

# Treaty With Prisoners Explained by Dr. Harris

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** A rebellion at agreed to a nine-point "treaty" to the Washington State Penitentiary improve conditions. It was an out-ended peacefully with release of some unprecedented in recent hostages July 6 after authorities prison history.

By B. J. McFARLAND  
United Press Staff Correspondent

OLYMPIA, Wash. (UP)—The man who signed a "treaty" with convicts to end the recent riot at the state prison in Walla Walla said today he did so to prevent the "blood poisoning of hate" from spreading through the whole penitentiary.

"I know there are many, including wardens and other prison administrators, who may question the method I used for ending the recent riot," said Dr. Thomas Harris, director of state institutions.

"But," he said, "I found the answer to handling the situation in 'The Bible' referred to is a book by Richard McGee, director of corrections for the state of California. It is entitled 'a manual of Correctional Standards.' McGee and the American Prison Association's penal committee gathered and compiled the information in the manual.

"I knew when I set foot inside the prison at Walla Walla during the riot that some of the standards recommended by the association weren't being met in our prison," Harris said.

**Some Merits**  
"Therefore, I knew the minute I saw the demands made by the rebellious convicts that there was no doubt they had some merit," Dr. Harris, who took over the state institutions program June 20, was making his first visit to

Medical Lake, Wash.

"We can control them there by placing them in individual maximum security cells. They won't have 1600 other prisoners backing them up if they make trouble and the tension is being eased at the prison. I also hope to treat them for possible mental problems.

"I know there are those who will yell 'sell out.' But that isn't true. The 'treaty,' if that's what it is being called, seemed to be the best method for handling this specific disturbance. In my mind it worked.

"But then, there are those who think we should have gone in with guns."

## Albany Seeks Legion Session

ALBANY — Oregon's 30,000 Legionnaires will be invited to make Albany the scene of their 1936 state convention, it was decided Monday night at a meeting of local business representatives with American Legion post officers at the Legion hall.

Following disclosure that representative members of the community were favorable toward the move, the Legion post met and voted to advise this year's convention, which will assemble in Redmond next week, that Albany will bid on the 1936 conclave.

Heading the drive to secure the convention for Albany, which would attract at least 5000 delegates and other members who would spend an estimated \$250,000 in this vicinity, will be Legion Commander-elect Dale Allmon and local Auxiliary President Mrs. Bill Bacon.

Proposed date for the 1936 convention is tentatively scheduled for the first week in August.



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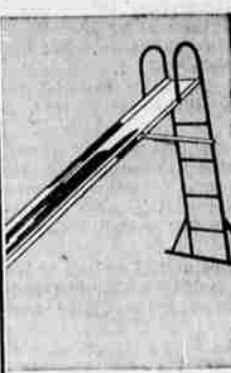


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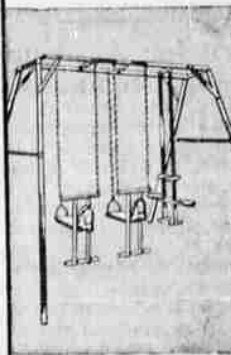
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