

Solon At The Fair... His Opponent Too



HOW'S THAT? - U. S. Rep. Charles O. Porter, a Democrat seeking re-election next month, listens intently to the observations of an elderly constituent.



PUNCH LINE - Dan Stathos, Republican chairman here, shares a light moment with Paul Geddes, his party's candidate opposing Rep. Porter.

State Orders Pollution Cut In Portland Area

Portland - (UPI) - The city of Portland was formally ordered by the State Sanitary authority Friday to abate Willamette and Columbia River pollution by sewage wastes.

The order, which followed a two-hour "show cause" hearing here, directed the city to comply before Jan. 15. The four-part directive specifically ordered the city to submit on or before the deadline a "fiscal and construction program and time schedule" for remedying the pollution.

At the same time the Sanitary authority indicated it planned to schedule hearings for at least four other alleged "violators," the cities of Seaside and Estacada, and two firms, Lundy Brothers Sand and Gravel company of Benton County and Arrow Meat company of Washington County.

Portland Mayor Terry D. Schruink said Portland officials are aware of the pollution problem and that a remedy for the situation is included in a capital improvements package program which goes before a municipal vote in the Nov. 4 elections.

First Insulating Board At Johns-Manville

Klamath Falls - (UPI) - The first insulating board produced at the 12 million dollar Johns-Manville plant 20 miles north of here came off the machines late Thursday.

W. H. Graham, local manager of the plant, said hiring has been going on for several weeks and the crew now totals 125 men. He said full production would be delayed for a short time.

No one is allowed within 750 feet of an Atlas Intercontinental Ballistic Missile when it is launched, and those that close are inside a reinforced concrete blockhouse.

Sen. Morse To Make Klamath Falls Speech

Klamath Falls - (UPI) - Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) will make a foreign policy speech here the night of Oct. 30, the Klamath County Democratic Central Committee said yesterday.

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City's Dilemma Over Setback Being Turned Over to Council

City hall's dilemma over how to settle the Medford building department's dispute with a private contractor who allegedly has violated the building code is being turned over to the city council.

City Manager Robert A. Duff was planning Friday to prepare a report to the council this week end. He told the council Thursday night it would be ready "in a day or so."

Duff has not discussed the report's contents publicly, pending its submission to the councilmen. But a study of circumstances already on record suggests its probable tenor.

The city, observers agree, finds itself in an awkward position. Briefly, the case history includes these facts:

Case History
On July 3, the council approved re-zoning the property at 825 East Ninth st. from Class 1B Single and Two Family to Class II Multiple Family.

On July 10, James Boyce, representing the Watkins Construction company, submitted plans to the building department for an 8-unit, \$46,000 apartment structure at that address.

Boyce was issued a permit to build that same day. But the plans he submitted called for the apartment units to be set back four feet from the side lot lines. The building code requires at least five feet and as much as ten in the multiple family zone.

Boyce has since all but completed the construction work, although Oliver R. McNeel, building department head, says he spoke to Boyce about the alleged violation "at least three times."

On Sept. 22, McNeel formally demanded that Boyce cease work and correct the situation.

Boyce Replied
Boyce replied he felt he was "100 per cent in the clear about it" since the city, in issuing the permit, had in effect approved the plans. McNeel said in return that regardless of any oversight

in his office the contractor was responsible for any violations. He based this on the statement signed by permit applicants at the bottom of the application form.

This statement reads in part, "I agree to build according to the above description, plans, specifications and city building codes."

One question here, of course, is what happens when the plans and building code requirements do not agree.

Other officials agreed with McNeel that technically the city was "in the right." Thus, by Sept. 30, the issue was joined.

"Somebody," as Boyce said, was "going to have to give."

Second Look
Since that time, these officials have taken a second look at the matter. Additional factors have prompted their reconsideration.

First, the question of possible negligence in the building department has been magnified by the statements of two employees discharged during the same period.

Leroy Hatcher has said that McNeel and Boyce talked for over 15 minutes July 10 in McNeel's office. Hatcher said they discussed the plans and afterward McNeel told him to issue the permit.

Rue Kerley said he returned from the field later that afternoon, looked over the plans, saw the violation and pointed it out to McNeel. He asserted McNeel did not respond.

McNeel has stated he was busy with other matters that day. He said he referred the plans to Kerley for checking when Boyce presented them. He said Kerley checked them and Hatcher issued the permit.

McNeel also said, however, that it was his policy to personally check plans for projects valued at over \$10,000 and that he did not check the plans in this case.

'Somebody Goofed'
While the dispute between McNeel and the two employees may be secondary to the basic issue, it contributes nevertheless to the impres-

sion that "somebody goofed." A fundamental point in the dispute is that correcting the violation would cost a considerable sum.

There seem to be two possibilities, either moving the apartment units or moving the lot lines.

Expensive
Moving the units, foundations and all, would unquestionably be expensive. Duff suggested at one point that the adjoining property owners might be persuaded to sell strips of land wide enough to place the units a proper distance from the new lot lines.

This too, of course, would cost money. Furthermore, one of these property owners has stated unequivocally that she does not intend to sell.

The city could, conceivably, grant a special variance allowing the structure to remain. But neighbors have complained of the situation, and this would hardly save their feelings.

Hence, for the time being at least, a dilemma exists. Duff's report to the council, in which he is expected to

Pearl Predicts Power Load Rise In SW Oregon

Gold Beach - (UPI) - Residential, farm and industrial power loads of southwest Oregon are expected to more than double by 1968, Dr. William A. Pearl, Bonneville power administrator, said yesterday.

Dr. Pearl, addressing the 20th annual membership meeting of the Coos - Curry Electric cooperative, said the present annual use per customer in the area was 8270 kilowatt hours. This is expected to reach 14,200 by 1968 because of industrial and population growth, he said.

Dr. Pearl said that during the period from 1946 to 1957 the residential use of power has increased 470 per cent and the cost per kilowatt hour has gone down 70 per cent.

He complimented the cooperative on its plans for a proposed 92,000 kilowatt Bald Mountain project on the Illinois river and offered fullest cooperation of BPA in assuring integrated operation of the plant with the Northwest Power Pool.

Labor Board Orders Picketing To Cease

Portland - (UPI) - The National labor relations board ruled Friday that picketing here by the machinists union at the Industrial Chrome Plating company was a violation of the Taft-Hartley law.

The NLRB, in a split decision, said the law forbids picketing for the purpose of gaining recognition and bargaining rights. The union had contended its picketing was for organizational purposes and not for recognition. It was ordered to cease and desist.

Ashland Firm Files Articles With State

Salem - (UPI) - Articles of incorporation were filed Friday for the Ashland Sporting Goods Company. They were signed by Pamela B. Perkins, Kennedy M. Perkins and W. L. Bryant.

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