



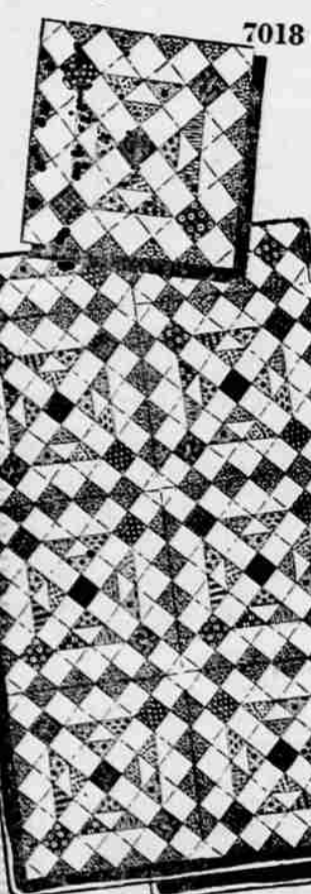
PAINTING DONATED — The Jackson County Unit of the American Cancer society, was the recipient of a check for \$50 last week, proceeds from the auction of an oil painting donated by Valley Artist D. M. Staley during a recent art show at the Girl's Community club. Purchaser of the painting, an abstract, was C. E. Wimberly Jr., Medford. Staley, left, is shown above as he hands the check to Bob Hart, special events chairman for the Cancer society. The donation marks the beginning of a series of special fund-raising events to be held through April, and the cancer crusade will culminate with a door-to-door educational campaign carried out by over 1,200 Jackson county volunteers, according to Crusade Chairman Dr. Paul Walker.

Young Adults Meeting Scheduled at College

Ashland — The ninth annual Ashland conference for young adults will be held at Southern Oregon college Saturday, April 2. The all-day session for high school students in southern Oregon and northern California is being sponsored by the American Association of University Women and the Ashland Rotary club. Dr. Robert P. Rankin, associate professor in sociology at Chico State college, will lead the conference on the theme "Looking Forward to a Happy Home."

In addition to his teaching experience at the University of California and Chico State, Dr. Rankin has done special work in psychology at College of the Pacific, Stockton, California. He was a chaplain in the U.S. Naval reserve and a Methodist pastor in northern California churches. Mrs. Mabel Winston, SOC registrar and chairman of the conference, announced plans for the conference. High school students rec-

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Zoning Variance Aired Before Medford Planning Commission

Opposing factions of the Medford city planning commission Thursday night debated a requested variance to a zoning ordinance about two hours before finally deferring the matter to the next regular meeting pending more information on the request.

The lengthy debate, which came close to being heated at times, grew out of a request from Virgil Anderson, 1234 Corona ave., asking the city for a variance to erect a carport at his general contracting business at that address.

Anderson's contracting business is presently located in an otherwise residential area which is zoned for single family dwellings. However, the business existed prior to the area's annexation to the city in 1957, and it is therefore his pre-existing right to continue the operation of his business under certain restrictions as to future growth and expansion.

According to Anderson's attorney, Karl Clinkinbeard, who represented him at the meeting, he started construction on a carport to cover two gas pumps on his business property prior to the area's annexation, but work was slow and visible progress was not being made until last summer at which time several property owners in the area complained to the city. He was informed by the city he was in violation of the zoning ordinance, in addition to the fact he did not obtain a building permit and must halt work.

Clinkinbeard contended that as Anderson had started the carport prior to the annexation he could legally continue its construction without being in violation of the zoning ordinance, but not wanting to cause trouble he decided to seek a variance before resuming construction.

Clinkinbeard further contended that Anderson's business was being run properly and the appearance of the establishment was such that it actually contributed to the beauty of the neighborhood.

To support his contention that it would not be objectionable for Anderson to continue work, Clinkinbeard presented the commission with a petition signed by 22 property owners of the area to the effect that he should continue.

Nearly a dozen property owners with different views and represented by their attorney, Robert Dames, attended the meeting and gave the commission an opposing petition containing 35 signatures.

Many said they are inclined to agree that Anderson's business is not objectionable from the standpoint of appearance but they did not want it to get any larger (the annexation automatically restricts him from enlarging his business at that location). They said they felt the carport is a

definite extension of his business and a violation of the zoning ordinance.

City Planning Consultant Ned Langford showed the commission several colored slides of the area, depicting the proposed carport which is probably a little less than half completed. The frames and supporting beams are in place and it is readily visible from the surrounding area.

Commission Chairman Jack Edson asked City Attorney

Joel Reeder if the start of construction before annexation gave Anderson a right to continue. In Reeder's opinion it did not, but nevertheless it did not mean the city could force Anderson to tear down what he had already put up, he said.

Edson remarked that if the variance were denied it might mean a half completed structure which could neither be completed nor torn down.

Commission Member

Charles Cray moved twice that the variance be granted on the grounds the carport would actually be an improvement to the appearance of the business and any future expansion would still be in violation of city ordinances and any future construction would require additional variances.

But Cray's motions died both times for a lack of a second, principally for the reason, as expressed by two mem-

bers of the audience. Bruce Nelson, 1288 Corona ave., and Russell DeForest, 1002 Mt. Pitt ave., that if granted, the variance should contain restrictions on size of the carport and the amount of gas which could be stored underground on Anderson's property.

By including these restrictions in the variance, DeForest said, future commissions would have a gauge with which to determine if Ander-

son or a subsequent owner had actually expanded operations or not since the present variance. Many of the persons in the audience indicated that if these restrictions as to size were included in the variance, they would go along with it.

This time, a motion by Cray that the public hearing be continued until the next meeting, when Anderson should bring exact figures as to size of the contemplated car port and amount of gasoline storage facilities underground, received unanimous approval of the commission.

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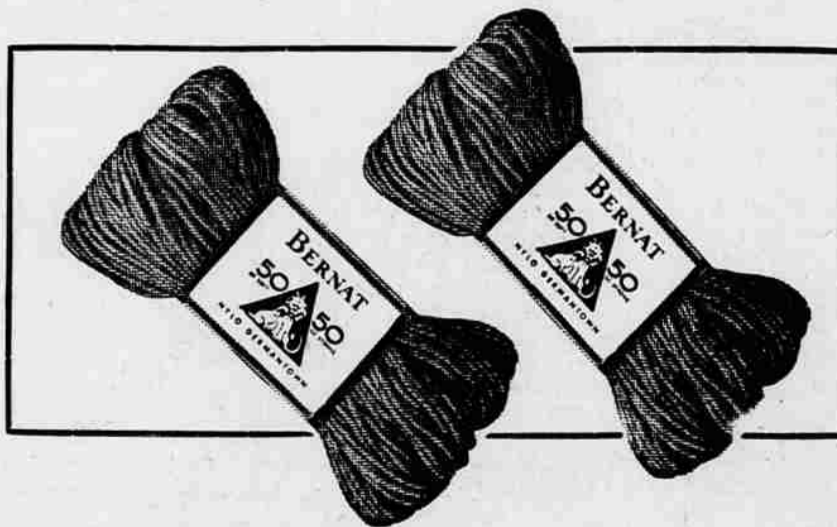


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