

### Coroner System Bills Studied

Salem—UPI—The bills re-amping Oregon's coroner system got a thorough going over by the Senate Public Health committee Tuesday.

Line-by-line study of the two bills will continue next week.

They call for abolition of all county coroner positions outside Multnomah county and substitution of medical investigators who shall either be the county or district health officer or a licensed physician.

A chief medical investigator appointed by the State Board of Health would be a doctor specializing in pathology. He would coordinate work in the counties.

The bills arose from an interim investigation headed by Sen. Monroe Sweetland (D-Milwaukie) into the present system.

Sweetland noted that morticians now have a near monopoly on coroner jobs and that relationships between coroners and morticians in handling deaths have impaired public confidence in coroners.

Sweetland said Multnomah county was not included because of its large size large budget and facilities for investigating causes of death, but Sweetland added that Multnomah might want to join the program later.

### Film on Oregon Parks Is Available

Salem—Oregon state park developments, their notable features and facilities, are depicted in a new motion picture now available from the travel information division of the Oregon state highway department.

The film, "Vacation Adventures in Oregon State Parks," runs 14 minutes, has sound and is in color. It was photographed and produced by the travel division, and narrated by Oregon radio and television and radio announcer Johnny Carpenter.

Oregon has nearly 170 parks, more than any other state in the nation. The parks, under the jurisdiction of the Oregon state highway commission, are situated in outstanding recreational regions throughout the state.

### EX-NEWSMAN DIES

Redondo Beach, Calif.—UPI—Final rites will be held today for Samuel Goddard Austin, 84, former newspaperman and retired Redondo Beach city judge who died Tuesday after a long illness.

### PUBLICIST DIES

New York—UPI—Stephen L. Jennings, 60, publicist and former newspaperman, died Monday.

## Mrs. Duncan's Trial Nears Completion; Friday Goal Seen

Ventura, Calif.—UPI—The 17-day-old trial of Elizabeth Duncan on charges of bargaining for the death of her son's pregnant wife entered its final stages today.

District Attorney Roy Gustafson expected to present the rest of more than a score of rebuttal witnesses by noon and, perhaps, launch into his final argument at lunch.

Best estimate of Gustafson and defense attorney S. Ward Sullivan was that the case might go to the jury by Friday.

The prosecutor worked methodically in testimony Tuesday to destroy the image of Frank Duncan, 30-year-old lawyer son of the defendant, as a husband who cherished his wife but feared his mother might kill herself if he left home.

Mrs. Duncan is accused of hiring Luis Moya, 22, and Augustine BalDonado, 25, last November to kill her daughter-in-law, Olga, a 30-year-old Canadian-born nurse.

Her body was discovered last Dec. 21 buried in a shallow grave north of here in the Casitas Pass area. Moya and BalDonado pleaded innocent by reason of insanity after confessing Mrs. Duncan offered them \$6,000 to kill Olga.

One of Tuesday's rebuttal witnesses, Valentine Ponomaroff, a Santa Barbara insurance agent, testified that Frank once hoped to get rid of Olga before their marriage last June 20.

"I'm getting in a little too deep with Olga," Ponomaroff quoted Duncan as saying. "If I wish I could palm her off on someone else."

In his testimony the young attorney said he still loved Olga when she left her last Nov. 7, ten days before she was kidnapped from her Santa Barbara apartment and killed.

When Gustafson asked Duncan if it wasn't true he had married the nurse only because she was pregnant, Frank said, "I would have married Olga whether she had been pregnant or not."

Ponomaroff said he went to Frank's office in August and told him that Elizabeth Duncan had found out where the attorney was living with Olga.

"Oh no," he said Duncan replied.

Ponomaroff said he once advised Frank to leave his mother's apartment and live with Olga, but Duncan replied, "you don't know my mother."

Gustafson indicated he felt the prosecution had scored heavily against Mrs. Duncan's story that she was being blackmailed by Moya and Bal-

donado with testimony of Lawrence E. Weitekamp, a Santa Barbara probation officer.

**Perjury Claimed**  
The prosecutor claimed Weitekamp's testimony showed that Mrs. Duncan was not telling the truth when she claimed Moya and BalDonado were "blackmailing her" for return of a legal fee her son had charged Mrs. Esperanza Esquivel, operator of a Santa Barbara cafe.

Mrs. Duncan testified that Moya had pulled her from the street into Mrs. Esquivel's car on Nov. 13th and demanded return of a legal fee because Mrs. Esquivel's husband had been denied probation.

The district attorney claimed that the earliest date Mrs. Esquivel could have known that her husband was going to prison was on Nov. 14, when Frank Duncan said he remembered meeting with the woman in his office.

The prosecutor claimed that if Mrs. Esquivel did not learn about the denial of probation until Nov. 14, then Mrs. Duncan's story that she was being blackmailed on Nov. 13 because Esquivel was being sent to prison, was obviously false.

A spaghetti dinner will be held Wednesday, March 25, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Crater High school cafeteria. Proceeds will be for Boy Scouts, Troop 40.

Mrs. Darrel Greb, publicity chairman, reminded members of Gamma Xi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi to have their prepared dishes at the Postal Rexall Drug store in Central Point by 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 14, for the baked foods sale.

At a city council meeting recently, Mayor Freeman Mason appointed a police committee consisting of Les Bigham and Don Patterson to work with Lyle Paull, city administrator, and the police department.

Recently installed on West Pine st., Central Point, are "stop" signs on either side of the Southern Pacific railroad tracks.

Second grade students from Jewett Elementary school last week and this, went in groups of two on city tours. They visited the city hall, the police department, the city fire station and the post office. There are 162 students in the second grade.

Teachers accompanying the students were Mrs. Alice Gay, Mrs. Gladys Jewett, Mrs. Helen Johnson, Mrs. Olivia Ryerson, Mrs. Viola Schwab and Mrs. Betty von der Hellen.

Miss Alice Turner was co-hostess with Mrs. John Clark recently at an open house honoring Miss D'Anne Clark. Many friends dropped in during the evening to visit Miss Clark, who was home from college for a few days. With

all five were electrocuted.

### Mother's Screams Draw Tots To Death

Manila—UPI—Four small children, responding to their 22-year-old mother's screams for help, grabbed and clung to her Tuesday when she touched an electric light socket.

All five were electrocuted.

## CENTRAL POINT Royal Neighbors Meet

By DORIS HUGHES  
Central Point—The Royal Neighbors of America met on March 3 at the home of Mrs. Roy Kelly, 239 Cherry st., Central Point.

Acting as cohostess was Mrs. Emmet Nealon. Seventeen members and two guests attended.

The club's new yearbook was shown. The executive board made plans to go to Klamath Falls March 13 to attend a preparatory meeting concerning the district convention in April.

Plans were made to attend the Royal Neighbors of America Rally in Grants Pass March 25. Mrs. Emma Collins won the mystery package. The penny birthday cake was baked by Mrs. Emmet Nealon.

Mrs. D. R. Hendrickson received the penny, giving her the cake baking project for the June meeting.

The next meeting of the Royal Neighbors of America will be held April 7 in Eagle Point at the home of Mrs. E. Chamberlain.

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## Grange News

**Eagle Point Grange**  
The Eagle Point Grange members and guests at the March 3 meeting were entertained by members of the two local 4-H club groups, the 4-H Bread Makers and the Reese Creek Renegades.

Miss Norma Noble acted as mistress of ceremonies for the Bread Makers and demonstrated decorating a coffee cake. Lauramay Noble and Ellen Hay demonstrated proper table setting and Frances Huffman and Susan Carroll showed how to make butter frosting.

Bonnie Smith of Shady Cove demonstrated bread making. The Reese Creek Renegades conducted a model meeting with Jack Esp, president, presiding. As part of the business of the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hoover were elected honorary members of the Reese Creek Renegades.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Brown were honored by the Grange in recognition of their 49th wedding anniversary. Celebrating birthdays were C. C. Hoover, Mrs. C. C. Hoover, A. T. Wattenburg and Mrs. Thomas Vestal. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Roberts of Medford and Mrs. Sadie Cypers.

Mrs. J. Brown reported on the success of the sausage dinner held at the Grange hall on Feb. 28. The cooking was done on a modern electric stove, but also in the Grange kitchen is an old four-burner wood stove which is used for keeping foods warm. This stove was originally part of the old Sunnyside hotel in Eagle Point, owned and operated by Mrs. Sarah "Maw" Howlett. Following Mrs. Howlett's death, her daughters gave the stove to the Eagle Point Grange.

According to Grange Master Robert Biffertling, the next meeting on March 17 will start with a potluck supper at 7 p.m., to be followed by the initiation into the Eagle Point Grange of the following person: Robert C. Cocks, Ruby M. Cocks, Robert D. Scobie, Mary Ellen Scobie, Percy A. Scobie, Delton T. Stephenson, Asenold L. Stephenson, W. D. Mongold, M. A. Mongold, Carole M. Moore, Anna Davis, Dale Bigham, Barbara Bigham, Viola H. Bigham, James P. Morgan, Hilda L. Morgan, Gladys L. Canterbury, Fred A. Canterbury, Campbell H. Young.

Refreshments were served by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Palm and Mr. and Mrs. Earle Jossy.

Mrs. Robert N. Meyer, Publicity Chairman

**Gold Hill Grange**  
Charles Foote, master, conducted a very good meeting of the Gold Hill Grange, Thursday March 5, in spite of a bad case of laryngitis. He did, however, turn the closing of the meeting over to Overseer Willie McLean.

Channey Page, agricultural chairman, reported beef prices still high with hogs and eggs on the decline.

Mrs. Ferd Jones, also spoke on agriculture, comparing present production to that conducted 100 years ago. Mrs. Jones stated that the first farm to be established in Oregon was in Marion county. Ferd Jones reported fewer dairy cows in the state, now than in anytime during the last 13 years.

Marie Christensen and Adalee Broughtman and pictures and Mrs. Christensen called attention to the fact that Gold Hill Grange was 24 years old this week.

Both Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Christensen spoke on education in the state, now, and in the "olden days".

Hal Bishop was installed as steward and Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Lucy Edington received recognition for their prompt reports on the lecturers work and the Home Economics club, respectively for the year 1958.

Ferd Jones was appointed by the master to assist the ways and means committee in the National Grange Community Service contest, which Gold Hill has entered.

Secretary Lena Laricks stated that there was to be a film on cancer, put on by the Gold Hill Health Unit at the Gold Hill Methodist church March 17. The film is for women only.

C. C. Hoover, a member of Eagle Point Grange told about the project which his Grange has undertaken, namely the giving away of thousands of trees. The purpose of this is for the beautifying of our communities Hoover said.

Hoover visits many Granges, taking along a supply of these trees, which are of many varieties. Hoover says the Forest Service and garden clubs are always glad to give advice and assistance in this project.

The lecturers hour was given over, for the most part, to the rehearsing of the seating

and retiring drills, with Wilber McLean in charge, a recent appointee of the master.

Refreshments were served by Leona Jenks and Lena Laricks. At the next meeting of the Grange, March 19th, the "Rogue Valley Blacklighters" will stage a program at 8 p.m. All residents of community are invited.

Grace Bruce, publicity

Fort Erie on the Niagara river in Ontario was originally a military post built in 1764.

## Mrs. Green Backs State Power Bill

Salem—UPI—House Speaker Robert Duncan said today he has received a letter from Rep. Edith Green (D-Ore.) endorsing the State Power Commission bill before the Oregon Legislature.

He quoted Mrs. Green as saying: "This bill in my opinion poses a solution for the problem which both parties and men of good will at every economic level admit is the single most vital problem of our time: How to secure full-

time employment for all Oregon's people.

Duncan said Oregon's future industry would be based on an adequate power supply and that the measure was too important to get bogged down in partisan politics.

**BANK OFFICIAL DIES**  
Port Chester, N. Y.—UPI—Minor L. Wheaton, 55, a vice president of the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, died Tuesday after a long illness.

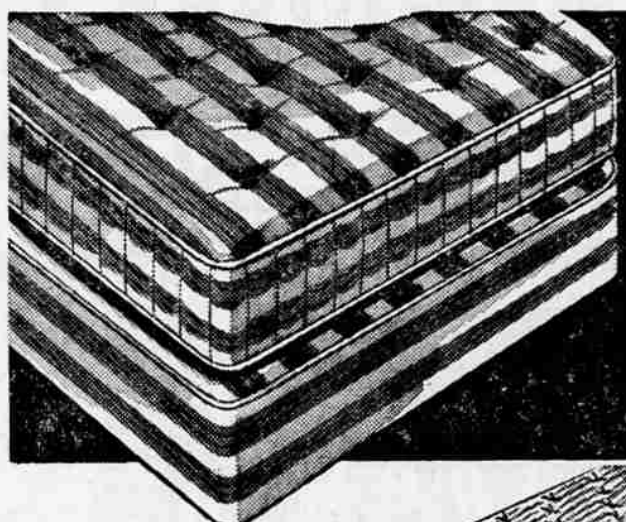
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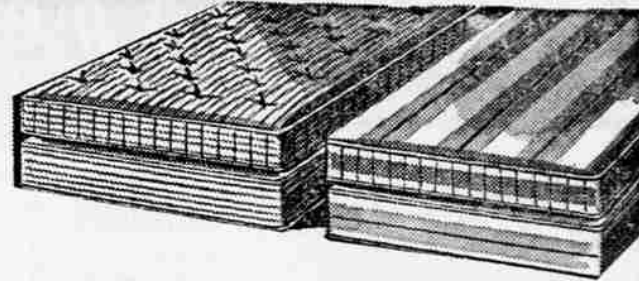
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