

Sparks Fly Over Negro Church Site

(Continued from Page One)

for it but I believe in putting religion where it belongs." The ministers and Mrs. Timms' supporters took this up and laughed loudly. Mayor Ed Ostendorf, who had listened patiently to both sides, jumped to his feet and advised the audience that they could go out on the sidewalks if they wanted to laugh. Rev. Victor Schulze of the Zion Lutheran church put the question: "For my own information, when citizens come to the council with a protest do they have to come with a valid reason or is a protest in itself valid? Are churches subject to local option in that area and if so, I'd like to be informed." The police judge advised that the area involved was in an industrial district. K. I. Douglas, 229 Commercial, said that he knew Mrs. Timms, that she was "swell" and he had no objection, but that he did not like the idea of letting rooms to colored people. The Rev. David Barnett, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, said that he felt several points were involved in the controversy. He asked Mrs. Timms if her plans were similar to that of his denomination to carry out a part of the church program as a means of serving the church's

people. Mrs. Timms said that it was. "Last of all," Rev. Barnett said, "it seems to me we can make a legitimate plea of the authenticity of Christianity. This is not just a matter of colored people occupying white people's sections. I can trust this, for it is a Christian thing." "Disorderly" Charging that the church was "disorderly" and that garbage was thrown out the back door, E. A. Smith of 227 Commercial, urged the council to consider the value of property held by the white people. "My property is right alongside, and I can't rent it," he said. Mrs. Timms advised Smith that she had been ill for three months with a broken arm, and that she did not know that such a situation existed and that it would be corrected. The Rev. Geoffrey Matthews of the Congregational Community church asked Mayor Ostendorf if there was a segregated quarter for the negro or "can a negro live anywhere in Klamath Falls?" The mayor replied that it "has been considered." "I see," responded Rev. Matthews, "just an ungentlemanly agreement." Kenneth Lambie, 2545 Home-dale, layman interested in Mrs. Timms' problem, told the council that he was present "in a broad sense." "I feel this is both un-American and un-Christian to tell these people where to go. Do we mean it is a democracy and a Christian democracy? A general principle is good only in a specific instance." On Her Feet Mrs. Kroenert was on her feet again. "Why a restricted district for the negro?" she queried the council. "You'd think they're polluted and would rub off on

you. Is Klamath Falls laying the egg to start hatching a religious war? I apologize to Mrs. Timms for the insults she has received tonight. "We've put up for years with degenerates in this town and some in office—as you know," Mrs. Kroenert concluded. She also asked that the city build sanitary housing facilities for the colored people to which K. I. Douglas replied that he had worked hard for his own home, and they, the colored people, could do the same. At this point, E. A. Smith suggested they find "someplace else" and that he would give \$100 free to keep them out. Zounich called out an offer of another \$100. "I wish we could look at people as people," Rev. Phillips said quietly as the session grew hotter. Plea An impassioned plea, which silenced the council room, was heard from Rufus W. Holt, negro, who said he was an ordained minister of the Church of Christ. "I do believe both white and black will learn what God means when he tells us to work in Charity," Holt said. He quoted from the scriptures and ended with the 14th chapter of Job: "Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble." "The Lord didn't say black man, white man, green man, yellow man—He said Man." "All of us couldn't be white, but man should love man as man!" At this point there were heard a number of "Amen's" from the audience. Douglas again took to his feet and with courtesy said that he had no objection to the church but that he did object to the rooming house. When Councilman Harvey

Martin was asked what action his committee had taken, he said that with several out of town no definite word was available. It was then referred to the property and zoning committees to report back and formal notification of the council's actions will be given Monday, February 18. Earlier in the evening the council had been presented with a petition signed by 32 property owners asking that the city withhold from sale lots 6C and 7D, block 4, Railroad addition, for use by the colored people. "We have no prejudice against colored folks, but believe that they should have their own district and not be permitted to enter districts that are well settled by white residents," the petition set forth. A letter was also read to the council and signed by Mrs. Lois Newman, 2510 Darrow. Mrs. Newman commended Mrs. Timms for "sacrificing efforts to help her own people," and offered assistance herself. The council chambers were filled last night. Mayor Ostendorf, said Councilman Rollin Cantrall, was to be commended for his courteous reception of both sides in what was one of the most hotly disputed questions to be laid in the lap of the city fathers. URGES DISPUTE END LONDON, Feb. 5 (AP) — N. J. O. Makin of Australia, council president, urged the United Nations Security council tonight to close the Russian-British argument over Greece without a formal ruling and permit Makin to make a statement that British troops in Greece are not menacing world peace. From Palm Springs — Ann Dirksmeier of the USO staff, returned recently from a two-week vacation in Palm Springs, Calif.

Man Held In Tavern Theft

Nelson W. Hurd of Eugene is held in the city jail today in connection with a burglary at Ole's Tavern, 1012 Main, sometime last night. He has admitted to police that he entered the beer parlor after midnight last night and stole about \$200 in bills and silver. The police got a call about 5:30 this morning from George Bell, bartender at the establishment, who said that he believed the place had been burglarized. Investigation showed that someone had entered the building through a washroom window and had apparently left the same way. Bell said he suspected a man who was in the place at closing time last night and who had seen money placed in a cash drawer. The man had mentioned that he lived at the Pelican hotel, Bell recalled, and police went to the hotel and found Hurd in bed in his room. They searched the room and found a money sack containing \$137 in silver, some

of it in rolls, in a sack under the bed. Currency amounting to \$33 was found in Hurd's clothing. Hurd was taken to the station where he admitted breaking in to the tavern and said he used a screwdriver to pry open the cash drawer. He also said that after the burglary he got a bottle of whiskey and went to the depot, intending to catch a train for Eugene, but had a long wait and went back to his hotel room. The arresting officers have

filed a complaint in the district attorney's office charging burglary not in a dwelling against Hurd. He is being held in the city jail pending action by county authorities. Training Course—There will be another class in the Brownie leader training course, Wednesday, from 10 to 11 p. m., in the chamber of commerce.

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