

# Man Appears on Charges of Assault

Robert E. Gardner, 315 Newton st., was given until Sept. 26 in district court Friday to enter a plea on charges of assault while not being armed with a dangerous weapon.

Gardner had asked District Court Judge James Main that an attorney be appointed.

The complaint was signed by Hugh Messer, also of Medford, who charges that Gardner Thursday struck him on the head and face with his fist.

District Attorney Thomas J. Reeder said today he is continuing his investigation of the case.

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## Girl Escapes Drowning In Baker Reservoir

Baker, Ore. — (UPI) — Donnel Roper, 3, escaped drowning in the city reservoir Thursday after she shifted a dump truck out of gear and it backed over an embankment into 16 feet of water. She had been in the water an estimated four or five minutes when fished out by her father.



## Present Flagpole Sitters Declared 'Bunch of Pikers'

**By EVERETT R. IRWIN**  
UPI Correspondent

Chicago—(UPI) — A flagpole maker recalled with nostalgia Friday the zany "good old days" when flagpole sitters really sat—because that was all they had room to do.

Ralph Watkins said present-day sitters are "a bunch of pikers" compared to such old masters as "Shipwreck" Kelly and "Hold 'Em Joe" Powers.

Back in the roaring 20s, Watkins reminisced, Kelly and Powers clung to bosun's chairs or equally skimpy perches while they waged their famous battle for the world sitting championship. Not excited.

Watkins couldn't get excited about the efforts of Mauri Rose Kirby, 17-year-old girl who ensconced herself with books, radio and telephone Aug. 16 in a little hut atop a utility pole in Indianapolis and announced she would try to crack the modern sitting record of 169 days aloft.

"The sitters today are a bunch of pikers," said Watkins, whose company claims to be the oldest manufacturers of flagpoles in the United States. "They practically live in houses with all the comforts of home."

Powers touched off the seasaw contest with Kelly by sitting for 16 days and two hours on the flagpole atop the 42-story Morrison Hotel in Chicago.

Kelly came right back by roosting on a pole atop a Newark N.J., hotel for 18 days—and incidentally earning up to \$500 a day while acquiring a callous and a suntan.

The pair kept right on whomping each other until Powers beat Kelly, 52 days to 51, aboard a building on Chicago's Northwest Side.

**Champion Stander**

Kelly, not to be outdone, shinned right back up and became the champion flagpole stander with a nine hour and 47 minute stint above the Hotel Belvedere in New York.

After World War II a new generation took up flagpole sitting. Ozzie Hamilton Osborne slid down a Long Beach, Calif., flagpole in Sep-

RESUMING witness stand before Senate probes, James Hoffa, Teamster boss, admits union funds helped promoter get bank loan.

## Rural Traffic in State Declines

Oregon highway traffic for August decreased 1 per cent from August, 1957, according to the state highway department's monthly traffic count recorded on 52 rural counter locations in the state.

Five locations reflecting urban traffic trends showed an increase of 5.4 per cent, the commission said.

A substantial increase was noted on Highway 66, five miles of Ashland. The average daily traffic during August was 1,349, compared to 1,145 during August last year, an increase of 17.8 per cent, the commission said.

Traffic on Highway 62 four miles south of Shady Cove showed an increase of 1 per cent. Average traffic last month was 2,510, compared to 2,486 the previous August.

Portland—(UPI)—Retail food costs in Portland remained about the same in August as in July, according to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Statistics.

## Salmon Fishermen Have Good Start

Astoria—(UPI)—Commercial fishermen here reported Friday that the fall salmon season was off to a good start with many boats bringing canners 700-pound loads and other boats laden with about a ton of fish. Quality was reported good.

There were also indications that the albacore run was holding up well with tuna boats getting good catches about 100 miles off the Oregon coast in waters south of Newport. Otter trawlers were making substantial catches of bottom fish.

The next month Milton Van Nolan completed a 70-day ride in a horse saddle atop a San Francisco pole. His mark was topped in 1949 by Charlie Lupica, who spent 117 days aloft in Cleveland in a vain attempt to root his beloved Indians to an American League pennant.

At last report the modern record was 169 days—set by Kathleen (Flagpole Kitty) Donham in Tacoma Park, Wash., in 1955.

That's only the modern record. The all-time, world record actually was etched for posterity some 1,400 years ago by Simeon the Younger, who thought he could atone for the world's sins by staying aloft.

He stuck it out atop a pillar for 68 years. He would have done better except he died up there.

## Crater Student Is Named to Post at District Meeting

Central Point — John Carter, Crater High school, was elected vice president of the Rogue-Umpqua district of the Future Farmers of America at a recent district meeting at Crater High school here.

Other officers are Bill Hubbard, Eagle Point, secretary; Mike Redmond, Crater, treasurer; Don Ryan, Crater, reporter; and Leon Small, Phoenix, sentinel.

A president was not elected because the current president, Allen Barnes, will retire in the spring. Barnes presided at the combined leadership and officer training session.

Ralph L. Morgan, state FFA advisor, and Ed Manary, state president from Sheridan, gave short talks. Other guests were Roger Schonborn, Molalla, state secretary, and LeRoy Lim, Canby, Oregon state sentinel.

Morgan commented on the problem of leadership throughout the state and mentioned several amendments to the national FFA constitution to be considered at the national FFA convention in Kansas City next month. Manary spoke on the responsibilities of the district and chapter officers.

The district voted to purchase a district parliamentary banner. Later, officers of each chapter represented conferred on a program of work of their chapters. Main topics of the programs are supervised farming, cooperation, community service, leadership, earnings and savings, recreation, conduct of meetings, and scholarship.

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