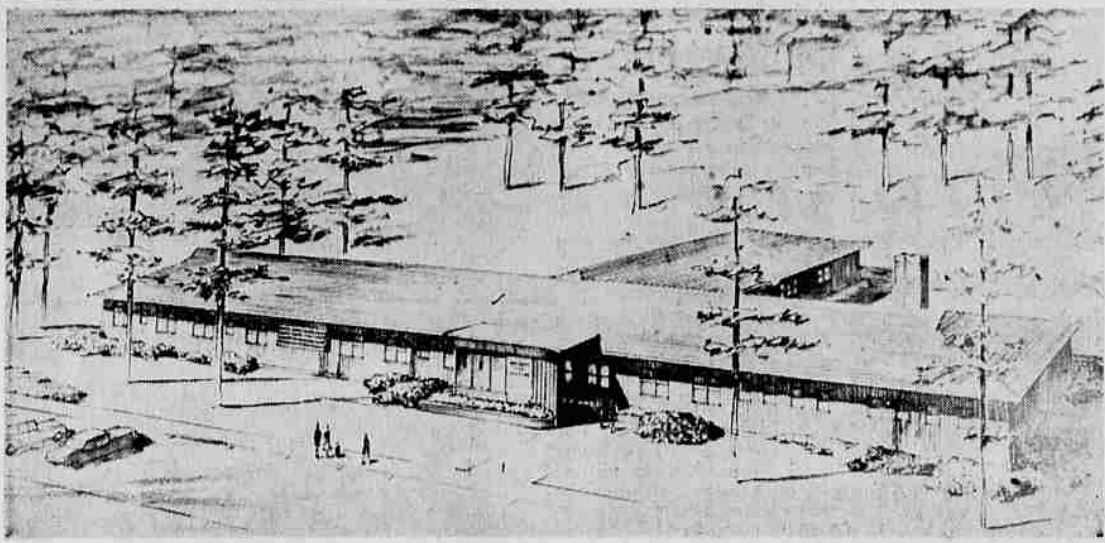




(Wiltshire engraving)

WESTERN LANE HOSPITAL, as depicted in this sketch, will rise on a five-acre tract near Florence this summer if voters approve a \$200,000 bond issue to finance the

project. The Florence area, at present, has no hospital facilities within a 50-mile radius. The hospital is planned for a 20-bed capacity. Story, Page One.

City Budget Hearing Set At Springfield

Public hearings on Springfield's proposed \$801,000 city budget and on five proposed projects will be conducted by the city council Monday at 7:30 p.m., as part of the monthly council meeting.

Previously approved by the city budget committee composed of the six councilmen and six taxpayers, the budget represents an increase of about \$70,000 over the current budget. The tax rate on the new budget, however, is expected to drop slightly because of an anticipated increase in the assessed valuation of property in Springfield.

Paving projects up for public hearing include K St. from 12th to 13th Sts.; Market St. from K to N Sts.; N St. from 12th to Market Sts.; 11th St. from L to M Sts.; and F St. from 3rd to 5th Sts. Also proposed is construction of a sidewalk on 11th St. from L to M Sts.

In other action, the council is expected to call bids for the paving of 9th St. from F to G Sts., consider renewal of a City Transit Lines bus franchise, due to end June 30, and to study requests for a number of business licenses.

Cars Collide; Injuries Light

Elsie V. Dalton, 53, of 4963 E St., Springfield, suffered slight injuries in an auto accident at the intersection of North A and 4th Sts. in Springfield, shortly after 8 p.m. Friday.

She was in an auto driven by James Marion Dalton, 64, which collided with a car driven by Walter Dale Cowan, 17, of 4417 McKenzie Highway.

Mrs. Dalton, who suffered hip and elbow bruises, was taken to Sacred Heart Hospital for outpatient treatment by Eugene Ambulance.

No citations were issued by the police.

Bedding Fire Put Out With Little Damage

Springfield firemen Friday afternoon were called to the home of Bates home at 133 S. 7th St. to extinguish a fire started by a bed lamp.

Firemen said the fire damaged a bed but caused no damage to the 1½-story frame building.

The fire crews were called at 2:55 p.m. Owner of the home was listed as Frank Rene.

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Tale of Most Disastrous Fire Fifty Years Old in Family

Fifty years ago next Tuesday, the worst fire disaster in United States history took the lives of 1,021 persons on a ship bound for a picnic on Long Island.

Weather was cool and crisp and the holiday throng from St. Marks German Lutheran Church marched a few blocks from the church to the pier to board the General Slocum. Everything was gay and the day had started out in a festive way.

The throng marched aboard the excursion steamer from whose every post bunting streamed.

Two persons—the father and grandmother of Frederick von Appen, Eugene fireman, were with the crowd, but didn't go aboard.

Von Appen recalled this week the incident that saved his father and his father's mother, Mrs. Henry Von Appen.

The two were going on the ex-

cursion, but when they arrived at the pier, Mrs. von Appen decided the weather was chilly enough for them to wear wraps. So she sent her 14-year-old son back a few blocks to their home for the clothing.

Young Fred delayed on the way and when he arrived back at the pier, the General Slocum had left and Mrs. von Appen was "fit to be tied."

So, while the bands on the ship played and the crowd cheered, young von Appen was administered a sound licking right on the pier. (Mrs. von Appen was 6 foot 2 inches tall—a solid Dutch-woman from Germany.)

Later that day, though, Von Appen's father was given a great big chocolate soda and kissed by his mother—the excursion had turned into a disaster and the two were alive.

The General Slocum was cru-

sing along at 15 knots when a crewman spotted smoke coming from a cabin as the ship passed 97th St. in New York. Crewmen entered the cabin and found it was an inferno. Stored in the compartment was electrical equipment, lamps and oil for the lamps.

The captain was told about the fire but he did little. Rather than beach his vessel or give the "abandon ship" order, he went cruising right along. (He later was given a 20-year sentence for manslaughter, served the full sentence and died shortly after.)

First, the fire crept aft below decks. Finally, it broke into the open and wind whipped flames into the panicky crowd.

The New York Tribune next day said the crowd went "insane." People pressed aft, away from the flames, until the after deck was filled and still they pushed and shoved. The railing gave way and hundreds of women and children plunged into the water.

Two miles from where the smoke was first discovered, the captain beached his vessel, 50 feet from land, in water too deep to wade. Many aboard could not swim. Hundreds of children were aboard.

Lifeboats and preservers were used, but so lax had been the inspections on the ship, the equipment fell apart when it hit water.

Heroism saved a small handful. Next day, the death toll was set at 700.

Weeks later, the truth was known—1,021 had died.

Fireman von Appen said the story has been told many times in his family circles. Bizarre proof of the disaster is in a dozen photos given his father by a police captain. The photos show burned bodies being held up for identification.

Small wonder von Appen's father was treated to the chocolate soda. And he quickly forgot the licking.

Lyle Owen Rites Monday

Mr. Lyle N. Owen, 57, 1034 Mill St., Eugene, died Friday in a local hospital.

Mr. Owen came to Eugene ten years ago from Phoenix, Ariz., where he was active in commu-

ty work. He married Edith Cole of Ashland, daughter of a pioneer Oregon family, June 21, 1924.

Mr. Owen was born in Wilton, Iowa, May 8, 1897.

He is survived, besides his wife, by one brother, Royal, of Davenport, Iowa; a daughter, Chloann Williams, of Portland, and one granddaughter.

Funeral services will be in St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Monday, 11 a.m., with the Rev. Harry Smith and the Rev. Robert Ellis officiating. The Rev. Dr. Evan Williams will be celebrant at the requiem. Concluding services and interment to follow at Rest Haven Cemetery will be private.

The family requests that no flowers be sent, but those who wish may make contributions, in memory of Mr. Owen, to District 5, Oregon State Nurses Assn., nursing scholarship memorial fund.

Dig This Money

ATLANTA (AP)—Claude Ridlay, of Chatsworth, Ga., protested a \$106,674 federal income tax lien for the 1942-51 period although he did not deny a government claim that he bought \$98,500 worth of government savings bonds during that time, yet filed no tax returns. Ridlay testified at his civil trial that he had buried his earnings in fruit jars from 1935 to 1941 and dug up the money to buy bonds when World War II broke out.

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State Police Bust Case Wide Open

The case of the stolen eggs was cleared up quickly Friday by Oregon state police from the Eugene headquarters.

At about noon Friday Neomia Liles of Rt. 5, Box 365, about 10 miles from Eugene on the Crow Rd., reported to police that two crates of eggs valued at \$36 were missing.

The 60 dozen eggs were taken sometime during the morning, she said. A police officer, soon after investigating the matter, arrested Chester Allen Harrison, 29, of Rt. 5, Box 362, charging him with petty larceny.

Harrison pleaded guilty Friday in District Court and was placed on six month's probation.

Contract Renewed

HEPPNER (AP)—The Heppner Lumber Co.'s CIO Woodworkers has signed an agreement to continue working under terms of the old contract. Francis Doherty, union secretary, said the agreement contained a provision granting to the employees any benefits won in regional negotiations in the Klamath Falls area.



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