



**RENOVATING IN STYLE** — It took Minnesota's capital city a long time to wake up to the need of fighting downtown deterioration. But when St. Paul swung into action, it did in style. An estimated \$110 million has been spent or scheduled on renovations and new projects. The photo shows the new highway building, which was constructed near the state capitol building (UPI Telephoto)

## Minnesota Capital Turns To Massive Cleanup Operation

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### Capitol Memo

## Target Date Set by Backers of End to Capital Punishment

By DOUGLAS GRIPP  
Salem —UPI— Another target date has been set by those who want to see capital punishment abolished in Oregon: 1962.

And there is agreement among most that the Caryl Chessman case will provide stimulus to the new drive.

Even as Chessman breathed his last this week in the San Quentin gas chamber, the embryo of repeal action in Oregon was being formed.

Four days before his execution a subcommittee of the Legislative Interim committee on Criminal Law recommended that capital punishment as provided by the state constitution be repealed.

If this is done, the question of what to do about the supreme penalty will face the 1961 Legislature.

**Duncan Promises Fight**

Rep. Robert Duncan (D-Medford), speaker of the House in 1959, promises a fight to get the issue before the voters again — in 1962, the first opportunity. A referendum for repeal failed in 1958 by only 12,053 votes.

"It would have passed in 1958 if it had not been for the ballot title," Duncan says. "It was confusing to many voters. The way it was worded, you had to vote no to indicate you favored abolition and yes if you wanted to retain it."

"As for Chessman, I can't help but think he was well on his way to rehabilitation. His death will be an impetus for abolition. I hope people don't forget it by 1962."

**Will Favor Repeal**

Correspondence is flowing again between members of the Oregon Committee to Repeal the Death Penalty, a group of citizens and legislators which fell apart after the 1958 rejection.

Dr. Brock Dixon of Portland State college, chairman of the old committee, says "the net effect of Chessman will favor repeal. People must

be shocked by the whole drawn-out, shabby business." Will Chessman become a martyr to the cause?

"I hope not," Dixon added. "A force for repeal, yes. Martyrdom, no. He didn't seem to be a very worthy character."

Dixon says that if the next Legislature does not act on the issue, the question will be placed on the ballot in 1962 with an initiative.

**Awaiting Appeal Outcome**

Oregon doesn't have a Caryl Chessman. But it has a man who's been sitting a stone's throw from the gas chamber for almost one and a half years.

Harry William Braley, Portland, has been on Oregon's death row since Sept. 29, 1958, the same month he was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to death. He's awaiting the outcome of a State Supreme Court appeal.

The state said that in a drunken rage in May, 1958 the 38-year-old fry cook fatally stabbed his wife in Portland with a butcher knife.

An automatic appeal was filed in December, 1958. As matters stand, it could be next August before the appeal could be placed on the Supreme Court docket.

**Wait 'Unusually Long'**

Braley's court-appointed lawyer, J. Raymond Carskadon, Portland said that Braley's wait is "unusually long" for Oregon.

A year passed while the transcript of the trial was being prepared in Portland. "The Multnomah County Circuit Court reporter was so tied up with other affairs," Carskadon said, "that it was not possible to get it any sooner." Carskadon admits, too, that he has taken his time in filing briefs.

Braley could sit on death row for quite a while yet. Carskadon says that if the state high court turns down the appeal, he will take it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

on renovation and new projects in the 60-square blocks of downtown St. Paul. That's an average of more than one-and-a-half million dollars for each block in a two year period.

Officials generally agree that the recovery of the business area had its origin in the Capitol Approach project after World War II.

**Many Tenements**  
The most striking example of the deterioration of St. Paul at that time was the many tenements and run-down business establishments that surrounded the Capitol Building, located atop a long low hill overlooking the downtown area.

When the war ended, the legislature approved a bill permitting the state to acquire several square blocks of the blighted land. Work started inconspicuously with purchase of the land and knocking down the old buildings.

But today results of the program can be seen at a glance.

In place of the battered buildings stand three multi-million-dollar structures housing departments of state government. The buildings are spread over several acres of neat landscape.

Shortly after the first stages of the Capitol Approach project were completed, businessmen began thinking about a renovation of the downtown area itself. The project gained support as the first work got underway.

**Face Lifting Jobs**  
Old buildings were torn down and replaced by new structures. Buildings that hadn't been kept up for years got complete face lifting jobs, and vacant land in the downtown area was quickly bought up.

Many of the projects are completed today. Others, including a \$1,300,000 downtown motel and a \$5 million rebuilding program by one of the state's oldest insurance firms, are nearing completion.

But the redevelopment isn't finished yet. Slated for construction in the near future are a \$4.5 million retail operation near the Capitol and a new department store in the heart of the Loop that may cost up to \$17 million.

Other projects on the drawing board include:  
—An insurance society's 10-story, \$2 million building.  
—A new city-county hospital expected to cost \$16 million.  
—A public housing project near the Loop, costing more than \$7 million.

As one observer put it: "The downtown area has finally come to life. It didn't have much choice. It was either build or die."

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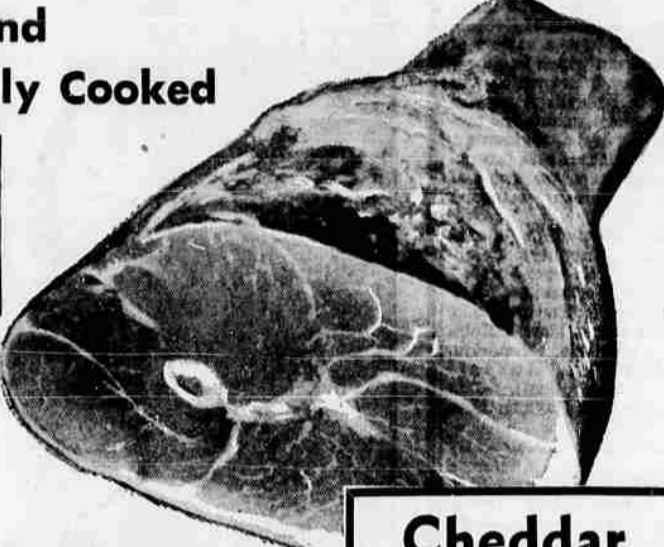
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The OK Market has made arrangements with Mr. Wm. F. Thompson of Medford, to display part of his coin and currency collection May 5, 6 and 7. Mr. Thompson will be on hand to give information on coins to anyone. Anyone desiring to dispose of old coins or bills see Mr. Thompson at the coin display. The OK Market will give grocery orders or credits to the amounts shown for the following coins: All coins must be in good shape. Please take your coins to Mr. Thompson. He will issue a credit slip which will be honored at the check stand:

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Your 1877 Penny Buys Variety Pack **1c** Meat Order

## Warmer Weather Should Improve Chinook Angling

Portland —UPI— Chinook salmon fishing is picking up along the coast but damp weather has kept trout fishing in many streams from reaching its peak the state game commission has reported.

Spring chinook are appearing in Tillamook bay and in the Nestucca river as far upstream as Beaver. Spring chinook angling also has improved in the Umpqua river.

In central Oregon, the salmon fly hatch is on and the Deschutes river in the Maupin area is producing well for 8 to 12 inch rainbow.

The commission said trout fishing remained good at Devils lake on the coast, mostly by trolling with spinner and worm. But many small coastal lakes have slacked off.

**Some Streams High**  
West side Willamette valley streams expected to be fair to good include Milton creek, north and south Scappoose creeks, east and west Dairy creeks, Gales creek, north fork Tualatin, north and south forks of the Yamhill river and Willamina creek.

The Clatsop river is fair and Detroit reservoir is improving.

Most upper Willamette valley streams are higher than normal!

In southwest Oregon Tenille and Loon lakes are producing trout limits. Warmer weather should improve chinook fishing in the Rogue in the Galice-Grants Pass area.

Central Oregon's Wickiup reservoir is fair to good on troll. Angling at Shearers bridge on the Deschutes has picked up, too. Ochoco reservoir is only fair.

Best luck on the Metolius has been with wet flies fished deep. The Deschutes above Bend is fair to good on troll and for bank fishermen using lures.

Klamath county fishing has been slow.

Northeast Oregon anglers have found the John Day drainage slow due to cool weather. The north fork of the Walla Walla river has been good but the Umatilla is slow to fair. Wallowa lake is good for rainbow to 14 inches.

Small Baker county streams are good for rainbow.

Angling has been fair to good in southeast Oregon with Malheur reservoir continuing to produce.

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