

New Eugene Hotel Opens to Public

Fruition Marked of big Enterprise by Local Citizens

Splendid new Hostelry Held by all who Have
Inspected it to be of Class Commensurate
With Eugene's Splendid Growth.

Received by Eugene men with limited faith in their home city, who have the confidence to back their business judgment with ample funds, the new and modern Hotel Eugene stands as a monument to the desire to provide not only for the present needs of this community but to meet the ever-increasing demand that they envision for the future.

With more than two years of planning in order to build a hostelry that will be on a plane with any of the best in the Northwest, with the best equipment obtainable for a building of this class and entailing a total outlay in excess of \$500,000, these men have put time and effort into the enterprise and are ready to formally open the hotel tonight and leave it to the judgment of the expected guests as to whether they have reached their announced goal of erecting a hotel that will be an asset to the city, a building that is in keeping with the development of the past two years and the certain progress now coming as the result of present plans.

Development Is Plan

The new Eugene hotel under the management of Hutton and Clark is a culmination of the belief held by a group of citizens that Eugene should have such an establishment as a step in the big development plan for the upbuilding of the city. The aid of directors who were mainly instrumental in the financing of the project is composed of Bird Rose, Ernest R. Gilstrap, F. N. McAlister, R. Tiffany and John Hunzicker. It is their idea that is represented by the handsome structure offered for inspection of the public tonight.

Plans for 350 diners will be laid out for the opening banquet and these have been reserved, according to management of the management to open from 6 to 7 p. m. the officials of the Eugene hotel company and Mr. Hutton and Mr. Clark will greet the guests and personally conduct them through the hotel giving an opportunity of a thorough inspection of the new building. At 7 p. m. the banquet will start and music by Mr. Hutton's orchestra and acts from the Eugene vaudeville time are promised as features of this event. From 8 p. m. to midnight dancing will be enjoyed by the hotel guests. The program for the opening has been planned with care and discrimination to provide an entertainment in keeping with the importance of the event.

Site Is Selected

During the preliminary discussion of plans for the new hotel several sites were considered and no definite one toward construction work or completed plans was made until the quarter block located at the southeast corner of Ninth avenue and Pearl street. The Eugene hotel company organization pushed the sale of stock in the enterprise and practically the entire amount necessary to start construction work was subscribed before excavation started March 1, 1924. Although the building progress was not as rapid as expected owing to a number of difficulties in obtaining necessary material and adverse weather conditions during the past winter there was a steady pushing ahead of the project and early in the present year the opening date was set for May 1 but later changed in order to have everything complete before dedication.

Everything Is Readiness

With the determination not to open the business until everything was in readiness to provide all the conveniences and modern accommodations that official opening date was postponed several weeks.

For the past month the chief, Edmund Pierre, and the steward, James Eck, have been on duty in order to have every detail complete before a greeting was extended to the public to judge of their training and knowledge in management of these essential departments of hotel operation.

Every need that the most critical guest could desire has been met and the 183 rooms are equipped with the best of furnishings, providing a home-like and comfortable atmosphere, and denoting the care and personal attention of the management for the accommodation of their patrons.

The rooms are arranged singly and in suites of two and three rooms each, the latter all with private lavatory and baths. With every convenience in the way of private telephone service in each room, modern lighting systems, furniture of beauty as well as meeting the requirements of usefulness, pleasing decorations and a feeling of home comforts pervading each room there has been left nothing undone that modern hotel management can provide for its guests.

Another Forward Step in Eugene's History

ANOTHER forward step in Eugene is signaled today in the opening of the splendid new Eugene hotel. The enterprise is one that reflects credit alike upon the city and district and upon its chief promoters, the Messrs. Bird Rose, president of the hotel corporation; Ernest R. Gilstrap, John Hunzicker, A. R. Tiffany and F. N. McAlister, directors. In the conception of the project and in its carrying through they have demonstrated the vision that builds cities. So, too, have the citizens who subscribed to stock in the enterprise demonstrated that vision. That a project of the magnitude of this one could be and was financed wholly at home is eloquent testimony to home faith in the common destiny.

The people of Eugene are proud of their new hotel and of the spirit of achievement which its building represents. To its lessees and managers, the Messrs. Harry Hutton and F. A. Clark, who are newcomers here, the community extends its welcome and well wishes.

Adequacy of hotel facilities is highly important to any city that seeks to become better known to the world at large. Good hotels make a city popular with tourists and with visitors from neighboring places. After knowledge has gone abroad that a city is well equipped with hotels, access of visitors follows. People come to such a city who would not come without the advance knowledge as to what they may expect in regard to hotel service.

Eugene now has two hotels of the first class—as good as the best, besides a number of others, smaller but nevertheless well fitted and served. With such an equipment, this city will hereafter be in position to invite conventions and gatherings of various kinds to come here. They will come if invited, because Eugene's hospitality is known and people like to come here.

No upstate city of Oregon has a finer or more up to date hotel than the Eugene hotel, opened today. In design, construction, equipment and service it will be a credit to all concerned.

EUGENE HOTEL IS OPENED TO PUBLIC TODAY

Guest Rooms Number 183;
All Modern Equipment
and Features Found

New Structure One of Most
Beautiful and Best
Equipped on Coast

Today the new Eugene hotel, containing 183 guest rooms, a large, beautifully decorated lobby, a large main dining room, a duty tea room, and an unique and spacious hall room, a modern, electrically equipped kitchen, a well furnished ladies parlor, several sample rooms, and a myriad of up-to-date equipment, is opened to the public.

The claim that the new structure is one of the most beautiful and most completely equipped on the coast is justified, in the opinion of all who have been inside. The lobby itself is one of the finest ever constructed, and together with the dining room, the ground floor space exceeds that of any other hotel in the Northwest.

Lobby Is Ideal

Everything making for comfort and convenience is provided in the lobby. Huge lights, in inverted urns, cast a beautiful glow for reading or any other purpose. This has been finished in dull mahogany, with furniture to match. Large windows are on two sides, and the glass itself used here is one of the best features of the hotel.

The dining room, divided from the tea room and ballroom by attractive French doors, lined with mirrors, is furnished in weathered oak, a most pleasing scheme. The seating capacity of this room is 300 persons, and can be added to when necessary, it is said.

Two swift elevators convey the guests up stairs, where there are six floors of luxuriously equipped rooms. The single rooms, of which there are a majority, are made of comfort and convenience. Every one is heavily carpeted, and abundantly furnished with soft beds, black walnut dressers, over-stuffed chairs, rockers, and several lights. A light is placed on a small table near the bed, convenient for reading, while another is over the mirror, just right for shaving.

Private bathrooms are furnished for many chambers, while suites of two rooms and bath are available. Several special suites are provided, and one of the finest features of the hotel are the "parlor, bedroom and bath" suites that are found on every floor.

New Style in Rooms

An innovation in hotel fitting are the combination sample rooms with disappearing beds. Ample space is thus allowed for display of goods without going below to the larger rooms.

Every foot of the floor space is carpeted, and five different patterns, each rich and heavy, are used in various places throughout the building.

Other special features of the hotel include large sample rooms in the basement, ample closet space on each floor, and the attractive courts on each floor, from where an excellent view of the city can be obtained.

The hotel as a whole is complete and up-to-date, and every visitor has declared that it is in keeping in progressiveness with the spirit of Eugene.

New Bus Provided for Hotel Guests

Guests of the new Eugene hotel will be able to and from their comfortable quarters in a comfortable, ever riding bus, the very latest product of Graham Brothers, special line manufacturers, it is announced.

The bus, which was put in use for the first time yesterday, and it is in perfect condition for its first passengers today. It will comfortably seat 30 guests, and large bathroom tire equipment, shock absorbers, and every modern appliance for easy riding have been added.

The large body of the car is a shiny black, with the name, "Eugene Hotel" in gold letters. In point of attractiveness, it is one of the finest appearing buses on the coast, it is declared.

The bus will be at the disposal of guests whenever necessary. It is stated, and an expert driver will pilot it through the Eugene traffic.

COMPLETE FORCE ASSEMBLED TODAY TO GREET GUESTS

The organization of the new Eugene hotel is now completed, and a full force of employees are on hand to welcome guests today.

The desk will be provided over by general "Andy" Anderson, who is already known up and down the Pacific coast for his jolly manners, and in addition, for his unusual efficiency and knack of making hotel guests feel at home. He worked in various capacities around Portland for eight years, and during that time he thoroughly learned every angle of the hotel business.

Andy Is Popular

Guests never ask for Mr. "Anderson," they always call for "Andy," and he is always ready for them, whether they have a wish they want fulfilled, or whether, as is often the case, they just want to stop and talk a while. Every one has a pleasant word for this smiling fellow, which may account for his good nature and ready ambition to please all.

With Mr. Anderson will be associated Harry Shaw, late of the Hotel Osborne, an efficient and expert man, who has studied the art of hostelry in all its branches. Van Beatter, of the Bartlett hotel in Cottage Grove, will also work behind the desk with "Andy" and "Harry" and all three, "Andy," Harry and Van, declare they are ready to do their utmost to make all guests at home in Eugene's finest hotel.

Chef In Charge

Edmund Pierre, chef, has already taken charge of the kitchen, and he

has been busy for days preparing the banquet that is to be spread tonight. He has a force of several experts in the kitchen, and in the modern bake-shop below, and every shelf is groning under the weight of the delicious edibles.

"But I'll see to it that those shelves are soon emptied," declares John Eck, head waiter, who also has marshaled his forces to care for the opening crowd. Mr. Eck has spent the past few days in supervising the final arranging of the dining room, and in assigning his help their places. Every employee under him now knows exactly what to do, and every one is experienced in his or her duties.

Mrs. Rayburn Engaged

Mrs. Rayburn has been appointed to the important position of housekeeper. To her will fall many of the important details of the running of the hotel, and she comes to the new place fully prepared to take charge in an efficient manner.

A man of long experience, H. M. Coulson, of Portland, has been selected as head porter, while Earl Waugh will direct the force of uniformed bell boys. Nine young men, all fast and snappy, have already been engaged, and they will work in shifts of five during the day and four at night. This force will be increased as the hotel business grows, it is stated.

"Every employee is enthusiastic about the new hotel, and all are eager for the opening day," said Mr. Clark this morning.

Spanish Courts of Hotel Are Alluring

One of the finest features of the entire new Eugene hotel are the two courts on each floor, from which an excellent view of Eugene and the surrounding country can be had, believes "Andy" Anderson, head clerk.

WORKMAN TELLS OF SPIRIT AND PLUCK AS HOTEL ERECTED

The story of the new Eugene hotel is full of thrills and hardships according to the version of several workmen who were imbued with the spirit of the massive project. About a year ago a large crew of men was hired by Hargraves and Lindsay to start construction work in a large hole below the level of 9th and Pearl street.

According to one man who started with the project as a mere shovel handler and finished last Saturday as an experienced carpenter, the work on the building was exciting as well as interesting. "I was walking along Pearl street last June out of work and noticed the place, which was a massive hole with large sticks of lumber entwined and thrown with in, and thought, 'I might find work,'" he said. "I walked up to a man, who I later found to be Bill Hargraves and asked him 'How's the prospect for work?' To my surprise he started me in with a shovel.

My first job was to make a groove in the earth which was used to run streamers along to brace and level the forms for the first floor. From this I gradually worked up until I found I was helping a carpenter put up braces for the second floor. I was carrying around a hammer and a pocket full of spikes and having the times of my life in 'tilt the hammer with the nail head.' But when, within a few weeks I found myself working on the fourth floor, I thought I was getting up in the world.

"Finally one of the greatest thrills of my life, one which I hardly dreamed of before, was opened before my eyes. I stood on the roof, towering seven stories above the street below, and looked out over the top of the smaller buildings which house the business of Eugene today.

"A feeling of perfect satisfaction of work will dwell over me as I think of the work and hardships I had conquered in gaining this objective. However, I realized then that my work was still uncompleted as the rough structure was to be made into a building which would win for itself a name as one of the finest structures of its kind on the coast.

"As I stood there contemplating I realized what I had gone through. I had started as a shovel handler, worked as a carpenter helper, covering the part as flunky and nail chaser. I even carried water to the other workers on the job, helped in placing the steel reinforcements, worked into the job of experienced carpenter, ran the new elevator first and even scrubbed the newly polished floors. I guess I gained a regular workman's education by working here.

"I will hate to leave the place although I've suffered many a crushed finger or thumb while learning to drive nails, have walked home in late afternoon ready for a good home meal and a comfortable bed, when it seemed as if I just couldn't take one more step.

Spirit Is Praised

"One of the outstanding reasons I kept at the work was because of the spirit of the men I worked with and the men I worked for. Bill was always ready to help in case I was confronted with a job that I couldn't quite understand. He spent many an hour in giving me pointers and in trying to interest me in my work.

"His interest in his men is one of the qualities which has helped him to build this hotel.

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NEW HOSTELRY IS COMPLETED AFTER YEAR OF ACTIVITY

Today marks the culmination of one year of intensive and extremely satisfying building. The new Eugene hotel, constructed by the firm of Hargraves and Lindsay, local contractors and home builders, who in conjunction with the Head Construction company was the inspiration and force behind the massive and beautiful structure which stands on the corner of 9th and Pearl street, announces that their work is completed.

One year ago almost to a day the local firm took over the contract for the erection of one of the largest and best hotels on the coast and today their work is finished. This hotel marks another super-structure of beauty in the history of Eugene. "The impressive example of architectural beauty will attest to the ability of the men who had the foresight to undertake a project of this magnitude. Their names will be placed on the record of far-sighted and able accomplishment of the men who are striving to make Eugene a more beautiful and better place for people of a peace loving and American nature," declared the owners today.

The history goes back three years ago. A man, a former resident of Eugene, returned looking for work. He soon found a small place, that of helping to construct a home. Following the completion of this building he entered in partnership with his fellow-worker, the outcome of which is the Hargraves and Lindsay construction company. William Hargraves, former builder of Portland and Roseburg was the returned resident of Eugene and Fred Lindsay was his first fellow-worker. These two men began the firm which brought together this new well-known pair of local contractors and builders.

Start Was Small

Their first contracts called merely for the building of small houses and cottages throughout the city. Presently an announcement was made that Eugene would be favored with a Terminal hotel. These men were called upon to take over the construction work of this hotel, which marks their first great achievement on a large scale building. Following the completion of this and due to their fast and efficient work they were successful in gaining the contract for the construction of another mark in the city's history.

The two contractors, working under the general supervision of the Head Construction company, called for men



Board of Directors of the Eugene Hotel Company; from left to right—Ernest R. Gilstrap, Bird Rose, president; John Hunzicker, A. R. Tiffany and F. N. McAlister.

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