

OUT OF THE WOODS by JIM STEVENS

One of Ours . . .

Paul Thiry is so kind in speech and gentle in manner that he is easily mistaken for a forester. But he is actually an architect—nationally known for the handsome Northwest homes he has designed, with not a few notable churches, schools, museums and libraries.

Nearly all Thiry designs exhibit values of our native woods. No architect alive has had a finer hand than his in contriving nationwide fame for Douglas fir, west coast hemlock, western red cedar and Sitka spruce.

Some seven years ago Paul Thiry was presented with the Seattle Chamber of Commerce's Paul Bunyan Award. This is an annual "Oscar" in the form of a plaque of Paul and the Blue Ox, designed to honor the person who has done more than any other to win good fame for Seattle within the year. Seattle homes by Thiry had been vastly publicized in national magazines with many millions of readers in 1949, most of all with spreads of photograph in color.

Paul Thiry was a pioneer in "open planning" designs, for homes with scenic outlooks. In this style Douglas fir posts and beams are a natural specification, and west coast hemlock decking is apt to be preferred. Western red cedar panelling and siding fits into the picture too. The native woods blend pictorially with scenes of trees, water and mountains. So Thiry homes make prime magazine stories.

Thiry merits regional renown, also, because of his record of public service, which includes labor and leadership for the American Institute of Architects. A Fellow of AIA, Thiry was president of the Washington State chapter in 1951-1953—the latter year the one in which the Institute held its annual convention in Seattle. He was responsible for placing Col. William B. Greeley prominently on the convention program. So the foremost forester of the country, in 1953, spoke to a host of the country's major specifiers of building woods, with professional assurances of a perpetual supply of good building lumber.

There is no telling today how much that American Institute of Architects' annual meeting meant in terms of important appreciation of West Coast woods. In the Seattle area the contemporary home designs of Paul Thiry and his colleagues were abundantly established in 1953. They were the outgrowth of scenic setting and the availability of fir, hemlock, and cedar lumber. Their architectural appeal was irresistible to the visiting architects, who viewed them against Lake Washington and the Cascades or Puget Sound and the Olympics. Many homes and building editors, and architectural writers were also visitors. Now look!

I've just been looking at a story and pictures on a new house by Paul Thiry. It is the ranch home of the Eric Moes, near Ellensburg. The house has five acres to ramble around on, and for a long lanai (veranda to grandma), with overhanging roof on three sides. The patio is large enough for tennis—but its feature is a swimming pool.

A prime interior item is the ridge of the lightly vaulted ceiling of the living room. The big fir ridge beam is exposed, and so is a broad strip of the ceiling joists on each side with clerestory lights shining against the big beam between joists.

Paul Thiry was born at Nome in 1904. He studied architecture

in France, and came home to graduate from the University of Washington in 1928. He has practiced architecture in Seattle since 1929, was an architect for the Navy during World War II, and has served on the City planning commission, the Washington State Hospital Advisory Council, and with other public service groups. He has been decorated by the French Academy as well as by the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. In short, Paul Thiry is a regional asset, to be ranked with Mt. Hood and Mt. Rainier.



MOVING TONS OF DEBRIS, cranes probe wreckage of building under construction at Jackson, Mich., in which 10 workmen lost lives when fourth floor collapsed. (International)

Tuesday, October 9, 1958

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Poznan Rioters Get Light Prison Terms

Poznan, Poland—(UP)—Three young Poles were given light sentences ranging up to 4½ years in prison Monday for murdering a Security Police corporal during the June 28 Poznan riots.

The sentences were comparatively mild, indicating that the court which heard the case took heed of widespread reports that there would be new demonstrations if the verdict was a harsh one.

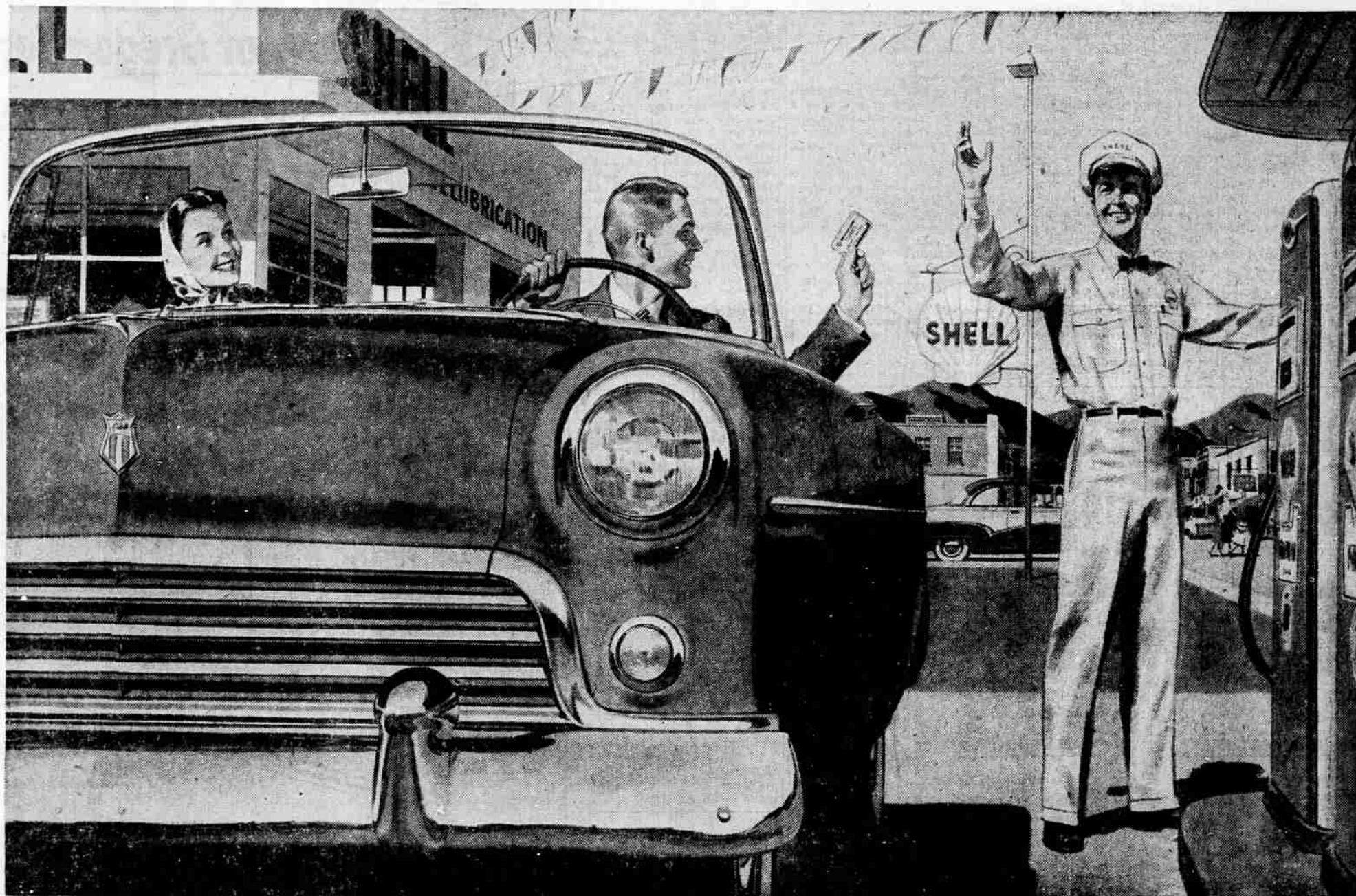
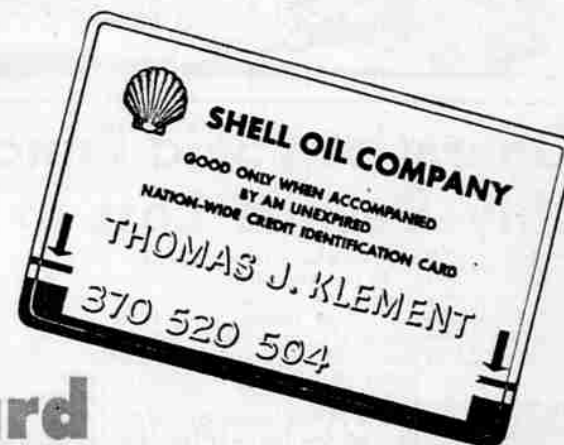
Today's sentencing was received quietly. Two of the youthful defendants got 4½ years in jail, and the third was sentenced to four years.

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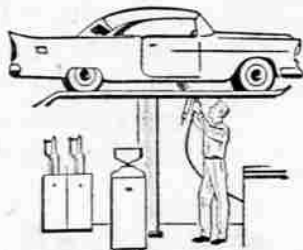
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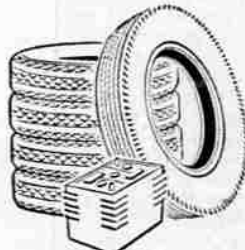
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Oil Progress Week—October 14th-20th

Estacada Forest Blaze 'Contained'

Estacada — (UP)—A strong east wind fanned a controlled slash fire into one of Oregon's worst forest fires of the year over the week end but fire fighters said the blaze should be "shipped" today, granting favorable weather.

Nearly 200 firefighters battled the blaze in the Fish creek area of the Mt. Hood National forest southeast of here. Spokesmen said the fire was "contained" in 300 acres but was still smoldering dangerously.

The fire, pushed by a hot east wind and sustained by low humidities, was spotted Saturday as it jumped from a controlled slash burn. It raged in very steep country but good forest roads aided in getting fire fighting equipment to the scene rapidly.

