



PARKING LOT—A new 27-car parking lot for customers of the First National Bank of Oregon, Medford Branch, will soon be ready for use. The property, owned by the Southern Pacific company and leased to the banking firm, extends along the west side of the railroad tracks between

Sixth and Main sts. Above, Chester Irish, (right) assistant manager of the bank, and Del Landing, assistant cashier, look over the area which is being readied for black top surfacing. A guard fence is being erected between the parking lot and the railroad tracks.

The Week in California

Plan To Organize Farm Help Slows; No Funds

By United Press International Preliminary plans to organize farm workers in southern California curtailed because of a lack of funds in the national AFL-CIO treasury, a California farm labor leader reported.

Norman Smith, director of the AFL-CIO Agricultural Workers Organizing committee, revealed shortly before testifying at a State Senate committee hearing that national AFL-CIO officials had cut funds he planned to use this winter.

"They think we have four feet of snow out here," Smith said. "But I still have 50 per cent more money than I had last winter." He did not disclose the size of the cut.

Smith claimed, however, that he would have enough funds for his continuing main drive in the Central valley. He said the cut was made to be sure there would be enough money for next summer's organizing activities.

Will Hurt Plans Smith said the reduction would hurt his plans to send organizers into farming areas around Ventura and Oxnard and into the Imperial valley this winter, but he added the setback would not be serious.

The director said the AWOC still had \$150,000 for the year, compared to \$100,000 last year. He said AWOC worked this summer during the peak harvest "at the rate of \$400,000 to \$500,000."

"We made far more headway this year than less suffering to the people we represent than has ever been done before," Smith said.

He said the AFL-CIO cuts were caused by presidential costs that were higher than expected—"we thought we'd win in a landslide"—and by current unemployment throughout the nation and an accompanying drop in union revenue. Funds this year came from a two-cents per month assessment on all union work-

ers during the first six months of the year.

Less Men Smith said he still planned to send advance men into Southern California, but on a limited basis.

Later, Smith told the Senate committee on Labor and Welfare that farmers were guilty of "closing all normal channels of settling differences" with farm workers. He said "strikes play a very small part of mature labor-management relations" but were necessary because farmers refused to negotiate.

Thomas: Baritone John Charles Thomas, a onetime medical student who became one of the world's best known opera stars, died of cancer at his home in Apple valley. He was 69. At his bedside was his wife, Dorothy. The death was not altogether unexpected since the powerful-voiced opera star had been ill for two years with cancer.

Traffic: The California Highway Patrol predicted that Christmas and New Years holiday traffic will kill more persons this year than it did last year. Patrolman estimated that 82 persons would die during the holiday weekends: 51 at Christmas and 31 New Years. Last year, there were

A traffic light that stays green if a car has passed the point where it can stop safely has been developed for new high-speed motorways in Britain.

35 Christmas fatalities and 24 on New Years.

Cheryl: Los Angeles juvenile authorities said chances are good that Cheryl Crane, Lana Turner's 17-year-old daughter, will be released from a school for wayward girls next month. Kenneth Kirkpatrick, director of county juvenile facilities, said the girl who killed hoodlum Johnny Stempanto more than two years ago has shown great improvement at the El Retiro School for Girls.

Segregation: Stanley H. Hosk, Attorney General of California, asked the president of Humboldt State college for a report on charges that Negro members of the school's team were segregated from the rest of the squad while in Florida. The Lumberjacks were defeated by Le-noir-Rhyme, 15-14, in the Holiday Bowl at St. Petersburg on Dec. 10. During the stay in the Florida city, five Negro members of the squad stayed in private homes while the rest of the team was quartered at a hotel.

Arrest: The arrest of a stocky grocery clerk completely broke the kidnap ring that abducted wealthy sportsman-businessman Anthony Alessio last month, law officers said in San Diego. Sixth suspect to be arrested was Leroy Thomas Gavigan, 26, of South Gate, a suburb of Los Angeles. None of the \$17,485 still missing out of the \$200,000 ransom paid to free Alessio was recovered.

Woman Hospitalized Following Accident

Mrs. Elvira L. Shaw, 79, of 444 Fairmont st., Medford, remained in good condition at Sacred Heart hospital Saturday after being struck by a car at the intersection of Main and Front sts. in Medford Friday morning.

She is being treated for a fractured left hip and fractured right knee cap. Sacred Heart hospital attendants said Saturday.

Mrs. Shaw was walking north across East Main st. from the southwest corner, Medford police said, when the accident occurred.

They said a car driven by Roy Mitchell, 119 First st.,

Phoenix, had stopped for a red light at the intersection and a logging truck driven by Jack M. Davis, 139 Granite st., Ashland, had stopped behind the car.

As the light turned green the car waited for the pedestrian to reach safely and the truck driver drove ahead knocking the car into the pedestrian, police said.

The truck driver told police that the sun was in his eyes and he was watching a car which he thought would make a left turn in front of him. He was cited for following too close.

Radio Contest Winners Announced

Eight winners were announced for the "radio reaches everywhere" contest sponsored recently by Medford radio station KMED, according to station general manager Ray Johnson.

Winning letters were submitted by Bea Margaret Morris, 634 Crater Lake ave.; Mrs. C. L. Goodwin, 1312 East Main st., Medford; Fletcher T. Fish, box 56, Phoenix; Mrs. Lorraine Florey, 114 Portland ave., Medford; Mrs. Verd Nelson, route 1, box 382, Eagle Point; Raymond D. Roberts, 858 Steward ave., Medford; Bill Herring, box 171, Medford; and Mrs. Evalyn Watkins O'Danel, 701 West Jackson st., Medford.

Transistor radios were presented to the eight winners, Johnson said. The letters were on the most unusual place in which KMED was heard. Several hundred letters were received between Nov. 21 and Dec. 10 when the contest ended.

Grange News

The Featherettes, a cheering section from the Eagle Point High school, entertained Grange members during the lecturer's hour at the last meeting of the Eagle Point Grange. They were accompanied by their teacher, Charles Martin. The leader of the team was Jan Callaway.

The agricultural committee made a report on the recent livestock sale and said prices were good and with future markets looking up. Cliff Moore, on dairy, reported the milk situation as some better but hay prices were up some due to the recent storm.

HEC chairman, Mrs. Lester McFall, said the next Grange meeting, which will be Dec. 20, will be preceded by a pot luck dinner. This will be the Christmas meeting and there will be a gift exchange. Everyone is asked to bring a gift labeled either for a man or woman. Mrs. McFall also announced that Mrs. Lester Wertz was selected to be the new HEC chairman.

Community service chairman, C. C. Hoover, announced a new shipment of trees had arrived. There are six different varieties of spruce, and some redwood and honey locust trees.

It was reported that Mrs. Gertrude Haak and Mrs. Beryl Hickson were ill and that Mrs. J. H. Stanley, who recently underwent major surgery was showing improvement.

Serving refreshments following the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Palm and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meyer.

Burglarized Thursday

The Steelhead Tavern at the junction of Highway 99 and Savage Creek rd. was burglarized some time Thursday night, state police said. The burglary was reported Friday, they said.

Taken were a small radio, \$5 and a Pendleton jacket. Pry marks were found on the window, and the window sill was broken, state police said.

Demos Here Support Chairman Straub

A resolution expressing support of Democratic State Chairman Robert Straub, and urging him to continue to resist any pressure exerted upon him to resign was approved by members of the Jackson County Democratic Central committee recently.

The committee also unanimously favored Sen. Al Corbett for president of the state senate, and called for Sens. Harry Bowin and Walter Pearson to abide by the unit rule in the election of the senate president.

Several committee members expressed disappointment in Senator Pearson by charging him and Senator Bowin with "promoting Republican control of the senate in direct opposition to the will of the majority."

Other business included plans for an "Inauguration ball" to be held in January, and the annual Roosevelt Memorial dinner scheduled in April.

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