

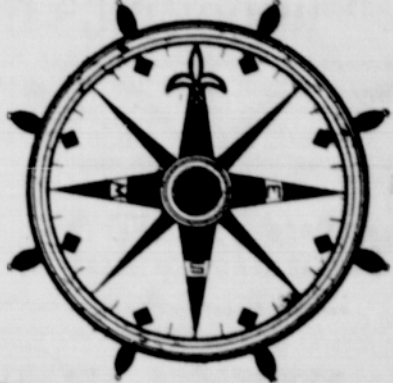
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Brookings-Harbor Pilot

Always For A More Progressive Brookings-Harbor Area!



Two, No. Thirty-five.

BROOKINGS, CURRY COUNTY, OREGON

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1947

Indian Lands Due Study

Veteran Administration Officer Confers With Local Vet Groups

Meeting of local and Gold veterans was held, last evening, at the home of Whirry, where Floyd K. of the state department veterans' affairs outlined the plan whereby Curry county join the other twenty-one of Oregon in having a veterans' service officer.

Mr. past state commander D. A. V., state that his about the state had con- sidered him that there was a dis- crepancy for bringing home to veteran and his kin the nec- essity of more active participa- tion in veterans' organization.

At this, said Dover, resulted in interested parties either entirely ignorant of what was coming, under the law, and in backing up those who are working for the vet- erans and their dependants.

"For instance," said Dover, "the veterans population is about 800 men and women dis- charged from the armed forces. The number possibly one third less carry cards in a veterans organization and per- haps half of those never attend meetings to keep themselves informed."

"Of course," continued Dover, "my job. I see mostly the side of the picture and I think you that in far the most part is the most pathetic. But

the most of them could have been much relieved, at their beginning, had the victims been better informed. This informa- tion is not gained by hearsay, but comes from the service officers available in every ex-servicemen's organization, many of whom carry a heavy load with- out compensation, or else from the ministrations of a paid and highly trained person who is available because organized vet- erans have had the foresight and mass to make these services ready and willing. I used to become very impatient with the laxity of the average veterans' family until I found that, once their load had been lifted be- cause to facilities secured and maintained for them by veter- ans' groups, they became the most active in these affairs."

Local veterans attending this meeting indicated that they will be quite active between now and the time the county budget board meet next March, in furthering the project of having a trained man in this county to look after veterans' affairs. A veteran having several years' experience in this work, a resident of Gold Beach, has said he was willing to take over the job. His salary will be paid mostly by the county but there are additional state funds available. With such a program as outlined, the group

who attended this session were optimistic that hard and intel- ligent work in the intedim will increase the number of veterans' groups in the county.

Box Social Planned

Plans are being completed by the committee in charge of the forthcoming Croft Lily Growers Association box social, to be held Nov. 6. None could be reached by the Pilot for particulars, at the time the paper went to press.

This is the first in a series of affairs to raise finances to carry out the 1948 Lily Blossom Week in this area, an event which did much last summer, in the first attempt.

BURRELLS MOVE TO NEW BANDON HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Burrell, one of the partners in the Harbor Bulb Farm, are moving this week to Bandon, where they have acquired a cranberry bog, near highway 101, about three miles south of that city.

Mr. Burrell in telling the Pil- ot of the move, stated he would spend much of his time here, next year, as he still has a lily planting. He is currently pres- ident of Croft Lily Growers As- sociation, and Mrs. Burrell is treasurer of P. T. A.

With Ruling Expected By Early 1948 Matter Goes To Washington, D. C.,

PORTLAND—(Special to the Pilot)—Testimony that may cost the United States considerably more than \$1 a word was con- cluded at the federal courthouse Saturday when Commissioner Richard H. Akers of the U. S. court of claims recessed hear- ings concerning 1855 value of 2,770,000 acres of land illegally taken from four Oregon coastal Indian tribes.

The hearings, which began Monday morning, were the re- sult of a U. S. supreme court decision handed down November 25, 1946, declaring the Indians have the right to recover 1855 value of the land taken from them by settlers after they were moved to Siletz reservation through a treaty never ratified by the United States Senate.

More than three score docu- ments—old maps, ancient treaties, certified copies of re- cords, deeds and old newspapers—were introduced by the In- dians' attorneys to bolster their claim the land was worth more than \$13,000,000 in 1855. The governments exhibits were fewer—about a dozen—but of the same general nature.

INTEREST BIGGER ITEM

The Indians were represented

by Everett Sanders and Louis A. Gravelle, both Washington D. C. attorneys, and E. L. Craw- ford, Salem, and John Mullen, North Bend, Clifford R. Stearns was government council.

The claim of the Indians, while sizable, becomes small compared with the interest this claim will bear from 1855. They are expected to ask 6 per cent a year from that date. Decisions in similar cases have allowed 5 per cent.

The interest is not compounded so a 6 per cent interest would re- turn them \$84,500,000; a 5 per cent rate, \$72,800,000. From this would be deducted any funds the federal government has used for the well-being of the tribes involved since 1855.

The government witnesses called made a variety of esti- mates of the 1855 value, ranging from a flat zero up to as high as 50c an acre. Figured at 5% interest, this would bring the Indians \$7,756,000.

Court To Set Amount

The court of claims will set the amount of the payment the Indians will receive on the basis of testimony taken at the hear- ing here. The decision is expected early in 1948 after the govern- ment's general accounting office has completed its computations of the amount of money expended in the Indian's welfare.

There has been no announce- ment of the number of Indians who will participate in the di- vision of the money, nor has there been any decision as to whether the money will be split up for distribution or set aside as a trust fund for benefit of tribal members.

Tribes involved are the Tilla- mooks, Coquilles, Too-Too-To- Ney and Chetcos.

Question of Blood Arises

No decision has been made as to the percentage of Indian blood required before participa- tion will be allowed in the bene- fits. A person of one-eighth In- dian blood cannot buy alcoholic beverages legally; however, one- thirty-second Indian blood en- titles one to special condonation for hiring for certain jobs in the department of interior's Indian office.

The Indian's counsel offered their case as four individual suits. The Indians' estimate of 1855 value was on a similar basis. For instance, there was no estimate of value of mineral rights for Tillamook lands, al- though such an estimate was made on the other three tribal tracts.

However, the government made no such distinction and its wit- nesses made their evaluations on a blanket basis.

American Bus Lines Given Chamber of Commerce OK

serve the Oregon Public Utilities Commission in making application to grant a franchise for American Bus Lines along highway 101, members of Brook- ings-Harbor Chamber of Com- merce last Wednesday, voted 59 to 1 in favor of granting the franchise.

Representation of the case for American Bus Lines was made by Guernsey Farzier of Los Angeles and James K. Buell, representing a Portland firm, and representing the Greyhound Lines was Lloyd Shippey, dis- trict manager.

Presenting the facts to the commission, Mr. Frazier produced a statement of earnings of the Greyhound Company, which had a monopoly of the route along highway 101. He presented figures to prove his case that all fare rate adjust- ments were made since an- nouncement of the American Bus

Lines to apply for franchise.

Mr. Frazier asked the cham- ber to give the public utilities commission a guide when it will act upon the application, Nov. 3. Mr. Shippey asked, in his talk, that the community remain neu- tral, thus allowing the commis- sion to make an unbiased deci- sion.

The tourist situation which restaurants of this area feel is being by-passed this area be- cause of motel lack, was discus- sed at length by many who ex- pressed themselves emphatically in favor of the Chamber of Com- merce taking a lead in the mat- ter, and to advertise nationally for capital investment in this immediate area.

Several local residents, who said they had made extensive trips in the past year, said that most travelers were "choosy" about the motels and auto courts they stopped at for a night. Such accommodations local- ly, they pointed out, did not at-

tract tourists.

In an appeal made by District Attorney Hugh Gearin that people of this area adhere to the pres- ident's appeal for conservation of food, President Lesmeister appointed Mr. Gearin to head a local committee, with Thor Ask and Charles Grayshel, to visit local stores in order to help in the cause.

Charles Greyshell, formerly Curry County vice-president of Oregon Coast Association, re- ported on the recent meeting held at Gearhart. He stated that the chamber upon payment of the yearly dues, could elect a delegate for this area.

He also reported on the talks given by many on the handling of the tourist trade, a third largest in the state.

For lack of time, discussion of silk worm culture was postponed until next meeting of the cham- ber set for November 26, unless changed because of the Thanks- giving holiday.

Indian Heirs Will Hold Special Meeting, Sunday

A special meeting of Curry County Indian Heirs association is to be held at the Grange hall this coming Sunday, Nov. 2. At this time Mrs. Etta Dill will make her report of the trip to Port- land and other business on hand will be brought up.

Dryer Installed And Working At Laundry

The new drier, which has held up production at the Self-Ser- vice Laundry for a few weeks, is now installed and is doing yeo- man duty. C. A. MacKenzie re- ported this morning. This wet weather, when drying of clothes is a nightmare to many house- wives, should make use of this new Brookings service much to the liking of the average home.

A number of her young friends helped Carol Rausch, Thursday afternoon to observe her eighth birthday at the Rausch home.