

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

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At Least We Do Not Have Floods

Floods at Portland, as well as other northwest areas, with the misery which accompanies them, do not forecast prosperity for those areas this year.

In Monday's Oregonian, a picture shows Bonners Ferry, Idaho, inundated under several feet of the Kootenai River, which, for years had been diked in its channel so that some 40,000 acres of flooded areas could be reclaimed to grow untold heavy yield crops. All that area, this year is lost to the productive side of the ledger, which is no small item.

At the moment there is no way to estimate the damage wrought in Portland's proximity. If pictures may be a guide, destruction will run into the billions of dollars that will come from the revenue which has been anticipated for this year.

We, here in this area, have been unable to do the usual spring work which has been the custom. We have whined about the weather, and how it has hampered the usual industry. However, we have endured no floods—no destruction of any kind.

Perhaps this fact will be an asset for this area in the future, and one item for the chamber of commerce to exploit in its quest for settlers.

Congratulations To The Seniors

Congratulations are due those graduates of the local school, who this year, under conditions beyond their control, have completed all requirements for receiving that diploma, next Friday evening.

It always gives people quite a thrill to attend a commencement program. It is refreshing to watch the young men and women try to look the part of the role which they believe is expected of them.

Despite their youth, they have traveled enough along life's trail to realize the gravity of life which is about to face them. They have learned more in their span of school years than many of us did in ours, some years ago. Why?

Many of the graduates were born at such a time that most of them remember the depression years in their grade school era. They have gone through the harrowing experiences of war, and they have absorbed more knowledge than most of us believe they have been capable.

Recently the local school conducted a primary election. These students showed perhaps better and more sound judgment than their elders in their discussion of trials facing this nation and world.

Go forth, seniors, with a will to succeed and if you set your determination on sound foundation, such success surely will be yours, if you work for the maximum in all attempts.

Power of Attorney Still Are In Force

PORTLAND — Veterans who assigned powers of attorney for the handling of personal and financial affairs during their time in active service should be cautioned that these powers remain in effect until action is taken to revoke them, an Oregon banking official told the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Monday.

This word was from Donald W. McKay, trust officer for a large Oregon bank, who said that in many instances the veteran did not intend these powers to remain in force after his return home, but that he may have forgotten to cancel their

authority.

Whoever hold the papers designating power of attorney—whether a bank, an attorney, a county court, or other agent—should be notified by the veteran that he wishes to revoke the power, and wants the papers returned to him. This can be done in writing, except where the papers are recorded by the county.

In the latter instance, a notarized statement of revocation should be filed with the county clerk for recording.

Henry Kerr was a Gold Beach caller Tuesday.

Bruce Shavere, manager for Coos-Curry Electric Co-op, was a brief visitor in this area, Friday on company business.

IT SEEMS TO ME:



By Dewey

How lucky I feel that we live in this area—free from any of the damaging floods which have so terribly hit Oregon in the past ten days. We may have our rains—and we have had plenty of it—but we don't have to hunt for some high hill to move all our belongings to keep away from waters rampant on destruction of property and life.

I do not know how many of you saw the picture of the Bonners Ferry, Idaho, flood in Monday's Oregonian. That picture was taken from the hill on which our old home sat. In the year of '37, we went through a flood there—nothing to compare with this, and boy how Mrs. Akers and I were thankful that we left there eight years ago.

Bonners Ferry, in the extreme northern tip of Idaho, is on the Kootenai river, which, for years had flooded its banks, and which land was laden with fertile soil, if drained. Some time in the '20s there began there a reclamation district—from which about 13 finally resulted. These reclaimed farms would certainly produce.

I recall no few times of hearing a farmer say that his wheat went 70 bushels to the acre, and his oats well over a hundred. In all crops, and they raised quite a number, such as peas, yields were fantastic.

This year, different from 1937, saw some 40,000 acres flooded. In 1937, less than 100 were under water, and then but for a short time. What it will mean to Northern Idaho is not pleasant

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to consider.

Farmers in that area had become quite wealthy. Land prices compared to that highly productive land near Salinas, Calif., devoted to lettuce. The bank there carried deposits of almost two million in a town of less than three thousand.

The tragedy at Vanport will just about go down as one of the major catastrophes of the year, when final pages are all written. It will be difficult to estimate the property loss, to say nothing about the loss of life reported.

Floods are no respecters of areas. In the far-remote community of Conconully, Wash., at one time county seat of what is now Okanogan county, a dam was erected many years ago to make a reservoir for the fruit belt which lies below and needs irrigation. The dam is gone, together with the water which, in hot weather, would have irrigated thousands of acres.

Kennewick, Wash., across the Columbia from Pasco, is (or was) isolated from the rest of the country when all approaches to town were under water. The vicinity of Umatilla is under a depth of water. Yakima valley, another fruit section of Washington, is having water troubles.

Floods, it seems to me, are sent for a purpose if only people would see the meaning. The northwest is not alone in its suffering. Other communities are hit, too. The remainder of the world will suffer indirectly.

San Francisco Couple Surprises Akers Family

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Andreason, of San Francisco, en route to Bellingham, Wash., and Helena, Montana, stopped briefly Saturday to visit the Akers family, and to ascertain open roads up the coast which would permit continuation of their trip.

Mrs. Andreason (nee Vivian Stowell) was an eighth grader, in 1948, when ye editor was in her Illinois home town. This was the first time since they had met.

She might have escaped in her identity had she not made the

remark, "You haven't the best idea who I am." He had a native of Helena, Mont., his annual vacation.

Bend and Redmond People Visit In Area

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller daughter, Susan Kay, of Bend, formerly of this area, visited over the week-end with parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Beaulieu. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. E. Ackley of Bend. Mrs. Ackley and Beaulieu are sisters.

Attorney Ed F. Ackley early Sunday for the bay where he will be until June. Mrs. Ackley will return to him, after having disposed her interest in that area, at home permanently in Brookings.

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