

### Kiwians Set Busy Year

Springfield Group Names Committees

Springfield Kiwanians have prepared for another busy year of service to their club and community with appointment of committees for 1952.

Officers: L. B. Bartlett, B. P. Hamilton and Herb Hamilton will serve on the committee on public relations. Chairman, William D. Bollen. Committees on churches is headed by Arthur Dinger and includes J. Clark and Bob Taylor.

Committees follow: Entertainment reports, Cliff Pool, and Jack McCarron; at-large and membership, Perce Stevens, Jack McCarron, Bill Pittam; finance, Earl Pittam, chairman, and Bob Perce Pullen, Owen Sabin, Al Brand.

Music: Oscar Hecksweiler, chairman, and Albert Hansen and Ed Massey; inter-club, Harold Weed, chairman, and Ed Lakson and Ralph Nicholas; Kiwanian education, Ray McCormack, chairman, and Dean Stevens, Cliff Perce Pullen.

Boys and girls work, Ralph Massey, chairman, and Ed Bennett, Hazelton, Tom Massey, Bob Weed, underprivileged, Ed Lakson, Harold Rock, chairman, and J. C. Cook, Ramsey, and Ralph Mason.



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IN TRAILER COMMUNITY at Westport, Conn., Arthur Diver putters with rose trellis outside his "mobile home" while his sister, Mrs. Emma Whitlock, relaxes. Plot rents for less than \$20 a month.

## Living in 'Mobile Home' Appeals to Retired Folk

By RICHARD KLEINER  
NEA Staff Correspondent

WESTPORT, Conn. (NEA)—When Arthur Diver retired in 1939, he found himself face to face with a problem. He and his wife were rattling around in a 12-room house set on 3½ acres of pretty Connecticut soil. His daughter was married, his son in the army.

So he bought a trailer.

The idea was first suggested by Mrs. Diver, but he didn't think too much of it.

"I always thought a trailer was just a box on wheels and that only gypsies lived in them," he says, looking over his spectacles with his twinkling eyes. "But Mrs. Diver, she said, 'Well, it can't do any harm to look at them.' We bought one, and I've never regretted it; wish I'd a-done it ten years sooner."

Today, said Diver, many people living 136,000 miles, is now at home in a trailer park on the busy Boston Post Road at Westport. The wheels are off, there's a cement patio in front and a little plot of ground.

"The rental here is less than \$20 a month," he says, "and that includes all utilities. Everybody has a plot of about 30 to 50 feet. There are 110 families here, about 20 of them retired people. The others are nurses, accountants, real estate men, sales executives and the like. We're all very congenial."

Some residents had fixed their "mobile homes" into miniature estates. There were picket fences and rose-covered trellises, patios with big awnings covering them, television aerials sprouting from the roofs, and that absolute sign of permanence—the milk box—outside every front door.

They buy trailers because it offers such cheap living. You can get a four-room trailer for somewhere around \$5500, and that includes all furnishings.

**Just Spare Room**

"Lots of folks buy them without ever intending to pull them," he says. "They buy them, take the wheels off and then sell the tires back."

To the argument that they're cramped, Diver points to his Thanksgiving dinner. He spent the holiday with his son, who has a trailer in Naugatuck. There were 14 people in the trailer's dining room, with plenty of room for the turkey.

"The only thing we lack," he says, with a smile, "is an attic and cellar for storing things. But that's a good thing. We keep only what we really need."

**She Buys China**

"When we bought our first trailer, Mrs. Diver had three sets of china—the everyday, the Sunday and the best set. She decided to keep six settings of each. She put it all in a basket. I didn't say nothing, but I was chuckling to myself. She was over in the trailer with that basket a few minutes, trying to put the things away. Then she came back. She wound up keeping a serving for four of just one set."

Driving a trailer was no problem, after he got used to it.

"The first day, I sweat blood," he remembers. "I worried something awful. I'd turn my head around every 10 seconds to see that the trailer was still there. But I learned there are only four things you have to remember.

"A trailer is eight feet wide, a car only five. You have to allow for that extra width when you're passing. Then you have to learn to use the trailer brakes—they're mounted on the steering wheel and you operate them with one finger.

"You have to learn to make a bigger sweep for a right turn. And lastly, you've got to be awful careful driving through a city."

### Retire to Trailers

The Divers are representative of a trend among retired people to live in trailers—or "mobile homes," as some of them prefer to say. According to the Trailer Coach Manufacturers Assn., which keeps track of such things, retired persons are the third largest market for trailers.

Actually, more than 15 per cent of all trailers are occupied by the pensioned set. The two biggest classes of purchasers, incidentally, are mobile workers and temporary home-seekers.

For a retired couple, a trailer offers certain advantages. The initial expense is low, upkeep and operating expenses are low, they provide mobility—and the housework is simple.

**Helps Boost Sales**

These factors have helped boost trailer sales 400 per cent since 1937. In that year, \$4,500,000 worth of trailers were sold; in 1950, the figure was \$22,500,000.

With people retiring earlier in life, because of pension plans, the trailer manufacturers expect the trend to continue. A contributing factor is the spread of trailer parks, where trailerites can live permanently. Some of them, such as a big one in Bradenton, Fla., accommodate as many as 2500 trailers.

The Divers' trailer, after log-

### Wilson Appeal Sent to Langlie

PORTLAND — (AP) — An attorney for the condemned Wilson brothers made another plea this week for Gov. Arthur Langlie of Washington to commute their sentences to life imprisonment.

Attorney Irvin Goodman said in a letter to the governor that he now has evidence casting doubt on the authenticity of a fingerprint that played an important part in the trial of Utah and Turman Wilson for the slaying of Jo Ann Dewey, 18, last year. The print was identified as Utah's.

Goodman said Stanley MacDonald, Portland fingerprint expert, told him that he could not identify the print. Goodman asked the governor to talk with MacDonald, who is head of the criminal identification bureau for Multnomah County at Portland.

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### Mayor Coughs Up For License Plates

Among those paying \$5 tickets for expired license plates Thursday at Eugene police headquarters was the city's mayor, V. E. Johnson.

Mayor or not, a cop spotted his car carrying outdated plates Sunday and promptly wrote out a court citation.

Johnson indicated Thursday that he will forfeit his five-spot bail, admitting the case against him is open-and-shut.

### Labor Disputes Said Settled

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Labor disputes at aluminum plants of the Reynolds Metal Co. at both Troutdale, Ore., and Phoenix, Ariz., have been settled by the federal mediation service.

Both disputes originated over disagreements between union stewards and management foremen. The union is the CIO Steel Workers.

The disputing parties decided at the government sponsored talks on a basis for settling the disputes, but did not announce the terms.

The mediation service said workers will return to work at both plants in the near future.

The trouble at Troutdale was said to have involved worker abandonment of electrically heated melting equipment (pot lines) which will take some time to put back into operation.

About 1600 workers were involved in the Phoenix stoppage but government officials said they did not know the number involved at Troutdale.

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IN TRAILER KITCHEN, Mrs. Emma Whitlock tries out the sink to prove her brother's argument that there's plenty of room. Park at Westport has 110 trailer families, some as many as 2500.

### Pendleton Man Takes Own Life

PENDLETON — (AP) — Lee B. McCullough, resident of Hamby's trailer court at Hermiston, is dead and his brother-in-law John Pine is wounded as the result of a shooting at Hermiston Wednesday night.

McCullough shot Pine in the head and arm with a revolver and then turned the gun on himself, death coming instantly. State Police Sgt. N. W. Smith reported Thursday.

Smith said detailed information is still lacking. But he said the shooting resulted from a "family quarrel." Between the two men.

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