

**STATE CAPITAL NEWS**

- Rising Capitol
- Oil Leases
- New Library Home

By A. L. LINDBECK

SALEM.—Workmen on the state capitol include craftsmen of almost every building trade known. Construction was progressing rapidly as the building towered skyward.

Interior partitions of hollow tile were being laid by bricklayers. Electricians, sheet metal workers and plumbers are busy laying pipes and air flues.

The concrete floor is being surfaced with a maze of conduits for the various services. Another layer of concrete will be poured over the present floor.

Vaults of the state treasurer and land board are being placed to protect the contents from fire and theft. Walls are solid re-enforced concrete, 18 inches thick. Lining the inside wall is a one-inch layer of manganese steel.

The markle exterior is being placed on the sides of the structure and heavy bronze window frames and sash are being installed. The rotunda is gradually taking shape.

The pack rat was listed as the latest menace to Oregon forests, following an incident reported to the state forester here this week.

State Forester J. W. Ferguson was notified that while a group of CCC workers were eating lunch on the upper Grand Ronde river, a number of workmen noticed smoke issuing from the base of a cottonwood tree nearby.

The crew became suspicious, and felled the tree. A blazing pack rat's nest rolled free. Ferguson declared that there was no doubt that the rats were responsible for the blaze. He wasn't so certain, however, just what charges could be filed against the rodents.

Persons hoping to profit by buying oil leases in the state of Oregon were discouraged last week when a statement issued by State Corporation Commissioner J. H. Hazlett said that possibility of finding oil in the state in paying quantities was slight. "The probability of finding oil in paying quantities in Oregon is so slight that only wealthy persons, if

any, who can afford to gamble, should buy oil leases," Hazlett said. "Reports have come to the attention of the department that salesmen of oil leases are representing that they have been licensed by this department. These reports are false. A number of companies engaged in selling oil leases in Oregon have sought permits but none have been issued for a number of reasons.

"The most undesirable high pressure salesmen are selling oil leases and the gullibility of their victims surpasses belief. The victims are usually uninformed and of small means, and were oil leasing companies to be issued permits and were their salesmen to be licensed as agents of the corporation department, the salesmen would probably represent, as they do, that the department had approved oil leases as an investment.

"The salesmen would thus be furnished with a strong selling argument. The department refuses to be placed in such a position that its attitude toward oil leases in Oregon can be misrepresented," Hazlett wrote.

The Oregon-Washington apple crop this year is estimated at 33,150,000 bushels, the U. S. department of agriculture reported. This is 890,000 bushels above last year's crop of 32,250,000 bushels, but is considerably below the five-year average crop of 38,888,000 bushels.

T. Morris Dunne, of the Oregon unemployment commission, was in Washington, D. C., conferring with unemployment administrators of 11 western states this week.

Chief topic of the meeting was methods of making benefits. Oregon's payments will start next January. Commission funds will aggregate approximately \$5,000,000 on January 1, D. A. Bulmore, state unemployment administrator, announced.

The commission now has \$4,000,000 which was contributed by employers. They will pay three per cent of their payrolls next year. Employers are paying two per cent currently.

Oregon's senior Senator, Charles L. McNary, last last week was notified by Secretary of Interior Harry L. Ickes that the state's \$450,000 library-office building project had been approved by President Roosevelt.

"President Roosevelt has just approved proposal 1030-2-D for a pro-

ject grant of \$450,000 new library at Salem," Ickes' telegram to McNary read.

McNary returned from a hectic congressional session in Washington last week, after being granted special permission to leave early. Resting at Fircone, his summer home near here, he planned several trips through the state, specifying he particularly wanted to visit Bonneville Dam and Bandon.

The U. S. senator conferred with President Roosevelt two days before returning home, and said that he had been assured the grant would be given consideration.

"The president told me that he planned to use the first public monies for building of burned schoolhouses, the next for public buildings destroyed or damaged by fire or floods, but that he believed there would be enough left for Oregon's library building," McNary said.

Secretary Ickes also talked with President Roosevelt regarding the grant, McNary pointed out.

Words of good cheer concerning other state problems were also given by the republican minority leader. On the flax subsidy question, McNary was optimistic for continuance of benefits in future years. He said the department of agriculture had promised to send an expert to this state to study the flax-growing situation.

Subsidies this year were increased \$2 per ton, from \$5 to \$7, but the program will end this year. McNary said he thought the hop bill would pass in the next session, because of the prospect that growers, dealers and brewers will work out a program to cope with the situation. The program may include higher tariffs on imports.

The Oregon senator quoted the president as saying no special session would be called before November. He discounted talk about a third term for Roosevelt.

Cold weather—believe it or not—virtually halted the bean pack at Hillman's West Salem cannery last week. Glancing at the thermometer in the afternoon any day in the last two weeks would make this seem a falsehood.

Grover Hillman, cannery head, reported that cold nights in the West Salem bean producing area has slowed up production so much that the cannery was compelled to close down and work on limited hours for a time.

Temperatures in the low forties have been registered in the irrigated

sectors where the beans are growing. Hillman said that this was entirely too low for good production.

Beans had been coming in at the rate of 85 to 100 tons per day until the cold spell. The production is expected to rise to normal within a few days, Hillman said.

A. L. Nye, Salem, is planning to attend his 76th Oregon state fair this year. Nye, taken by his parents to the first state fair in 1861, has attended every one since that time.

Rep. Harry D. Boivin, Klamath Falls, by virtue of being speaker of the House of Representatives at the last legislative session, served in the capacity of governor of the state last week.

Gov. Charles H. Martin left on vacation for Bremerton, Wash., at noon Thursday, and was not expected to return until after Labor Day. Ordinarily, Sen. Frank M. Franciscovich, Astoria, would assume temporary governorship, but he was out of the state also.

Franciscovich was to return from Berkeley, Cal., Saturday, and replace Boivin in the gubernatorial chair.

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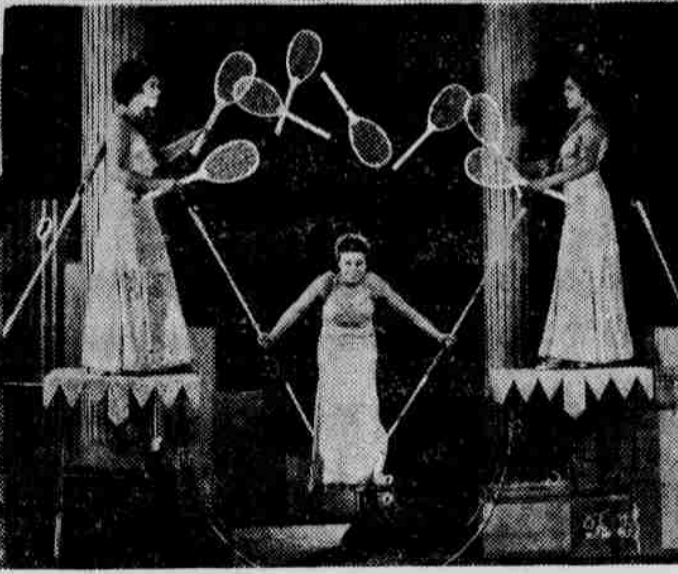
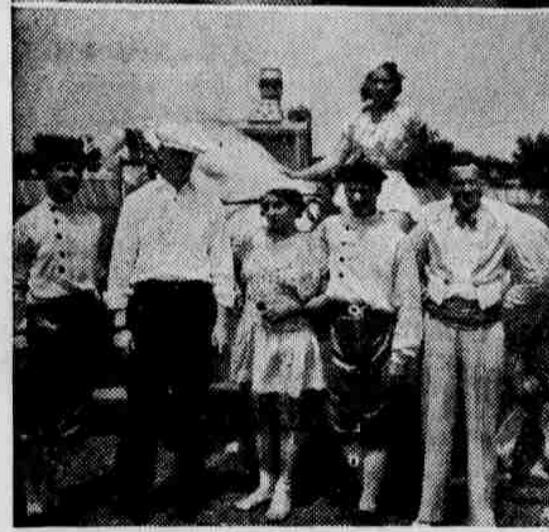
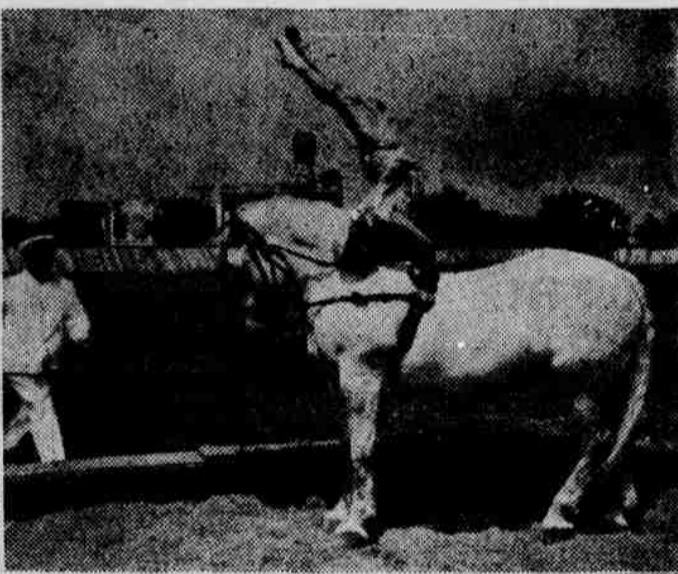
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**Famous Circus Stars State Fair Feature**



Circus stars, world famous and without equal anywhere, will tickle the public's fancy at the Oregon State fair in Salem September 6 to 12. Pictured are a few of the thrill acts and acts. Top from left: Mlle. Ernestine Clarke, beautiful girl and clever rider, who is seen at the right in action on a stunning bareback horse. Lower, from left: the whole galaxy of Hanneford-Clarke stars who present a riding act second to none; right, The Uniques in a juggling exchange act that's flashy to the last minute. Circus attractions will be one feature of the free night grandstand entertainment.