

Business Ordinance Effective June 1

Council Passes License Bill

A business licensing ordinance amended to increase the annual fees was passed Monday night by the City Council. The amendment was proposed by Alderman Helen O'Connell. It makes the fees \$12 for a business employing up to five persons, \$48 for a business having 5 to 20 employees, \$96 for one employing 20 to 35 persons, and \$144 for a business having 36 or more employees. The ordinance will become effective June 1. As originally proposed by Alderman Ann Allen, the yearly fees would have been \$10 for up to five employees, \$25 for 5 to 20 employees, and \$50 for a business having more than 20 employees. The amended version was passed with a 6-4 vote. Voting against it were Mrs. John N. Hall, W. H. Pardis, Jack Throckmorton and Mrs. Allen. An ordinance requiring construction contractors to be licensed and bonded was given preliminary approval on a voice vote, with Mrs. Allen opposing it. City Engineer Lou Fontana said, "All it is is protection for the property owner." He said licensing would offer the city control of fly-by-night contracting operations, and required performance bonds would give customers recourse if work were not done properly. The proposal was disputed by two members of the audience. Roy Scharr said it would require additional city employees. Bruce Nelson, who said he represented the Great Falls Home Builders Association, disputed Fontana's claim that contractor performance bonds would protect customers. Nelson said bonding companies would not agree to long-term protective bonds for home owners. The final vote on the ordinance is scheduled for next Monday. The council approved Alderman Willard Hochhalter's motion that the city purchasing agent make an inventory of all city-owned vehicles and major equipment. The inventory will be given to the council's Ways and Means Committee and the department heads. Hochhalter stipulated that the departments should sell equipment not being used. Preliminary approval was given to an ordinance that would increase dog license and kennel fees. The final vote will be next Monday. Also scheduled for a final vote next Monday is a proposed ordinance that would make nepotism in city government a misdemeanor. It was approved without discussion Monday night. A motion by Mrs. Allen to cancel city-ordered improvements of sidewalks, curbs and gutters in the South Side was tabled for a week. Mrs. Allen said it would be a burden on poor people in the district to pay the assessments for the work. The city engineer noted that the city is liable for law suits resulting from injuries due to faulty sidewalks if the owners have not been notified they must fix them. City Atty. Donald Ostrem said he believed the council could not void its previous action of ordering the improvements. Ostrem noted that city codes say it is a misdemeanor to keep faulty sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

Council Crowd Size Diminishes

It was a case of "no news is good news" so far as audience participation went at Monday evening's Great Falls City Council meeting. After three weeks of overflow crowds, at times vociferous and inclined to take over the meeting, Monday saw just 90 spectators seated quietly and orderly in the council chambers. Mayor John J. McLaughlin during the week had issued a statement that only those that could be contained in the chambers would be allowed into the meeting, and that only those who had previously been granted time by one of the council members would be allowed to speak—for three minutes only. The mayor also had proposed that only 10 persons be allowed speaking time, but the council voted 6-4 Monday evening not to set a limit. Policemen posted at the east door of the Civic Center had instructions to bar further entries after 100 persons had been admitted, but at 8:30, a half hour after the meeting commenced, there still were empty seats in the chambers. Some citizens, however, expecting the same kind of turnout that made it necessary to hold meetings for two weeks in the Civic Center auditorium, had arrived early. Crowds of 1,000 and 700 were accommodated on April 24 and May 1. Mrs. G. A. Praest reported that she and her husband both had a "big supper" and left early in order to be at the Civic Center ahead of the crowd. They arrived at 5:15 p.m., left again at 5:20, came back a few minutes later and found a janitor locking up all doors. He had been instructed to keep the doors locked until policemen came to control the number of persons admitted to the building. The Praests live at 1533 9th St. S. At 6:45 p.m., 20 people had been admitted, and at 7:10 p.m., there were 50, but the pace slowed before the gavel announced the opening of the meeting. If it was true that city employees had been urged to pack the chamber, the attempt failed. City employees were not conspicuous in the audience. And the council's action to allow more than 10 audience speakers did not matter in the end. After the agenda was taken care of, there were only eight spectators who spoke—in 19 minutes. Their subjects ranged from alleged abuse of city-owned cars to a proposal that a citywide white-phant sale be held to raise money to help Great Falls out of its financial jam. At the beginning of the meeting, aldermen voted 6-4 to allow anybody in the audience to request that communications to the council be read aloud. The next item on the agenda was the state examiner's report. City Clerk Fred Hill said it contained 30 pages, and he asked, "Do you want it read?" Hill's voice was saved for the remainder of the meeting when sympathetic aldermen voted to simply refer the report to the Ways and Means Committee.

Bank Suit Testimony Concluded in One Day

After hearing witnesses for both sides, U.S. Dist. Judge Russell E. Smith Monday took under advisement a non-jury suit in which Merrel Cline of Grenora, N.D., asks \$71,537 from the First Westside National Bank of Great Falls for the bank's alleged failure to advance funds as allegedly promised for operation of Cline's plastics business. Witnesses for Cline, who was represented by E. F. Gianotti, included Ed Kennik, Dale Brown, Charles W. Smerker and Cline. Some depositions were admitted into the record. The plaintiff's presentation was completed at 11:45 a.m. Witnesses for the bank, represented by George McCabe, included Patricia Krause, A. A. Gehrke and Robert F. Carlson. Three checks and several items of correspondence were admitted as defense exhibits. Smith allowed both sides 10 days in which to file briefs concerning the case. Cline claimed he had a plastics manufacturing business on West Vaughn Road in 1966 and that he had a contract with Ditchmasters, Inc., to make plastic dams and headgates. Ditchmasters allegedly represented that all funds would be supplied by the bank and Cline said he went into debt for \$25,537 shortly after the start of work because the bank did not advance the money. Cline said he owed the amount to creditors who had advanced him materials and that he was forced out of business and unable to make a profit of \$50,000 on the contract. Another case on Monday's calendar, charging Wallace Gilbert Ray of Windsor, Calif., with impersonating a U.S. Army officer, was vacated. An indictment states that Ray got a loan of \$686 from Nyquist Finance Co. of Great Falls after stating he was an Army captain in charge of a Special Forces unit tracing the path of the Lewis & Clark expedition.

Open House, Concert Set For Schools

An open house is scheduled at North Junior High School and a spring concert is scheduled at Paris Gibson Junior High School tonight at 7:30 p.m. A style review will be part of the North Junior High open house at 7:30 p.m. There will be music programs in the school's new gymnasium and displays and demonstrations in both home economics and industrial arts department. Three choruses, two bands, an orchestra, stage band and triple trio will perform at Paris Gibson. An art exhibit will be featured in connection with the final PTA meeting of the year. Musical directors are Lyla Beck, Linda Fellows, Tom Larson and Wayne Peterson. The triple trio will include Marcia McLane at the piano, Lynn Eisenhauer assisting on guitar as well as Audrey, Wokich, Linda Carthel, Mary Lou Rossmiller, Sharmar Tokerud, Diana Sponheim, Rhonda Kanning, Cindy Fairley and Lynn Dickey. Parents of pupils at North Junior High will have an opportunity to inspect the school's cafeteria where a revised school lunch program recently has been instituted after a week-long student boycott.

J. B. Peretti Dies at 65

John B. Peretti, 65, 1417 13th St. S., was pronounced dead on arrival at a local hospital Monday afternoon after he was stricken at the warehouse he had owned for several years. Funeral services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Chapel of Chimes with Euclid Lodge No. 58 AF&AM officiating. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery. Peretti was employed at the Devine & Asselstine Warehouse for 25 years until 1948, when he and his sons purchased the North Central Wholesale Sales and Warehouse, which they operated until 1970. Born Aug. 13, 1906, in British Columbia, Peretti came to Great Falls as a child with his parents. An avid sports fan, he had worked in support of American Legion baseball and Little League. According to his family, he had never missed a football game since Memorial Stadium was constructed. He also was a member of the Euclid Masonic Lodge, the Great Falls Consistory and Algeria Shrine. He is survived by the widow, the former Mildred E. Robinson whom he married June 29, 1929 in Great Falls. Other survivors include sons, James W. and J. Howard, both of Great Falls, one brother, Joseph, Great Falls, and six grandchildren.

Malpractice Suit Jury Selection Continues

Selection of jurors to hear a malpractice damage suit before Tom Keefe, Seattle. The clinic and doctors are represented by John Stephenson and Alex Blewett of Jardine, Stephenson, Blewett and Weaver. The original action, against five doctors, was filed in Silver Bow County District Court after a June 1963 mine accident in Butte. Stenberg reportedly settled with the Anaconda Co. for \$40,000 and filed the suit in 1964. The case was transferred to Cascade County and Dist. Judge Paul G. Hatfield who ordered the claims tried as one case before one jury. After Hatfield was disqualified in January of 1971, Dist. Judge R. J. Nelson accepted jurisdiction and ordered the litigation separated in three cases. Nelson's separation of the case into three cases was appealed to the Montana State Supreme Court by Stenberg which upheld Nelson's decision. Nelson then was disqualified and McKinnon accepted jurisdiction. His court is in Lewistown. The other two parts of the action, against Dr. Jack Harper of Helena and Dr. N. C. Rosson of Butte, have been reported settled.

Forgery Trial Guides To Be Settled Today

Preliminary instructions are to be settled at 2 this afternoon by Dist. Judge R. J. Nelson in preparation for the forgery-conspiracy trial of LeRoy Williams Jr., 39, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rita Hernandez, 33, Montreal, Canada, and Betty Lee Thompson, 34, Compton Calif. A fourth defendant, Cathy Louise Thomas, 23, Detroit, Mich., disqualified Nelson and Dist. Judge Truman G. Bradford accepted jurisdiction in her case separated from the other three. All four defendants are being held under bail of \$20,000 each and are charged with two counts of forgery and one of conspiracy. Under the first forgery charge, the four are charged with a \$4,863 check purportedly drawn to and endorsed by Margaret Paltis on an Abilene, Texas, bank. The second check was written on a Chicago, Ill., bank and purported to be signed by agents of a Chicago, Ill., insurance company to Robert N. Gordon and purportedly endorsed by Erlinda Gordon, his wife.

GF Youth Drowns in California

Word has been received here of the drowning death in Sacramento, Calif., of Michael John Proxell, 22, son of Mrs. Avis McAlister of Great Falls. Proxell, who was known here as Mickey McAlister, attended local schools before entering the Army in 1969. The Anaconda native was a veteran of 15 months duty in Vietnam. He was drowned when the boat in which he was a passenger overturned in Folsom Lake. In addition to his mother, survivors include two brothers, Jack, Sacramento, and Jim McAlister, (Great Falls); a sister, Mrs. Rennie (Glenda) Gibson, Great Falls, and uncles and aunts in Butte, California and Michigan. Funeral services will be announced when the body is recovered.

Where's the Fire?

1:17 p.m.—House fire at 504 Division Road. 1:50 p.m.—316 4th St. SW, standby for Sheriff's Department. 3:10 p.m.—McAuley Nursing Home, 1009 3rd Ave. N., alarm malfunction. 5:08 p.m.—Car fire at Fourth Street and Central Avenue. 8:57 p.m.—Smoke smell at Old Congregational Church, at 821 3rd Ave. N.



MALMSTROM HEADQUARTERS — Work has resumed after winter weather interrupted construction of a new headquarters building at Malmstrom Air Force Base. The \$750,000 building is to be completed in August. The two-story concrete-steel structure will have a daylight basement and provide 12,400 square feet of floor space on each level. The building is located directly across the street from the present headquarters. A Minuteman missile model is seen at the right. (Staff Photo)

Delegates Speak to Kiwanis Two Say New Constitution More Amendable

One of the important provisions of the proposed Montana Constitution provides citizens the opportunity to amend it, Constitutional Convention delegate Margaret Warden told the Great Falls Kiwanis Club Monday. In the old Constitution, Mrs. Warden reminded, a referendum for amendment had to be proposed by the legislature, and after the people voted on it, the governor could veto it. The proposed document provides for a referendum to be held upon petition signed by five percent of qualified electors in the state. Asked about the Highway Revenue Non-diversion provision, Mrs. Warden said the Montana Highway Commission practically thumbed its nose at the Constitution Convention. Revenue and Finance Chairman Sterling Rigg three times asked the Highway Commission head to appear before committee but each time had no reply. "The Highway Commission spends almost half the state's entire budget and yet has no controls. This biennium its budget is about \$219 million. A study by Sen. William Bertsche in 1967 showed the Commission spent almost \$3 million in administration. "So we made it responsible for enforcement of highway safety, driver education and administrative collection costs as well as construction and maintenance of highways, roads and bridges and tourist promotion, with a three-fifths vote of both bodies of the legislature required for any other revenue appropriation. We made it difficult to direct highway money for other than road purposes." Delegate Robert Noble said the principal change made by the education committee on which he served was creation of the two boards. The committee listened to 175 citizens and more than 75 per cent favored this, he noted. Most convention delegates felt it would mean better service and better control of monies. He pointed out there will be an effort to equalize school taxes throughout the state. The controversial aid-to-non-public schools matter was left as it is, with provision the only such aid will be that from federal funds specially earmarked for non-public education. Asked about the comparative cost of government under the proposed Constitution, Mrs. Warden said it would increase only slightly. However, if sessions are held every year and up to 60 days, but not necessarily 60 days, with about the same number of legislators as now it would be more expensive. But a unicameral legislature even meeting every year would cost less, she said, because there would be one-third fewer legislators.

Spinti Tells FGF Vo-Tech Needs Funds, Facilities

Vo-tech programs and problems were outlined to the Forward Great Falls steering committee Monday by Carl Spinti, assistant director of vocational technical education for School Dist. 1. The main problem facing the Great Falls vo-tech center is the lack of facilities, complicated by the lack of funds, Spinti pointed out. He referred to the attorney general's ruling in December which prevents local school districts from floating bond issues for vo-tech programs. According to the ruling, the district, one of five in the state authorized as a vo-tech center, will have to operate on existing funds until the next session of the legislature. As of fall 1971, students from 39 Montana counties were enrolled in the local vo-tech program, Spinti pointed out, although the majority of the students are from Great Falls and Cascade County. "The majority of the school population now is female," Spinti continued, "because we don't have space for teaching the men's trades, such as auto mechanics." He discussed how the vo-tech program is dovetailed into other programs such as WIN, the federally-sponsored Work Incentive Program. "Originally, the students enrolled under WIN were segregated into classes of their own," Spinti explained. "Then we began to realize that such a system enabled the students to reinforce their own attitudes and magnify their problems, so we have integrated the classes. This seems to be working much better," he said. The program is an excellent means of removing people from the welfare rolls, according to John Tierney, chairman of the FGF vo-tech task force.

School Board Approves New Science Equipment

In a special meeting Monday, School Dist. 1 trustees awarded bids totaling \$34,207 to two companies for supply of elementary school science experiment kits to complement new textbooks. Cenco, Inc., Chicago, was awarded a bid of \$32,191 for supplying 207 of the kits for grades 1-6 and Harcourt-Brace-Jovanich of San Francisco was awarded \$2,016 for supplying 21 kindergarten kits. A committee of teachers and administrators tested the kits produced by several manufacturers before making a recommendation to the trustees. About one-half of the cost of the kits will be reimbursed to the district under the National Defense Education Act provided the units are ordered, received and paid for by the start of the next fiscal year July 1.

I See:

- BIRTHS: A daughter to Mrs. Richard French, 826 4th Ave. S. A son to Mrs. Frankie Muehlstein, 1101 7th Ave. N. A son to Mrs. Lance Olson, 1300 14th Ave. S. A son to Mrs. Harry Wilcox, Route 1 South.
- MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS: William Mathias Towainen Jr., 27, Great Falls, and Jean Ann Neidlinger, 30, Dowagiac, Mich. Rickey Syrell Vest, 19, Malmstrom Air Force Base, and Linda Darlene Voss, 20, Great Falls. Thomas William Groener, 21, and Janet Louise Montgomery, 19, both of Great Falls.
- DIVORCE ASKED: Melody Eder from Earl Eder.
- DEATHS: Thomas Arthur Hopkins, 84, Sun River. Andrew A. Anderson, 76, 1615 13th Ave. S. Mrs. Sidney (Lillian J.) Mellow, 52, Butte. John B. Peretti, 65, 1417 13th St. S.

A. Anderson Dies at 76

Andrew A. Anderson, 76, 1615 13th Ave. S., retired farmer and lifelong resident of Cascade County, died Monday in a local nursing home where he had lived nine months. Funeral services will be Thursday at 1:30 at Croxford & Sons chapel. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery. Anderson, born in Belt Jan. 22, 1896, son of the late Gunder Andersons, attended schools and business college in Great Falls. He farmed near Cascade many years and later in the Eden area. He had been a member of the Cascade County Agriculture Committee and was an active member of Farmers Union. Also he had served on schools boards in the Cascade and Eden districts. Survivors include daughters, Leola Mittelstadt of Spokane and Marella Hoyle of Sunnydale, Calif.; sisters, Nancy Murphy of Canyon Creek and Carrie Johnson of Helena; a brother, Grant Johnson of Great Falls, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

O'Connor Funeral Home 2425 8th Avenue North Telephone 453-7257

TAFOLLA—Funeral services for Edward W. Tafolla, 57, 2015 Central Ave. will be held from O'Connors this (Tuesday) morning at 10:45 and at St. Ann Cathedral at 11:00. Burial with military honors in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

MELLOW—Funeral services for Mrs. Lillian Jean Mellow, 52, Butte, will be held at the Sunrise Presbyterian Church Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. with Rev. Lincoln Anderson officiating. Burial in Mount Moriah Cemetery, Butte at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday. Memorials to the Sun River Cemetery are preferred by the family.

THE GEORGE CO. Funeral Directors Since 1902 453-4404 Country Club Addition

DELGER—Funeral services for Gordon Delger will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 at the L.D.S. Church in Sun River Valley with the Rev. Vert Strong officiating. Interment in the Sun River Cemetery with Masonic rites under direction of Fairied Lodge No. 127 AF&AM. The body will lie in state in the Relief Society Room from 12:45 until service time. Memorials to the Sun River Methodist Church are preferred.

Chapel of Chimes FUNERAL HOME 1219 13th Street South Phone 452-3131

PERETTI—Funeral services for John B. Peretti, 65, 1417 13th St. S., will be held from the Chapel of Chimes Wednesday afternoon at 2, with the Masonic Lodge, Euclid No. 58 AF&AM in charge of services. Interment will be in the Highland Cemetery. All viewing must be prior to service time.

CROXFORD & SONS Funeral Directors 1307 Central • 453-0315

LOVE—Funeral services for Laurence L. Love, 35, of 3021 9th Ave. S., will be held today (Tuesday) at 11 a.m. in Croxford's Rose Room with Rev. David K. Johnson officiating. Burial in Highland Cemetery.

HOPKINS—Funeral services for Thomas A. Hopkins, 84, of Sun River, will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. in Croxford's Rose Room with Rev. Vert Strong officiating. Burial in Highland Cemetery. Memorials are preferred to the Sun River Community Methodist Church.

ANDERSON—Funeral services for Andrew Anderson, 76, of 1615 13th Ave. S., will be held Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in Croxford's Rose Room with burial in Highland Cemetery.