



WIN SCHOLARSHIPS—The three Medford High school seniors pictured above are recent winners of Naval Reserve Officer Training Course scholarships. From left to right they are John Crawford, 1503 East Main st., Gordon Miller, 111 Jeannette st., and Ralph Lobdell, 1007 Murray st. The scholarships will entitle the youths to full

tuition and a monthly living allowance at the college or university of their choice, as long as it carries an ROTC program. Upon graduation the youths will then enter the Navy with the rank of ensign. The scholarships were awarded on the basis of a competitive examination.

Price-Fixing by Electric Firms May Have Cost People Big Sum

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent

Washington (Special)—How much money has been lost by Pacific Northwest utilities and electric consumers because of price-fixing by the big electric manufacturing companies?

Nobody knows that answer yet, but the wheels have begun to turn in an attempt to coordinate efforts to find out.

There is widespread suspicion throughout the country that utility purchases in re-

cent years have been at deliberately inflated prices resulting from the conspiracy to fix prices sustained by the major electric manufacturing firms.

As a result of the convictions of officials of General Electric and Westinghouse and other companies, the Justice Department is now suing for damages on grounds that federal agencies paid inflated prices for equipment, some of it for such agencies as the Bonneville Power administration and bureau of reclamation.

Banding Together
Many utility officials around the country are now banding together to seek redress. This is evident within the public

power movement, at least, if not in the private electric industry.

The office of the attorney general of Washington state has assigned one of its men, Richard Pelz, to work nearly full-time on the problem of coordinating the efforts of various utilities in the Evergreen state which want to take legal action. They include the city-owned systems of Seattle and Tacoma and about nine public utility districts.

One discovery has spurred the tedious checking of back purchase orders. One Washington PUD bought a power transformer in July, 1957, for \$142,000. The same piece of equipment, when bought in April, 1960, after the indictments had been returned in the Philadelphia case against the equipment firms, had dropped to \$82,000.

Price Had Been Fixed

The conclusion being drawn concerning this case is that the price had been fixed at the higher figure by understandings that competitors would not undercut it with more realistic prices. If suit

were successfully prosecuted claiming \$80,000 damages on this single purchase, the possibility of receiving an award of treble damages indicates the amount of money that might be at stake for Northwest utilities.

The American Public Power association recently held a meeting here at which two Justice Department experts who went through the Philadelphia trial provided information on the practical matter of securing evidence. Now the APPA is trying to develop forms which might be sent to its member utilities on which to report basic information in a uniform manner.

Eight Men on Job

The city of Los Angeles department of water and power, one of the largest utilities in the West, is reported to have assigned eight men to this problem. There is similar activity in a number of other states, although no indication has been noted here from Oregon utilities.

The Washington state group hopes to contribute to a team operation designed to match the resourcefulness of the

manufacturers. The team is expected to include economists, electric engineers, lawyers and clerical personnel.

The electric manufacturers have already engaged a top Washington lawyer and polit-

ical figure, Clark Clifford, one-time assistant to President Truman. A number of other lawyers are aggressively bidding for the business of representing the utilities who hope to win damage suits.

Staff Personnel Changes at Vets Domiciliary Noted

White City—Two changes in staff personnel at the Veterans Administration domiciliary, White City, have been announced by Manager Henry C. Herzog.

Jack Stewart is the new personnel officer, and Louis A. Reale, manual arts therapist, has accepted a position at Gary, Ind.

Stewart succeeds John H. Sinders, who was transferred to the VA's Hines hospital at Chicago, Ill. He came from the VA Fort Milley hospital, San Francisco, Calif., where he was assistant personnel officer.

The new personnel officer has 15 years service with the Veterans administration. He served four years and 10 months in the Army during World War II. With the 225th Field Artillery as a staff sergeant, he served in five operations in the Central Pacific for three years and eight months.

Lived in California Stewart was educated at the University of California as a

business administration major and has lived in California for the past 20 years. He and his wife, Cynthia, are residing at the White City installation.

Man, 53, Arrested For Bank Holdup

Alamo, Tex. — (UPI) — A 53-year-old Fort Worth, Tex., man cut through the roof of the Alamo State bank before daylight Saturday, tied up six employees when they reported for work and robbed the vault of \$35,000. He was captured two hours later at a nearby hotel.

Mild-mannered Jesse Marion Bobo was arrested by two sheriff's deputies and a highway patrolman as he came out of the shower at a motel three miles south of Alamo, clad only in a towel. The money, in \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations, was stuffed in a blue laundry bag. Bobo confessed.

Louis A. Reale is another veteran of the Pacific phase of World War II. As a Seabee, he was in the South Pacific 24 months. Hospitalized at the Navy's Alea Heights hospital, Pearl Harbor, he became interested in occupational therapy, and after the war returned to the East where he completed his high school courses and went on to New York university.

He and his wife, Claire, started West as part of his clinical training in occupational therapy, and worked at five different hospitals in New Jersey, Chicago, Portland, Ore., and at Palo Alto, Calif. He was appointed to the staff at the VA Palo Alto hospital in April, 1953, and remained there until coming to White City as manual arts therapist.

His new position as department head at Methodist hospital, Gary, Ind., will include pre-vocational testings. Mr. and Mrs. Reale have one son, Jay, 7.

GH Man Arrested For Burglary

David Eugene Harper, 26, of Gold Hill, is being held in the Jackson county jail on charges of burglary not in a dwelling following his arrest Thursday by Gold Hill Police Chief Leroy Harrison and state police.

In a signed statement, Harper admitted burglarizing the Bristol Silica plant office, the Willamette Valley company, 736 Mason Way, and the Jacksonville Lumber company, state police said.

Most of the stolen property was recovered with the help of the Gold Hill police chief and Jacksonville Police Chief Frank Carter, officers said.

Harper is being charged with the Jacksonville Lumber company burglary. He was arraigned on the charge Friday in district court. He waived right to a preliminary hearing, and bail was set at \$1,500.

State police said Harper admitted taking a small safe from the Willamette Valley company which contained no money.

PLOTS RESERVED

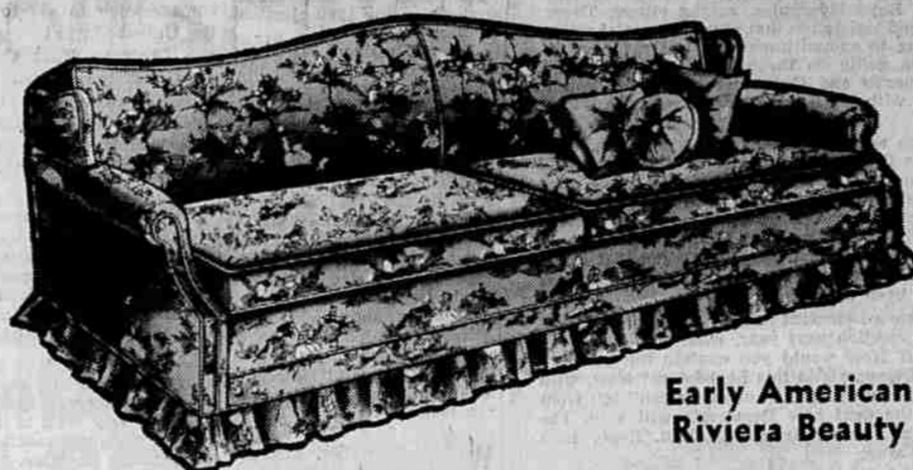
Scarborough, England — (UPI) — A local cemetery bears this sign: "This graveyard is reserved for the dead living in this parish."

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