

COOLER  
Cloudy, much cooler tonight,  
low in 40s. Sunny, quite cool  
Saturday, high upper 50s.  
Details on Page 22.

# Oshkosh Daily Northwestern

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## \$9 Million Oshkosh Project Slated

### City's Leaders Hail Plan

### 16-Acre Site Is Along Fox

#### Development to Include Two Department Stores

Pictures on Page 26

The master plan for a huge, multi-million dollar redevelopment project which will bring new vigor and vitality to the downtown Oshkosh area was announced today by the developer, the Miles Kimball Company of this city.

Expected to cost a total of \$9 million, Park Plaza, as the development is to be known, will be constructed on a 16-acre site bounded by Jackson and Commerce Streets, Pearl Avenue and the Fox River. It includes the Cook & Brown Company property along the river.

No federal, state or local aids or tax monies are involved, Oshkosh business, civic and governmental leaders were told this morning at the Pioneer Hotel-Marina during a meeting at which the Park Plaza project was explained.

"Because of the great number of properties that will be added to municipal tax rolls at no cost to the city," the developer has emphasized, "this first step toward the revitalization of downtown Oshkosh will tend to lower the tax rate for all Oshkosh citizens."

#### Planned Year and Half

The internationally known Los Angeles architect-engineering firm of Welton Becket Associates has been working with the Miles Kimball Company for the past year and a half.

Park Plaza will include two major department stores, what will be Oshkosh's largest supermarket and a large variety store.

Clearing of the site, which will involve razing some 20 existing buildings, is scheduled to begin this summer. The major department stores will be constructed first, starting next year. The first stores are expected to open in 1968.

One of the two department stores will contain 90,000 square feet of area, with sufficient room for a future addition of 45,000 square feet, and the other store will be 75,000 square feet in area.

#### More Than 30 Businesses

Scheduled for construction later are a motel of at least 32 units, a restaurant and coffee shop, an 800-seat motion picture theater for first run Hollywood and foreign films, a three-story office building atop the theater, boat slips, and a landscaped, covered central mall which will be cooled in summer and heated in winter.

When completed, Park Plaza will provide shoppers from throughout this part of Wisconsin with the services of more than 30 kinds of business establishments. It will also have created approximately 200 new jobs with an annual payroll of about \$1 million.

Not a shopping center, the proposed development has been designed as an integral part of the downtown business district and has wide-ranging implications for the city's continuing economic growth.

#### Tracks to Disappear

Park Plaza will mean, for another thing, the disappearance of the railroad tracks on Cape Avenue between Broad and Jackson Streets, thus eliminating one major crossing on North Main Street.

Eliminated from Jackson Street will be four railroad tracks. The only track that will remain on Jackson is the Soo Line main line.

The developer said that assembly of the site of Park Plaza has been made possible through the close cooperation of the presidents of the three railroad companies concerned — Ben Heinemann of the Chicago & North Western, L. H. Murray of the Soo Line and William Quinn of the Milwaukee Road.

All three men, it was stated, have displayed a real interest in Oshkosh and the redevelopment of its downtown business area.

Park Plaza will incorporate a totally new concept in parking. In that top levels of the two major stores will be used for parking. In all, there will be parking space for 1,570 cars, of which 1,000 will be in three three-level ramps. The ramps will feature what

The announcement of plans for a multi-million dollar downtown redevelopment project, to be known as Park Plaza, was hailed today by Oshkosh governmental, business and civic leaders as a forward step of great importance to the city's business and economic growth.

The developer, the Miles Kimball Company of Oshkosh, presented the Park Plaza program at a meeting held this morning at the Pioneer Hotel-Marina.

#### "Example Of Confidence"

City Manager Angus Crawford declared that the proposed development along the Fox River and downtown Oshkosh "provides an example of the confidence on the part of the people and industry of Oshkosh."

"This development," he said, "will provide the much needed 'shot in the arm' to begin the complete revitalization of the central business district."

"The city's willingness and the cooperation of the downtown businessmen in starting a program to provide the much needed offstreet parking will go hand in glove with this new development," Crawford added. "We are just beginning to see the strong awakening of the latent potential resting within the heart of Oshkosh."

#### "Giant Step Forward"

M. Edward Kelly, executive vice president of the Oshkosh Area Chamber of Commerce, observed that the announcement of the Park Plaza development "represents the most significant commercial development in the history of Oshkosh and a giant step forward in establishing Oshkosh as the regional retail center in the Fox Valley area."

Kelly said the Park Plaza project is particularly significant for four reasons:

1. It will anchor the central business district and create more business for all the firms in the area.
2. It will eliminate a large amount of the decay and blight that has plagued so many downtown areas across the country. This will result in an increase in tax revenues for the city and a break for the homeowners.
3. It will make Oshkosh a more desirable place in which to live, thus making the job of

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ARCHITECT'S SKETCH OF ATTRACTIVE, LANDSCAPED MALL FOR PARK PLAZA DEVELOPMENT

## Pollution Fight Clears Senate

### Proposal Unscathed by Changes; Branch Bank Measure Defeated

MADISON (AP) — The \$200 million war on water pollution proposed by Republican Gov. Warren P. Knowles has cleared the Senate after a heavy political skirmish.

But a branch banking bill with a long history of controversy and no political ties became a casualty Thursday.

Democrats lambasted the pollution abatement measure as a ploy to parlay into re-election. Republicans branded the remarks "shameful" and libelous.

When the verbal firing was over, the proposal passed unscathed by major amendments on a roll call vote of 19-13. Democrats predicted a resumption of battle in the Assembly, where their party holds a majority.

The final vote saw Democratic Sens. Henry Dorman of Racine and Carl Thompson of

Stoughton join the supporting GOP majority. The votes were offset by Republican Sens. Chester Dempsey of Hartland and William Draheim of Neenah who joined the Democratic minority.

The 18-13 ballot rejecting an Assembly-approved repeal of Wisconsin's ban on branch banking cut across party lines and showed the measure had gained no additional supporters since its initial failure in October.

A constitutional provision made a two-thirds majority, or 22 votes, the minimum for passage.

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### Student Protest Terminated Fast

MADISON (AP) — Not to be outdone by university students, 25 pupils staged their own sit-in Thursday outside of Van Hise Junior High in Madison.

The youngsters, some carrying signs, were protesting a school rule requiring "proper shoes." They sat down outside the building until police patrolmen arrived. The protest hastily ended.

## Ky And Rival Meet At Chu Lai

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP) — The leader of rebellious Vietnamese Army forces in Hue, Lt. Gen. Nguyen Chanh Thi, was flown under a U.S. guarantee of safety today to a secret meeting with Premier Nguyen Cao Ky.

Ky flew from Saigon to meet his bitter rival as U.S. planes evacuated 45 Americans and other foreign civilians from Hue and the Buddhist stronghold's out of the city with 1,000 loyal troops to a fortified headquarters five miles southeast of Hue.

Ky and Thi, whom the premier had fired as commander of the army's 1st Corps on March 10, met at the U.S. 1st Marine Division's headquarters at Chu Lai, about 85 miles south of Hue.

#### Precipitated Crisis

Ky's dismissal of Thi, who controlled South Viet Nam's five northern provinces, precipitated the country's present political crisis. Politically minded Buddhist leaders seized on the unrest the ouster generated in the north and converted it into a movement demanding the military government's replacement by a civilian regime.

U.S. officials had tried before without success to get Ky and Thi together in hopes some agreement could be reached which might lead to an easing of the political crisis.

A U.S. plane brought Thi from Hue to Chu Lai to meet Ky, then flew him back to Hue after the meeting.

There was no immediate indication of what transpired between the two generals.

"All we know was it was a

Continued on Page 12, Col. 7

## Airport Runway Work Likely to Cost \$170,500

Updating of Winnebago County Airport's east-west runway to carry the heavier loads of DC-9 jet aircraft would cost an estimated \$170,500, the county board's aviation committee learned Thursday night.

Included in that cost would be a bituminous overlay of varying thickness to the runway itself and a similar overlay to the parallel taxiway.

The figures were presented by engineers from the State Aeronautics Commission, Joseph Abernathy, chief engineer, Robert Roche, engineer, and Edward Rothe of Donahue Engineering, Sheboygan, the firm designing the plans for a new north-south runway.

The committee voted to alter its present plan to put a new top on 1,800 feet of the east-west runway for a new plan to overlay only the center 50-foot strip of the 1,800 feet.

This is to protect the quarter-century old surface for several months until the proposed new overlay for the entire 5,280-foot length of the runway can be done.

The committee also planned to initiate a request for state aid on the project which, if granted, would assist the county to the extent of \$30,000.

The \$170,500 price tag was viewed as a maximum cost. A figure of \$120,000 was given as a minimum. The difference depends upon the price of materials which varies with the time of year.

The object of strengthening the east-west runway is to bring

it up to standards for planes weighing in the vicinity of 90,000 pounds.

The DC-9 jet planes which North Central Airlines plans to use beginning next April would be weighing in that area.

A time-table for the east-west project was discussed. The county board would be asked at its June 21 meeting to petition the state for aid. A hearing would be held several weeks later to establish the necessity for the project, and after a finding is made, bids would be taken. The project could be done this year.

The possibility of federal aid was discussed, but Abernathy

said it is questionable if any would be granted for the runway overlay, and if federal aid were requested, it would be a year before construction could be started.

One purpose of hurrying with the east-west overlay is to assure that it would be ready for jet planes by next April if the new north-south runway is not ready.

The committee also heard a report on this week's Washington meeting with Federal Aviation Agency officials given by Richard Thern, member of the governor's aviation advisory committee.

## Okay Pay Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House has given overwhelming approval to a bill that would increase the minimum wage to \$1.60 an hour by 1969 and cover another 7.2 million workers. The measure goes now to the Senate where supporters predict it may be expanded further.

The 303-93 House vote Thursday sending the bill to the Senate marked a substantial victory for President Johnson and the AFL-CIO, which hasn't fared too well this year with its other legislative proposals.

In the Senate, the bill's supporters said today they hope to get Labor Committee approval next month. The committee completed its public hearings on the legislation last year.

Supporters said they were

Continued on Page 12, Col. 6

### U.S. Gives Up Guyana Air Base

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI) — The United States Thursday relinquished all claims to Atkinson Field, one of the air bases Britain traded for overage American destroyers in 1940. The 99-year lease of the 17,000 acres was formally declared null and void in simultaneous declarations here and in Washington.

### HOT BREW

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The Coast Guard said Thursday a fire it extinguished aboard a 38-foot fishing boat was started when a crewman accidentally poured gasoline, instead of water, into his coffee pot.

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