

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT
 AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

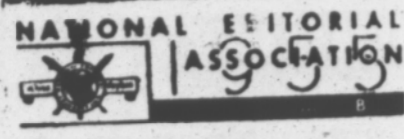
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THE PITTSBURG OF THE WEST

A note of unusual interest to people of Southern Oregon appeared in the Myrtle Creek Mail a few weeks ago. It related to the discovery of a vein of coal, about 40 miles west of Riddle. Of course, a lot of effort will have to be expended before the coal is ready for commercial use.

Subsequent conversation with people in the know in the Myrtle Creek area discloses that the Hanna Nickel mine in Riddle may use the coal for their own smelter, and save hauling in low grade coal.

Naturally, the idea of coal back in the mountains intrigues us here on the coast too, because that means that there could be more around, and even closer to Brookings. It shows, too, that a little research into the area, might uncover a lot of ore suitable for commercial use. Look at the Red Flats area for example. Eventually that ore will be developed, and smelted.

Of course it would be nice if we had a harbor to ship all this out. Why, with a little planning Curry county could develop into another Pittsburgh... only prettier.

MILL RATE IS LOW HERE

A pamphlet, the Oregon Voter, reports on the property taxes in cities all through Oregon, compiled by the Bureau of Municipal Research and Service, University of Oregon, in co-operation with the League of Oregon Cities.

The survey showed that levy rate in Brookings is considerably lower than a lot of cities of comparable size. The city levy for the tax year of 1954-55 was 21.175, compared to 31.732 at Enterprise or 27.637 at Central Point, 67.973 at Myrtle Creek, 48.307 at Reedsport.

The levy rate, equalized, goes all the way from 98.1 mills, to Brookings 37.7 mills, down to 48.6 mills at Canby.

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The Clive Manleys and the Karl Ostenbergs have gone on a trip into the desert sponsored by the Brookings-Harbor Pilot. Well, maybe that's stretching it just a bit. They have gone, and the sign on the back of each of their trailers says "Official Tour," Brookings-Harbor Pilot but they haven't as yet put the bite on us to pay for the excursion. It is just a take-off on those tours conducted by the Los Angeles Times. We can be big citish too.

Incidentally, they think they are only going as far as Yuma, Ariz. but they wanted us to report that they're going to Guatemala City and Mexico and a few other exotic places, for the benefit of wandering bill collectors.

We aren't the only sheephead players in town. Very few of you asking us to play sheephead—and when we mention it everybody looks rather blankly. It is practically the state game of Wisconsin, and about 90 percent of the folks back there play. Even in the church sponsored card parties the only game is Sheephead. However, the other night we taught Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Smith the game. people have been crowding around.

A new era has started in Brookings, which should compare eventually with the California Gold Rush of '49. Last week Kerr Hardware advertised Geiger Counters, and Scintillators for sale. Prices start at \$29.95. No home should be without one. A man could be elected president on the slogan "two Geiger Counters in every Garage." However, it might be worth a look into, the way some of those jokers picked up millions of dollars in Utah. And there are spots near here that you can get a reading on.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kerns and two children were here on a business trip the past week end from Atwater, Calif. They returned Sunday.

Get Your Name In Fast

It looks like most of the people around here came from the North Midwest, according to the "Where are YOU from?" slips being filed in our office. Surely, most of you couldn't have come from the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Iowa, and a whole flock from Missouri!

Of course, there are scattered registrations from other parts of the country and Texas. Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Carolina, already have a representative, or two and, so far as local boys and girls are concerned, there's one who's lived here for better than eighty years.

To Review Salmon Life at Meetings

Progress of research on the ocean life of salmon will be reviewed this month at three public meetings along the Oregon coast, according to George Y. Harry, Jr., Oregon fish commission director of research.

The meetings should be of primary interest to Oregon commercial salmon trollers, the research director explained, however all interested persons are invited to attend. Dates and locations for the meetings are as follows:

I AM _____
 LOCAL RESIDENCE _____ City _____ Box No. _____
 I CAME FROM _____ City _____ State _____
 I HAVE LIVED HERE _____ Years _____

Announce Wedding Plans For Summer

The engagement of Miss Marjorie Bartlett to Robert W. Church, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Biggam of Brookings, was announced by her parents, Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Bartlett,ureka, Calif.

Miss Bartlett graduated from Humboldt State College in 1954, as a teaching kindergarten in the Fortuna elementary school. She is a past honored queen of Job's Daughters, women's service organization at HSC. She is a sister of Mrs. Bradley Barnes of Arcat and Thomas Bartlett of Eureka.

Church is a graduate of Brookings high school, and is now majoring in business administration at Humboldt State college, where he is a member of the HSC Knights. He served in the U. S. Navy for four years. The wedding will take place during the summer.

Bend, City Hall.
 February 15, 7:30 p.m.—Newport, Lincoln grade school auditorium, 507 N. E. Eads street.
 February 21, 7:30 p.m.—Astoria, KAST auditorium, 389 Commercial street.

FIVE TRAFFIC DEATHS IN CURRY

Only two Oregon counties, Crook and Wheeler, completed 1954 with death-free traffic records, Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry reported Thursday.

As compared with 1953, death increases were recorded in 20 counties while 15 enjoyed decreases and one county, Wheeler showed no change.

Curry county is charged with 5 traffic deaths during the year as against 4 in 1953.

The death toll for all counties was 420, a climb of 30 over the count for 1953 but still well below the 457 fatalities inflicted by Oregon tragic accidents in 1952.

Outside of Multnomah county, heaviest loss of life occurred in Clackamas with 34 deaths; Lane with 23; Douglas, 22; Marion 21; and Linn, 20.

Final counts on total accidents and persons injured are now being compiled, Newberry said, but preliminary figures indicate the state as a whole achieved a reduction of approximately 20 per cent in both categories.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH
 By Clifford P. Rowe

No one would argue the fact, I am sure, that the most reliable method for getting elected to political office is to promise everything that anyone anywhere could conceivably desire without it costing them anything. Generous promises plus assurance that taxes will not be increased is a fool-proof formula for the national or state office seeker.

The universal desire to get something for nothing is nowhere better illustrated than in action by the voters when given a choice. Too often the record will show examples of the citizenry voting overwhelmingly for something which will benefit them personally. Similarly there are just as many instances where measures designed to provide the finances for such "benefits" are decisively defeated.

Prior to his election then, the office seeker, with his ear to the "eyehole of public desires, dangles before the voting public a vast ex-ample of treasures which he will give him the office he seeks. These magnanimous and generous offers get the headlines with the result that the candidate with the longest and most attractive list of "benefits" usually gets the nod at the polls.

But don't get the notion that the candidate for office doesn't know what he is doing. He knows that he will never have to keep his promises. Supreme in this secret knowledge, he will get up before Congress and make an impassioned plea for those things promised his constituents. He has done his part. He knew from the beginning that his colleagues in their desire to keep the country from going bankrupt would vote down his more than generous gestures to a gullible public.

So, the measure dies and, the headlines cease; but dear old Senator Giveaway will be long revered by his backers for his valiant battle for the tax oppressed and the underprivileged. At the same time, he has built up a tremendous backlog of fuel for use in his campaign for reelection.

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