

Portland City Council Agenda Written Testimony

Row 5

Name	Jason Renaud - Mental Health Association of Portland
Agenda Item	406
Position	Support
Comments	
Email Address	info@mentalhealthportland.org
Submitted	05/24/23 12:21 PM
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Public Records Acknowledgement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attachment	Yes

'Bad Girl'

Ida Lupino, accomplished screen villainess, has climbed Hollywood's ladder rapidly. Her picture in color appears Sunday in the Oregonian Magazine.

The Oregonian

VOL. LXXXIV—NO. 26,026

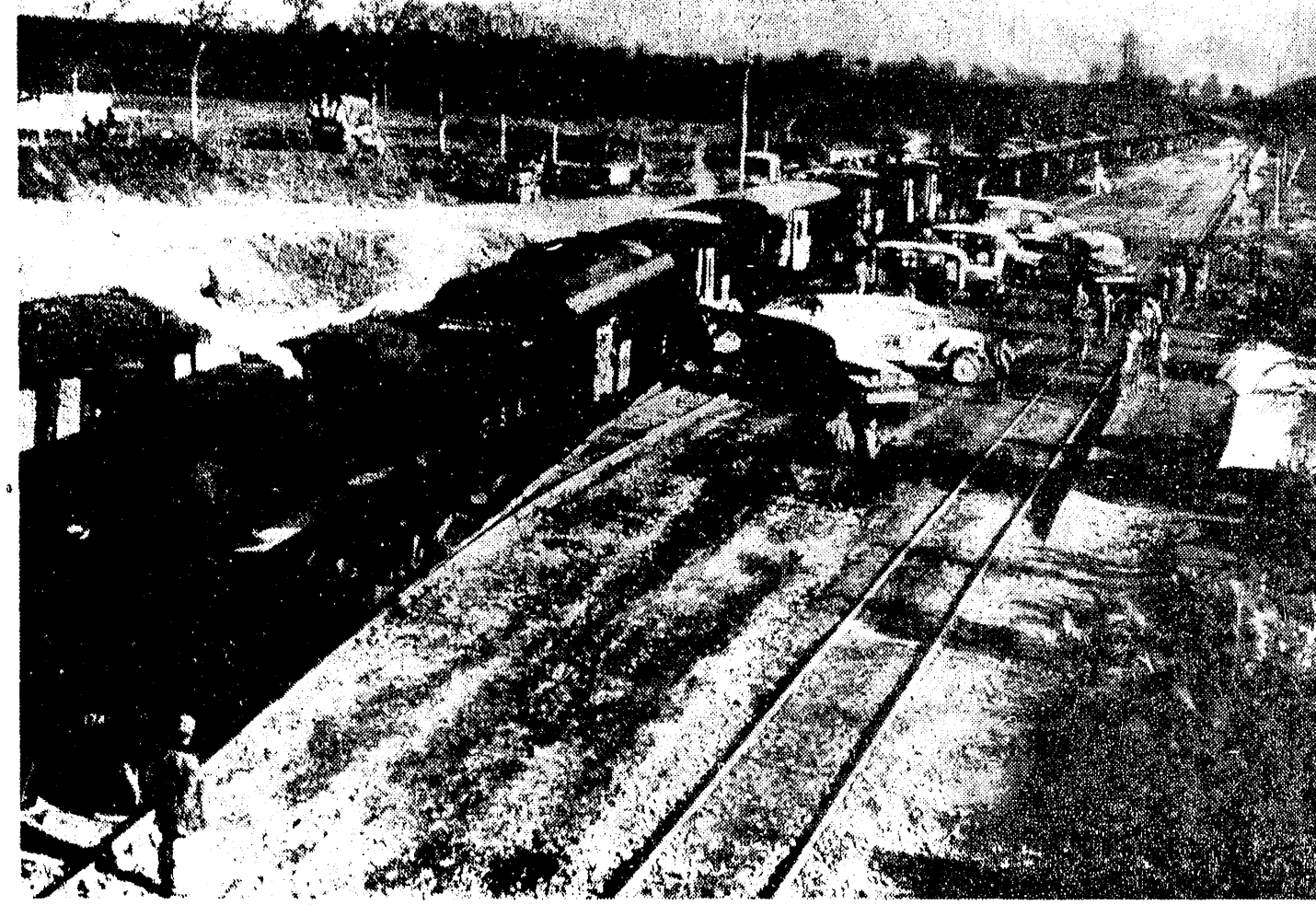
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PORTLAND, OREGON FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1944

U. S. Weather Report
Thursday temperatures—Maximum, 51 degrees; minimum, 43 degrees.
Friday forecast—Partly cloudy, with occasional light showers, becoming clear Friday night. Full U. S. weather report on page 6.

CITY EDITION 22 PAGES PRICE FIVE CENTS

'Mercy Special' Loads U. S. Wounded in Italy



ITALY Soldiers wounded on the Italian front are loaded aboard the new hospital train Mercy Special No.

2, which was built by the American railway service from Italian and German cars. Note red crosses. (AP Wirephoto.)

Tarnopol Line Of Nazis Cut

(Map on Page 2)

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—The Russians Thursday night announced a 37-mile-deep breakthrough in the stubbornly defended Tarnopol hinge area of the eastern front, and Berlin reported that other red army forces to the northwest in a 43-mile advance deep inside old Poland had broken into the town of Kovel, on the main road to Warsaw.

The smash into Kovel, on which the Russians were silent, carried the swift-rolling Russian to a point only 38 miles from the German-Russian partition boundary established in 1939—the line from which the Germans invaded Russia June 22, 1941.

The Russian announcement of the big Tarnopol breakthrough came 24 hours after Berlin had reported the offensive, describing it as a powerful flanking maneuver to the south to meet Russian forces on the Dniester. Such a thrust could trap large German forces pocketed to the northeast up as far as the Vinnitsa area.

The Russian daily communique broadcast from Moscow Thursday night disclosed that the 1st Ukrainian army had driven directly between the hard German cores of defense at Tarnopol and Proskurov and swirled right and left in maneuvers designed to encircle those cities and thus smash the pivot points on which the Nazis' Ukraine forces depend.

Long Rail Strip Taken
With Tarnopol already cut off on the north, east and south, the Russians said they had taken 32 miles of the railway running south, from a point three miles south of the city to the junction of Kopechintse, 35 miles south of Tarnopol.

Besides Kopechintse, captured railway stations included Trembovka, Nikolsky and Grzhim-alov, plus 200 towns and villages taken in the past three days, the soviet communique stated.

The Russians made their greatest effort in the area south of Tarnopol without withdrawing any strength from other sectors of the flaming southern front, where their offensive rolled forward again Thursday through another 115 settlements.

Voznesensk Fight On
Apart from the Tarnopol breakthrough, the most striking announcement of the night was the soviet advance to Voznesensk, on the Bug river, 50 miles above Nikolayev. There the Russians reported suburban street battles were in progress, while the work of clearing the Germans from the entire eastern bank of the Bug continued.

This advance goes far to seal the fate of Nikolayev itself, already virtually under siege, with Russian forces less than five miles away on the south-east.

West of the Voznesensk battle the Russians swung farther down in the direction of Odessa, capturing 30 more hamlets southwest of Galavorin in a campaign intended to cave the roof in on perhaps 100,000 Germans stuck in the mud between the lower Bug and the Dniester.

Builders of Liberty Ships Earn Profit of 1.5 Per Cent

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—A maritime commission spokesman asserted Thursday that Liberty shipbuilders, after renegotiation and taxes, earn on the average profits amounting to only 1.5 per cent of what a ship costs the government.

Com. Arthur D. Rydstrom of the commission's price adjustment board criticized profits figures produced Wednesday by the house merchant marine committee on the grounds that they were based on estimates which failed to take into account taxes and renegotiation disallowances.

Rydstrom told the committee, which is investigating alleged excessive shipyard profits, that average cost to the government of 1550 Liberty ships built in government-financed shipyards up to November 30 was \$1,624,700. The contractor's estimated profit per ship after renegotiation and taxes, he added, was 1.5 per cent of this figure.

Renegotiation Explained
He cited the Oregon Shipbuilding corporation, one of the Henry J. Kaiser operations, as an example of how renegotiation works. In this case estimated fees earned on 181 ships were \$23,940,000, or an average of \$132,268 per vessel, before renegotiation and taxes, he said.

Renegotiation, disallowances and taxes whittled the \$23,940,000 down to \$4,537,000, Rydstrom testified.

These figures are based on the first 181 vessels turned out by the Oregon firm and give the company a profit of 2.8 per cent after renegotiation and taxes, he said.

However, he added, the company has constructed 295 vessels, prices and profits have been lowered and final profits will be an estimated 1.4 per cent per vessel when final renegotiations have been completed.

The first 181 vessels cost the government \$1,624,700 per vessel, Rydstrom told the committee, but the total for the 295 will be \$1,492,000 each.

Additional details on page 7.

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U. S.-Finn Tie Held by Hope

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—A lingering hope that Finland will get out of the war forestalled Thursday night a complete break between the United States and that northern fighting partner of Germany.

Secretary Hull told a news conference the American government still hopes Finland may finally work away from Germany, adding that, so far as he knew, Russian-Finnish armistice negotiations have not been terminated.

A diplomatic break between this government and Finland is regarded as inevitable if the peace negotiations collapse completely. The Finnish government was notified days ago that the United States is reconsidering relations with that country.

The United States has retained its diplomatic friendship with Finland in spite of the latter's military co-operation with Germany because leaders in this country thought the friendship would be an aid in getting Finland out of the war.

Vessel Bringing Furloughed Men

GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea (Delayed) (NS)—The first American furlough ship, bearing battle-hardened veterans of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's campaign, has left the southwest Pacific and is due to arrive soon at a west United States coast port.

Some 4000 or 5000 officers and men, from all states in the union, are aboard on this voyage, which may be the forerunner of similar large-scale embarkations.

He said he had ordered that the doctor in charge of the emergency hospital at the police station examine all alleged drunks "as they come in" and to make routine checks of the cells every two hours; that lights in the drunk cells be left on all night; that a heavy steel door which in the past has been closed over the barred cell door be left open; that an additional officer keep a watchful eye on the prisoners to prevent altercations and to report any symptoms of illness.

One of the contributing causes to the deaths has been overcrowding in the two "tanks" in which persons accused of drunkenness are kept, according to jailers and other police station sources.

Most of the jail's "customers" are the drunken flosms of the skid road district, but occasionally officers have mistaken arrested "drunks" for persons who proved to be suffering from something other than intoxication. In addition to Adams and Hughes, who are suffering from pneumonia, as well as being suspected of being inebriated, other cases of misarrests have come to light.

Deaf Man Arrested
Officers making a routine check of a Burnside restaurant recently spotted an elderly man sitting over a table. The officers twice ordered him to stand up and when he looked at them only vaguely, brusquely pulled him to his feet. They hauled him to the station and booked him for being drunk and disturbing the peace.

The suspect, posted bail and when he appeared in court brought along witnesses who testified that he not only never drank, but was more than 80 years old and was so deaf he could hear scarcely anything.

A young man subject to fainting spells one evening last month was "down" at S. W. 4th avenue and Alder street and was hauled in the patrol wagon to the jail. He revived two hours later in the drunk tank and, after several hours more spent in trying to convince the jailers he hadn't had a drink for a month but only had fainted, finally was released on bail.

Advancing Jap Troops Menace Key Road City in Eastern India

Yanks Plug Rail Points, War Plants

Targets Bombed in Five Nazi Cities By Rampant Fliers

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Strong forces of American bombers, following up a record 2360-ton bombardment of Frankfurt by the R. A. F. Wednesday night, carried out a sweeping series of daylight attacks against five other German targets Thursday, and a powerful escort of fighters shot down at least 20 enemy planes as the Nazi air force came up in strength to battle.

Twenty-seven American bombers and six fighters were lost as the United States 8th air force used probably more than 1500 planes in bombing rail yards, war factories and air bases in northwest Germany.

It was the 13th attack against German targets in March and the sixth strong blow in nine days.

It was the 18th operation for the month for the heavies and equaled the record set in February—indicating that the record number of daylight attacks made in one month would be easily exceeded by the end of March.

Hammered Targets Listed
The Germans had no time to recover from the daylight operations before the night warings were sounded in the reich against R. A. F. night attackers. At 9 P. M. the Berlin radio warning system broadcast: "A number of nuisance raiders are over northern Germany."

United States strategic air force headquarters announced strong formations of Liberators and Fortresses hit:

The railway yards at Hamm; an air station at Achmer; a bomber base at Handorf; a war factory at Munster; and the Messerschmitt production center at Brunswick.

This was the first time the German air force had given battle since March 18.

86 Allied Planes Lost
It was considered about time, for not less than 5000 allied planes had gone deep into the reich in the 24 hours ending at P. M. raining down at least 6000 short tons of bombs—a rate of approximately 250 tons every hour and more than four tons every minute.

In this 24-hour period the attack cost a total of 73 bombers and 13 fighters—less than 2 per cent of the total attacking force.

In the latest raids all the scattered targets were bombed visually in good weather with good results, the air force communique said, except Brunswick, where clouds required use of instruments.

The R. A. F. was barely back from firing Frankfurt, one of the big centers of the I. G. Farbenindustrie Chemical works and home of important plane plants, with a bomb tonnage that the air ministry said was a record for one raid, when the American heavies—escorted by Lightning, Thunderbolts and Mustangs—drove deep into Germany.

Nazis Move Into Rumania; Bulgar Regent Summoned

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—In a desperate demonstration of Nazi power, Adolf Hitler, holding Hungary under his thumb, Thursday launched a campaign of bullying the other southeastern European nations into a stand-or-perish position with Germany against the onrushing red army.

A strongly-supported Ankara report said that German troops began the formal occupation of Rumania early Thursday. Telephone communications between Rumania and Sofia in Bulgaria were interrupted.

(A London broadcast said a dispatch from Switzerland declared that Prince Cyril of Bulgaria and Regent Bogdan Philov have been ordered to the headquarters of Hitler next Monday." This broadcast was reported by CBS.)

Germany's present moves apparently were designed to stem the rising tide of peace sentiment in that section of war-weary Europe and prevent temporarily at least a repetition of the disintegration which led to Germany's downfall in 1918.

Even as Hitler rode herd over Hungary through a new quelling premier, there were indications that all Nazi satellites were being given the choice of providing complete military cooperation under Nazi direction, or of being occupied by Nazi troops.

Some London quarters maintained the Hitler pressure could only delay and would not prevent the ultimate collapse in the Balkans.

German occupation of Rumania would be largely academic except as a measure of utter political control. The country is little else than a German camp area now.

2 Fishermen Die in Sandy

Two fishermen, both civilian employees at Portland army air base, were swept to their death in the waters of the Sandy river near Dodge park at 3 P. M. Thursday when the rowboat from which they were fishing with a companion was overturned by the swollen current.

The drowning victims were reported to be Robert O. Hall of 2114 N. E. 45th avenue and J. Wallace Berguson of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The third person in the small craft, V. R. Lockwood, of 2521 N. E. Dekum street, pulled himself to safety when the boat was swept near a high bank.

State Police Sergeant Everett Mead reported the men were fishing for steelhead a short distance above the swift rapids at Dodge park. One of the men was using a paddle, another a board to maneuver the boat while the third man fished.

Boat Turns Broadside
The rowboat turned broadside to the current, now at flood stage. Sgt. Mead reported, and was overturned about 20 yards from shore.

From the shore Lockwood said he saw the boat swept against the high bluff which offered no handhold. Berguson clung to a point of rock but was swept away. Hall was last seen as he was swept over the steep rapids clinging to the rowboat.

Clackamas county police under Sgt. Mead immediately began a search for the victims with the aid of Lockwood, who apparently suffered no ill effects.

Debt Limit Boost Proposed in Bill

WASHINGTON, March 24 (INS)—Legislation increasing the national debt limit to \$260,000,000—a boost of \$50,000,000—was introduced in the house late Thursday.

The bill was offered by Representative Doughton, democrat, North Carolina, chairman of the house ways and means committee.

The total national debt on March 21 stood at approximately \$187,000,000, and, at the current rate of war spending, the present limit would have been passed within the next few months.

Some members of congress have estimated that the national debt will reach \$300,000,000 dollars, as a result of financing the war.

PET MILK CHIEF DIES

BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., March 24 (AP)—Charley Webster Buck, 66, retired founder of the Pet Milk company, died Thursday.

He was suffering from pneumonia, as well as being suspected of being inebriated, other cases of misarrests have come to light.

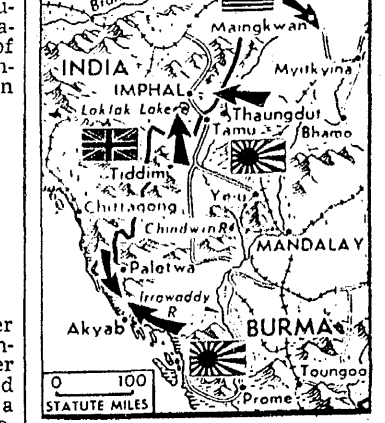
Two Spears Thrust Out To Imphal

Nip Waves Surge From Jungles of Burma Far North

NEW DELHI, India, March 24 (AP)—Japanese forces driving northward from Burma into India up the Manipur river valley have pushed to a point 30 miles south of Imphal, key road center already threatened by another Japanese army moving westward through the jungles into India, it was announced Thursday by allied headquarters.

A communique disclosing the second invasion of India by Japanese within the last 48 hours said the Japs had slammed

Drives into India by Japanese forces Thursday approached Imphal from two directions. One was to the south on Loktak lake's western shore. The other reached out from Thangudt. Other Japanese activity was noted north of Akyab, one objective of allied operations. Another is Myitkina in the north. (AP Wirephoto.)



northward 80 miles from the Tiddim area in Burma. Wednesday a communique announced another Japanese force had crossed the upper Chindwin river near Thangudt and had advanced to a point 30 miles east of Imphal.

(The Tokyo radio said Thursday night in a broadcast reported by NBC that Japanese troops now are "in complete control" of a 700-mile strip of Indian territory along the Indo-Burmese border.)

Bose Reported With Japs
(The Berlin radio said Indian troops led by Subhas Chandra Bose, leader of the national Indian freedom movement, were fighting with the Japanese against allied forces on the Indo-Burmese frontier.)

The latest allied communique said that Japanese troops which had advanced northward from the Tiddim region were standing on the west shores of Lake Loktak, 30 miles due south of Imphal.

All previous reports had this Japanese grouping safely pinned within Burma. Wednesday's headquarters statement said allied forces had been dispatched to "deal with an outflanking Japanese unit north of Tiddim."

Allied Reports Vague
There was no suggestion that the force had dashed 80 miles north to constitute the southern arm of a pincers movement threatening to spill from the hills onto the Imphal plain.

Allied reports were vague concerning the progress of the Japanese forces, which were well into India after crossing the upper Chindwin river east of Imphal in the neighborhood of Thangudt.

Allied headquarters continued to minimize the Japanese threat to Imphal. A statement said a Japanese breakthrough into the rice paddy flatlands was unlikely unless the Japanese gathered stronger forces than have been currently observed.

The paddy fields are suitable for use as air strips with a minimum of engineering.

The allied communique said heavy fighting was in progress as the Chinese 22d division fought its way south against fierce Japanese resistance in the upper Mogaung valley. It was virtually the only allied advance reported in the theater.

FAMINE KILLS MILLION
LONDON, March 24 (NS)—Deaths from the famine in Bengal last year totaled 1,073,749, Secretary of State for India Leopold Amery reported to the house of commons Thursday.

Abolition Of Station Drunk Tank Advocated By Law Commission

By CRAIG SMITH
Washington Bureau, The Oregonian

WASHINGTON — The President's commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice has called for abolishing traditional police station "drunk tanks" where countless intoxicated persons are locked up to dry out.

Instead it urged creation of special "detoxification centers" in communities across the country.

"Drunkness should not in itself be a criminal offense. Disorderly and other criminal conduct accompanied by drunkenness should remain punishable as separate crimes," said the commission in its Task Force Report on Drunkenness.

The report is one in a series of nine, expanding recommendations made in the Crime Commission Report released in February. Still to come are reports on narcotics, juvenile delinquency and the assessment of the crime problem.

'Aftercare' Needed

Local communities should establish drying-out units as part of comprehensive treatment programs, the report said. It called for cultivation and extension of so-called aftercare resources, including "supportive residential housing," and urged more research on alcoholism in general.


"Our method for handling the problem of public drunkenness in the United States is one of the major failings of criminal administration," said Commission Chairman Nicholas Katzenbach in issuing the report.

"It does not work; it is unfair; it requires the diversion of the scarce resources of the criminal justice system from crime problems to public health problems," he added.

Among other things, Katzenbach referred to the traditional police method by which those adjudged particularly troublesome drunkards are put in a "tank" to sober up. Not infrequently a tank will hold 40 or 50 men and be without adequate sanitation and health facilities.

Sometimes, the report said, a man will be arrested 100 to 200 times. Some have served 10 to 20 years in jail on short term sentences. They clog the courts and this does no good for them in terms of rehabilitation and treatment, or for the courts in terms of efficiency, the report said.

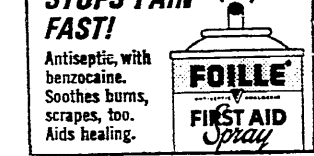
One measure of the problem's enormity is the statistic that approximately a third of all arrests — two million in 1965 — are for public drunkenness.



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The report refers to a center is planned for New York City and would be based on an experiment conducted by the Vera Institute of Justice which would administer the center.

The experiment has demonstrated that police authority apparently is not needed in order to pick up the most wretched derelicts and dry them out and that these individuals want to be helped and will accept such help if offered properly.

Under the authority of civil legislation, the inebriate would be brought to this public health facility by the police and detained there until sober. Thereafter, the decision to continue treatment should be left to the individual," the report said.

Another such detoxification center is planned for New York City and would be based on an experiment conducted by the Vera Institute of Justice which would administer the center.

Gallup Poll Prejudices In Politics Decline In Last 30 Years

By GEORGE GALLUP
PRINCETON, N.J. — Over the past 30 years, one of the most significant trends in American life has been the sharp decline in prejudicial attitudes in politics.

A Gallup survey 30 years ago, in 1937, found that only 46 per cent of the American people would vote for an otherwise qualified Jew for president; 64 per cent said they would vote for a Catholic for president, and only 31 per cent said they would vote for a qualified woman for the nation's highest office.

Today the proportion who would vote for a Jew has jumped to 82 per cent. The figure for a Catholic has increased to 89 per cent, and now a majority (57 per cent) say they would vote for a qualified woman for president.

Prejudice against Negroes in politics has also shown a marked decline over recent years. In 1938, 38 per cent said they would vote for a qualified Negro for president. Now, the figure is 54 per cent.

Changes Shown

Here are the questions asked and the results showing the changes since the earlier surveys:

"If your party nominated a well-qualified person for president and he happened to be a (Catholic, Jew, Negro) would you vote for him?"

"If your party nominated a woman for president would you vote for her if she were qualified for the job?"

—Vote for Catholic?—

	Latest	1937
Yes	89%	64%
No	9	28
No opinion	2	8

—Vote for Jew?—

	Latest	1937
Yes	82%	46%
No	13	46
No opinion	5	8

—Vote for a Negro?—

	Latest	1938
Yes	54%	38%
No	40	53
No opinion	6	9

—Vote for a Woman?—

	Latest	1937
Yes	57%	31%
No	39	65
No opinion	4	65

Analysis of the results by major population groups shows that prejudice varies greatly by a person's educational attainment and by the region of the country in which he lives.

Taking into account differences between regions in their religious and racial composition, rejection of potential candidates on the basis of race or religion is far greater in the South than in any other region. This is shown in the following table:

% Saying They Would Vote For ...

	Jew	Catholic	Negro
East	91%	94%	68%
Midwest	83	92	54
South	67	79	32
West	89	91	64

Education Considered

College-trained persons are considerably more tolerant than those who attended only grade school, as shown in the table below:

% Saying They Would Vote For ...

	Jew	Catholic	Negro
College	93%	94%	69%
High School	84	91	55
Gr. School	66	78	36

Little difference by region or education is found on the question of a woman for president. It is interesting to note, however, that women, themselves are somewhat less tolerant on this issue than men.

A person's religious faith is a factor. Persons of the Jewish faith, as a group, are the least prejudiced, with Catholics next, followed by Protestants.

Differences between men and women are slight.

Younger persons, the survey finds, are less prejudiced than older people.

American Institute of Public Opinion
Copyright, 1967.

SMOKING INCREASED

ROME (AP) — A survey of Italian smoking revealed the country consumed 11.4 billion cigarettes in a 59-day period — about four a day per citizen. Researchers found the Italians were smoking 4 per cent more than last year and were paying 7 per cent more, presumably because some switched to more expensive brands.

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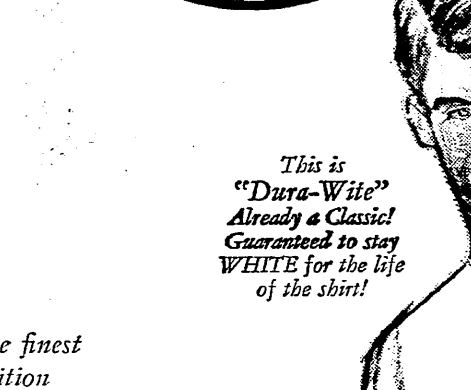
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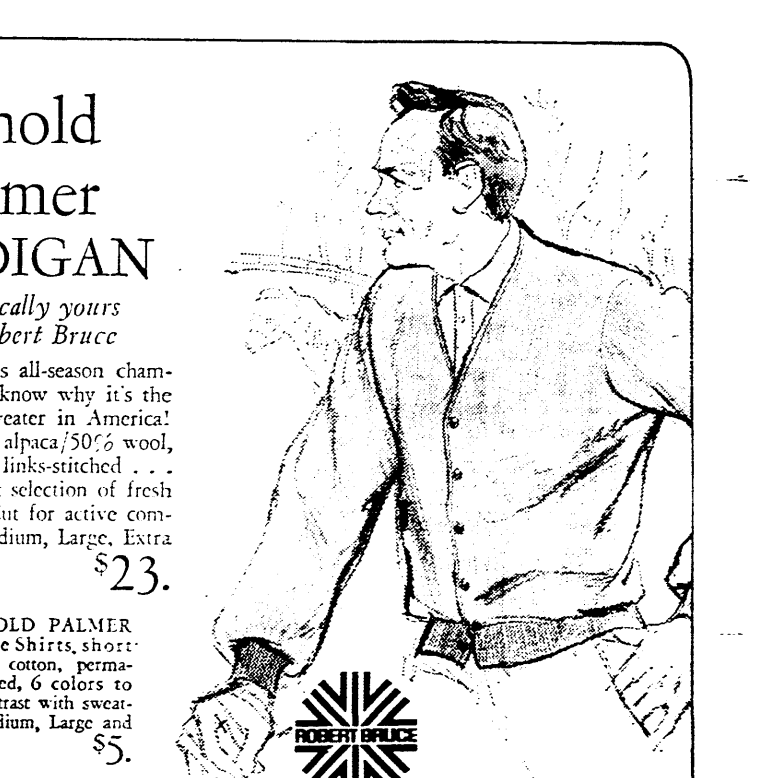
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His problem? He is a narcotics addict.
At the moment it was Numorphan, a Class A
synthetic narcotic, and he was mainlining
15 to 30 fixes a day into his veins.
How does he pay for it?



NEEDLE BUM



CALIFORNIA'S NARCOTICS EVALUATION AUTHORITY

Judge, I've Got No Place To Go

By Judge Robert Jones

"JUDGE, I've got no place to go," said the young man seated in my chambers. "If I can't get help, I'm going to pull another job or maybe hurt someone."

The young man? His name is not important. He is a 24-year-old Portland boy. His problem? He is a narcotics addict. At the moment it was Numorphan, a Class A synthetic narcotic, and he was mainlining 15 to 30 fixes a day into his veins. How does he pay for it — since he is not working?

The answer does not take much imagination. This fellow was obviously one of Oregon's seldom-thought-about thieves, one of some 300 narcotic addicts here believed to be committing over one-half of our property thefts (other than auto).

How did this all start? The young addict stated — "I started blowing pot when I was in high school, just for kicks, and by the time I was 17 I was hooked on heroin. I started stealing to support my habit, and after the usual referrals to JDH (The Donald E. Long Juvenile Home) I was shipped to MacLaren. It wasn't long until I 'graduated', pulling five years at OCI (the Oregon State Correctional Institution for first-felony offenders). Four years and ten days later I was released, but not before two important things happened to me. First, I became a qualified meat-cutter, thanks to the vocational training I received; and second, I was again a full-blown narco,

having received all the drugs I wanted for at least the last year of confinement." (A check of his record revealed the authorities were unaware of this, but the Assistant Superintendent verified they found a leak of narcotics into the institution. Curtailing the flow of narcotics into custody institutions is a constant problem.) When asked how he got the drugs, the young man smiled and said as long as there are people on the outside who come inside, and there are people who want money, the narcotics can be obtained.

The young addict continued, "After leaving OCI, I got a job with a fine meat company here in Portland and my bosses were wonderful to me, but pretty soon I was turned on most of the time and couldn't do my work. One of my bosses referred me to a minister who really tried to help. Then I went to the Alcoholics Rehabilitation Center. After that failed, I committed myself to Dammasch State Mental Hospital. Nothing worked. At Dammasch I just went through a supervised withdrawal — they don't give psychiatric treatment to addicts. After that I put myself in Holladay Park Hospital and took shock treatments under the care of a psychiatrist. But after five days I was back on the street with the monkey still on my back.

"Believe it or not my boss still stuck with me and arranged to send me to Synanon in California. It is a group therapy setup run by ex-addicts, but I busted out after seven days when I got

disgusted at them calling me a lot of vile names during the sessions. And the U.S. Public Health Hospitals at Lexington and Fort Worth are running about 90 per cent failure, so here I am, Judge. I need a fix and I've got no place to go."

I suggested that he might start out by doing something with himself instead of leaning on everyone else, but such a "bootstrap" solution is about as practical as to tell a cancer patient to cure him-

"... my bosses were wonderful to me, but pretty soon I was turned on most of the time and couldn't do my work."

self. I then called two friends at the University of Oregon Medical School and said to them — "O.K., we have proven how impotent we are in handling these drug cases from a legal point of view; let's see what you can do medically." They stated that they would do everything possible, but without some method to enforce custody and control over the "patient" the effort would probably be wasted. Their prognosis was exact. The young man went to the hospital, but refused to withstand the sickness of withdrawal (after having drugs smuggled in to him) and took off 32 hours after admission. The police arrived 10 minutes

late and at this moment he is somewhere on the streets of Portland.

Is there an answer for this young man — or for any of Oregon's addicts? Is there an answer for the people of Oregon who suffer directly or indirectly from the acts of these people?

There certainly is no answer in Oregon and no panacea anywhere. Perhaps the most sound institutional approach has been made in the State of California at the Narcotics Rehabilitation Center located at Corona, California.

This program, the largest ever undertaken in this country, began in 1961. A key feature is a civil commitment for narcotics.

This provides a legal means of requiring institutional treatment for addicts and a long period of post-release supervision and control in the community.

Prior to 1962 narcotics addiction had been regarded as a crime and addicts were punished by commitment through criminal court action to jail or prison, but in that year the U.S. Supreme Court in *Robinson v. California* held that drug addiction is not in itself a crime. The court made it clear, however, that drug addicts may be forced to accept treatment and public constraints not as punishment, but as a measure of public health and public protection. (Of course, possession or sale of narcotics is still a felony in Oregon, punishable up to 10 years in the Oregon State Penitentiary.) When handled strictly as criminals, narcotics addicts are given no specialized

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF PORTLAND

Mayor Wheeler and members of City Council.

Portland has struggled with managing people acutely affected by alcohol and opium since its earliest days. In the 1980s and early 1990s the city and county cooperated somewhat when cheap cocaine became available from street vendors up and down the bus mall. We've had methamphetamine in various forms, and misuse of pharmaceutical drugs prescribed by doctors and dispensed by pharmacists, for decades.

And to a great extent this management has been done by police and jails. Not doctors, not hospitals, not clinicians, not social workers. By cops and jailers.

In the early 1950s there were a slew of deaths in the police "drunk tank," mostly older alcoholic men from strokes and heart attacks and hyperthermia. Seizures and assault while in custody by police and by other inmates. The mayor formed a blue ribbon committee in 1967 which corresponded with other cities to learn what they did with these difficult people. And that committee recommended the growing national best practice - supervised medical detoxification.

It was another ten years before former sheriff and then-current county commissioner Don Clark started to put the pieces together and opened a medical detox. A county facility, it was above where the Bijou Cafe was located, up a long flight of stairs but conveniently just across the street from Central Precinct, which was then on Oak Street. But fairly quickly there were predictable problems with the location. There's nothing more dangerous than carrying a drunk up a flight of stairs in the middle of the night. You can imagine all the medical leave requests.

Clark's solution was to spin off the county detox to a new organization he formed called Burnside Consortium, which later became Central City Concern. And in, I think, 1988 Hooper Detox stopped using librium and other sedatives to manage people with cocaine and methamphetamine withdrawal. They stopped because the addicts would come for the sedative with no intention of detoxing. They just wanted to get high in a different way. Instead Hooper used acupuncture for detoxification - and successfully used it for hundreds of thousands of patients over thirty years. Somehow in recent years that technique has been forgotten by CCC, or discounted by doctors who trust only medications, but it worked for a long long time and managed people withdrawing from meth and other substances. Not difficult at all.

Hooper has always been underfunded, especially the ten day sub-acute program which has been turning away prospective patients for decades. Everyone on the streets knows a story of an addict in desperate condition who was turned away from Hooper and vowed to never return. Some do and get help, and some of those get sober. Some never do and die. One of my teachers - when I worked at Hooper in the 1990s - had been a client at Hooper 27 times before

he got well. Ramon Olguin later became clinical director of Hooper and passed on his sobriety experience to thousands of other anxious addicts and alcoholics. Ramon taught me that we can never give up.

Detox is a gateway to further treatment and sobriety. I just came back from a few days in Vancouver BC, a beautiful city but at the center are thousands of addicts laying out on the street in various stages of death. There's no detox. There appears to be no treatment or intervention. The tinfoil remains of fentanyl smoking litter the streets. In 2021 2700 people died in Vancouver BC of fentanyl. About 100 died in Portland. Vancouver is our future if we don't collectively provide a gateway to sobriety.

Thanks for voting AYE today to contract with Legacy / Unity to provide 8 or 9 additional detox beds. Of course Unity has been detoxing people since they opened, but it's good for the city to contribute to these ongoing costs.

Here's the next problem. We need a lot more of these beds - maybe 50, maybe 100. And when people are discharged they need a place to go, both for housing (which isn't available) and for outpatient or inpatient addiction treatment (which isn't available). Without these next necessary steps, the first step will too often end in frustration, and discouragement, and continued addiction by those you seek to help. We know how to make this work - we know what sufficient, effective treatment for addiction is, and how to provide it to anyone whenever they ask. All we need is the support of the city - along with the county and the state - to make it happen.

Thanks!

Jason Renaud

503-367-6128

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ATTACHED DOCUMENTS