Builders put finishing touches on downtown Portland high-rises

By RICHARD GODFREY
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

High-rise downtown construction work shows promise for the late 1970s, but 1971 may not see as much activity as expected.

The year, however, will see the completion of the $120-million, 42-story steel skeleton for First National Bank of Oregon, and the opening of several new high-rise office buildings.

This year tenants moved into the two other high-rise buildings, the Bank of California on SW Broadway and the Georgia-Pacific Building on SW 5th Avenue, the tallest in the city, at the time it was topped out - but soon to be run up.

New buses, uniforms due for Tri-Met '71

By STAN FEDERMAN
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New buses, new driver uniforms, a new downtown service office, and the possible start of a satellite station system.

These are what the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (Tri-Met) has in store for 1971.

Delivery of some 75 of an estimated 210 new buses (including fifty 45-passenger and twenty-five 33-passenger) is expected to begin in March. The balance of the 210 is included in a Tri-Met grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation used to modernize aging buses acquired in the purchase of the Rose City Transit Co. and Blue Bus Lines. All new buses will be equipped with air pollution control kits and will be air-conditioned.

Route and schedule revisions will await the arrival of the new buses and results of Tri-County and Portland transportation surveys now under way. The first of these can be expected by mid-1971. A new administrative office in downtown Portland is planned for early 1971. Selection of a leased site is expected soon.

It will issue honored citizen and student cards, handle ticket sales, lost and found department, and provide information on schedules, routes and fares.

New driver uniforms are expected to be available when the first of the new buses begins to arrive in March.