

# Cutting of Ribbon Across Tunnel of Love By Capital Cuties Marks Opening Of New State Public Service Building

By William Warren  
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Salem, Ore., Apr. 20—(U.P.)—A couple of cuties cut a ribbon across the tunnel of love this

week and the new public service building was officially opened by adding the latest page to the hectic history of the capitol group of buildings.

It's a fine, brave building, this new public service structure, from penthouse flagpole to technicolor cafeteria in the basement. And it kept the hectic history intact. Cracks in the plaster made a repair job necessary and held up official acceptance of the structure for a couple of months. But a pitotl attaches point out that the cracks were not the fault of the Sound Construction company, builders of the five-story, \$2,000,000 edifice. The state itself specified pumice blocks for the partitions and these blocks continued to "cure" after the plaster was on, causing the cracks.

**Oldest Building**  
The oldest building in the capitol group is the supreme court building, built on the installment plan by legislative fiat.

In 1911 the legislature appropriated \$150,000 to buy property and build the supreme court structure. And it specified, as if shaking a collective finger at the next legislature, that "the cost of purchasing or acquiring such land and erection of a suitable building thereon, shall in no case exceed the sum of money above appropriated."

The property at State and 12th streets—next to the railroad tracks incidentally, where the freights rattle past to postpone the ponderings of the high court men—was bought and the building started. Then funds for the job were exhausted and the building abruptly halted. When the 1913 legislature convened, the lawmakers promptly said "pooh" to the 1911 legislative injunction against more dough, and approved an additional \$136,300 to complete the structure, provide some furniture and landscape the grounds. The building was first occupied in February of 1914.

Next oldest structure in the group, the state office building across the alley from the supreme court building, was completed in 1930 but only after a series of set-backs and bickering that echoed clear to the United States supreme court.

**Unusual Procedure**  
Litigation started in 1927 and reached the U. S. high court before it was settled. It was to determine whether state officials could borrow the money to build a state building from a state department—in this case the trust funds of the state industrial accident commission. This was a new departure in financing the cost of constructing state buildings, with a plan of repayment from rentals plus 4 1/2 per cent interest. Suit was brought by the Eastern & Western Lumber company against the state board of control in 1927, to enjoin use of such funds. The circuit court decided in favor of the plaintiff, a heavy contributor to the state industrial accident fund, and an injunction was granted. The state appealed to the Oregon su-

preme court and in a 4 to 3 opinion, the majority sustained the circuit court, and it appeared that ended the matter. But shortly thereafter Justice George H. Burnette died, and Justice George Rossman was appointed to fill the vacancy. A rehearing was granted. Justice Rossman then wrote the prevailing opinion in which three others joined, which upset the previous decision and held that the law authorizing the borrowing from state funds for such purposes was not unconstitutional. Eastern & Western appealed to the United States supreme court. On Feb. 25, 1929, that court wrote the final answer, affirming the Oregon supreme court. So construction was finally started and the building was occupied in 1930.

**Leased To State**  
The agricultural building is third oldest in the state group. It was built by private parties and leased to the state, then later bought for about \$84,000 in 1931.

Fourth and finest of the group is the capitol itself, completed in 1939 at a cost of some \$2,500,000 to replace the old state house destroyed by fire April 25, 1935. The design and plans for the new capitol were chosen after a nationwide architectural competition, in which 123 firms participated. The winners were Trowbridge & Livingston and Francis Keally of New York City. They received an award of \$132,000 which, of course, also covered their architectural work for the edifice. Five other firms received consolation prizes of \$1,500 each.

The legislature in special 1935 session, authorized appointment of a state capitol reconstruction commission made up of nine members appointed by Gov. Charles H. Martin. They were J. A. McLean of Eugene, Dr. H. H. Olinger of Salem, T. H. Banfield of Portland, Dr. Ernest C. Dalton of St. Helens, J. H. Lake of Portland, Mrs. Gordon Voorhies of Medford and Robert W. Sawyer of Bend. With the aid of technical advisors, they chose the design and had charge of the preliminary work in providing for the capitol building.

**Construction Serene**  
The state library building was completed in 1939 at a cost of \$875,730. In keeping with the cloistered atmosphere that's supposed to surround a library, the construction of this building was serene and without untoward event.

A new building for the state highway department is rising now, just north of the public service building.

The public service building eventually will house the state police, the state board of control, the audit division of the secretary of state's office, the civil service commission, the public utilities commission, the industrial accident commission and the unemployment compensation commission. The unemployment group already has moved in, the first to complete the job, and is busily at work turning out those little checks for the boys and girls temporarily at liberty from work. It may be a couple of weeks before all the departments are moved.

# Red Cross Asks for Furniture, Bedding

Two more burned-out families need furniture and bedding, according to Red Cross officials. One family near Prospect and another in the Upper Applegate lost everything they had as well as their homes. Neighbors have supplied furniture for one home but bedding for three double beds is needed at once. Both furniture and bedding are requested for the other family, which needs a cook stove, ice box, kitchen table, dining room table and chairs, chest of drawers, any living room chairs available, cooking utensils and bedding for one double bed.

One large mattress is needed as a special request for a very sick woman. Anyone having this household furniture and bedding available is asked to call Mrs. Margaret Fabrick, chairman of the emergency closet supplies for the Jackson County Red Cross, at 2-9454 before Saturday. Since the Red Cross has no storage space available everything will have to be picked up at the home of the donors.

Mrs. Fabrick said that men's shoes, suits and shirts donated last month have all been given out, and more garments of that class would be welcomed for needy veterans and civilians and can be taken direct to the Red Cross office. No winter coats are desired as there is no place for storing them.

**THAT'S SHOOTING**  
Elba, Ala.—(U.P.)—Those who claimed they killed two birds with one stone are pikers, according to E. R. Mack. Mack said he killed six quail with a single gunshot as they flew in a straight line.

# Controls Said Needed for Making of Artificial Rain

Boulder City, Nev., Apr. 20—(U.P.)—A Nobel prize-winning scientist says government controls are needed to keep "promiscuous" artificial rain-making from ruining the nation's agriculture.

Dr. Irving B. Langmuir, a rain-making expert, criticized "promiscuous over-seeding" of clouds with silver iodide particles to produce rain.

"Experiments have shown that prevailing winds could carry silver iodide particles over a wide area until they hit certain ideal conditions, then rain would start falling," Langmuir said yesterday at the 18th annual snow conference of agricultural and reclamation officials.

He feared the uncontrolled rain-making would occur over areas where crops were in an advanced stage, resulting in "tremendous damage."

Langmuir, associate director of the General Electric research laboratories at Schenectady, N. Y., said careless use of the process could produce "violent and heavy rainstorms" which might result in "floods many miles from where the seeding was done."

The scientists predicted that eventually there would be government "cloud-seeding stations" scattered across the country at regular intervals.

# Bids Mailed for Birth Observance of Bard

Invitations are being mailed this week to 500 members of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival association for a reception honoring the 386th anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare.

Sunday, at 1:15 p. m., the group will gather at the Elks club lounge in Ashland for brief ceremonies that will include reading of communications from Laurence Olivier and from the Stratford on Avon committee of England. Immediately following the reception, Lippert theaters have arranged a matinee showing of Olivier's Hamlet. Station KWIN will broadcast a description of the events from the lounge and from the street in front of the Varsity theater.

The anniversary celebration is the association's first program for 1950—the 10th year of Shakespearean productions in Ashland's Elizabethan theater.

**OPENS SHOE SHOP**  
Jacksonville, Apr. 19—Stephen J. Fox has opened a shoe repair shop on California street near the post office building. Fox, who arrived here recently from Oceanside, Cal., said he chose to make his home here because of his fondness for stream fishing and the opportunities to pursue the sport here.

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