

Estimate Board Acts on Fair Projects, Other Items

Whitestone X-Way, New Flushing Span Ok

The Board of Estimate yesterday approved contracts to widen the Whitestone parkway to an eight-lane expressway and build a new Flushing River bridge, to advance plans for the 1964-65 World's Fair and to repave Queens boulevard.

Among other action affecting North Queens, the board approved:

- Reconstruction of two Whitestone ball fields.
- The issuance of capital notes and serial bonds for

groundwork plans for a second academic building at Queens College.

- Acquisition of land for a school-Parks Department playground for Public School 206, Rego Park.
- Demolition plans to make way for the proposed Flushing police station at 37th avenue and Union street.

Contracts to widen Whitestone parkway into an eight-lane expressway and construct the new bridge across the Flushing River at a cost of \$15,761,250 are part of a plan to cut down on perennial rush hour traffic jams.

The plans also include reconstruction of two baseball fields on the west side of the expressway south of 15th avenue.

The present four-lane parkway, built in 1939 for passenger cars only, will be expanded over a length of about two miles from the Whitestone Bridge approach to the Flushing River and is expected to accommodate truck traffic to and from the Bronx.

The projected roadways will be separated by a landscaped mall of varying width. The 30-foot wide easterly service road will be partially resurfaced while a new westerly service road, 34-feet wide, also will be constructed. A 15-foot sidewalk will be built adjacent to it.

Access and egress roads and three highway bridges are included in the plans.

The new four-lane bridge across the Flushing River will be west of the existing Whitestone Parkway Bridge and will handle traffic from the southbound roadway linking it with Northern boulevard. The present four-lane bridge will be converted to one-way traffic and will be used for northbound vehicles.

IT IS expected that the additional roadways and bridges coupled with construction of the Van Wyck expressway extension and new approaches to the Grand Central parkway at Northern boulevard, Corona, will put an end to what is considered by many as the "borough's biggest bottleneck."

For years, daily rush hour traffic has been at a crawl or stopped completely at times on Northern boulevard near the Flushing Bay Boat Basin. The present highway and turnoff construction in the area, speeded up to coincide with the opening of the 1964 World's Fair, has further complicated the motorists' plight despite a complex of detours to ease the problem.

Estimated cost of the expressway construction was put at \$9,516,650; the bridge at \$6,066,000 and traffic signals and delineators at \$178,600. Included in the Interstate System of highways, the new facilities will be paid for by the state with federal highway aid.

fair closes, the building will house a Park Department garage, park offices and public facilities.

The pools and fountains will cost about \$2,685,000. The Fair Corporation will pay \$107,400 to supervise the contract.

The plans call for six pools or lagoons and a central fountain structure, to be located on an east-west central walkway axis.

The Fair Corporation, will also donate and install sculpture by Paulanship, distinguished American sculptor, for the central fountain. The plans also provide for special lighting effects on the lagoons.

'Air Rights' Apartments Ruled Out

The Board of Estimate yesterday approved an amendment to the city zoning code which prohibits construction of apartment houses over railroad tracks in residential areas.

It also limits the type of construction over transit right-of-way in manufacturing and commercial districts.

The approved amendment limits the use of air space to stations and other items of use to transit facilities. For other projects, it requires the sponsor to obtain a special permit from the City Planning Commission after a public hearing.

THE EXISTING 24-foot wide two-lane roadways in each direction will be converted to a single 48 foot wide four-lane northbound expressway. Four more lanes, also totaling 48 feet in width, will be constructed to the west of the present parkway and will carry traffic southbound.

WORLD'S FAIR JOBS
Plans for the 1964-65 World's Fair moved rapidly ahead when the board approved contracts and appropriated funds for an entrance building and for park pools and fountains.

These projects will be permanent improvements that will remain after the fair closes.

The board appropriated \$76,000 to construct the entrance building at the park end of the permanent pedestrian overpass now being built from the Willets Point boulevard station of the Flushing IRT line. The World's Fair Corporation will pay \$125,400 for the project.

THE PLANS provide for a U-shaped building containing offices, public rest rooms and other public facilities. When the

THE FIGHT to block apartment developments over transit rights-of-way started in Kew Gardens when a developer applied for a zoning variance to build an apartment project over the Long Island Railroad.

It later spread to Bayside when another request for a variance was made for an office building over the LIRR tracks.

Both projects were vigorously opposed by the Queens Federation of Civic Councils which asked the Planning Commission for the amendment to the zoning code.

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Writing Expert

Quiet Man Helps Convict Criminals

Sidney Goldblatt does not go around axing illegal stills or blasting nasty mobsters. Yet, the 47-year-old Treasury agent has been responsible for the capture of many criminals. He has just received a special citation for helping convict Philadelphia

racketeer Abe Minker. The Treasury men had been trying to get Minker behind bars since World War II.

Goldblatt is one of two federal handwriting and fingerprinting experts between Maine and Washington. The other is his assistant in the Alcohol and Tax Division.

fingerprinting and graphology. When his boss retired I took over his position, and I've been doing this type of work ever since."

"LAB WORK demands complete impartiality," Goldblatt explained. "While the law has made the lab man



SIDNEY GOLDBLATT
a witness," he still remains a man of science, and has to be careful not to let the emotional factors of a case affect his judgement.

Goldblatt has testified for both sides of the law. As long as there is no conflict with government interests, he has Washington's permission to practice privately, and has acted as witness for the defense as well as the prosecution.

"I take pride in seeing known criminals who flout the law brought to justice," he said. "I also feel good when I can prevent someone innocent from being convicted. It's satisfying," he added.

Friendly and soft spoken, he lives at 111-27 124th street, South Ozone Park, with his wife, Charlotte, and 10-year-old son, James.

LIKE an earlier expert (Sherlock Holmes), Goldblatt plays the violin. "I love music," he confided. "If I hadn't gone into criminology, music would have been my next choice as a career."

Always on call as a witness, Goldblatt doesn't have much time to practice his violin. When not traveling or testifying he's active as vice-president of the International Association for Investigation, a group made up of handwriting and fingerprinting experts from all over the country.

If the past is my indication of the future, Goldblatt will be around protecting the public's interests for a long time to come. According to his chief, F. Virgil Welsh, assistant regional commissioner of the Alcohol and Tax Division, "He's one of the best men we've got."

WHEN COMPLETED the building is to house 2,500 students in 90 classrooms. There will be 90 staff offices and eight others for departmental chairmen, secretaries, administrative offices for general use and the school of general studies, language laboratories, art studios, student lounges, faculty lounge.

Among other items included will be facilities for television transmission from the present Music and Speech Building studio.

PUBLIC SCHOOL 206
The board approved acquisition of a site adjacent to public School 206, Rego Park, for a school-Park Department playground.

The site is on the southside of the school and is bounded by the west side of 98th street, the east side of 97th street and 62nd road.

In approving the taking of this property, the board said the present playground of 16,000 square feet, "is inadequate because the adjoining development 'Park City' has been completed and in addition the surrounding area solidly built-up with apartment houses."

The new property encompasses 44,000 square feet.

NEW POLICE STATION
THE BOARD OF authorized demolition of buildings on a

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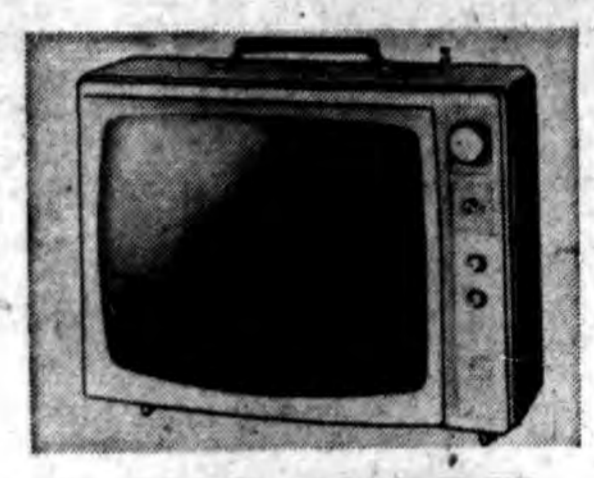
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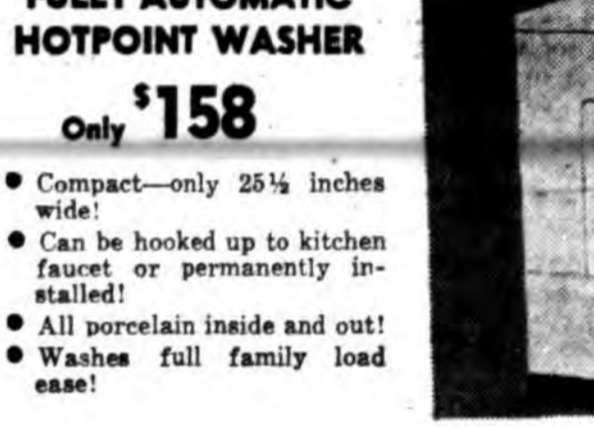
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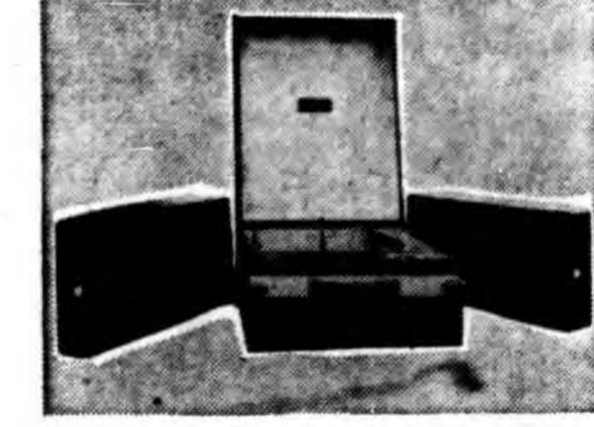
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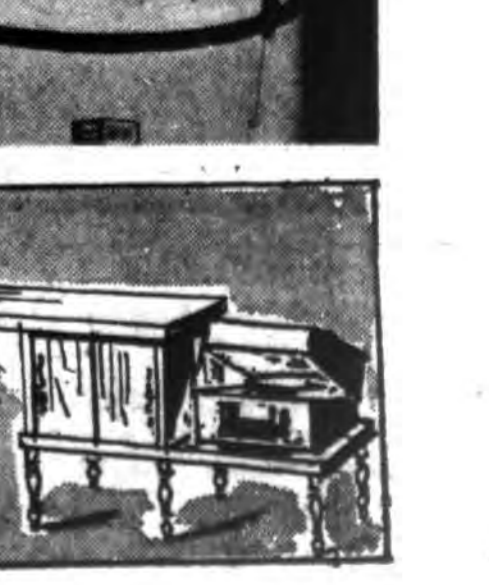
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(Continued on Page 18)