

Survey Shows Fourth of City Lacks Sanitary Sewer Service

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a series of articles. The Register-Guard will draw from a 60-page report on the sanitary and storm sewer systems of Eugene. The basic plan of improvement has been prepared by John W. Cunningham and Associates, Portland consulting engineers, and covers the sewage problem of the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area.)

Twenty-four per cent of the city of Eugene is without sanitary sewer service, a report by consulting engineers shows in recommending a basic plan of improvement for a community they estimate will grow to 40,000 by 1980. Other current problems which command serious consideration in planning for the immediate future:

1. Large suburban areas, being built up especially fast with post-war housing present the need for eventual extension of sewer lines west, southwest and east.

2. Within the city, two eastside residential areas are at present suffering from overloaded sewers. They include the Fairmount district beyond Walnut St. and the square marked by Eleventh and 22nd Aves. and Potter and Ferry Sts.

3. The upper reaches of the two mainline sewers, both leading from the overtaxed areas, are seriously overloaded.

4. During flood periods, downtown business buildings, in common with certain residential sections, suffer basement flooding by backed-up sewage.

5. During the wet season, occasional sanitary sewage is diverted into storm sewers which empty into the Amazon Slough, inadequate for the carrying of such material.

6. An oldtime brick sewer which empties independently into the lower millrace has caved in at various points.

7. Eventually, sewage from the Eugene-Springfield area should be processed before being passed into the Willamette River.

Combination System
At the present time, Eugene has a combination sanitary and storm sewer system. Originally the city had a single system for carrying of both wastes and storm water but, as it expanded, separate sys-

tems were installed in new districts.

Disadvantage of the combined system is that sewage treatment is complicated by the dilution of sanitary sewage by storm water and by the addition to the combined flow of grit and other inorganic materials from city streets. As long as it is unnecessary to treat sewage prior to discharge into a large body of water, the combined system is advantageous, the report reads. But once treatment becomes necessary, separate systems are preferred. The engineers have called attention to the expensive process of separating excess water from sewage or of treating the whole output.

Of the city area served by sanitary sewers, half of it, all the downtown area and adjacent residential districts, has a combined system.

The two trunk sewers, the Amazon and Willamette interceptors, parallel the two waterways into which industrial, residential and downtown Eugene almost all naturally drain.

Willamette Trunk

The Willamette trunk begins with a 16-inch sewer at Orchard St. and follows Franklin Blvd. At Emerald St. it increases to 18 inches and continues to the millrace, where it crosses by an inverted siphon. At Broadway the line turns west to the alley between Mill and High Sts. Due to the overloading of this line the city some years ago built a 24-inch line on Eleventh Ave., connecting to it on the south of the millrace siphon. The Eleventh Ave. line follows the streets or alleys adjacent to the millrace, increasing successively to 36, 42 and 48 inches in diameter. It unites with the Willamette trunk as it crosses Broadway. Increasing to 52 inches, the sewer continues north in the alley between Mill and High to Sixth Ave. Obstructed by Skinner's Butte, the line turns west on Sixth Ave., increasing from 72 inches to 75, 84 and 88 inches upon reaching Polk St. There it turns north to the river with a 90-inch trunk.

The Amazon trunk begins in the vicinity of Emerald St. and 24th Ave. as a 12-inch line. It extends west on 24th Ave. to Patterson St. where a 15-inch line turns north to Seventeenth Ave.

The trunk continues west along Seventeenth Ave. as an 18-inch line to the alley between Charnell and Lincoln Sts., where it turns north for two blocks. The flow then continues west to Lawrence St., at which point a 24-inch sewer carries a considerable portion of the flow north to the Willamette trunk at Sixth Ave. The main Amazon line continues west from Fifteenth Ave. and Lawrence St. as an 18-inch trunk to Jefferson St. There it turns north as a 22-inch line to the alley north of and paralleling Thirteenth Ave. as far as Van Buren St. At that point the line is increased to 24 inches, then to 32 and 36 before it enters the 88-inch Willamette trunk on Sixth Ave.

Amazon Line Too Small

"The Amazon trunk sewer is far too small to serve by itself

the areas tributary to it," the report reads. "It is relieved by several large cross-town sewers running north to the Eleventh and Sixth Ave. trunk lines. These cross lines are on Lawrence, Mill and Patterson Sts., as well as in the alley between Mill and High Sts. In addition, the large sewers on Madison and Jefferson Sts., and the alley between Olive and Willamette Sts., serve the intermediate areas, but are not connected to the Amazon trunk."

Although it is difficult to gauge the daily per capita sewage runoff, it averaged 162 gallons in August at a time which was unaffected by rainfall, investigators found.

Overloading of Eugene sewers is attributed in the report to various causes. As extensions were made, the lines were loaded too heavily,

in some cases. Infiltration of surface water also adds to the problem. In some cases storm outlet lines have been joined to sanitary connections already taxed to capacity. In other instances lateral lines carry a greater capacity than the mains into which they flow. Suddenly steep grades end in flat areas, where less carrying capacity is possible because of the reduced gravity pull. Roots of trees enter some sewers. During flood periods, the Willamette backs into the lines, making the usual gravity removal difficult or impossible.

Ancient Coptic bindings reveal that the craft of bookbinding was well understood in Egypt in the sixth century. Sheets of papyrus were folded into quires and sewed on bands attached to the back with animal glue.

State Senator Burke Says He Will Retire

NEWBERG, Feb. 23.—(AP)—The sponsor of the Burke Wine Bill, State Sen. W. E. Burke, 79, has announced his retirement from politics after serving Yamhill County in the upper chamber for 16 years.

"I realize that 'Father Time' has been following me for almost 80 years," Burke said, "and I do not believe it would be right for me to engage any longer in all the difficult contests."

Burke went to the State House of Representatives in 1895, returning to the legislature in 1931 as a senator.

Political observers said his retirement might prompt Eugene Marsh, McMinnville, speaker of the House, to become a senatorial

CLOTHING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—(AP)—A senate committee was appointed today to investigate a shortage of cotton clothing. Headed by Senator Bankhead (D-Ala.), it will open hearings next Tuesday. The group was named by Chairman Thomas (D-Okla.) of the agriculture committee. Bankhead had introduced a resolution for an investigation. The Alabama senator told reporters "there is no question that there is a shortage and the aim of the inquiry will be to find the remedy."

candidate. Marsh, like Burke, a Republican, has stated he would not run against the elderly senator.

Chris Foundations, 860 Adams. Mary D. Denniston, Ph. 1463-W.

Plywood and Veneer Workers Board Meets

The executive board of District 9, Plywood and Veneer Workers of the International Woodworkers of America (CIO) met Saturday afternoon at the Springfield Club hall. Among those here for the session were Chester Rose, Aberdeen, Wash., district president; Henry Peck, Eugene, district vice president; Gordon Johnson, Olympia, Wash., secretary; E. H. Seattie, board member, and representatives of plywood localities in this district.

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