

# New Washington Prison Aimed at Rehabilitation



**ERNEST F. DODSON, 66,** died April 26 in Stillwell, Okla., where he was vacationing. Born in Ft. Smith, Ark., he taught school 23 years in Stillwell, coming to Oregon in 1938. He lived here and in Roseburg since that time. Survivors include his widow, eight children and 20 grandchildren. Interment was in Stillwell.

**OLYMPIA** — Club-like accommodations for honor convicts are included in plans for a new \$1,500,000 building to be constructed at the State Penitentiary at Walla Walla.

State Director of Public Institutions Harold D. Van Eaton said the 300 convicts to be housed in the new structure will live in private rooms and eat at restaurant-type tables in the minimum security building.

"We are not out to make a soft life for the boys," the state official said. "But to do a reasonable and competent job of rehabilitating the low-risk inmates."

Van Eaton said the building will be wagon wheel shaped with six wings as the spokes of the wheel. The building offices will be located in the hub of the wheel. The structure will be three-story, made of reinforced concrete. In addition to the quarters and offices it will contain a club, a library and an auditorium for church and movies.

**TRUST UNIT**  
Located outside the present penitentiary walls, the "Trust Building," as it is called, will be surrounded by a heavy wire and a fence. There will be no masonry walls or guard towers as at the regular penitentiary, the director declared.

"This type of building will cost less to build and less to supervise than the regular prison-type building," he stated.

"In it we can house the low-risk inmates—those who don't require maximum security. The bulk of the inmates are convicted for embezzlement, a much different type person than the murderer or sex maniac," Van Eaton added, "and can be handled differently."

In addition to the honor prisoners, the new building will accommodate inmates who will complete their sentences in a short time, living in the minimum security building will help them re-acustom themselves to life outside the walls, the director explained.

Van Eaton said the new building will make it possible to evacuate the two oldest cellblocks at the penitentiary.

**ANTIQUATED**  
"Those two structures are the most archaic we have," he said. "It's one thing to put a man in jail and another to make him live as you wouldn't even have a dog live. The two old cellblocks don't even have toilets."

Construction of the "Trust Building" will get under way as soon as possible after the contract is awarded May 26. It will take 16 to 18 months to construct.

"This building will be of tremendous help in the rehabilitation of the lesser risk prisoners," Van Eaton said. "You can't throw good apples with bad and not contaminate the good ones."

**SOUTH SLOPE WARMER**  
UMATILLA, Fla. — Melon grower W. F. Austin Sr. ran tests through the winter to determine if it was warmer on the south slope of a melon field than the north slope. The south slope was as much as 20 degrees warmer at times, he reported.



**A FINE PIECE OF WORK** is what Jay Andrews, Jack Smith and Frank Wilson (l. to r.), residents of Klamath County Nursing Home say about quilt presented the Home Friday by members of the Keno Girl Scouts troop.

## Fishing Trip Set for Cubs

**MERRILL** — A monthly pack meeting of Merrill Cub Scouts was held April 24, in the recreation hall. Den 1 is the new holder of the pennant for having the best percentage of pack attendance.

Dens 1, 2, and 3 put on skits of gardening hints, experiments with seeds, how to make a dish garden and how to use nail kegs they had painted for outdoor flower painters.

Bernace Wilson and Claude Shuck explained seed germination in one mother pin.

On April 25, all the dens went on a field trip to the suburban greenhouses. On May 2, den 4 is having a den outing at the Carleton ranch for all the dens. All Cubs will hike or ride their bikes.

On May 9, a mother and son den meeting will be held at the recreation hall after school. Field trips have been planned for May 16, and 23.

Mrs. Alfred Carleton is in charge of securing film on nature study for the May pack meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Clair Duncan and David were visitors at the April Pack meeting.

## Time Turmoil In Tacoma

**TACOMA** — Despite Tacoma's decision to remain on standard time this year, it begins to appear that most of the city's residents will be living on fast time by May 12.

The Tacoma Retail Trade Bureau voted unanimously Friday to start fast time in major retail stores on May 12. That means most Tacoma retail stores will open an hour earlier. Most major industries and contracting firms had decided earlier on a similar change. Banks will open earlier starting Monday.

## ALTITUDE CHECK

**SANTA FE, N.M.** — Does a state driver at sea level become a highway menace when he reaches the high plains of New Mexico? State traffic officials would like to find out. Plans are to set up testing stations in California volunteer motorists will be checked for blood pressure, reflexes and alertness. They'll be tested again when they reach the continental divide in New Mexico.

## STEALS TO SUPPORT

**SINGAPORE** — A 38-year-old rag and bone man had such conjugal troubles he had to break into 15 homes at night and take large quantities of silverware. In court he said: "I can't help stealing. I have two wives and six children to support."

# Eisenhower Boom Stirs Hollywood

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Eisenhower boom has hit Hollywood. The returning general appears to have attracted more support from movie figures than any of the other presidential candidates. The Ike campaigners, spearheaded by three studio bigwigs, have already lined up "substantial" contributions.

Film Bosses J. L. Warner, Sam Goldwyn and Darryl Zanuck are the leaders of the local Eisenhower movement. Executive secretary and nerve center of the campaign is Frank McCarthy, 20th Fox producer and personal friend of the general.

**FUND RAISING**  
McCarthy has circulated 420 film figures in the highest income bracket — "since our main purpose was to raise money." The results, he said, were: 65 per cent wanted Ike for president; six per cent did not; 21 per cent had not decided; and eight per cent did not wish to state.

Hollywood activity for the other presidential campaigners is not so pronounced. Local Republican headquarters explained that Sen. Taft's forces have not formally invaded the state, it being a strong hold of Gov. Warren. Among the 70 delegates on the Warren slate is actor George Murphy.

On the Democratic side, backers of Sen. Kefauver claim support from movie figures but said their names cannot be revealed at this time.

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