

Bear Creek Sanitary District OKs Bid Call on Sewer Construction

Directors of the South Bear Creek Sanitary district have authorized a call for bids for construction of a sewer system in the district, it was announced Saturday by Dewey C. Gearin, president of the board.

Authorization to have Mrs. Jeanette Thatcher Marshall, attorney for the district, call for bids was given at a board meeting Friday night. Estimated cost of the sewer system will be around \$82,000, barring unforeseen construction difficulties. Mrs. Marshall said Saturday the bid call will probably be issued this week.

Long, Narrow District

The new sewer line will extend from about the south city limits of Medford south the entire length of the district, which is long and narrow and lies generally between Bear Creek and the Southern Pacific railroad tracks. Size of the line will be sufficient to serve all residents there now and provide for future development, Gearin said.

Crook County States Property Reappraisal

Salem — (U.P.) — Crook county officials have signed a contract with the valuation division of the State Tax Commission calling for a complete reappraisal of all real property in the county.

County Judge Harry C. Fowler and Assessor Edwin Goodrich indicated that the inventory, scheduled to start this winter, is badly needed to correct inequalities in taxation that have resulted from the economic changes that have affected all areas of the county in recent years.

It is anticipated that the entire job will be completed in time to place the new values on the 1959 tax roll.

Paleontology, the science of fossils, has been called "the geologist's clock."



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The north end of the sewer will connect with the Medford sewer and sewage disposal system under terms of a contract with the city which was signed Sept. 6, 1955. Harvey and Watkins, Medford engineering firm, designed the system, and have completed bid specifications, which have been approved both by the state sanitary authority and the city of Medford.

Warning Against Careless Smoking Issued at Start Of Fire Prevention Week

Fires in Oregon last year took 53 lives and seriously injured 291 more while consuming property valued by the state fire marshal at \$9,999,376. Many of the fires were caused by careless smoking, and Medford fire department officials have urged citizens to observe Fire Prevention Week, which starts today.

The week has been proclaimed locally by Mayor Earl Miller. Fire Prevention Week started as a one-day observance Oct. 9, 1911, when the Fire Marshals association of North America suggested the 40th anniversary of the great Chicago Fire of 1871 be set aside to publicize fire prevention.

The district now has \$58,000 on hand with which to start the work. It is planned to ask voters of the district to authorize issuance of up to \$40,000 more in bonds, to pay for the rest of the work. The total authorized amount would not be used if it is not needed, Gearin pointed out.

He also said that, due to a law enacted by the 1955 legislature,

the district was enabled to plan for an added bond issue, and added that the district's bonding capacity has been increased to \$220,000.

Election Set

An election for a director will be held at the same time as the bond issue election, on Nov. 15. The three-year term of Edward Stevens, now treasurer of the district, is expiring. Gearin said he will be a candidate to succeed himself. Other eligible residents of the district wishing to become candidates can do so by petition.

The new sewer will serve an estimated 80 to 100 connections when completed, and more as the district's population grows. The entire area is now served solely by septic tanks, creating what Gearin called "a deplorable condition." Much of the sewage drains eventually into Bear creek, and flows through Medford, he pointed out, and he said the new sewer will "clean up" a bad situation.

Coast Guard Opens Investigation of Astoria Drownings

Salem — (U.P.) — The Coast Guard is investigating the drowning of eight persons during the recent salmon derby at Astoria in an attempt to find a more effective means of keeping small craft out of dangerous waters, Rear Adm. J. A. Hirshfield, Coast Guard Commandant has informed Rep. Walter Norblad.

The tragedies occurred despite the fact, Adm. Hirshfield noted, that seven or eight Coast Guard boats were patrolling the vicinity, advising all persons to stay away from the area where the accidents subsequently happened.

The Coast Guard also had been urging derby participants to wear lifejackets, but none were found on the bodies of those drowned.

Norblad had written to Adm. Hirshfield, Sept. 3, urging an investigation with the view of the Coast Guard adopting more effective regulations or, if they do not have the authority, to have Congress pass new laws. The admiral's letter to Norblad was in response to that request.

Maisons Honored By 41st Division

Portland — (U.P.) — Maj. Gen. H. G. Maison, who recently retired as commander of the 41st Infantry Division, and Mrs. Maison were honored last night at a testimonial banquet at the Columbia Athletic Club here.

Gen. Maison, who is superintendent of Oregon state police, is retiring after 38 years of military service. On hand to honor him were 41st Division officers from Oregon and Washington and his comrades-in-arms from all sections of the country.

Portland Traction Franchise May Not Be Renewed in 1956

Portland — (U.P.) — Portland City Commissioner Nathan A. Boody announced he will recommend that a Portland Traction company request for a 10-year franchise renewal be turned down by the city council.

The company's present franchise expires Jan. 31, 1956. It has been in effect for the past 20 years.

Boody, who is commissioner of utilities, said Portland Traction, "as directed under California management," should not have its franchise renewed. A San Francisco holding company Portland Transit, holds 100 per cent of the traction company's stock.

Traction Company President Gordon G. Steele, said Boody's decision was "quite a surprise." He said he knew of no other company's interested in the Portland area franchise.

Boody, however, said he had reason to believe "others" will ask for the franchise "under condition where we can maintain proper and efficient transportation for the city of Portland."

He said Portland Transit is liquidating its holding in the subsidiary in anticipation of the city council's refusal to renew the franchise.

The cable car, symbol of San Francisco, was invented there in 1873.

Sunday, October 9, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

Latin America Said Developing Rapidly

Portland — (U.P.) — The 20 Latin American countries are developing faster economically than any other major area of the world — including the United States.

That was the opinion of Henry F. Holland, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, who spoke here.

Holland said American trade with central and south America was greater than with any other area. He reported the 20 countries shared 34 per cent of American investments abroad with \$2,500,000,000 invested in the

petroleum industry alone. Lumber and pulp industries in the Pacific Northwest and Canada were sharing in the expanding trade with Latin America, he added.

Although Holland visited in Argentina last November, he declined to comment on the downfall of the Peron regime or the situation there now.

Mrs. Smith Moved To Yamhill Jail

Portland — (U.P.) — Circuit Judge James R. Bain has signed an order committing Marjorie Smith to Yamhill county jail in McMinnville.

Mrs. Smith, charged with the bomb slaying of husband, Kermit, is scheduled to go on trial Oct. 20.

Mrs. Smith will remain in McMinnville until the trial starts.

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