

### Boy Escapees Land in Hospital

Oregon City (AP)—Two escapees from the state training school for boys stole a car and, chased by police, careened wildly down the Pacific highway, sideswiping five other vehicles in a 15-mile chase that ended only when police blew out their tires Saturday night with a shotgun.

Speeding at an estimated 95 miles an hour when the two rear tires were shot out, the escapees' vehicle left the highway, jumped a ditch and went 250 feet into a muddy field, overturning twice. The boys were knocked unconscious and were hospitalized here. Neither was in serious condition.

They were identified as Richard Lesley Gregor, 16, Beaverton, and Jesse Ellsworth Duncan, 17, of Turner. They left the training school Thursday and later took a panel truck owned by the Oregon Turkey Growers' association.

Slate police saw it near Gervais Saturday night and began the chase that proceeded north at speeds seldom under 90 miles an hour. The youths drove wildly, bouncing off the sides of five cars before the shotgun blast stopped them near Barlow.

### Boy Runs in Front Of Thrown Knife

A 13-year-old Salem boy suffered a minor injury Saturday evening when he ran in front of a knife thrown by another boy while playing at the YMCA.

Robert Walery, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Walery, 625 Caterlin avenue, was cut in the right leg when he ran in front of the other youth who was throwing a pocket knife at a board in the handball court.

City first aidmen treated the wound. They described it as not serious.

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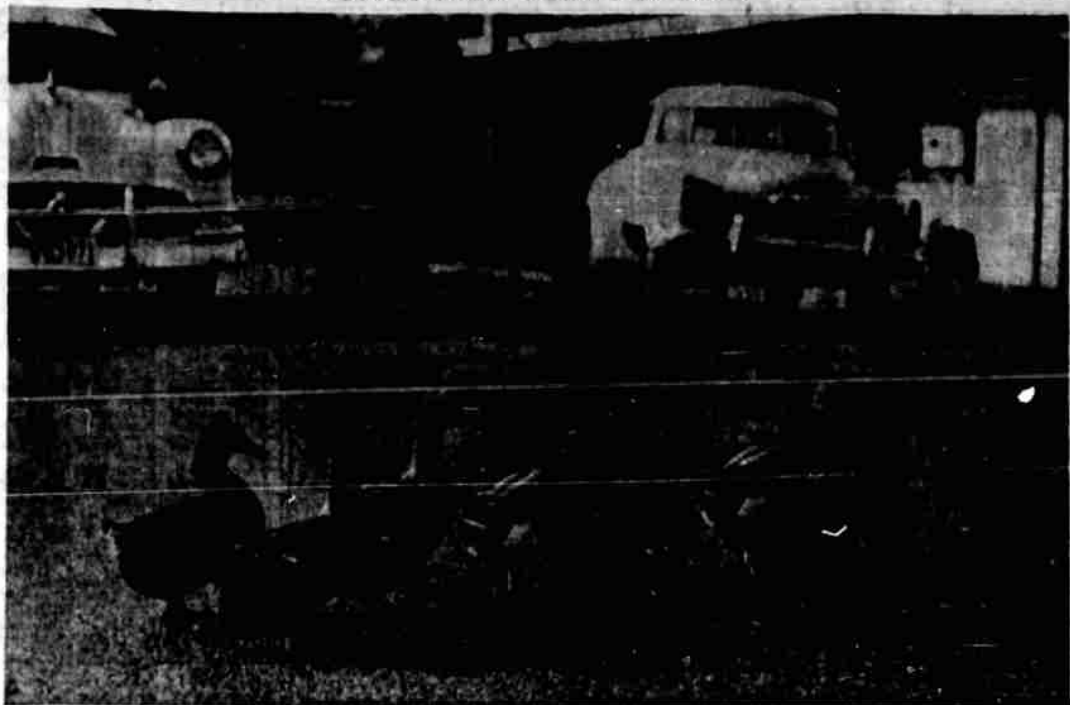
DON'T FORGET!—ANNUAL YM-YWCA SMORGASBORD,  
YMCA DEC. 8, 5 TILL 8 P.M.

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### BETTER THAN TRAFFIC SIGNALS



These Mallard ducks make daily trips across heavily traveled Center Street near 17th. They are not in the pedestrian traffic lane, but motorists, so far, have halted their cars to permit them to take their time in waddling across the street. In the picture they are on their way to Mill Creek from Fred Riedesel's service station, where they often pick up a few tidbits. Once across Center Street they usually walk abreast down the sidewalk to Statesman Street which they must cross before reaching the safety of the lawns bordering Mill Creek.

### Leverett Gets Fine and Jail

Portland (AP)—Walter H. Leverette, 63, Medford orchardist and businessman, has been fined \$7500 on each of two counts charging him with income tax fraud. He must serve a jail term ending February 1, 1954.

Leverette was found guilty on counts which accused him of defrauding the government of taxes on the 1946 income of the Lithia Investment company, of which he is president, and of the Northern California Amusement company, a theater chain.

The prominent Rogue River valley orchardist was sentenced Saturday afternoon by Federal Judge James Alger Fee, who turned down a request of defense attorneys that Leverette be placed on probation. Leverette had been held at Rocky Butte jail here since his conviction two months ago at Medford.

### Interesting Questions by Readers of Science Stories

By J. HUGH PRUKETT  
(Astronomer, Extension Division, Oregon Higher Education System)

Let us consider a pole set vertically in the ground. The only time that an unclouded sun would not cast a shadow would be when directly overhead. So the question resolves itself into this: "Are there any places on the earth where the sun is ever directly overhead at noon?"

Yes, there are plenty of them, but we who live in the temperate zones never observe the sun in the zenith. In our part of the world the noon sun is always south of overhead. In the southern temperate zones the sun is always north of this point. Its distance from the zenith varies with the time of year.

But in the torrid zone, that strip which extends 23 1/2 degrees both north and south of the equator, the sun at noon seems practically in the zenith for a few days each year. At the northern limit of this zone, the Tropic of Cancer, vertical posts will be shadowless at noon about June 22; at the southern limit, Tropic of Capricorn, about December 22. The noon sun will be vertical over the equator at the times of the equinoxes, March 21 and September 23.

1. "Why isn't it the hottest in January when the earth is nearest the sun?"  
This is a very frequent question. If the axis of the earth stuck straight up from the plane of its path around the sun, then all parts of the earth would receive the greatest heat in January when it is 3,000,000 miles nearer the sun than in July. The difference is that in January the 23 1/2 degree tip of the earth's axis makes our northern part of the earth inclined away from the sun so it does not get as direct heat as in July. But the southern part of the earth is then "catching it," both because of inclination and nearness.

2. "Did the transit of Mercury across the face of the sun take place November 14 as predicted?"  
Exactly. At the writer's location we set up a telescope to project a 15-inch image of the sun on a white paper screen. The transit lasted over 2 1/2 hours but clouds interfered during all the time excepting five "clear" minutes around 9:30 a.m. Then we had a fine picture of the little round black spot on the solar face.

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### LOUIS' MOTHER DIES

Detroit (AP)—Mrs. Lilly Barrow Brooks, mother of former heavyweight champion Joe Louis who once wanted the Brown Bomber to become a musician instead of a boxer, died at the age of 69 last night following a prolonged illness.

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### Dairies Using Glass Bottles

Portland (AP)—A serious shortage of fiber milk bottles here resulting from the 10-day-old American Can company strike today forced Pacific Northwest dairymen to adopt emergency measures.

Some Portland dairies already had switched back to glass bottles which have been largely replaced on the market in recent years.

A few of the larger dairies here prepared to use Pure Pak fiber containers, a competitor with the American Can product. A Vancouver, Wash., firm manufactures the cartons and ships them flat. Because machines are necessary to fabricate the cartons into shape, only the bigger bottling companies can afford to install them. Small dairies may make arrangements to buy cartons from them.

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One of the largest Portland dairies said it has made arrangements with schools to supply half-pints of milk in glass bottles.

### Little North Fork Road Opens Friday

Opening of the Little North Fork road above Elkhorn, closed for several days because of slides, is scheduled for Wednesday, reported County Commissioner Roy Rice Monday.

The closure has hampered the hauling of logs from the area and it is expected opening

of the road will be followed by considerable activity.

The steel bridge that has been under construction for several months has been completed and this structure will be opened for use Wednesday. Steel for the bridge was removed from a crossing of the Breitenbush river at a point where the Detroit reservoir flooded it out.

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### Nettie Spencer, Pioneer, Passes

Portland (AP)—Private funeral service were held here today for Nettie Spencer, 92, whose grandfather, Thomas Cox, was one of the framers of the Oregon constitution.

Miss Spencer, born on a farm near Corvallis in 1861, was the daughter of George W. Spencer, a pioneer of 1851 and Lucinda Cox Spencer, who came to Oregon in 1847. She died just two days before what would have been her 93rd birthday.

Miss Spencer graduated from Oregon Agricultural college in 1896 and later taught school in the United States, Europe and India. She had lived in Portland the last 25 years.

Survivors include five nephews and nieces, including Dr. Burt Brown Barker, vice president emeritus of the University of Oregon.

Thomas Cox, first Salem merchant, arrived in Salem in 1847 with several wagonloads of merchandise hauled across the plains. In that year he started his store at a location that became the northeast corner of Ferry and Commercial streets. Later he became an agriculturist. His account books as Salem's first storekeeper have been preserved.

### Funeral Tuesday for Former Salem Woman

Funeral services will be held in Portland at the Colonial mortuary at 14th and Sandy, Tuesday morning for Mrs. Ella B. Titze Cousins, former Salem resident. Graveside services will be held at the Stayton cemetery Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Cousins, who died at her home in Portland, December 12, resided in Salem for about 25 years prior to moving to Portland. She was a native Oregonian, being born at Fern Ridge, Oregon, January 21, 1856. Her parents were Frank and Caroline Titze.

Survivors included the husband, Jed Cousins of Portland; a daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Smith of Fullport, Fla.; a sister, Mrs. Louise B. Penton of Salem; two nieces, Mrs. Ruth Halley and Mrs. Lucille Davey of Salem; two great-nephews, William R. Porter and R. F. Davey of Salem, and a brother-in-law, Jack Richards of Stayton, Oregon.

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