

PARTY POWER FIGHT ERUPTS IN SALEM

Pomona's Mall Installed to Combat Blight

By GEORGE H. BELL
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Southern California, with its heavily populated suburban areas adjacent to large, metropolitan cities, proved fertile spawning ground for many of the first post-war shopping centers in the country.

The area in and around Los Angeles, probably the world's most sprawling city, was unusually attractive to the developers. Within the space of a few years, huge shopping complexes sprang up like dragon's teeth at choice locations along the freeways.

Pomona, with a 1960 census population of about 68,000, like most of the other communities which ring Los Angeles, began to feel pressure almost immediately in its downtown district. Business dropped off sharply.

But unlike many other cities, Pomona recognized its problem early and began to do something to overcome it. Initiated Series of Discussions

An unusual group of civic leaders, representing all aspects of the community, initiated a series of discussions and programs in the early 1950's which ultimately led to the creation of a shoppers mall in the central business district, the only one of its kind west of the Mississippi river.

But between the first halting steps and the final dedication of the mall about two months ago, there was a staggering number of seemingly insuperable obstacles to be hurdled.

First, parking spaces had to be provided for a new generation of shoppers more mobile than ever before in history.

Since 1951, private capital financed the construction of 18 lots containing about 2,000 parking spaces on land immediately adjacent to the downtown area. The lots acquired were vested in the name of the city. Some were metered, some were not. In each of four separate parking districts, cost was assessed on the basis of benefit.

People of Pomona Join Together

As part of a program to reroute vehicular traffic, the people of Pomona joined together in June, 1958, to approve a \$1,850,000 railroad underpass bond issue to finance the city's share of an underpass construction program totalling \$5,830,000.

Mainline railroad tracks running parallel to the central business district had for decades been a source of irritation and confusion to traffic attempting to reach the business district.

With construction of three underpasses, together with redesigning of the city's arterial streets structure, Pomona took a giant step toward improving access to its core area.

With imagination and determination, Pomona's city fathers turned to the massive problem of revitalizing the downtown area itself.

There was much to do. Store front after store front stood empty. The buildings along nine blocks of Second st., heart of the business district, were dirty, run-down and old-fashioned. The economic pulse beat more faintly each day.

Courageously, the city hired Millard Sheets, nationally known artist and designer, and instructed him to draw up plans for a permanent shoppers mall.

With an artist's sensitivity for the beautiful, Sheets designed a mall that was visually appealing to the shopper as well as being laid out in a manner to promote a feeling of spaciousness and convenience.

Old asphalt was torn up the length of the street and was replaced curb-high with new special paving materials. Alternate strips of black concrete and white pebble-impregnated concrete made an attractive base for the mall.

Stone planters with native shrubs and trees dot the mall area. Six fountain pools, with specially commissioned pieces of sculpture and statuary, add esthetic relief and beauty to the mall. Soft music wafts from strategically placed loud-speakers.

Transformed Into A Garden

The cumulative effect is everything the Pomona's city fathers could have wished it to be: a dirty noise-filled street has been transformed into a virtual garden.

Perhaps most important of all, the economic rejuvenation of the mall was supposed to stimulate seems actually to be taking place, though, admittedly, it is still a bit early to regard evidence as conclusive.

A wave of new building in the core area has begun with a \$4.5 million department store at one end of the mall, and a \$2.5 million savings and loan bank building under construction near the other end.

Secondly, there were more vacant stores leased in the core area during the last three months of 1962 than in the previous three years.

But the acid test was - would the shoppers come back downtown?

Apparently they have. At the U.S. Mayors' Mall Workshop in mid-November Pomona's merchants were, to a man, wreathed in smiles and making confident predictions about the future prosperity of their community.

Next: Medford at the crossroads.

'Scorched Earth' Off, Tshombe Says

United Nations, N.Y. - (UPI) -

Secessionist leader Moïse Tshombe has assured the United Nations that he has called off his scorched earth policy in Katanga, a UN spokesman said today.

The spokesman said Tshombe also pledged that the UN force could advance to the Rhodesian border without opposition to reopen a supply line vital to the UN-held provincial capital of Elisabethville.

The spokesman said Tshombe technically had never been under house arrest.

Secretary General Thant Wednesday night ordered the UN Congo Command to restrain Tshombe from further irresponsible acts. The UN spokesman said that this meant house arrest.

Tunisian troops surrounded Tshombe in his presidential palace in Elisabethville. But the guard was withdrawn six hours later and Tshombe set out on an apparently triumphant drive to meet his aides and troops at Mokambo, near the Rhodesian border.

The spokesman said that rather than house arrest, Thant's order meant that steps should be taken to prevent Tshombe from issuing further inflammatory statements such as his "frequently announced" program of scorched earth and sabotage mentioned by Thant in a statement Wednesday night.

The spokesman said the palace guard was withdrawn when Tshombe agreed to end the scorched earth policy.

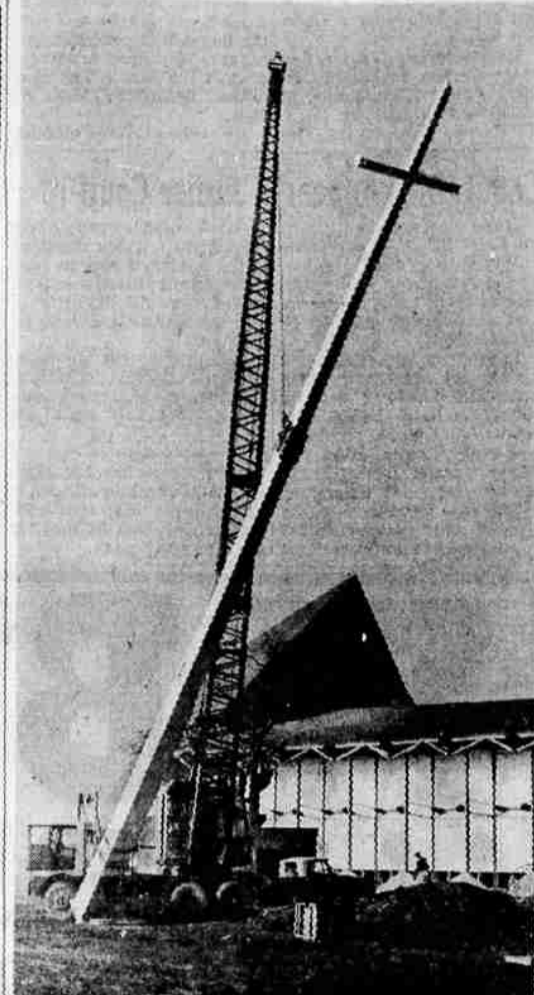
NEWS BRIEFS

SPACE LABORATORY PAST MARS PLANNED

Washington - (UPI) - The space agency said today it will send a robot laboratory past Mars next year to find out whether the planet is capable of harboring life. It postponed plans for a second probe of Venus.

SEAT BELTS AS STANDARD EQUIPMENT STUDIED

Detroit - (UPI) - The auto industry is considering a plan to make seat belts standard equipment on all new cars starting in 1964, it was learned today.



CROSS RAISED - A 70-foot steel cross was raised this week at the site of the new First Christian church, 1900 Crater Lake ave. The cross, bolted to a base of concrete and steel embedded 18 feet into the ground, is in the center of a driveway around the church. It towers above the new church building which is only 49 feet at the peak of the "bonnet."

Snow Surveyor Sees Fairly Good Water Supply in Region

The outlook for 1963 irrigation water supplies for the Rogue-Umpqua area at this time is fairly good, although the mountain snowpack is close to the poorest of record, according to W. T. Frost, snow survey supervisor for U.S. department of agriculture, soil conservation serv-

ice, cooperating with Oregon State university and state engineer.

Stored water supplies are better than a year ago and soils in the mountain watersheds have been well recharged, Frost said.

Practically no snow exists below 4,000 feet, and water content of the snowpack above 4,000 feet is one-fourth of the 15-year average (1943-57) and only one-fourth of last year's snow at this date, he said.

Heavy fall precipitation which resulted in substantial flooding on Rogue river, has amply recharged the soils in the watersheds (78 per cent normal since Oct. 1 at Medford), Frost said.

Stored Water Supplies
Stored water supplies for the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation districts in Fossilville and Fish lakes are about 80 per cent of the average storage, but 125 per cent of last year's figure on this date. Total water now stored is about 10,000 acre feet compared with 7,400 acre feet a year ago.

Talent Irrigation district water supplies in Emigrant, Hyatt and Howard Prairie lakes totals about 74,000 acre feet compared with 43,000 acre feet one year ago Jan. 1.

Flow of Rogue river at Raygold has averaged 145 per cent of the 1943-57 average since Oct. 1.

In spite of flooding and above average streamflow, Frost noted that flow of southwestern Oregon streams dropped off to about one-half normal in the last week of December.

Statewide, the early winter outlook for Oregon's 1963 irrigation water supplies is fair. Snow cover in measurable amounts is found only at high elevations and surveys there range from 0 to 33 per cent of the usual Jan. 1 snow-water amounts.

Reservoir storage is much better than last year at this time and, coupled with good soil moisture conditions over most of the state, is likely to be the safety factor needed to offset a low snow year, Frost said.

Judge Miller Asks For Figures on Farm Operation

County Judge Earl M. Miller yesterday afternoon called for "factual and accurate statistics" to present the county budget committee on operation of the county farm.

"I want to know how much it saved the food bills of the county jail, farm home and juvenile home," Miller told other members of the county court.

"Our budget figures on this operation are not realistic. We are not going to use any more funds from our welfare budget for operation of the farm home," Miller said.

Miller declared that all three county institutions should be saving on their food budgets due to the farm operation, but present budget figures at mid-fiscal year indicate they will barely get by on allocated funds.

He directed Purchasing Coordinator William Cochran to obtain the figures.

Favors Raising Beef
County Commissioner Donald Faber said he favored raising beef on the county farm but felt it uneconomical to keep a full time man there "just to take care of 17 or 18 cattle."

Miller said the county spent \$1,500 for the farm operation early in the fiscal year. He noted County Commissioner Edwin Taylor spends half of his time there.

However, Taylor declared he spends less than fourth of his time there, attends all important county court meetings and also constantly supervises the other county institutions. The \$1,500 paid for a pump, elevator and some cattle, Taylor said.

"This is a pilot year for the farm—the first year. Clackamas county makes it work by using prisoner labor," Taylor said.

Miller said he is also unhappy with the transportation of prisoner work crews between the jail and farm home. Taylor noted that the misdemeanor prisoners should be kept in barracks at the farm as they are in Clackamas county. He urged Miller to visit the Clackamas operation with him.

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Legislation To Control Price Of Milk Approved by Dairymen

Administration Of Controls Left To Agriculture

New Advisory Committee Asked

Salem - (UPI) - New legislation to control the price and production of milk was approved Wednesday by the Oregon Dairymen's association.

If it clears the legislature, it would replace a temporary law that expired at the start of this year.

The dairymen voted to leave the administration of milk controls under the State Department of Agriculture. They called, however, for a new advisory committee to work with the department.

Appointed by Governor

The advisory committee would be appointed by the governor. It would include four producers, two independent processors and one cooperative processor.

The advisory committee also would have the power to approve regulations set by the department.

The proposed legislation calls for a three-price system to set minimum prices on bottle milk, ice cream and cottage cheese, and butter and hard cheese.

Hearings would be held to establish prices.

Pool Possible

The proposal also would make it possible for producers to establish a milk market pool in an effort to control surpluses. Through private contracts, the market pool could extend across state lines.

Frank Rood of North Bend was elected president of the association. Other officers include Richard Barnes of Silverton and Frank Setniker of Hillsboro, vice presidents; H. P. Ewalt of Corvallis, secretary; and Fred Roberts of Corvallis, treasurer.

Directors include Bertil Nelson of Bend, Fred Knox of Gaston, Peter Pan of Roseburg, and Dale Schellar of Hillsboro.

Mrs. Peter Pan of Roseburg was chosen president of the dairy wives.

City Parks Group Elects Sullivan Its New President

The Medford park and recreation commission elected new officers last night.

The group elected James R. Sullivan, 1844 Woodlawn dr., president; John North, 2839 Hillcrest rd., vice president; and Dr. James W. Bayliss, 100 Stewart ave., secretary.

Newly appointed commissioners Tod N. Tibbitt, 2215 East Main st., D. J. Reverman, 401 Holmes ave., and John E. Kent, 922 South Oakdale ave., attended the meeting.

As one of its principal items of business, the commission voted to request a joint meeting with the city council, at its "earliest convenience," to discuss matters outstanding between the two groups.

Park and Recreation Director Robert Haworth reported to the commission that department crews had finished installation Wednesday of an underground sprinkler system at Jackson park. He said the next step was to prepare for planting lawn seed at the park in time for the spring growing season.

Haworth also stated he expected to have a preliminary plan for the redesign of Hawthorne park available for study at the February meeting of the group.

Haworth informed the commission that the recent flood caused an estimated \$1,500 in damage to city parks. He said however, that department crews have completed restoring the parks to their original condition.



FIRE IN INSULATION - A firemen inspects pipes in the pipe shaft on the 31st floor of the Empire State Building in New York Wednesday by a series of similar blazes in after a blaze broke out in pipe insulation the pipe shaft. (UPI)

Temperatures Will Drop Lower Tonight

Temperatures in the Medford vicinity are expected to drop to the lowest of the season tonight.

The Medford station of the U.S. weather bureau has forecast a low of 10 to 15 degrees tonight and near 10 on Friday night.

The weather bureau said that an outbreak of dry, cold air from northwestern Canada already has moved into northern Oregon and is continuing into southern Oregon. A generally cold week end with cloudless sunny days is predicted.

It was indicated that the coldest air will be past and that some moderation will be felt in southwestern Oregon Sunday evening.

Portland - (UPI) - The nuclear powered ship N.S. Savannah left here today after a visit of nearly a week. Its next port of call is San Diego.

Another Blaze Erupts in Empire State Building

New York - (UPI) - The third fire to break out in the Empire State Building in the last four days sent firemen rushing into action again today.

Firemen were summoned at 7:55 a.m. to the 31st floor of the world's tallest building when the blaze was discovered in pipe insulation in a tank room adjacent to the five-foot wide shaft in which Wednesday's fire, which burned for several hours, broke out.

Today's fire was brought under control a few moments after a workman in the building reported the blaze.

Because of the crash of fires, thousands of workers were delayed getting to work in the 102-story structure, there was no disruption of operations in the building today.

Ninth Battalion Chief Bernard Wynne said firemen "were ready" for today's blaze and six firemen who had been patrolling the building went into action when today's alarm was sounded.

"We were expecting this one," said Wynne, "and we were ready for it."

Wynne explained that a follow-up fire was not unusual in the aftermath of a blaze like Wednesday's.

The first of the building's three fires this week was a minor one which broke out in the basement late Monday.

Because of the crash of fires, Wynne said firemen will be on a 24-hour alert at the building for about a week.

Stamp Sales Exceed Pre-Christmas Rush

Stamps sold at the Medford post office Monday, Jan. 7, exceeded the Christmas volume, making it necessary for the staff to keep three windows open in continuous operation, according to J. A. Eidswick, acting postmaster.

The pace was slowing down Wednesday, giving clerks time in which to take a second look at the most desired picture in town - the one of George Washington on that little green square with glue on the back.

The demand for one-cent stamps was so great that the staff had to unwind coils to satisfy the need. Medford borrowed stamps from larger offices and smaller offices of the county borrowed them from Medford. The Portland stamp section was able to supply Medford on a delayed basis.

Surprise Problem
One of the surprise problems resulted, Eidswick said, from the fact that many people put five one-cent stamps on their letters instead of just adding one to the four to get the same result.

The post office's estimate of 100,000 stamps for the rush period was far under the need. The office had sold 181,000 when Eidswick was interviewed Wednesday. He said the demand would undoubtedly expand to 250,000 before normally sets in. He was ordering 30,000 a day out of Portland.

New envelope stock ordered Nov. 19 had not yet been received here nor in other first class offices of the vicinity. Eidswick could make no forecast as to when stamped envelopes would be available, he said.

Volume Reduced
The first day of five-cent postage, a large number of

letters were mailed at the old rate, but each day since that volume has been reduced considerably. Eidswick said. These letters were marked "one cent due" and sent as usual except in cases where the same sender mailed 12 or more letters with inadequate postage.

The outgoing letter volume was much heavier than usual on Jan. 5 and 6, also, the post office staff noted, the increase reflecting the desire of many people to "beat the rate increase" if possible. There were 8,800 letters mailed on Sunday, Jan. 6, compared to the 5,000 normal for that day.

Stamp Book Popular
Another thing that has increased in popularity with the rate change is the stamp book. Eidswick said. Before the rate change the customer paid one cent for the book. Now he gets full value for his money in

stamps. 20 five-cent stamps for \$1. Instead of buying sheets of stamps many people buy five books. Five dollar coils have also been in more demand.

Most patrons accept the postal increase without comment, according to the post office clerks. But some patrons, usually the ones who buy four or five stamps, object to the cost.

One customer questioned the cost to each individual, estimated by the government, insisting that the \$1.80 quoted did not represent the increase to be borne by each American. She was positive that her own stamp bill would far exceed that sum, and would not accept Clerk Paul Kurvash's explanation of how the amount was computed by the government. (This was done by using the total national list of users.)

Inauguration of Hatfield Could Be Postponed

Barton, Montgomery Voice Differences

Salem - (UPI) - A two-party power play erupted here today that could delay Monday's scheduled inauguration of Gov. Mark Hatfield and the convening of the 1963 session of the House of Representatives.

The battle between Speaker-designate Clarence Barton (D-Coquille) and House Minority Leader F. F. Montgomery (R-Eugene) developed over committee assignments, and hinges on the illness of a representative's wife.

The wife of Rep. Sidney Leiken (D-Roseburg) was taken to Los Angeles Wednesday for medical treatment. It is not known if Leiken will be able to return to Salem in time for Sunday night's House caucus, or Monday's scheduled opening of the 1963 session.

House membership is split 31-29 in favor of the Democrats.

Leiken's absence would cost the Democrats a constitutional majority, and leave them but a one-vote margin for organization of the House.

Barton Not Sure
Barton says he is not sure the House could be organized without a constitutional majority. He told United Press International today "I might not be able to organize the House Monday."

If the House is not organized, the constitutional requirement of the House canvassing the vote for governor could not be met, and the inauguration would have to be delayed.

Barton has 3 proxy vote from Leiken, but Montgomery has not agreed to allow the proxy to be used.

Wants To Know Plans
Montgomery told UPI the Republicans want to know what committee assignments Barton plans to make.

"We want to know if Barton is going to organize the House on the basis of partisanship or statesmanship," Montgomery said.

A closed Republican caucus will be held here at 7 p.m. Sunday - one hour before a scheduled open full House caucus.

Montgomery said Republicans want to know what the committee assignments will be when they hold their closed caucus.

Barton said "I'm not telling anyone what committee assignments will be until Monday morning. I'm not telling the Democrats or the Republicans."

Montgomery indicated - although he did not say so - that Leiken's proxy vote would not be allowed if Barton organized the house on a "partisan" basis.

Both Barton and Montgomery said they doubted the inauguration would be delayed.

But Barton said adamantly, "If we can't organize the House, we'll just have to wait."

Montgomery has stated publicly several times that the Republican delegation wants committees named on the basis of "ability and experience."

He is fearful Barton will make all key committee assignments to Democrats.

Montgomery said if the Democrats accept partisan, the Republicans will also be partisan, and if the Democrats show "statesmanship" - that is, respect the Republican plan for recognition - then the Republicans will cooperate.