

Springfield's New City Hall Plan Allow for Future Expansion

SPRINGFIELD — "Sometimes you have to go ahead with that city hall, it would need a new one now anyway. Present plans, voted last year, call for a 9000-square foot building, with a double-deck fire department, but single floor otherwise." Considering another population jump as logical, Architect Graham Smith, (who predicts plans will be ready soon), has been instructed to design the new hall with a base strong enough to support a full second floor if needed.

Crowded Now
"And we're likely to need more," said Giles. "Things change quickly."

He glanced around the small room that now serves as council chamber, court room, recorder's office, filing room, and wash room. From the dripping faucet in the corner to the battered vault in the rear; from the dog-eared maps on the walls to the cobwebbed wiring across the ceiling—the present city hall is old.

Audience Limit
"We had 25 residents in here Monday night for the council meeting," said Giles. The room is packed with 25; sometimes, when it approaches a density of up to 50, there is no room for anyone to sit. For air the doors have to be opened; the back door is not enough and the front entrance is on Main St. When a car is gunned on the street within a block, conversation stops in the hall.

Booming Town
In a room designed as the pivotal civic center for a community of possibly 500, Springfield's mayor, manager, and councilmen are trying to work out the problems of more than 8000.

Rather than build for the present population, the closely packed officials and townspeople have decided on establishing a hall fit for a population of 10,000 without modification. Expanded to a full second floor, it would cope with a population more than double that figure, according to Giles.

Costing an estimated \$78,000, the city hall, to be located on the northwest corner of Fourth and A Sts., will provide space for the city's business departments, fire department, police station and jail, library, and council-court room.

Politics Time Again, but City, Like Others, Has Real Issues

BY JIM ALEXANDER
SPRINGFIELD—Along Springfield's Main St. they have the election year jitters: everybody's talking about who is going to run for the three council seats and the mayor's gavel, but only one man has filed.

The sole exception, real estate man Arthur McChesney, has filed for the council seat from Ward Five to be vacated by Carl Lewis this year.

Council Vacancies
Other council vacancies Dec. 31 will be those of Ward Three's Jack Larsen and Ward Six's Gil Shoush. All three councilmen have announced they have no intention of running again.

The field for the top city job is wide open; Mayor Claude Gerlach has expressed himself quite plainly several times as being out of the race.

Since there is no primary contest involved in a non-partisan ballot, candidates only need declare themselves available a little over two months prior to general elections.

Little Time
The result, local soothsayers say, is a hotter and shorter race with little time for debate on anything but concrete public issues. McChesney, even through an

avowed candidate, has expressed himself little publicly on Springfield matters yet. He is considered to be waiting some identification of his opposition in the Ward.

How To Run
Any registered voter, who can commandeer 23 signatures of registered voters in his ward, can run for the council vacancy; any registered voter who can gather 50 signatures in the city at large can join the line for mayor. Petitions may be obtained from the city recorder and the deadline is Sept. 1.

Tightest issues ahead are likely to be the traditional ones.

Water: the lack of pressure in pipe lines, the poor service in summer months, and alleged inaction about it will "undoubtedly provide" meat for many a rostrum gabfest.

Sanitary Sewers: long time political football in Springfield, the efforts to evolve plans for 100 per cent sewer service with low cost, will be "on the top" of debate agendas.

Storm sewers: another money problem; the man with the panacea here may well walk away with any of the policy making jobs he wants, prophets say. Too many people walked through too much water in this year's floods to allow this question to go unmentioned.

Streets: What to do about the city streets is a question for a financier—find one, challenge Springfield officials.

Sidewalks: what are they and let's have them, say Springfield residents, but "cheaply" they caution would-be officials.

A "possible" top level topic may stem from the Aug. 23 hearing on methods of financing the state-required sewage disposal plant; voters crowded the council chambers last Monday night to protest the raising of assessments on home owners on sewer lines to support revenue bonds for the project.

Lots of Needs
However, even the most hot blooded of the landlords acknowledged in leaving that possibly Springfield needed so much, "every avenue of financing open under state law should be used."

As City Recorder Kenneth Giles said this week, "Come and get the petitions; we have them in the city hall," if you want these problems.

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Church Takes Building Permit

A building permit for the construction of the new First Church of Christ, Scientist was issued Friday to Julius Johnson, Portland contractor.

The \$156,000 permit does not represent the full value of the building to be erected at 1390 Pearl St. Inasmuch the church intends to provide its own seating facilities and carpets, and electrical and mechanical costs are not covered by the permit.

Burns, Bear and McNeil, Portland architects who designed the new church and who handled letting of the contracts on competitive bids, have reported that the actual worth of the completed edifice will be over \$196,000.

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Postoffice Gets Stamp Vendor

An automatic stamp-vending machine to dispense stamps at face value has been placed in operation in the lobby of Eugene postoffice.

Acting Postmaster Ethan Newman said the new machine would spare patrons the delay of standing in line during rush hours. In addition, it will make possible the purchase of stamps on Sundays and holidays and at other hours when the stamp window is not open.

The machine will issue five one-cent stamps for a nickel, two five-cent air mail stamps for a dime, and five three-cent stamps for a nickel and a dime.

The machine was developed for the postoffice department by a New York manufacturer of mail-room machines and office machinery. Other machines have appeared in larger cities throughout the country, but Newman said this is the first one in operation in the upper Willamette Valley.

Cone Pioneer Dies in Portland

PORTLAND — George Warren Weatherly, old time ice cream manufacturer whose creamery here pioneered the ice cream cone, died at a hospital Thursday at the age of 80.

Starting with a second-hand freezer in a small candy shop in 1890, Weatherly developed a manufacturing industry which produced 90 per cent of Oregon's ice cream. An employee of one of his companies, F. A. Bruckman, invented the ice cream cone machine.

Constructor of the 11-story Weatherly Building here and one-time chairman of the Multnomah County Tax Supervising Commission, he was active in Portland's business life for many years. He disposed of his ice cream interests many years ago.

Garden Club Okays Plans for Building

Eugene Garden Club voted Friday to proceed with plans for construction of an addition to its present building on High St., with the cost not to exceed \$20,000.

At a meeting Thursday night, a financial report showed the club has \$3500 on hand for starting the construction. Work will include increasing the width of the clubhouse to 46 feet, and increasing the overall length to 106 feet.

Plans drawn by Architect Percy Bentley include a front porch, large fireplace, and special facilities for flower shows, such as built-in shadow boxes and spotlighted tables for commercial exhibits. Sliding doors will divide the building into three rooms.

A parking space 39 by 50 feet will be provided at the rear of the building.

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As an authorized agent for major airlines, steamship companies, and hotels, the Eugene Travel Service will help you plan your trip and will secure the necessary reservations for you. Those of you who are planning that big trip abroad for next year may be interested to know that tourist class bookings are extremely heavy for May, June and July, 1948. In other words, today is not too early!

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GOD'S WORD
11. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with Him, we shall also live with Him;
12. If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him; if we deny Him, He also will deny us;
13. If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful; he cannot deny himself.
15. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
II Timothy 2: 11, 12, 13, 15

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