

# Governor Protests Suit to Halt Razing of Old Capitol's Walls

SALEM, May 9 (Special)—Sponsors of the suit filed here yesterday to restrain the board of control from tearing down the walls of the burned capitol building were branded a group of "kickers" by Governor Martin today.

"The responsibility for any additional costs saddled onto the taxpayers because of this litigation should be placed squarely on the shoulders of these men," Governor Martin said.

Governor Martin said it already had been necessary to employ two engineers as a result of the suit and that other expenses would be entailed.

## Walls Held Dangerous

The governor's remarks followed approval by the board of control of a report of Morris H. Whitehouse and Harrison A. Whitney, Portland architects, that the walls were dangerous and should be torn down. A similar report previously was received from the state planning commission.

Secretary of State Snell declared that while he did not propose to evade any responsibility he thought it would be best for the board to defer action until the court had handed down its decision.

"Final arguments in this suit will be heard Saturday," Snell said, "and

we will then know where we are at." This was agreeable to Governor Martin and State Treasurer Holman.

## Holman Queries Farmers

Holman, in replying to protests of farmers that a new capitol should not cost more than \$750,000, said:

"Let us ask our farmer friends what they would think of building a dairy barn in accordance with plans prepared 60 years ago."

Two Portland engineers were examining the walls of the burned capitol today and their report will be filed with the board of control early tomorrow.

Officials said this report, together with those of the state planning commission and Portland architects, would be used by Attorney-General Van Winkle in defending the litigation.

In case Judge Lewelling holds against the plaintiffs, razing of the walls will get under way Monday.

## HIGHWAY CREW BEGINS

MARSHFIELD, May 9 (Special)

—Work was begun today by the Stuart Construction company of Medford on widening and resurfacing North Broadway, from Golden avenue to Johnson under auspices of the state highway department.