

Gov. Martin Turns Earth For Capitol

Governor Martin Starts Capitol Job

First Spadeful Tossed Onto
Newspaper Battered by Story
Asserting Governor's Oppo-
sition to Statehouse Site.

Salem, June 8. - (UP) - With a \$1.50 shovel, Governor Martin broke ground today for Oregon's new \$2,500,000 state capitol building.

The governor turned the first sod at 10:20 a. m. and tossed it on a newspaper whose open page, ironically, carried a banner line: "Martin opposed to old site for new building; six plans listed."

The paper was dated October 21, 1935, and carried news of the first day's proceedings of the special session of the legislature, called to construct a statehouse to replace the 59-year-old building which had been destroyed by fire.

George Dunstford, superintendent of capitol buildings and grounds, who brought the paper from a store-room, said he had not chosen that day's issue on purpose. The governor signed the shovel, and it will be saved for display in the new building along with the first bit of ground.

Large Crowd Gathers

Three hundred persons gathered in a circle around the site of one of three test pits which are the capitol architects will dig to determine the foundations of the new buildings.

Francis Kealy, New York architect associated with Trowbridge & Livingston in designing the capitol, handed the shovel to J. A. McLean, Eugene, chairman of the capitol reconstruction commission, and Mc-



From left—H. H. Olinger, Salem member of the capitol commission; Morris Whitehouse, Portland architect, who will supervise construction of the building; Governor Martin; J. A. McLean, Eugene, chairman of the capitol commission; Francis Kealy, New York architect, designer of new building.

Dam Channel

Conference Set

Rain Loiters

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Martin Turns First Earth for Capitol

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Lean put it in the governor's hands.

The shovel, the governor said, had gone through the capitol fire and was a suitable one to use for the historic occasion.

In the crowd watching the ceremony was H. S. Belle, 81, of Salem, who saw the cornerstone of the old building laid.

"With the start of work on this building," the governor said, "we have reached another milestone. We were all distressed at the loss of the old capitol. It was a very artistic building, and a great tribute to the vision of the pioneers who built it.

Leads Commission

"The capitol commission has done well. It is fortunate that we have one of the great architectural firms of the world to design this building. It will stand here as a symbol of the love of law and order, our institutions, the majesty of power, government and unity.

"I am glad the commission had the vision and courage to put the capitol here, including extra ground, and not be bound by reaction. We had different views, but we centered on this one and I thoroughly join with them.

"Now we must have a complete capitol, purchase four blocks of land north of this site and build a new office building and state library. While we may regret the growing of officialdom, it can't be denied. We're going to grow in this state; don't worry about that."

Most Beautiful in U. S.

Architect Keally said the new capitol would be the most beautiful

In the United States, a conception to meet modern demands. He will leave this week for the East stopping in Seattle to see officials of the West Coast Lumbermen's association about Oregon wood, and then viewing the new North Dakota capitol at Bismarck.

In Washington, D. C., he will confer with federal architects to make Salem's new postoffice building harmonize with the capitol.

Morris Whitehouse and Walter Church, Portland architects associated in the job, who will handle affairs for the Eastern men while they are in New York, were present for the ground-breaking.

Secretary of State Scoll, State Treasurer Holman, Chief Justice Campbell of the supreme court, Capitol Commissioners Dalton, Olinger and Marshall, Secretary Bassett, Attorney Moody were other state officials in the audience.
