

## Permits Issued for 114 Buildings Here

A total of 114 building permits having a combined valuation of \$252,283 were issued by the city building department in January, according to their monthly report.

Eleven permits were issued to erect new residences and they constituted the greater part of last month's total valuation with a worth of \$126,500.

The department issued permits for a new apartment building having a valuation of \$50,000 and for a new duplex with a \$20,000 valuation.

Some 42 plumbing permits were issued and 10 permits to remodel and repair residences.

Last month's total valuation compares to January 1959's total of 96 permits worth \$393,425 and the same month in 1958 when 50 permits valued at \$314,575 were issued.

The department collected total fees of \$1,250 for the

## Backstairs: Story Behind the Story

By MERRIMAN SMITH  
UPI White House Reporter  
Washington - (UPI) - Backstairs at the White House: The general public seldom knows what goes on behind the scenes of a newspaper as it attempts to bring forth daily the best possible selection of news from all over the world. The reader buys his newspaper and expects the news to be in it with little or no space devoted to some of the troubles endured by reporters and editors in delivering the final product.

The morning newspapers of last Saturday carried a two-paragraph item from the press associations, reporting simply that President and Mrs. Eisenhower drove to their Gettysburg farm during the afternoon to spend a quiet week end.

Behind that small item of news was an episode, a mixture of comedy and tragedy, that demonstrated some of the time and effort involved even in trivia when it concerns the President of the United States.

Last Thursday night, Press Secretary Jim Hagerly advised the newsmen that the President would spend the week end in Gettysburg, leaving the White House by helicopter at 11:30 a.m. Friday.

Reporters for the two press associations make it a rule always to cover the President wherever he goes. Particularly they cover his takeoffs and landings in aircraft.

The two White House reporters for the press associations started for Gettysburg about 9:30 a.m. after checking with the White House again to be sure there had been no change in the helicopter plans because of cloudy weather. They were told the flying schedule still held.

Two press association photographers also started out for Gettysburg in time to cover the helicopter landings on the Eisenhower farm, leaving behind reporters and photographers to cover the take-off from the White House lawn.

The two reporters, proceeding toward Gettysburg by car, stopped north of Frederick, Md., to check the White House permits they issued last month.

again. Yes, he still planned to fly. They got to Gettysburg, checked in the hotel and just to be sure, before starting for the farm, they called the White House again. The word was stand by; he'd be taking off momentarily.

**They Waited**  
They lounged in the hotel lobby until about 12:15 p.m. The White House called. The president had changed plans. He would drive to Gettysburg, leaving Washington at 2 p.m.

The reporters and photographers then turned around and sped toward Washington. They had arranged for the press association men on the Washington end to accompany the President's car as far as Germantown, Md. Then the men who had gone to Gettysburg would cut into the procession and the other reporters would turn back to Washington.

A good plan until a kindly Maryland state policeman intercepted the car bound from Gettysburg to Germantown and tell one of the reporters his

father had just died 1,000 miles away.

Word was rushed back to the White House for the reporters at that end to continue all the ways to Gettysburg with the President. Then the first two men hustled back to Gettysburg so one of them could retrieve his luggage, drop off the other reporter and then race back to Washington for a plane to join his bereaved mother.

To get the second set of reporters and photographers all the way to Gettysburg, it was necessary to rent a limousine. Another newsman traveling separately got trapped on the highway behind a school bus and lost all contact with the motorcade.

By late afternoon, the President was safely in his farm house, one man was speeding back to Washington for a plane, a limousine bore the two backstop newsmen back home and the reporters on duty in Gettysburg sent two paragraphs. All was calm and peaceful at the farm.



## Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

### Here's a Myth About Dogs' Dew Claws

"There's absolutely no reason or excuse why anyone should ever lose a hunting dog, or any other dog for that matter, by a rattlesnake bite when it's so easy to prevent it," said the Old Timer as he stroked the long, lean head of his favorite hound, leaning lazily against the old man's knee.

"My father," he continued, "and his father before him always spent a great deal of time hunting. They all owned dogs - lots of them - and none of them ever lost a dog because of snake bite."

"All you have to do is cut off the 'dew-claws,' right up close to the leg when the dog's a puppy. Then no rattlesnake will ever bite him."

I guess I had entertained the conceited idea that I had heard about all the superstitions pertaining to snakes, but this was a new one. To check the man's statement I asked several other old-time hunters who had spent many days afield, and surprisingly enough, some of these, too, had practiced or at least had heard of the "dew-claw" business.

**True to Form**  
This folk tale of many sections of the deep South runs pretty true to form. Anything not too well understood is liable to be the basis for some silly myth, legend or superstition, and naturally, "dew-

claws" on a dog would appear to be a likely subject for conjecture inasmuch as these "claws" serve no useful purpose and therefore were not understood.

"Dew-claws" are the upper claws, located on the inner side of a dog's legs, and sometimes on the hind legs. They also have their counterpart on the legs of cattle, horses, sheep and giraffes. Naturally, like the nails on regular toes, the "dew-claws" grow, but inasmuch as they are never in contact with the ground they never become worn.

They continue to grow and may even grow until they form a circle around and enter into the animal's flesh. In show-dogs, they are usually clipped from time to time, as they are considered to look untidy. "Dew-claws" on the rear legs seem to give the animal a clumsy appearance.

**A Handicap**  
In wild animals, the "dew-claws" can, and often do, become a handicap to the animal, and may even become so enlarged that the animal is crippled. "Dew-claws" probably received their name because of their height above the ground - just about high enough to be swept by the dew-laden grass tops. "Dew-laps" on the undersides of the necks of some animals lap the dew or brush against dew-drenched grass or weeds as the animal feeds.

"Dew-claws" on the dog, or many other animals, actually correspond to thumbs on a human hand. They were supposed to oppose the fingers, but those of the dog never made it. As far as usefulness is concerned they serve no purpose whatsoever. Neither, of course, would their removal have any effect on rattlesnakes.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1960)

### FUTURE ADMIRALS?

London - (UPI) - The British Admiralty got no takers on its offer to sell the battleship Vanguard until a letter signed "six young hopefuls" arrived asking full particulars concerning tonnage and fire power and enclosing five pounds (\$14) deposit to hold it for later purchase.

## Counselling To Be Discussed At Meeting Here

Culminating several years of study, a meeting to discuss family counselling services for Southern Oregon will be held Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, at 8 p.m. in the Red Cross auditorium in Medford, according to the family counselling committee of the Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic.

Everyone interested in this service and heads of service organizations are invited to attend.

Mrs. Frieda Burnside, San Francisco, field consultant for the Family Service Agencies of America will speak. Included will be discussion of what such a service could accomplish for the community, in what way it could help families and prove a financial saving to the community, the cost and methods of financing.

While in the valley, Mrs. Burnside will also speak to members of the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs and on television and radio. Dr. and Mrs. John Waterman of the Oregon state board of health as well as Mrs. Burnside will discuss the new service at a meeting of Guidance clinic board members Monday noon.

Plans have been made to consider the expansion of the Guidance clinic services to include family counselling. Such a new service would include marriage counselling, parent-child relationships, and geriatric and financial counselling.

Members of the counselling committee arranging the meeting include Mrs. Chester Fitch, Ashland, chairman; Mrs. Henry Padgham, Dr. Thomas Rutter, Mrs. Robert Keeney, Robertson Collins, Mrs. William McKemie, Ashland; Charles Cray, Dr. R. R. Martin, the Rev. Thomas McCamant, Mrs. Frances Klein, Leon Mulling, Dr. Alva Graham, Ashland; Mrs. Joan Port, Judge Edward C. Kelly, Dr. Harry Danielson, Mrs. Chester Guches, Mrs. Walter Bish, and Mrs. Leigh Gustison.

### Gen. Taylor Said In Good Condition

Washington - (UPI) - Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former Army chief of staff who suffered a broken arm when struck by a taxi Saturday, remained in satisfactory condition today at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

Taylor posed for photographers in his hospital room Sunday. He was smiling and in apparent good spirits. No announcement was made of when Taylor would be discharged.

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## The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a Judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

**Mrs. E. K.** - My daughter doesn't want me around when she entertains.

**Terry K.** - She spoils all the fun.

**Mrs. E. K.** - I am terribly upset about my relationship with my 14-year-old daughter, who has told me in no uncertain terms that she wishes I'd stay away when she has friends - both boys and girls - over at the house.

I have tried to be a good friend to Terry. She knows that she can come to me with all her problems and I listen to her sympathetically. I let her wear make-up long before her friends did because I understood that she needed a little something to give her self-confidence.

When Terry has had friends over I've always set out a nice spread, but I let her act as the hostess. I come in only now and then to see if anything is needed. I chat with some of the children for only a short time and they seem to enjoy talking to me. I am considered an attractive, interesting person by everyone except my daughter.

**Terry K.** - Loads of my friends have had parties and their mothers are there, but you wouldn't know it. They don't keep hovering around the place like my mother - trying to be helpful to this one and that one. The kids don't show it, but they don't like to be bothered like that. It breaks up all the fun every time Mother appears in the doorway asking if we want anything.

Another thing. My mother talks all the time about us having to be good friends, etc. But a couple of times I told her things I didn't want repeated and I heard her tell them to my aunt. When I complained she said I was "being silly." Well, I've learned my lesson. I'll never tell her things again.

It also annoys me that Mother wears her Bermuda shorts or Capri pants whenever I have friends over. She tries to show she's just on of the girls.

**The Council:** Mrs. E. K. appears to be the kind of person who wants to get through the difficult teen years by, on one hand, abdicating her role as parent, and on the other hand, maintaining her old relationship with her daughter.

Mrs. E.K.'s goal of achieving real friendship and confidence with her daughter is a commendable one, but she should not allow herself to forget that she remains, first of all, a mother and that her daughter wants her to be that. Terry is rightfully re-

sentful of her mother's efforts to be "one of the girls." She wants her to remain in command and to be someone a girl can look up to. Deep down, she doesn't want equality with her mother.

On the other hand, Mrs. E. K. becomes too much the mother and too little the helpful friend when she takes on the main responsibility for Terry's entertainment. She should consider her own statement that she is willing to let Terry act as the hostess. The fact is that Terry is or should be the real hostess. Mrs. E. K. should not put herself into the party in a way that seems to say, "Now you are all my guests and I want to make you happy." This is Terry's job. Mrs. E. K. should just offer advice and moderate assistance.

Terry's beef about her mother's spilling her secrets is equally justified. Again, Mrs. E. K. is inconsistent in her conduct. She wants Terry to confide her problems in a woman to woman spirit and then she proceeds to treat the girl like a child whose personal affairs are of slight importance. We think revealing even a child's secrets is an unpardonable offense and one that will be long remembered by the child. If Mrs. E. K. finds it important to get an outsider's opinion or help in any of Terry's affairs, she should get permission from her daughter first. Certainly, she can't treat these matters like trivial gossip and expect respect from her daughter.

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### Woman Goes on Trial For Portland Slaying

Portland - (UPI) - The first degree murder trial of Ruby Lee Howard, 24, opened Monday. She is charged with slaying last Aug. 14 of Winston Arlee Roberts, 31, with a pistol.

The defense claims the shooting was accidental following a scuffle started by Roberts.

A jury of seven women and five men is hearing the case.

4,000  
Restaurants  
Prove it  
Every Day

TASTES THE SAME  
Brighton, England - (UPI) - Members of the English Speaking Union protested bitterly when they found the menu of their annual banquet was printed in French. After a hurried translation the members found they were dining

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. 3  
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1960

on turtle soup, scampi, lamb, pudding and mixed fruit. "It tastes the same either way," the chairman told the miffed audience.

## If you're concerned about tuition costs and such—here's how investing may help

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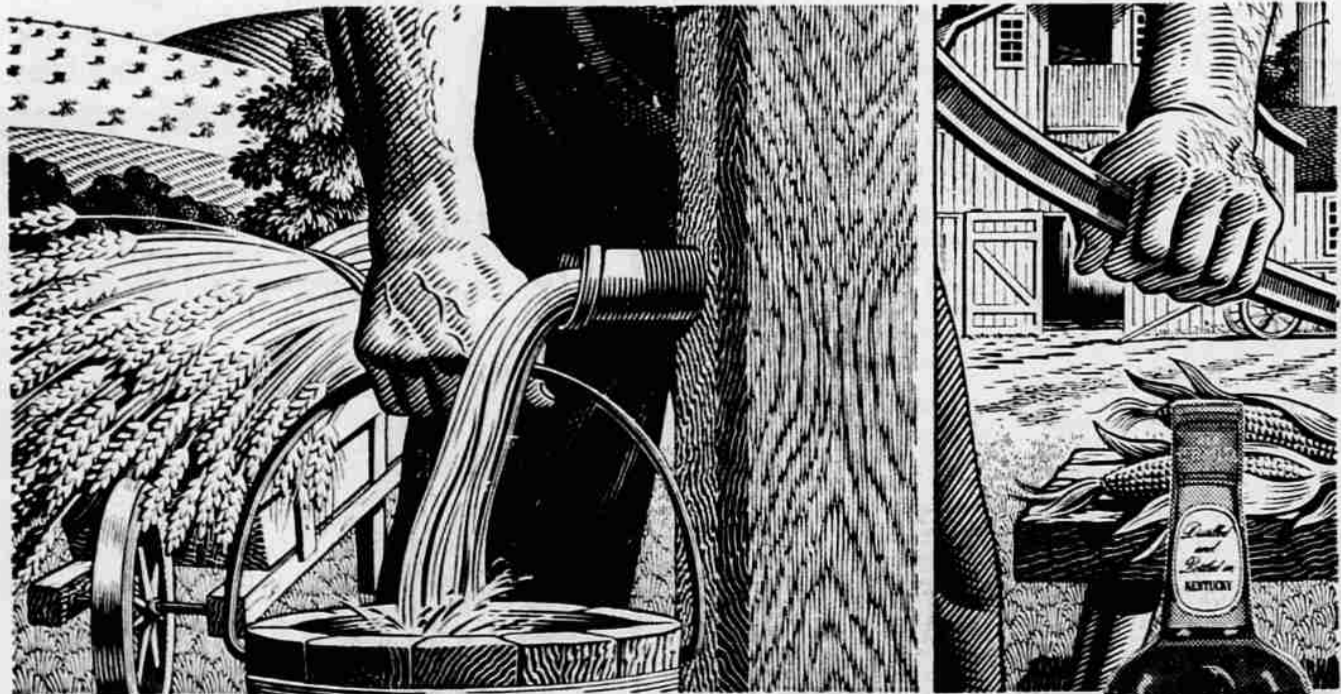
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