



NEW SCHOOL—This turtle-shaped high school auditorium at Pago Pago, American Samoa, is one of the numerous buildings which had been built in the "crash" construction program under way there. More than \$22,000,000 of U. S. money has transformed American Samoa from the stepchild

of the South Seas to the Cinderella of the New Frontier. Eastern Samoa's Commonwealth neighbors chide the Americans there and describe the huge dose of dollars as "conscience money" appropriated by Washington to atone for years of neglect. (UPI)

'Crash' Program in American Samoa Is Criticized By Islands' Neighbors

By ROBERT C. MILLER
United Press International

Pago Pago, American Samoa—More than \$22 million of "conscience money" has transformed American Samoa from the stepchild of the South Seas to the Cinderella of the New Frontier.

But the good, or evil, effects of this highest per capita budget in the United States probably will not be known for a decade.

Last year's budget of nearly \$9.5 million coupled with this year's \$12.8 million appropriation gives American Samoa's 20,000 population the equivalent of an average of \$1,100 per person in an economy where the family budget runs less than \$200 a year.

Eastern Samoa's Commonwealth neighbors chide the Americans here and describe the huge dose of dollars as "conscience money" appropriated by Washington to atone for years of neglect.

The more cynical of the observers say the dollar flood and a crash construction program were designed merely as a "showcase" to impress the nearly 200 delegates and staff members of the six-nation South Pacific conference

which held its fifth conclave here at Pago Pago.

"You Yanks," challenged one Commonwealth delegate, "never would have built all these new roads, put in the jet airport and painted everything in sight if it hadn't been for the conference and the desire to impress the oceanic peoples who came here.

Magnificent Job
"But," he added somewhat grudgingly, "you have certainly done a magnificent job, and one that will be enviously discussed from one end of the Pacific to the other."

The man who has moved the millions of Washington dollars across the Equator to Pago Pago is an Idaho Mormon, H. Rex Lee, who was appointed Governor of American Samoa by Interior Secretary Stewart Udall.

No one in Samoa, be he Republican or Democrat, denies that Democrat Lee has done more financially for American Samoa in shorter time than any other governor. There are, naturally enough, divergent opinions as to whether this is all good or bad, and some question both the methods and the end results, but all agree that Lee has piled more money out of Washington in two budgets than any of his predecessors could get in a decade.

The results are unique not only for American Samoa but for the entire South Pacific.

Houses Painted
More paint has been splashed on more houses here than probably any other aged community in the world. The government furnished the paint free with the home owners applying it. The result is every fale—Samoan house—has a glistening red or green surface somewhere on the premises, and the frame houses have a completely renovated look.

For an island that had a paved main street and rutted country roads, eastern Samoa now has black-topped highways extending both ways out of Pago Pago with a completely paved highway all the way around the island the goal for the next year.

The \$4.6 million jet airport was dedicated simultaneously

with opening of the South Pacific conference. Its 9,600-foot runway will accommodate the fastest, biggest jets now in operation. Governor Lee says it is the foundation of his plan to make American Samoa the playground of the South Seas; a tourist attraction which will compete with Hawaii for the traveler's checks.

Money For Education
The biggest chunk of the budget has been earmarked for education. New elementary and high schools are being blueprinted along with a \$1,240,000 television station which will be used primarily for teaching purposes.

The Lee economic shock treatment has brought a previously unheard of prosperity to American Samoa. Employment is at an all-time high and the people have more money in their purses than they ever had.

Even the staunchest of the governor's supporters concede that there has been waste and extravagance in most of the crash construction programs.

More Earthquakes Feared in Utah
Salt Lake City—The uncertainty of possible additional earthquakes hung over Northern Utah today following Wednesday's tremor which dealt minor, but widespread damage in Salt Lake county.

Preliminary calculations by University of Utah seismologists placed the epicenter of the quake about 18 miles southwest of the center of Salt Lake City.

The tremor followed by six days one which shook a wide area of Northern Utah, causing damage estimated at more than \$1 million.

Wednesday's shock, which struck at 9:05 a.m. (PDT) knocked bricks from chimneys, cracked walls, broke glass, dumped merchandise from store shelves and sent some interior structures crashing to the ground. One woman was injured.

One Person Hurt In City Accident

One person was injured in one of three accidents investigated by Medford police Wednesday.

A car driven by Hazel Irene Shopp, 43, of 1506 West Main st., struck two parked cars on North Columbus ave. between Jackson st. and McAndrews rd. about 9:45 p.m., police said. The parked cars were registered to Donald Earle Gray, 1508 Jasper st., and Jack Duane Pfeifer, 2806 Larch st., Medford.

Mrs. Shopp, who was cited for violation of the basic rule, suffered lacerations of the forehead and knee injuries, according to the police. She was taken to Rogue Valley hospital for treatment, and was reported in fair condition this morning.

No injuries were reported in the other two accidents. About 9:09 a.m. Wednesday three cars were involved in an accident at the corner of South Central ave. and 12th st. Vehicles were driven by Dolores Jeanne Madden, 24, of 848 East Ninth st.; Kenneth Earl Breazeale, 23, of 2954 Table Rock rd.; and Richard A. Clough, 80, of Usage City, Kan.

Early in the afternoon, a car driven by Robert Louis Poindexter, 38, of 1504 Wilson place, and a car operated by Donald Charles McVay, 41, of 113 Western ave., were involved in an accident, police reported. Poindexter was cited by police for following too close.

Registrars To Be Available in Area

A registrar from the county elections department will be available at several places in the valley prior to election, according to County Clerk Marvin Madden.

They will register voters at each location from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. he said. The locations and dates are as follows: Ideal Drug store, Ashland, Sept. 14, 15, 26, 27; Piggly Wiggly Market, Medford, Sept. 17, 18, 28, 29; Montgomery Ward store, Medford, Sept. 19, 20, Oct. 1, 2; Newberry's, Medford, Sept. 7, 8, Oct. 3, 4; Big Y Shopping Center, Medford, Sept. 10, 11, 21, 22, Oct. 5, 6; Thunderbird Market, Medford, Sept. 12, 13, 24, 25.

Registration service also is available at the headquarters locations of both the Republican and Democratic parties.

Republican headquarters, 237 East Main st., will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturdays. Telephone number is 772-7344.

The Democratic headquarters is at 414 East Main st. and will be open Monday through Saturdays until election from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The telephone number is 779-1331. Madden said he is preparing a list of registrars throughout the county.

Fire Damages PP&L Transformer Vault

Portland—A fire caused heavy damage at a Pacific Power and Light Co. underground transformer vault in the downtown section of the city early today.

The one-alarm blaze caused power to be lost in some sections of the city. The fire broke out when oil inside one of two large transformers in the vault burst into flames. The blaze took four hours to quell and flames shot high into the air from underneath a manhole cover.

A spokesman for the company said damage would run into the thousands of dollars.

374 Complaints Are Received by Sheriff

The Jackson county sheriff's office last month received 374 complaints, including 44 felony cases, according to the monthly report from that office.

The felonies involved 18 cases each of burglary and larceny and seven check complaints. During the month 271 cases were cleared or closed and 32 were unfounded.

The number of complaints received is a substantial increase over the 315 reported during the same month in 1961.

Of other complaints received, 103 involved misdemeanors and 227 were for non-criminal matters.

During the month, 114 persons were lodged in the county jail by law enforcement agencies throughout the county and Medford police lodged 26 persons there.

Sign Ordinance Is Passed by Council

Grants Pass—The Grants Pass city council last night passed an ordinance regulating construction of signs within the city.

City Manager Roy Eames said the need for a better ordinance regulating sign construction became apparent with the recent adoption of new zoning ordinance, which opened new areas to billboards and electrical signs.

Councilmen Reece Jameson and Frank Shepard were appointed by Mayor Charles B. Gill Jr. to work with the city administration in the study and selection of a new type of street name sign for the city.

A total of \$4,000 was budgeted to begin a study for the street name sign modernization program.

Medford Man Wins in 'Coin Treasure Hunt'

James C. Capman, 205 Girard dr., Medford, has been named one of 88 winners in the most recent "Coin Treasure Hunt," featured in Family Weekly, Sunday magazine supplement to the Mail Tribune.

A "Treasure Hunt" is featured in each Family Weekly, which is published biweekly during the summer.

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