

Port Orford News

Youth Employment Office

Hours—Monday through Friday, 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Applications and job listings may be made at the grade school office or phone 332-2712.

Vol. 10 No. 15

Port Orford, Curry County, Oregon

Price Ten Cents

Thursday, July 13, 1967

Fire Season Looks Severe

The past two fire seasons in Oregon have been severe and it appears that the state is headed into another, judging from current conditions.

"We are barely into July and already fire danger is alarmingly high," says Ted Maul, assistant state forester in charge of protection. "In normal years we don't get conditions such as this until mid-August."

In support of this statement, weather data from the various protection districts reveals that burning indexes are running into high ratings at numerous weather stations.

He said that on a burning index scale ranging from zero to 100, Salem last Friday had a burning index of 77, while Eugene was measured at 71. Other points showed readings of Roseburg at 77, with 76 at Grants Pass and 76 at Medford. These readings are in the high fire danger, bordering the extreme which begins at 80. Maul has indicated that should the burning index reach 80, positive action will be taken to control both industrial operations and public access of forested areas.

Another factor adding to the situation is a notable lack of moisture since June 13. Rainfall is critically important in maintaining fuel moisture, a significant factor in fire control. For Western Oregon stations in particular, significant departures from averages are noted.

The only thing that would change the picture would be a period of general rain. And that is highly unlikely at this time of the year, Maul said. Currently the present push of marine air is easing fire danger slightly but the loss of fuel moisture continues, only at a slower pace. The only consolation so far is the fact that less fires have occurred to date than for the comparable period last year. Lightning has accounted for 107 fires this year as opposed to 220 last year, while man-caused blazes add up to 117 against 254 last year. Early drying along a period of fire weather last year explains this partially. Perhaps too, people are mindful of the disastrous Oxbow Ridge fire which burned some 43,000 acres last year, Maul said.

Horses Have Right-Of-Way

In a bulletin from the Curry County Sheriff's office, motorists are being reminded of an Oregon State law pertaining to the passing of horses or other animals on highways and roads.

According to Sheriff Allen Boice, the law states that the operator of a motor vehicle should stop and remain stationary as long as is reasonable when a person riding, leading or driving a horse or other animal in the opposite direction signals by raising his hand.

Boice said that the law further states that if the vehicle and the animal are traveling in the same direction, reasonable caution should be used when passing the animal.

The law requires that the driver must stop the motor of his vehicle if the animal appears badly frightened or if he is signaled to stop.



THIS EARLY morning scene is typical of view that greets visitors to Battle Rock State Park, making it a famous stop for photographing, beachcombing or just gazing. A light blanket of haze floats around the base of Humburg Mt. while a low tide enhances beauty of rock formations near beach.

Eastern Star Installation Held

In the east was a big white basket with a white ribbon bow filled with Esther Reid daisies and in the west a basket was filled with pink gladioli and white daisies to provide the setting for the installation of the officers of Curry Chapter 135, Order of Eastern Star, Saturday in the Port Orford Masonic Hall.

Installing officers were: past matron, Margie Cook, Bandon; marshal, Patsy McGarvey; chaplain, Tronie Morris; organist, Lucille Barkow of Langlois, member of Coquille chapter.

Officers installed were: worthy matron, Gertrude Adolphson; worthy patron, Henry Adolphson; associate matron, Grace Blagden; associate patron, Calvin Smith; secretary, Hazel McKenzie; associate conductress, Kristaloe Littrell; chaplain, Lorna Pruitt; organist, Frances Smith; Esther, Betty Bigelow; Martha, Helen Slocum; Electa, Maud Weir; warder, Tressa Gorsuch; sentinel, Cecil Bush; Bible bearers, Sylvia Honeywell and Tronie Morris; guest book, Viola Spencer; outgoing matron, Cecile Paris; outgoing patron, Harold McGarvey. The five who were unable to be installed at this time were: treasurer, Letha Bush; conductress, Betty Tope; marshal, Lucille Ellis; Adah, Margaret Hofness, and Ruth, Pauline Clarke.

Mrs. Frances Smith sang "How Great Thou Art" and "The Good Lord Bless and Keep You." Special officers present were Cecile Paris, grand committee member of the Home Endowment Fund of the Grand Chapter of Oregon; Virgie Crowder, grand committee member of Estarl Committee of the Grand Chapter; Patsy McGarvey, grand representative of Oklahoma in Oregon; Frances and Robert Nonemak-

er, worthy matron and patron of Brookings; Myrtle Remy and Carl Hale, matron and patron of Gold Beach; Mathilda Gibbs and Ivan Cook, worthy matron and patron of Bandon, and Maxine Van Burger, worthy matron of Coquille.

Esther Ward of North Bend installed Adolphson; it was his 15th time to be installed worthy patron and she had installed him the first time in 1921.

Weekly Benefits To Increase

SALEM--The Department of Employment next week will notify some 40,000 claimants from among some 72,000 valid unemployment insurance claims of their recalculated weekly benefit amounts which is a result of the 1967 legislature's action to increase the maximum insurance payment from \$44 per week to \$49. The claimants will receive their notices of increase, if any, through their local claims offices, the Department of Employment said.

The law, which went into effect this week after signature by the Governor, also lowers employer tax schedules beginning Jan. 1, 1968. Under the new schedules employer taxes for unemployment insurance will vary from 0.8% to 2.7% of employees' first \$3,600 of earnings. The more favorably tax rate schedule will result in an average tax rate of 1.4% during 1968 as compared to a 1.9% average tax rate during 1967. Rates of employers vary, depending on the firm's experience rating, which is based on turnover and the resulting charges to their accounts for payment of unemployment insurance benefits.

Clearance On In Oxbow Burn

With what may well rival the most extensive stream clearance ever attempted, the Oregon Game Commission and the Bureau of Land Management embarked recently on a mammoth clean-up of streams in the Smith River system in the Oxbow Burn.

Financed by LRM with stream clearance being carried out by the Game Commission, log jam removal began last week on Clabber Creek, one of the principal spawning tributaries for salmon, steelhead and trout.

Recent stream surveys in the burn indicate stream clearance will continue for a number of years. According to reports, Smith River itself is fairly clean, but almost every tributary stream in the system is choked with burned-down timber and debris. In addition, burned logs are piled like jackstraws on the steep hillsides. This debris will be a continuing problem in the drainage as it slips into streambeds during heavy rains and high water periods.

Fishery biologists of the Game Commission advised anglers that the burn will probably affect fish populations for some time to come and that they should not expect top angling until the watershed again stabilizes.

Spokesmen said that most streams in the area are now exposed to full sunlight, which will undoubtedly result in higher summer water temperatures. Rapid runoff will also result in extremes in high and low water flows. Winter storms will also cause heavy silt loads, which will be washed from the hillsides, which will undoubtedly affect reproduction of salmonids. Furthermore, now log jams will continue to form each winter which may block off important spawning areas.

Stream clearance in this important fish-producing area will proceed as rapidly as financing and manpower will allow, according to the report.

Siskiyou West To Have Exhibit

The board of directors of the Siskiyou West Foundation held a meeting, Friday, June 28, in Port Orford city hall and decided to host the Coos-Curry Pioneer and Historical Association and have an exhibit at the annual picnic Sunday, July 23.

Mrs. Mary Bates and Mrs. Ruth Moyer are in charge of the exhibit and would appreciate any artifacts or old relics for use in the exhibit. The Foundation also voted to have a display at the Curry County Fair.

Married In Reno

Bernadine Bergstrom, daughter of Mrs. Bertha Bergstrom, Port Orford, and Leonard Nelson, of Coos Bay, were married in Reno June 30.

The new Mrs. Nelson teaches school and her husband is an employee of Weyerhaeuser Co. The young couple are living in Coos Bay.

Deputy In Langlois

Lester A. Knight assumed duties as resident deputy for northern Curry county the first of July. He has been a patrolman in Myrtle Point for the past several years.

Knight and his family reside in Langlois. He may be contacted there at phone 631, or by contacting the sheriff's office in Gold Beach.

Timber Sale To Be Studied

Portland--A meeting, probably in Washington, D. C., will be held between officials of the United States Forest Service and the Small Business Administration to determine the conditions of a proposed sale of almost \$1 million in timber in the Copper Mountain area of north Curry county, Senator Wayne Morse, D-Ore., reported over the weekend.

Forest Service and SBA representatives met July 6, in Grants Pass but were unable to reach agreement on the sale, Morse said.

The Copper Mountain sale involves eight timber settings, totalling 24.2 million board feet of timber with an estimated value of \$965,000.

The timber was to have been sold June 28, at public bid, but the sale was withdrawn when Morse asked the Forest Service to review the conditions of the sale.

Morse asked the Forest Service to reconsider whether the timber should be sold as a "set aside" under terms of the Small Business Act.

Morse was asked to make the request by a small business timber user in the area.

Under the Small Business Act, small business timber users are assured of being able to bid on and purchase a fair proportionate share of available federal timber.

Timber sales are designated as "set aside" only with the concurrence of the federal timber agency involved and the Small Business Administration.

Because no agreement was reached at the Grants Pass meeting between local officials, the matter is expected to be pursued at a higher administrative level.

Youth Employment Needs Job Listings

The local youth employment office is in dire need of job openings for local youth, office manager Pam Mayea said this week. She said the office has applications on file from young people seeking work as baby sitters, yard workers, farm workers, odd jobs, and others.

The office, located in the grade school, is open from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m., Monday through Friday. The phone number is 332-2712.

RESERVE TO MEET

The Port Orford unit of the Curry county sheriff's reserve will hold its regular meeting next Monday night, 8 p. m., in the city hall.

Council Session Is Routine

Once more the city council has reversed itself concerning the sewer assessments and voted not to impose the one cent per square foot charge. This action followed a motion in June to impose the assessment for the first sewer phase and to set up the second, third and fourth districts. The change was announced at Tuesday night's 50 minute session, what may have been the shortest meeting on record.

The decision to forego the assessment collection, however, will not interfere with plans to continue with construction of

the additional sewer phases, which includes the remainder of the Hamlet area, Geer Addition and a good portion of the area west of the highway.

It was noted that the main trunk lines for Phase I are now in and service lines and testing are being completed prior to cleaning and resurfacing streets

before starting new construction. A change in pipe has also been approved, from the vitrified clay now in use to cement asbestos, for future construction. This will mean an increase in cost of between \$1,200 to \$1,500. Mayor Frank St. Clair announced that a special sewer meeting would be called soon to bring the council up to date on present and planned sewer progress. New city hall plans will also be discussed.

The city voted to accept a donation of a 50 x 100 foot lot from the Adolph Windmayers. The property is located east of the present fire hall on Agate Beach road.

Police chief Curt Weir was given permission to attend a three-day police school in August with expenses of \$60 granted.

Bills in the amount of \$3,759.25 were approved for payment.

Rogue River Fish Die

Exceptionally heavy die-off of adult salmon and small salmon and steelhead fry has been noted in Rogue River recently. Hundreds of dead and dying four to six inch fish, have been reported from Paradise Bar to the mouth, according to County Commissioner H. E. Timeus.

"Some claim higher water temperatures are responsible. I strongly suspect pollution from valley partially to blame; perhaps a combination of both," Timeus said, adding that he has repeatedly asked that water analysis be made to determine pollution, if any, in lower river. I have stood totally and completely alone on the matter and there is a complete and total lack of action on part of all agencies contacted to date, the commissioner concluded.

Queen Chosen

Mrs. Edith Cox Wilson was chosen queen at the Coos-Curry Pioneer and Historical Association meeting held at the museum in North Bend Saturday, July 8.

The annual picnic which will be held in Port Orford Sunday, July 23, in the multipurpose room of the grade school, will be followed by a complete program and the crowning of the queen.

The program of events will be listed in all the papers next week. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SENIOR CITIZENS

The Senior Citizens will hold their next meeting on Monday, July 17. A potluck dinner will be served at 6 p. m., followed by an evening of bingo. Each one is to bring an inexpensive gift to be used as a prize.

Maine leads all states in growing potatoes.



JOHN LOSHBAUGH, Pacific high school student, will tour Europe from the dates July 14, to August 4. The cities he will tour are Madrid, Rome, Munich, Budapest, Berlin, Copenhagen, Oslo, London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and back to London. He will travel from Portland to New York on July 14, and fly to Madrid for the tour. Arriving back in New York August 4, he will board a plane for Portland the same day. Loshbaugh will be traveling with the Oregon Future Farmers of America Goodwill People-to-People delegation. The delegation leader and host this year is Mr. Max Smith and his wife of Harrisburg. There are 26 students making the trip, 23 boys and three girls.

4th District Exports Told

Congressman John Dellenback's Washington office released figures compiled by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture showing the 4th Congressional District's agricultural exports in fiscal year 1965-66.

Agricultural exports brought \$3.7 million in income to farmers of the 4th District during that time.

The figures showed that fruit accounted for \$1.8 million of the exports. Vegetables accounted for \$500,000, and wheat accounted for \$400,000 of the exports. Other leading exports for the district were animal products, feed grains and poultry products.

Agricultural export shares attributed to Congressional Districts were based on agricultural export shares reported by the USDA Economic Research Service in November, 1966. Results of a nationwide study of Congressional district reveals the importance to the U. S. farmers of the agricultural exports of 1965-66. The total U. S. stake in exports of agricultural products were valued at a record \$6.7 billion.

Chamber Slates Special Meeting

The chamber of commerce has slated a special noon meeting at Orford's Cedar Room next Monday to hear reports and act on the planned "fly-in" at the Cape Blanco airport in early August.

The fly-in has been under study by a committee appointed at the last meeting by president Dick Hadley to determine if the project was feasible.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Birthday wishes go out this week to Katherine Seils, Esther Calhoun, Randy Munson, Greg Mayea, John Davis, Laurie Alexander and Jimmie Peterson.

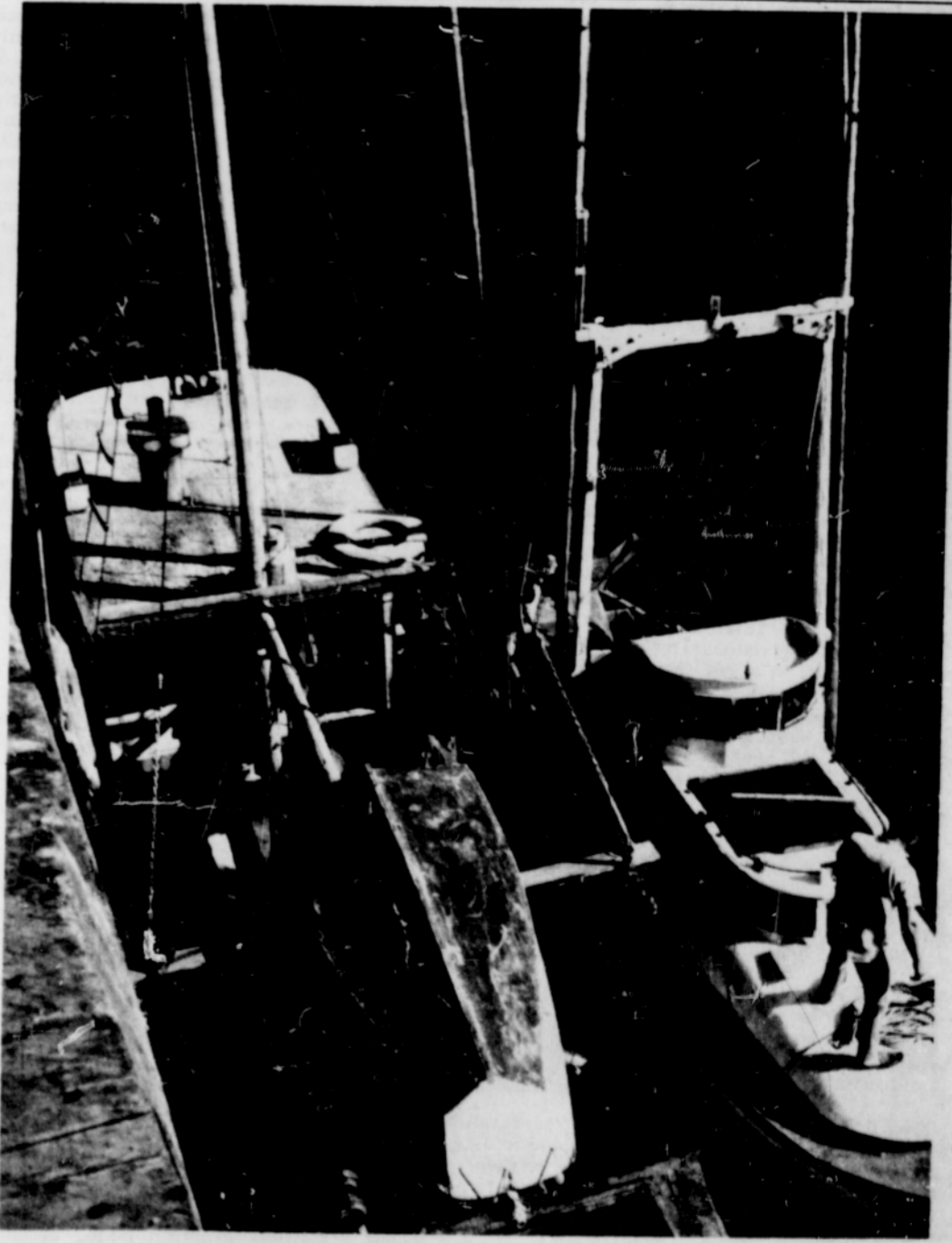
COMING NEXT WEEK

Marge Barrett of Brookings writes of a salmon study now underway in all county streams... see it next week in the News.



PILES of sawdust dot the rodeo area of the Curry County Fairgrounds as work continues to prepare the grounds for "The Biggest Show in Curry County". The sawdust is mixed with sand and ground material to provide a "cushion" for rodeo performers who take a spill. Rodeo performances will begin at 2 p. m., August 12 and 13.

—Dan's Photography, Brookings



WAITING for fuel, two "outside" boats are tied to tandem to the local dock after unloading salmon catch. A variety of size and shaped boats use local facilities while fishing away from home ports.