

Benton County Herald

CORVALLIS, OREGON

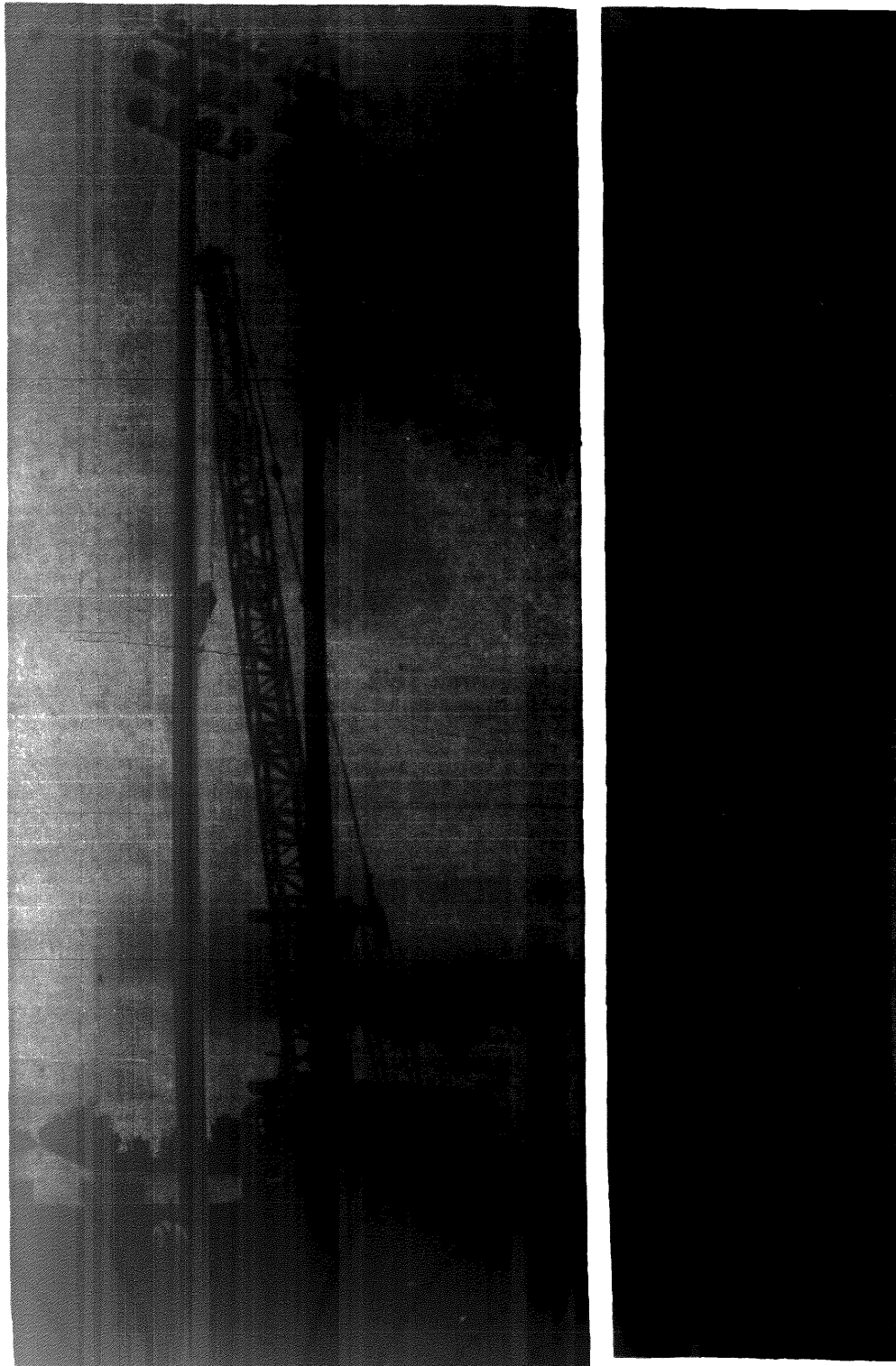
JUNE 1, 1950

Court House Gets Outside Paint Job

Painting operations are now going on at the north and west sides of the court house building. Last summer the south and east sides were painted. Color of paint is white. Members of the county court point out that the building was due for painting on the outside as it was beginning to look shabby. The painters are putting on two coats.

Painting and some remodeling on the county jail has not started because the contractor has been too busy with some other jobs. The sheriff hopes that the painting and remodeling can get under way soon as he wishes to get the work over with now that there are very few occupants lodged in the jail. During the remodeling and painting any new prisoners will have to be lodged elsewhere.

Things Are Getting Up in the World



A SPECIALLY EQUIPPED truck and crew from Eugene took on two widely varied jobs here yesterday, installing 80-foot poles to provide light for baseball games and the same sized pole to fly the American flag. Two of the 10 big sticks which will carry lights for Taylor field are shown in the photograph at the left, and the flag pole (right) has been installed on the court house lawn. Bought by the county through the Veterans of Foreign Wars for \$894, it will replace the aged pole atop the court house tower, also shown, which has been declared unsafe. A dedication ceremony will be held later. Cross arms and light fixtures are all up on the Taylor field ball plant, but the wiring has not been completed and it will not be possible to play tonight's scheduled Corvallis-Salem Legion junior game under the lights. They are expected to be ready for use later this week, however. The new system, culmination of long effort by many individuals and organizations who helped raise the necessary funds of about \$12,000, has 120 bulbs of 1500 watts each. (Gazette-Times photo.)

Benton County Herald

CORVALLIS, OREGON

JULY 2, 1953

Flagpole Erected At Courthouse

A new flagpole was installed on the Benton county courthouse lawn Monday and will be dedicated at a ceremony later.

Purchase of the pole by the county was made through the Veterans of Foreign Wars for \$894.

The new pole, 80 feet high, is to replace the one atop the tower which has been declared unsafe.

The carbon steel pole was erected on the east lawn and the county may now display the flag every day where it may be plainly seen.

According to Judge George McBee, it took half a day for the custodian to raise the colors on the courthouse tower. First the men had to fasten it from a lower level, then clamber thru a clumsy trap door into the bee-

inhabited tower which encloses the famous old clock installed in 1888.

Next it had to be raised laboriously, hand over hand, with the man hanging out to attempt to guide the flag over the lower roof shingles, which not only damaged our nation's colors as they dragged over it, but were loosened in its passage.

It will be a proud day when the dedication ceremony is held. This will be conducted by Mrs. Stanley Tripp of the VFW Auxiliary of Post 640, and at that time Commander Wm. F. McNalley and Trustee James C. Smith will present a new Oregon state flag, which must be flown with the United States flag according to the law recently passed by the Oregon legislature.

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CORVALLIS, OREGON

AUGUST 13, 1953

To Dedicate New Flagpole on V-J Day

This Friday Benton county residents not only will mark VJ Day, it having been eight years since the capitulation of the Japanese in 1945, but also will mark the dedication of the new flagpole and the presentation of a memorial plaque, fittingly dedicated to "all Benton county veterans of the country's wars."

Mrs. Myrtle Tripp, past president of the VFW auxiliary, department of Oregon, will make the dedication, presenting a gift (a state of Oregon) flag to County Judge George McBee, who will be acting on the behalf of the county. The dedication will be held at 7:00 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. Benton county residents are urged to attend.

The Corvallis Gazette Times

CORVALLIS, OREGON

NOVEMBER 25, 1953

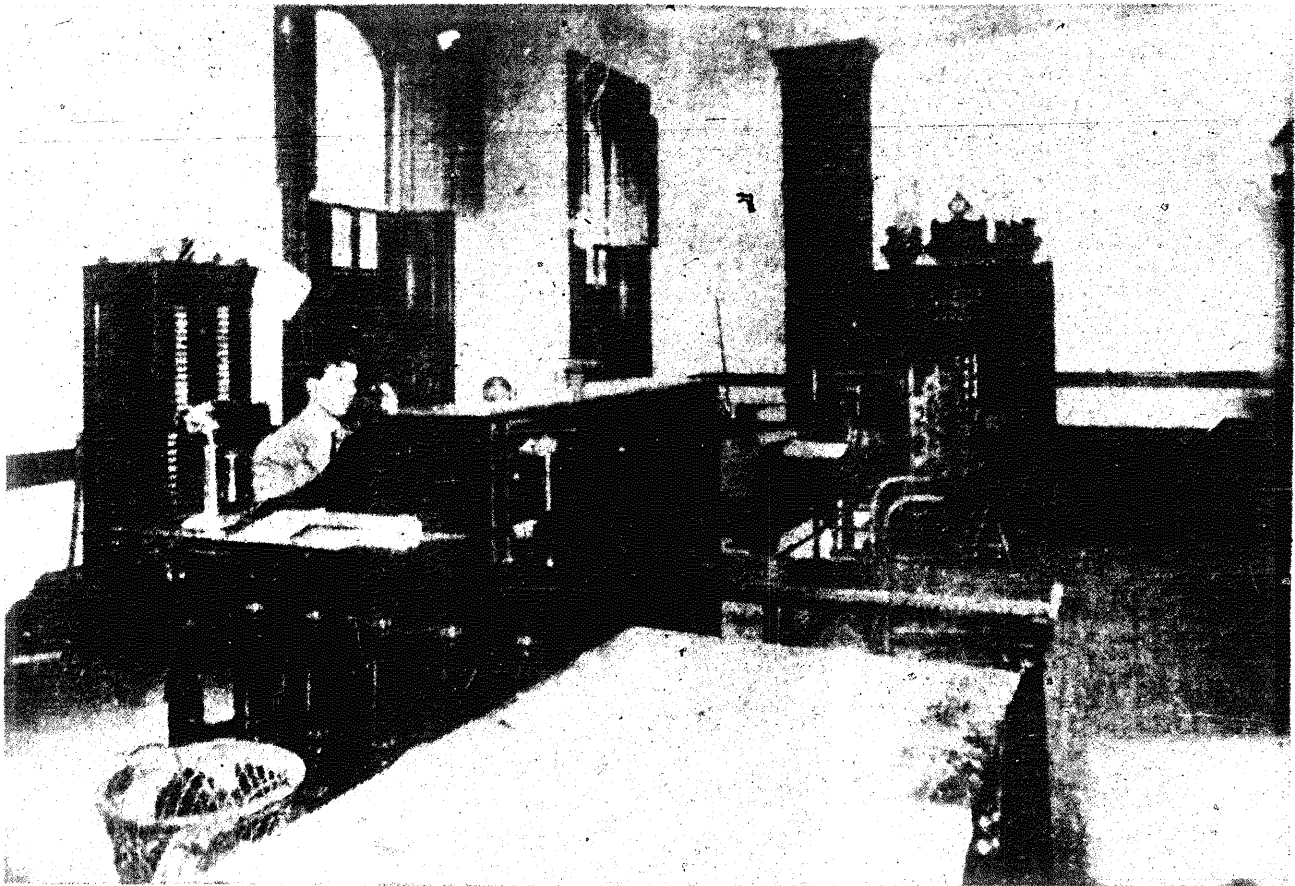
Courthouse Tree Gets Christmas Lights

The 50-foot tree in front of the county courthouse was decorated with Christmas lights last night and will be lit up each night until Christmas.

Firemen spend considerable time in placing the colored lights from the top of the tree to the lower branches, doing their part in bringing the Christmas spirit to the city.

Gazette-Times
Corvallis, Ore.
Dec. 24, 1953

County Clerk's Office 50 Years Ago



The Benton county clerk's office looked like this half a century ago, and some of the equipment is still in use today. The slanting tables in center of room are now in the circuit courtroom, as are some of the chairs—still in sturdy, usable condition. Man at desk is Victor Moses, long active in county affairs, now bailiff for circuit court.

Corvallis Gazette-Time

Corvallis, Oregon

August 24, 1955

Court House Interior Slated For Remodeling Operations

Remodeling of the interior of the county courthouse was started today with the first work being on the office of the county court.

While no commitments have been made for further work, the county court said other offices probably would be remodeled if there were requests from the department heads.

The work started today will see the ceiling of the court office and the county judge's office lowered several feet. Acoustic tile will be put on the ceiling and on the walls near the ceiling. New

wainscoting is to be put on and the rooms painted. A door between the judge's office and the county clerk's office is to be sealed off.

Included in the work will be a new entrance at the west end of the building. The swinging doors will be removed and a single door outlined by windows is to replace them. The change there is expected to eliminate drafts and the unsatisfactory doors now used, the county court said.

The work will be in keeping with the remodeling of the circuit court room done last year to make space for a district court on the second floor.

The cost of the first work is estimated to cost about \$2000, including electrical work. The money is budgeted under a \$200,000 item for courthouse remodeling and expansion.

Corvallis Gazette-Times

Corvallis, Oregon

September 1, 1955

OFF *the* BEAT



By MIKE BRADLEY

Remember those spittoons that were taken from the courthouse halls to make way for new sand urns? . . . There was quite a stir over them and a list of people who wanted them was compiled . . . The stir had subsided in recent months and we suddenly find the county court has been quietly selling them . . . They are getting a pretty good price, too . . . Ten bucks for the big ones, and seven fifty for the smaller ones . . . They've got a few left, but it looks like some disappeared without being paid for . . .

The Corvallis Gazette Times

CORVALLIS, OREGON

FEBRUARY 2, 1956

OFF *the* BEAT



By MIKE BRADLEY

They're only half in the dark over at the courthouse these days. And you can take that any way you like . . . Fact is, if they haven't burnt up the joint by the time this gets into print, they can say they almost did . . .

The other day one of the fuse boxes burned out and Fire Chief Percy Tallman, called in to investigate found the wires hotter than a blister. He ordered that half



the lights be turned off until new wires could be installed . . .

Seems that when the building was being remodeled new, bigger and more powerful lights were installed that about doubled the wattage of the old lights. No one had thought to question the capacity of the wires . . . When they switched on the last of the new lights, the wires fairly throbbed with the load on them, and finally the fuses gave out . . . Until things are fixed only half the lights can be burned at one time . . .

Three Corvallis Residents File Deeds to Lunar Plots

Three deeds purportedly entitling the owners to an acre of land on the northeast quadrant of the moon—facing the planet Earth—have been filed in Benton county.

They are the first such deeds to be filed here.

Owners of the deeds are Edward Burrier, 30, dispatcher at the Corvallis fire department, his wife, Martha Ellen, 25, and their seven-months-old son Byron Edward.

Purchased at \$1 a deed from the Interplanetary Development corporation, Glen Cove, N.Y., papers entitle the owners not only to an acre of land on the moon but also permit them: (1) to hold beach rights and access to the Sea of Tranquility, (2) the right to fish, dredge and chase clams in, upon and under the Sea of Nectar, (3) the right to engage in winter sports in the Lunar Alps, and (4) bestows upon them the privilege of prospecting for all manner of minerals and other elements in the Lunar Apennines. (The Interplanetary Development corporation reserves the rights to half of any and all minerals and

elements that may be found on the satellite).

Burrier said that not only does he have the deed to the property, but he also has a reservation that permits him to be among the first passengers aboard any rocket ship that might be headed for the moon, so that he can claim his acre.

With the deed, the Burriers received a map of the moon marked off in squares on which they have been able to get the general location of their ground. The map states that if they desire a more detailed location of their property they can refer to a large subdivision plan on file at the corporation's offices.

The corporation, according to the deed, is "a profit corporation dedicated to exploration of planets, public education, development of satellites, and similar activities; also rockets."

County Clerk Ralph Schindler, who accepted the deeds for filing, said the jurisdiction of his office did not extend beyond Benton county, but the deeds were filed "just in case . . ."

The Corvallis Gazette Times

CORVALLIS, OREGON

DECEMBER 1, 1956

Courthouse Fir Tree Due Christmas Lights

The huge fir tree in front of the Benton county courthouse will again be lit up with Christmas lights this season, Fire Chief Percy Tallman said today.

Volunteer firemen have been asked to be at the fire station at 10 a.m. Sunday when the lights will be strung on the tree.

The lights will be turned on as soon as clearance has been received from the power company, which is expected to come the first of the week, it was said.

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OCT. 23, 1958

\$29,000 for New Elevator

An elevator for the Benton county courthouse was under contract this week and the county court said work in the installation would begin after January 1.

The court has signed a contract to purchase an elevator from the Otis Elevator Co. for \$19,289. Up to \$10,000 additional will be needed to construct the shaft, the court said.

Bids on the shaft construction will be sought when plans have been completed.

The elevator will be a self-operated automatic electrically powered car. It will have a capacity of 12 passengers, with the load limit being 2,000 pounds.

It will be near the east entrance to the building and will have four openings from the basement to the third floor. The shaft will block the present doors to the welfare, assessor's and surveyor's offices, necessitating new doors to those rooms, the court explained.

The lift is felt needed, especially for the many elderly people who must visit the offices in the courthouse. With the main floor a flight of steps up the courtrooms on the floor above that, many people find it difficult to reach the offices, it was explained. Also, the elevator will open the third floor to expanded use, it was said.

The Corvallis Gazette Times

CORVALLIS, OREGON

OCTOBER 28, 1958

Fireman Stand By At Courthouse Fire

A flue fire at the Benton county courthouse last evening called out an engine and truck from the Corvallis fire department, with Chief Tallman in charge.

The 60-foot aerial ladder was raised in readiness. Four volunteers and four regular firemen stood by.

The alarm came in at 7:02 p.m. In about 25 minutes the offending flue had burned itself out.

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FEB. 26, 1959

Wilson Awarded Courthouse Work

A contract for construction of an elevator hoistway in the Benton County Courthouse has been awarded to Robert C. Wilson, local contractor.

Wilson was low bidder with a \$16,725 offer. There were three other bidders.

The county is buying the elevator for \$19,280.

The plan calls for building a shaft from the basement to the third floor of the 70-year-old courthouse.

The Corvallis Gazette Times

CORVALLIS, OREGON

DECEMBER 2, 1959

Courthouse Basement Gets Tile Flooring

Further enhancement of the appearance of the Benton county courthouse was begun today when workmen began laying tile on the worn cement floor in the basement hallway.

Laying of the tile is part of the county court's program to spruce up the courthouse. A shift of offices resulted in new paint in those switched around. The basement floor in the past has been painted, but this is the first time tile has been laid on it. The basement houses the welfare department, the civil defense and veterans office, and the juvenile department.
