

Need for New City Jail Noted In Review of Police Department

Medford's police department will need a new jail and more office space if it is to meet the needs of a city the size of Medford.

This observation was made by Lt. William P. Beall of the Berkeley, Calif., police department. He was in Medford last week at the request of Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin and the city administration, to review police operations here and project the needs of the department for the next 10 years.

This was Beall's second visit to Medford to evaluate the police department. He was here in 1951 at the invitation of the city which was then reorganizing the city government, the police department included.

Known for Organization

The Berkeley, Calif., police department is known for its knowledge of police organization and planning. Many cities throughout the country, including Portland and Klamath Falls, have requested assistance from Berkeley to help reorganize or solve specific problems in the police departments.

Beall is not the only one on the Berkeley force who is suitably trained to help and instruct police departments, but Medford felt he had been so much help the first time that administrators specifically requested he be the one to assist them again.

In 1951 Beall felt the department was performing its duties inadequately and not meeting the needs of the people. He suggested an extensive departmental reorganization and a plan it might follow in order to best provide the services that the city required, while at the same time eliminating an unnecessary duplication of work and waste of manpower.

Following that visit, the department was reorganized to eliminate wasteful methods and practices that had hindered its service to the community. It has become a "very good" police force, Lieutenant Beall said.

But the tremendous growth of Medford, which Beall said "completely astonished" him, has created problems for the police department that he did not anticipate when he was here before, and caused the department to outgrow its present organizational structure as well as its jail and building.

The increase in the city's land area which has more than tripled since 1951 has caused a dispersal of patrol activities, and required more cars, beats and men. This has meant that police have had to spread their efforts over a larger area and have been less able to concentrate activities in specific areas, he said.

Increasing Work Load

Although the population has not increased at the same rate as the land area, it has nevertheless grown rapidly and faster than Beall had expected, increasing the work load on the police department.

It is a known fact, Beall said, that the number of policemen must increase at a ratio higher than the rise in population, which has been the case in Medford.

This disproportionate increase is necessary because an influx of more people means more and different kinds of attitudes which create social conflicts and antagonisms, requiring additional police regulation, he said.

One of Beall's observations on his four-day visit is that the city is in need of a new jail. He said that either a new jail will have to be built or an integration of jail facilities should be worked out with the county.

He said that nothing more can be done to improve the present city jail and it is totally inadequate to meet the needs of a city this size.

He pointed out that the city administration is obviously aware of this problem but has yet made no decision on what to do, probably because of the cost factor involved.

Another pressing problem, according to Beall, is the lack of space in the department, which causes a waste of manpower. Police officers must often wait in line for desk space and typewriters with which to prepare their reports or carry out other duties, when they should be out on their respective beats.

Another result of space limitations is that the city has no interrogation room, which is a detriment to police work.

Interrogation Room Needed

An interrogation room is needed for the proper questioning and interviewing of criminals, suspects and other persons, he pointed out. It is also true that people hesitate to come to the station with personal problems because of the lack of a private place in which to discuss them.

This lack of space also creates a hazardous situation in that criminals are too close to the policemen. It might not be too difficult for someone so inclined, to grab a gun from one of the officers, Beall pointed out.

He said that it may even be necessary in the near future for the city to construct a new building to house the police department with adequate facilities.

Variety of Services

Another impression that Beall formed is that policemen are now engaged in a variety of community services in addition to protecting life and property. Much more is being done for the public now than in 1951, he said.

Beall has special praise for Medford's system of keeping records and the identification bureau. He also feels that the department is now distributing personnel according to need and properly apportioning the number of men required to effectively service a beat.

Two things that Beall noticed in 1951 which were wasteful in manpower have been eliminated. These were that two men were often sent out in a patrol car when only one was needed, and policemen used to walk beats which could more effectively be covered by cars.

As an example of the condition and the lack of organization in the department in 1951, Beall said that he used to see police officers leave on their beats with little or no idea of what they were supposed to do, and often one officer would patrol the same area that another officer had patrolled 10 minutes previously, simply because he had no idea of what his specific duties were.

Now Well Trained

This is not the case today, Beall said. Medford policemen now appear well-trained and seem to know what their beats are and what they are supposed to be doing, so that much of the waste in manpower and duplication of effort has ceased.

This organizational change can also be reflected in the morale of the individual policeman. The idea of knowing where they are supposed to be and what they are supposed to be doing has aroused an interest in them for their work.

Another good example of 1951 conditions can be seen by comparing the number of drunk arrests then and now. Even though the population was much less in 1951, more drunk arrests were made than last year.

The reason for this is that in 1951 police officers did not know what to do in the evening hours so they would go out looking for drunks. This very often created embarrassing situations and aroused public antagonism, as well as being largely a waste of time.

Police officers are now assigned to beats much in the order of their importance.

Criminal Investigation
In 1951 there were only two or three officers who knew enough about police work to conduct a thorough criminal investigation, but now every officer is capable of doing this, he pointed out.

Other than pointing out the need for expanded facilities and a new organizational structure, suggestions that he made to the department on this visit are of a minor nature, including small changes in keeping records and preparing reports which will save time.

One of the places where manpower can be saved is in the communications department, Beall pointed out. There is now a police sergeant operating the teletype, radios, and phones, where a girl could do it just as well and release the sergeant for field duties. He said the de-

partment is considering trying this change to see if it will work.

There may be some need for additional personnel, Beall said, but before any more men are hired, the department should continue looking towards the best possible utilization of the present force.

A good salary is needed to attract good personnel, he pointed out, but even though the salary here could be higher, the police department has done well in attracting men of high caliber.

61 Influenza Cases Reported in County

Sixty-one cases of influenza were reported to the Jackson county department of health this week, according to Dr. C. I. Drummond, public health physician.

Of the total, 48 cases were reported in Medford, 7 in Phoenix, 3 in Jacksonville, 2 in Ashland and 1 in Rogue River.

A total of 102 communicable diseases were reported in the county this week, he said.

Other diseases reported were chicken pox, Ashland 12, Butte Falls 3, Shady Cove 2 and Rogue River 1; strep throat, Medford 1; encephalitis, Eagle Point 1; measles, Phoenix 1; German measles, Ashland 3, Medford 2; mumps, Rogue River 4; scarlet fever, Ashland 3; spinal meningitis, Phoenix, 1; and pneumonia, Medford 5, Rogue River 1.

Mrs. Ora Mevig is visiting friends in Iowa and is recuperating from her recent illness very satisfactorily. She is visiting Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Helman at Bode, Iowa and friends may write to her at that address. Mrs. Mevig will return to the hospital for a check-up in three months before returning home.

The Eagle Point Elementary Grade school PTA will hold an important executive meeting in the teachers lunch room of the grade school at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Cub Pack 48 will hold its monthly meeting in the grade school gymnasium Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 8 p.m. Den 5 will prepare the meeting place, Den 3 will present the colors and opening ceremony and Den 1 will have clean up.

Mrs. Don Anderson will be hostess to the Antelope Social club at her home on Stevens rd. Wednesday, Jan. 20 starting with a luncheon at noon. Members are reminded of the March of Dimes collection.

Mrs. Jesse McFadden has returned to her home on North B st. following her recent operation and stay in the hospital.

The Lions club community calendars have been delayed, according to the club secretary, Stewart Hopper, but he states that they will be available for everyone very shortly.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill White and family have moved from South B st. to one of the Alta Vista homes on Alta Vista rd.

L. E. Brown, Dalton, Minn., left by bus Sunday for his home after visiting his wife in Medford, his daughters, Mrs. James Edge, Eagle Point; Mrs. Fred Kurst, Beal lane; Mrs. Floyd Boling, Klamath Falls and Ardith Brown, Alhambra, Calif., who also motored up for a visit. Another son-in-law and daughter, Major and Mrs. Leonard Bom-

(UPI Telephoto)

EAGLE POINT Guidance Class Set

By DOTTIE HARBISON

Eagle Point - A guidance session covering preparation for college or other training beyond the high school level will be held for students of Eagle Point High school Jan. 19 at 1:10 p.m. Principal Shirley Callaghan announced that a visiting team from the state system of higher education has been invited to conduct the meeting.

Representatives from the state schools will explain their respective academic offerings and point up each institution's specific requirements. Opportunity for questions by students is given to provide individual guidance. The importance of education beyond high school and the urgency of adequate preparation early in the high school years will be explained. A description of what "adequate preparation" entails - career opportunities, costs, scholarships, and mechanics of school application and entrance - will be stressed.

These sessions are conducted annually in the high school as part of the regular guidance program. They represent a combined effort by the state system of higher education and the high school to better prepare high school students for their future careers. The program presents complete information on the educational opportunities provided at public expense within the state.

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(UPI Telephoto)

Due to extensive illnesses in the Eagle Point area, Mrs. Emory Cunningham has announced that she will not start kindergarten students on their work books for another week and that registration will be held for another week to enable other youngsters to participate.

Mrs. Cunningham said there are 10 students now and all are adjusting to school very well. All the material has been purchased and the youngsters are meeting at the Teen-age club between the hours of 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Kindergarten students may ride the school bus and Mrs. Cunningham will keep the youngsters all day if their mothers work.

Mayor Ed Putman said the city ordinance which states that water must be turned off if a user is delinquent in payment will be enforced unless the user's unable to meet

his bills meets with the city council and states why he can't pay his bill and when he will be able to pay. This ordinance was passed about three years ago and the city council agreed to enforce it at their last meeting.

The Eagle Point fire department was called twice within the past few days to extinguish small fires. A fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bishop on South E st. was extinguished after minor damage was done Saturday evening. About 2 a.m. Tuesday, firemen answered a call to save a car at the Shady Nook Auto court which belonged to one of the Camp White veterans.

Mr. and Mrs. Eustace Arthur and family moved back into their new home on Brophy rd. Thursday. The Arthur home burned to the ground Christmas day with

Student Exchange Program Starts

Ashland - Student leaders from Southern Oregon college and Oregon Technical Institute met on the SOC campus recently to plan for the exchange of student programs and information concerning the various activities of the two schools.

SOC sent the first exchange assembly to OTI Friday, Jan.

the family saving nothing but the clothes they were wearing at the time. A group of friends, neighbors, and relatives started the next Sunday to help construct a 2-room house to be used until the additional rooms can be built later. The Arthurs had been staying with relatives in Medford.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. 13
Sunday, Jan. 11, 1960

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15, with OTI to reciprocate in the near future. According to Dr. Alvin Fellers, director of student affairs, students of both schools hope to obtain a better understanding of one another's functions and problems in addition to furthering better relations between the two institutions.

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