

Burnett Supervisors Approve Plans For New County Government Center, 13-6

Architect Dennis D'Jock of the firm of Ozolins-D'Jock, Eau Claire, presented preliminary plans for a new Burnett County Government Center complex when he appeared at the February 24 session of the County Board of Supervisors.

The plans presented were the results of many weeks of study and consultation with the building committee. Assisting in presentation of the plan were other staff members of the firm, Jerry Strader and Walter Hestekin.

The proposed complex is being planned for location at the site which is part of the Burnett County Airport property north of Siren, along highway 35. It will be served by the present entrance and exit drives to the airport and will be protected on the north side by a windbreak of standing pines.

The building will be three stories in height, with a basement under the section containing the jail, but none under the two-story office area closest to the highway. Tests have shown that groundwater levels will be five feet below the basement floor.

The jail will be located on the third floor, with an elevator serving that area and easily accessible to the ground floor entrance and sheriff's offices on the first floor. The building will be public health and social service offices, conference rooms, and the office of the personnel director. These offices will be mostly in the wing closest to the highway, and to the right of the main entrance, served by an elevator.

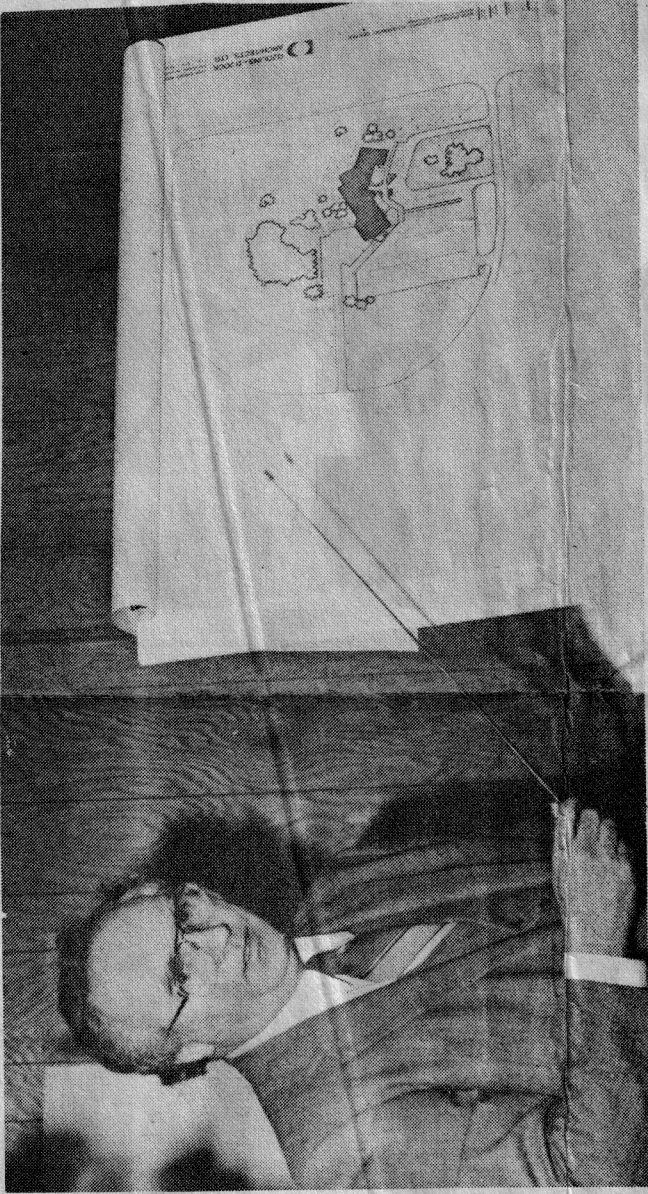
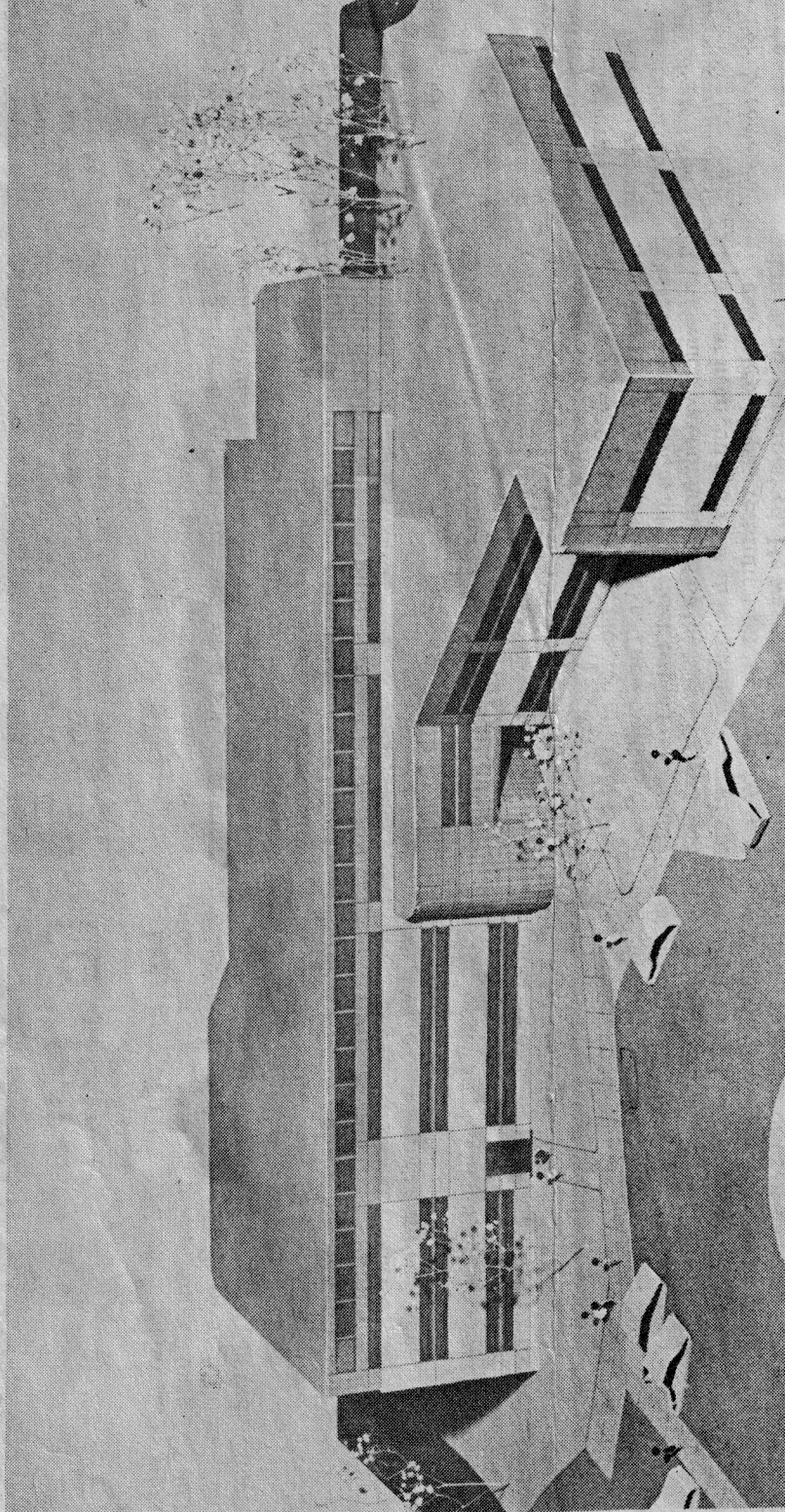
dry and conference rooms. The space on the third floor will be 11,000 square feet. Each of the other floors will provide 17,000 square feet.

It was pointed out that two rows of windows on the south side of the building will be large for solar gain, while only minimum size windows will be on the north side. The top row of windows will lead into a "hot box" for a heat reclamation system. It will be reversed in summer for a cooling system.

The building will be of concrete with metal studs, of total fireproof construction. The flat roof will have a one-fourth inch pitch toward its drain. Some questions were raised concerning safety, but reassurance was given that the structure itself would not be burnable and that only its contents could cause any fire danger.

Also questioned was the capability of a sewer system in the area. Engineer Walter Hestekin, however, indicated that there should be no problem, according to soil tests that have been taken.

Other questions came from Tom Hastings and Paul Heinrich, representatives of the P.A.S.S. group. They were critical of the building design, lamenting the fact that more energy saving designs had not been explored.



DENNIS D'JOCK OF THE ARCHITECTURAL FIRM OF Ozolins-D'Jock, Eau Claire, explains the sketch presented at the February session of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors. Shown is the location of the new government center to be constructed this summer on county property at the Siren airport. The building proposed will be accessible via the present roadway to the airport, with windbreaks left to the north and parking area provided southwest of the complex.

They reported that they have attended most of the building committee sessions, had suggested an architect with special expertise in thermal design, and offered their help in selecting effective means of conserving energy.

They charged that the design being presented was a "sellout of Burnett County," also noting that "the median age of the board indicates that they won't have to worry about the effect of the construction in 20 years."

Other controversy arose over the fact that plans being prepared will allow space for rental by other government offices, possibly the Land Conservation and ASCS offices. Lavern Heath, who built an office building in Siren for rental to those government offices, appeared to offer objection to the county being in competition with private business for space rental to government agencies.

Committee members responded by noting that inquiry had been received concerning possible space when original government center plans were proposed. It was said that advantages of achieving a one-top Ag Center had been the apparent goal. However, it was also noted that the same space could be available to other agencies or for future expansion if the two agencies choose to remain where they are.

Virgil Florhaug was introduced as the construction manager for the project. Other discussion relating to the construction related to microfilm storage, water supplies, ventilation and provision for air conditioning as an alternate in the plans. The insulation incorporated into the building plans was said to be an R value of 40, well above the requirement for public buildings.

The motion to accept the building plans as presented and call for bids was presented by Charles Hoover and seconded by Gerald Anderson. A roll call vote was requested on the motion, and it passed, 13-6.

Voting in opposition to the move were Carmen Hoeppner, Mary Ann Erickson, Raymond L. Johnson, James McNally, Pharis Stower and Clare Melin. Absent from the session were Lowell Nelson and LeRoy Wells. Mrs. Hoeppner indicated that her vote was in opposition because "my constituency is not in favor of building a new government center."

Larry Shaughnessy of the bonding firm selected to handle financial arrangements for the center then appeared at the session. He reported that interest rates have dropped so that it's possible that a rate of about 9 percent may be bid for the \$3.6 million project. The schedule of repayment would probably call for an interest payment of \$324,000 the first year, with principal payments beginning in 1986, to be completed by the year 2000.

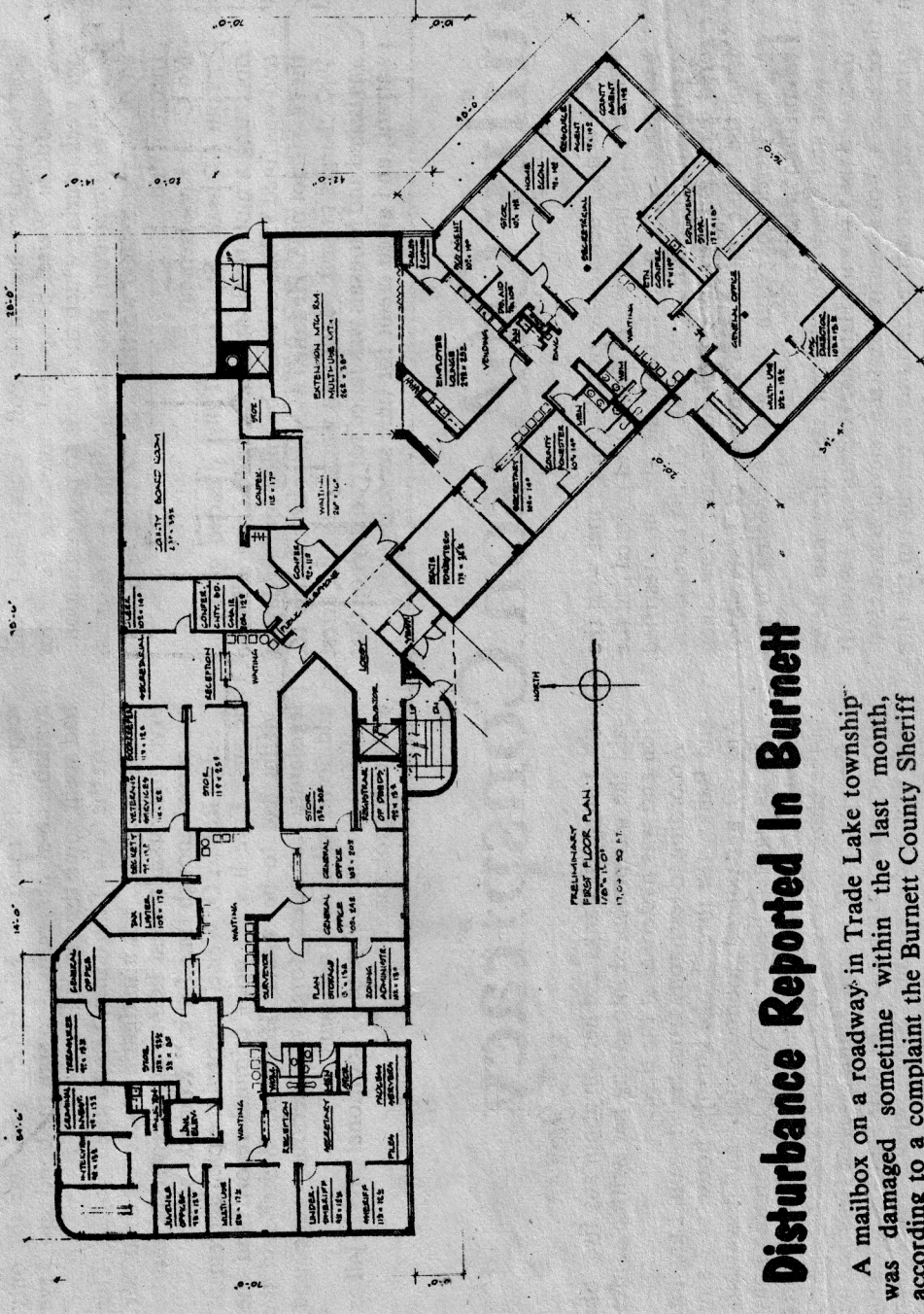
The motion to file a resolution authorizing the issuance of general obligation building bonds, with taxes levied for their repayment was made by Supervisor Anderson and seconded by Hoover.

Another resolution, authorizing the finance committee to advertise for the sale of bonds, and the hiring of The Shaughnessy Company as consultants, was made by Lee Rigby and seconded by Joseph Durand.

Once again, the vote was in favor, 13-6, with the same members in opposition.

In other related action, the board passed a resolution to authorize planning and application for funding for an Emergency Operating Center in the new government complex. This would be an area set up to handle a major disaster, for communications and other emergency needs. Matching funds are said to be available for this purpose.

As the meeting closed, Senator James Harsdorf appeared at the meeting to provide an update on issues now being considered in the state legislature. He urged support for property tax credits and indicated that he would work to assure aids for county fairs and fire departments.

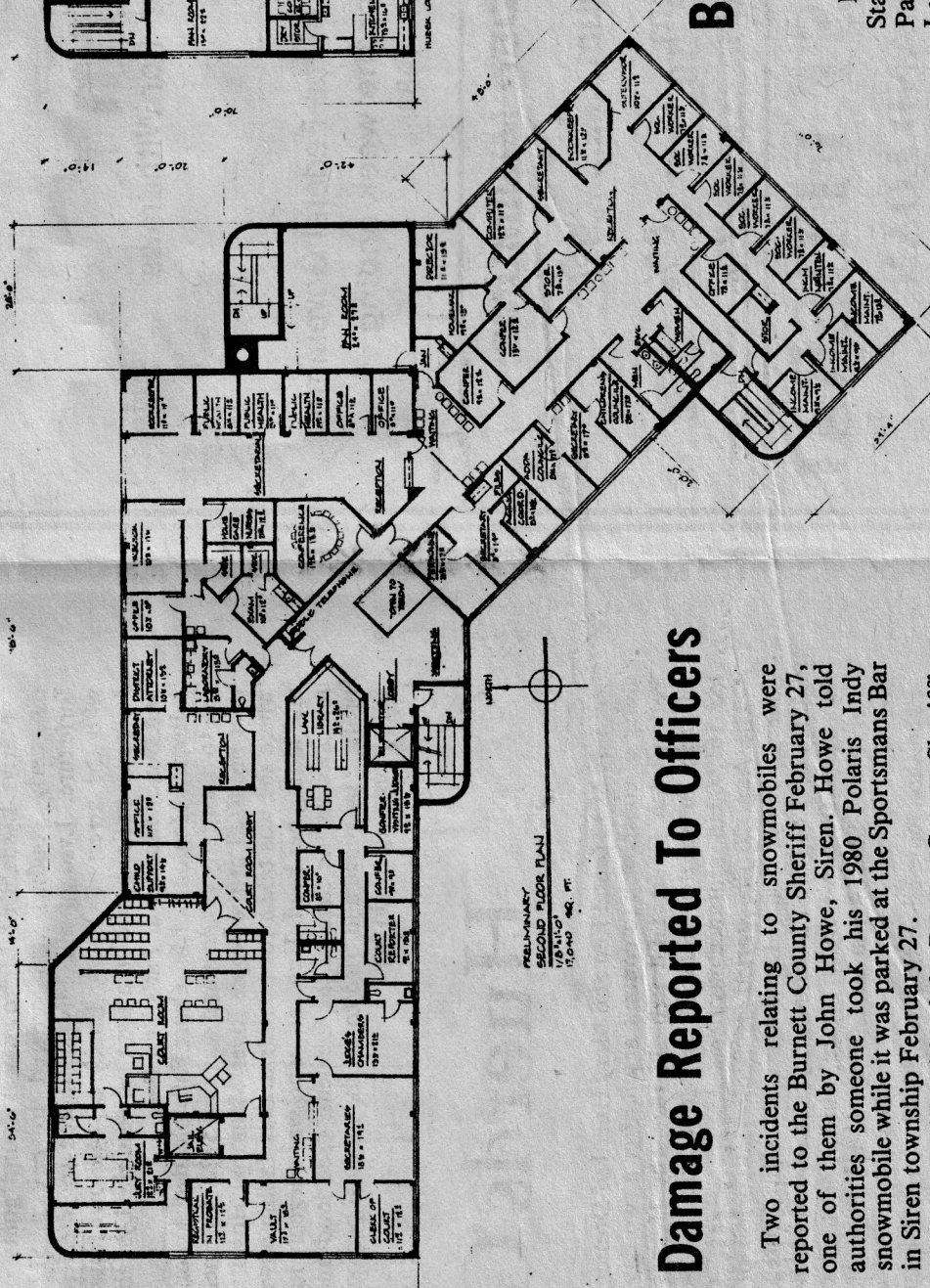


Disturbance Reported In Burnett

A mailbox on a roadway in Trade Lake township was damaged sometime within the last month, according to a complaint the Burnett County Sheriff received February 26 from Kathryn Peterson, Rt. 1, Luck. The box was removed from its post.

Jim Lodermeier made a similar complaint on behalf of Hank Troost, Webb Lake, February 26. Troost's box near Loon Lake in Jackson township was said to have been damaged criminally the previous night.

A disturbance at Wild River Outfitters, Grantsburg, was the cause for a complaint the sheriff received February 27. The sheriff was told a vehicle with several young people in it had stopped at his store, which is in Grantsburg township, and harassed the owner's son. They also fooled around with the microwave oven and urinated in the sink.

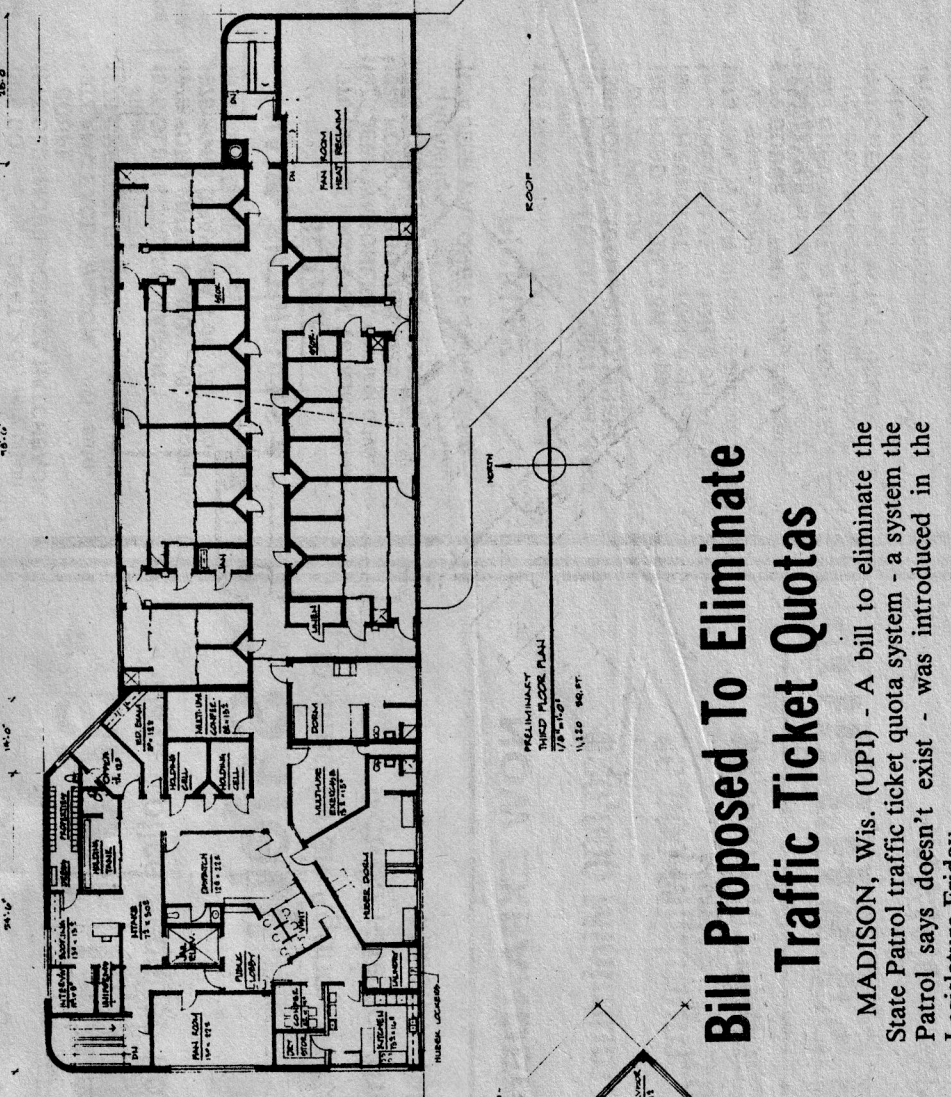


Damage Reported To Officers

Two incidents relating to snowmobiles were reported to the Burnett County Sheriff February 27, one of them by John Howe, Siren. Howe told authorities someone took his 1980 Polaris Indy snowmobile while it was parked at the Sportsmans Bar in Siren township February 27.

When David Keith of the Burnett County Sheriff's Department went to investigate, he found the machine behind the Crossroads Bar in Meenon township. He was told it had been driven there by a 25-year-old man. The damage that had been done to it was estimated at \$279.

Roger Fontaine made the other complaint on behalf of Arthur LaRock, Minneapolis, Minn. It was learned a snowmobile had been started up on Webb Lake and its throttle stuck. It took off and hit some kind of a platform and then became airborne. When it hit the basement of the LaRock home, it put a three-foot by five-foot hole in the wall.



Bill Proposed To Eliminate Traffic Ticket Quotas

MADISON, Wis. (UPI) - A bill to eliminate the State Patrol traffic ticket quota system - a system the Patrol says doesn't exist - was introduced in the Legislature Friday.

Rep. Donald Stitt, R-Port Washington, said the legislation bans use of arrests, convictions or fines collected by a traffic officer as a criterion for evaluating the officer's performance.

"I don't believe an officer's performance level should be judged on how many motorists he can catch for defective tail lights," Stitt said. "This type of mandatory system does little to promote public confidence in our law enforcement agencies."

Transportation Secretary Designate Lowell Jackson denied a quota system exists. Stitt said he did not believe Jackson was correct.

Self-Jackson

By Darlene Asp

Nancy and Amy Osborn visited Ronald Springer and Genevieve Osborn of Hayward Sunday. Corroy Bill and Esther Corroy accompanied a group of senior citizens on a trip to Texas. The Corroys visited Esther's sister, Mrs. Francis (Anna) Smith, and other relatives while in Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Corroy are parents of a baby boy, Sean Pierce, born Feb. 25. He weighed 7 pounds four ounces and was 19 inches long. Bill and Esther Corroy are the paternal grandparents. Clarence Asp of Hayward visited his brother, Harvey and family, Saturday and Sunday. Sunday afternoon he went to Silver Lake, Minn. to visit his sister and brother-in-law.