve Leopold's arrangements for a home and job.

Leopold, 33 now and pallid and paunchy after serving almost 33½ years for the wanton slaying of 14-year-old Bobby Franks in 1924, did not see reporters or photographers. But he sent out a typewritten statement of thanks to the parole board, friends and news-

men. Chairman Franklin Stransky did not divulge the numerical vote in Leopold's case, but he reported the board had taken into consideration Leopold's work in prison. Leopold, among other duties, ran a school for inmates and worked in the prison hospital.

Leopold prefers to work as a laboratory technician in a rural hospital operated by the Church of the Brethren in Castaner, Puerto Rico.

Leopold, then 19, and Richard Loeb, then 18, picked up the Franks boy May 21, 1924, on Chicago's South Side. The youth, seated in a car, was slain with a cold-chisel and his body was stuffed into a culvert. Loeb was slashed to death by a fellow convict in 1936.

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The Weather

Today's forecast: Mostly cloudy today, tonight, with early morning fog; high near 55, low 42.

(Complete report page 9)

Senate Advances Postal Rate Boost

Neuberger, Morse Tangle in Debate

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20—A five-cent postal rate for letters mailed out of town was approved 7-4 today by the Senate Post Office Committee. It would be effective for three years.

President Eisenhower and Postmaster General Summerfield have been pushing for increases since 1953, but up to now the Senate Committee has always blocked the legislation.

In addition to five-cent stamps for first class letter mail, the committee approved:

An eight-cent rate for airmail, now carried at six cents an ounce;

A 30 per cent increase in the rate for second-class mail—newspapers and magazines—applied in three annual jumps of 10 per cent; and

A 60 per cent increase in the rate for third-class mail—advertising matter—applied in three annual jumps of 20 per cent.

These and other increases would take effect July 1 to add an estimated 750 million dollars a year to postal revenues.

While the postal bill won't be called up until Tuesday, debate on it broke out on the Senate floor this afternoon.

Sen. Morse (D-Ore) assailed the committee decision to put in the 5-cent rate and tangled with his junior colleague from Oregon, Sen. Neuberger, on the point.

Morse said that first class mail now pays its own way or comes very close to it, whereas the heavy losses were in other classes.

He said the effort to get first class to make up the deficit was "a brazen attempt by the publishers of newspapers and magazine editors of the country to make a grab bag out of the nation's mail bag."

Neuberger pointed out that even with a 5-cent stamp the department "still will be substantially short of pay-as-you-go," and asked how large a deficit Morse would be willing to see.

"Should there be no end to this?" he asked.

Whisky, Gunfire Recalled In Fatal Stayton Shooting

ALBANY, Ore., Feb. 20—Bruce Westerberg remembers drinking whisky with Glen Phillips. He also remembers shooting a water glass out of Mrs. Westerberg's hand, to show Phillips the accuracy of his .22. But as to how Phillips met his death, that's something else.

Questioning of Westerberg, 35, was still underway here tonight.

The body of Phillips, 47-year-old Lyons man, was found at the Westerberg home at Stayton Wednesday morning. His death was first believed natural but at the Weddle Funeral Home a bullet hole was found in the man's clothes and body.

Sheriff George Miller said tonight Westerberg was recalling additional events at his home.

Westerberg's wife, Hazel, 38, is being held as a material witness, Miller noted.

The officer said Westerberg had told him he and Phillips were good friends, Tuesday night he had driven to Lyons, picked up Phillips, then continued to Mill City where he purchased two bottles of whisky and the men had some drinks, he told the sheriff.

After returning to the Westerberg home in Stayton, Phillips took a shower and asked to borrow his host's .22 rifle to hunt rabbits in the Mill City area.

Westerberg quoted Phillips as asking if the gun would shoot straight and the owner had his wife hold a water glass in her hand. He shot it out of her fingers without touching her, the sheriff related.

The Stayton man said he didn't remember much after that. He went to bed and Phillips bedded down on theavenport. He didn't collapse, however, Westerberg stated.

Miller said the man told him the next morning they found Phillips

dead and assumed he died of a heart attack. He could not recall ever pointing the gun at the man, or shooting at him. The sheriff quoted him as saying if one of the bullets hit Phillips, it must have ricocheted.

The sheriff said he and Linn County District Attorney Courtney Johns spent a major portion of Thursday at the scene of the shooting seeking additional information.

The officer also said Mrs. Westerberg had recounted how her husband in the past had shot water glasses off her head, and would have her stand against a wall. Then he would fire bullets all around her body. She called it "pinning her to the wall," Sheriff Miller said.

Coffin Found At South High

A coffin mysteriously showed up in a hall at South Salem High School Thursday night. On it was painted, "Six Feet Under With the Saxons."

It obviously was a reference to tonight's basketball game between the South High Saxons and North High Vikings at North High. How the makeshift coffin got there was anybody's guess but some South High students opined the perpetrators must have hid out in the building before it was locked up for the night.



On the Brighter Side . . . By John Erickson

Dave Beck Sentenced To Prison

SEATTLE, Feb. 20 (AP)—Dave Beck Sr., wealthy and once powerful labor leader, was told today he must go to prison for up to 15 years for stealing \$1,900 from the Teamsters Union.

His son, Dave Beck Jr., convicted on stealing \$4,650 from the Teamsters, was fined \$2,000 and further sentencing deferred for three years on condition he return the money.

Superior Court Judge George H. Revelle, who pronounced sentence, and Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll said they would recommend that the senior Beck, 63, serve three years.

The actual time is set by the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles.

The decisions were handed down in a dramatic two-hour courtroom scene in which the 37-year-old son first heard of his fate while his father nervously listened on a spectators bench. Still hanging over the elder Beck's head is his scheduled trial in May on federal charges of evading \$240,000 in income taxes.

Beck Jr. was convicted Nov. 23 on two counts of pocketing the proceeds from the sale of two union-owned Cadillacs. His father was convicted Dec. 14 on one count of grand larceny in failing to return to the union \$1,900 received in the sale of another Teamster Cadillac.

Both denied the charges, claiming the money had been lost track of in involved union bookkeeping.

Portland Man Files for Seat In Congress

Richard Wayne Hill, Portland Republican, filed his candidacy with the state elections division Thursday for the Republican nomination for Congressman from the Third Congressional District.

The office is now held by Mrs. Edith Green, Portland Democrat.

Other filings Thursday include Republican state Sen. Donald R. Husband of Eugene for re-election from Lane County, and Democrat Emil A. Stutz, Nyssa, for re-election as representative from Malheur County.

Republican Edwin E. Cone of Eugene, now a state representative, filed for the senate. Republican Rudy Reinertson of Burns filed for representative from the Grant-Harney-Lake County district. William Logan Cawood, Portland Democrat, filed for state senator from Multnomah County.

Mostly Cloudy Day Forecast

Mostly cloudy is the weather outlook for the Salem area today through Saturday, forecasters at McNary Field said. Early morning fog patches are expected.

Temperature range Thursday was 39 to 55 and readings for the next two days are expected to be on that level.

Polk Fire Investigation Brings Arrest of Three

Youths Faced by Arson Charges



DALLAS, Ore., Feb. 20—Two youths facing second-degree arson charges here in a string of house fires are Charles Buchanan, Falls City, second from left, and George Starkweather, Corvallis, far right. With them are Polk County Sheriff's deputies Virgil Taylor, left, and Wes Rhoades. A 16-year-old Falls City girl is also held. (Statesman photo)

Accused Of Blazes At Houses

By MERVIN JENKINS

DALLAS, Ore., Feb. 20—Police today arrested three persons on second-degree arson charges involving burning of farm houses in Polk County. They are seeking a fourth member of the group.

In Polk County jail here are Charles Frederick Buchanan, 18, Falls City, and George Rex Starkweather, 20, Corvallis. The third person is a 16-year-old Falls City girl, according to Polk County sheriff's deputy Virgil Taylor.

The arrests climaxed a three-week investigation involving the state police arson squad, Polk County Sheriff Tony Neufeldt's department and Falls City Police Chief Harold Stevens.

Sheriff's deputies Taylor and Norman Wilson said the youths would give no reason for starting fires that destroyed a house on the Richard Orsborn farm Feb. 11 and the David Entz house Feb. 14. They are also accused of attempting to burn a house known as the Old Fern Place on Feb. 11. None of the houses was occupied. All are located on the Dallas-Falls City highway a short distance south of Dallas.

Buchanan's arrest was made early this morning at Falls City. Starkweather and the girl were apprehended early this evening.

No Connection Indicated The officers indicated there was no connection between the Polk County fires and those in Marion County. Fire which destroyed the Howard Clark home near Marion last Saturday was believed caused by smoker's carelessness, the state police arson squad reported. The other Marion County fire was a vacant house that burned at night near Silverton.

A second house in the same area as the two burned Polk homes was also reported earlier as having evidence of arson. Deputies did not comment upon this case.

Police say they doubt if the James Overholser home fire about the same time was caused by the suspects. The Overholser family was in Corvallis and lost all contents in the blaze.

Two Girls in Semi-Finals of Spelling Bee

MT. ANGEL, Feb. 20—Barbara Zach likes to sew, cook and spell, and she'll represent St. Mary's School as host contestant in a semi-finals of the Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest here Thursday night, March 6.

Barbara, 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Zach, was certified as spelling champion of the 7th and 8th grades by Principal Don Anderson. Her teacher is Eymard Berning. She is in the 8th grade.

Second and third places, respectively, were won by Kathleen Beyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Beyer, and Donna Jean Wilde, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wilde.

All three spellers are being awarded certificates of merit.

PRATUM, Feb. 20—Sports and playing the organ don't take all of Ruth DeVries' time. The 13-year-old Pratum 8th grader is spelling champion of her school and will compete in a semi-finals of the Statesman-KSLM Spelling Contest at the State School for the Blind in Salem, Wednesday, March 5.

Ruth DeVries is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold DeVries, Route 5, Box 795, Salem. Her teacher and principal is Mrs. Pearl E. Andrews.

Second place in spelling at Pratum was won by Jerry Chapman, 13, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Chapman, Route 5, Box 386, Salem, and third place went to Henk Schenk, 12, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Klaas Schenk, Route 2, Box 617, Salem. The runners-up are 7th-graders.

State Health Decree Outlaws Old Tin Cup

By CONRAD PEANOE
Staff Writer, The Statesman

The old tin cup, a fast-fading standby of summertime field work, was given a final boot Thursday by a State Wage and Hours Commission committee. In a public hearing called to review regulations on sanitary and other conditions affecting women and minor workers, the special committee recommended that the commission prohibit the use of the "common drinking cup."

It also urged that approved sanitary drinking fountains be installed wherever there is water under pressure and that drinking water practices in the field meet "quality standards of the State Board of Health."

The regulation will come as no great shock to farmers, said Gordon Walker, Independence, representing employers on the conference session. He said the drinking cup has been out of vogue for several years.

The committee met to consider regulations which have not been changed since 1941, and to make them conform more closely to regulations already in force by State Board of Health inspectors.

Proper restroom and garbage disposal facilities also were reviewed. The rules apply to hop yards, berry fields, orchards and other agricultural pursuits. Campgrounds were ordered to comply with state health regulations and may be the subject of a future conference, according to Commission Chairman Henry S. Howard of Eugene.

Minor Charges Asked The commission also reviewed and made minor recommendations in laws governing women and minor workers in industry. These included general plant cleanliness, lighting, ventilation, heat, water, washrooms and other welfare issues.

Mrs. Anne Chambers, business agent for the Salem Culinary Workers Union, represented employees on the committee.

Woman Killed By Automobile **HARRISBURG, Ore.**—A 33-year-old Seattle woman suffered fatal injuries about 10:15 p.m. tonight when struck by a car half a mile north of here on Highway 99, state police said. Officers said the victim carried papers with the names Jo Ann Brooks and Jo Ann Poole. The car driver was listed by officers as Donald Robert Husband, Eugene, former state senator, police said.

The woman's death was the 48th traffic fatality in the state this year and the 17th for the month of February, according to Associated Press figures.

Spring Budding Out But Berrymen Fear Freeze **By LILLIE L. MADSEN**
Farm Editor, The Statesman

While some strawberry growers in Western Oregon are looking ahead to an early picking season with schools still in session, others are worrying about no crop at all should sharp freezes occur in March or April.

Should warm weather continue, minus frosts, growers foresee a strawberry picking season underway by mid-May.

County agents in the Willamette Valley say that few strawberries are sufficiently advanced to be greatly damaged by any "likely frost." A prolonged frost, with temperatures dropping below 38 or 27, could be damaging, but seldom are such temperatures experienced in the valley this late, Ben A. Newell, Marion County agent said Thursday.

In some areas growers have already approached school authorities in an effort to set plans rolling in case picking should advance a couple of weeks earlier than normal. The Statesman could learn of no definite plans yet made Thursday, although some school authorities said they were "giving some thought" to the situation.

A heavy frost would damage peach trees, a number of which are now in bloom, but light frosts in the opinion of Newell, would not be "too damaging." A few growers report "an occasional" cherry tree in bloom, and cold should drop below 27 degrees could be quite damaging to these.

"And should a heavy frost come in mid-March or early April damage could run into millions of dollars to berry and fruit growers," Claron Mace, extension agent in Clackamas County reported.

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Jaycees to Start Petitions for Two Zoning Areas North, South of Salem

Initiative petitions to propose two zoning districts in Salem's fast-growing north and south suburbs were announced Thursday by the Salem Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The group will begin March 4 gathering some 1,200 signatures needed to put the two measures on the ballot, either May 16, or in a special election.

It approved by the estimated 10,000 voters in the two areas, the County Court, through the County Planning Commission, would set up and regulate the zoning districts.

Zoning regulations set up areas reserved for business or for residential development.

Lloyd G. Hammel, chairman of the petition drive, said the Jaycees were sponsoring the measure because many of its members live in these areas and recognize the importance of setting up zoning regulations now before the areas become a crazyquilt of businesses and homes.

The northern district includes an area north of the Willamette River and Highway 99E to and including McNary subdivision north of Keizer.

The south area extends from the city limits between South River Road and the Salem Bypass to about one-half mile south of Boone Road.

The small amount of farm land included in this area would not be affected, Hammel said, because the law specifically excludes it from zoning regulation.

The zoning regulation is based on a law passed by the 1957 Legislature that permits zoning districts to be set up in small areas within a county.

Proposals to set up zoning regulations on a countywide basis have twice been defeated by voters.

If the required number of signatures are obtained, the county court will establish the exact boundaries and the election date.