

SKETCHBOOK



by Bud Pisarek

Most of my duties here at the PILOT have been confined, as of the last couple of weeks, to the area known as the "pits", the "bolt mines", the "hold" and many other numerous names commonly regarded as below the surface of normal activity.

Every now and then someone avoiding getting into too much work sneaks in the back door and forgets to secure the bolt and latch. Therefore I do get out once in awhile.

To the good fortune of many, this getting out happens after the fog has drifted away, and the sun which was hidden has already set.

So, many of my coffee breaks came in the dead of the night or so I thought it was the dead of the night, because very seldom did I see other humans other than Cleo and Glenn Rogers, who poured the java.

The last couple of nights I have been surprised to see so many wide-awake gents frequenting the place. Glenn tells me these characters are getting in shape for the coming bowling season. These characters, namely Cliff Brimm, Jess Hoagland, and his son Tony Christensen, Bud McCourt, and many more feel they need the extra practice so they can be on par with the terrific PILOT Team.

They encountered the city's number one team in competition last season, when the PILOT five jumped to a quick 12 game lead. They are not taking any chances this year.

We're not hiding the fact that this year's entry will be as hot a team as ever jumped into a pair of rented bowling shoes. We mean to burn up those alleys again this year. One thing we are going to do though. This year we plan on using bowling balls instead of kerosene and matches. It's much neater that way.

Just an after thought... Won't it be nice when the world series rolls around? Then the big-town papers will have something to write about, instead of using all their type and ink on the why and whereof of the marriage, remarriage, and the other marriage, of the replaced POW, and his "wife."

Union Oil Station Changes Hands

Richard Crook, and Donald Raymond have sold their interest in the Union Oil Station to Harvel Thomas, a former Brookings resident. Thomas, now of Crescent City, will also operate the new wholesale outlet of the firm, now under construction behind the station.

The Union Oil Service Station is located in North Brookings. The wholesale plant will be in operation about September 20th. However, wholesale service is now available. Thomas said. He will be moving his wife, and four week old son to Brookings as soon as housing is available.

1,000 New Books Arrive For School

The Brookings-Harbor school system received a boom this week, when the state library gave 1,000 books to the elementary school on a long term loan basis. The books came this week, and are being installed in the elementary library by Mrs. Henry and Mr. Harrison. Mrs. Henry was in Salem last week to see about the volumes. Mrs. Agnes Shields, school librarian specialist from the state library arrived this week to help with some of the problem in setting up the new books. All of the books are story books for grade school use.

BUILDING LAGS

The Scout building program is slack. The sidewalls are up, the materials there or available for getting a roof on but interest is lagging.

According to Mike Pags there is a respectable treasury, recently increased by a \$50 check from John Gawf. Occasionally, someone chips in with the price of some more building blocks and any committee member will be mighty pleased to be halted, any time, anywhere, and more blocks paid for.

Pistol River Bridge Construction Told

When Pete Tierce levelled the south pier of the old Pistol River bridge, thereby completing destruction of a structure built in 1911, and serving the travelling public for some forty years, memories were stirred and we asked some of the few who remembered to supply us with the fabric of this story.

To begin, Pistol River is supposed to have been so designated because John Mace, in crossing his pistol in the stream. In verification of this, there is still extant a rust crusted weapon of undoubted age which is supposed to be the same pistol John lost. There's nobody, now, by which we can set the date but there is a true record made by Jedediah Smith when he forded a stream, in the early 1800's, which could have been none other than where John's shooting tool slipped its moorings.

Then, in the early 50's, various sources developed sagas of a bloody battle between sundry Indians and white folks who fought it out near the mouth of the stream. Old Tom VanPelt left us quite a yarn as to his version of this battle and it is about all we have.

Leaping over a considerable gap we come to 1911 and the construction of the bridge aforementioned. County records show there were previous structures, probably of wood, and undoubtedly expensive to maintain for there were voters thereabouts, quite easily scrutinized from the nearby county seat and a county payroll in the precinct couldn't have been money well invested come election time.

Memories of folks who lived in the neighborhood have been dredged to supply the story which follows, notably, Arthur Walker, Mrs. Annie Clark, and Mrs. Vera Ismert, with much owed to Mrs. Glen Hurst. Mrs. Hurst emphasizes she can't remember a thing about the bridge building.

Design of the single trusses, steel bridge, and its piers and location was the work of the late William J. Ward. Ward was a Cornell graduate civil engineer who came out several years before to lay the groundwork for the big C & O sawmill layout which located in and named the town of Brookings.

His dealings were with a county court then consisting of Ed Bailen, judge, with Otto Ismert and E. B. Sypher as members. E. G. Perham, of Coos Bay, was virtually the contractor and worked

on the job every day with Dave Frame named by the commissioners to see the job was done according to Ward's specifications. Some of the men who worked on the bridge were Jack Zumwalt, Tom Clark, Claude Walker, Ed Ismert, and Arthur Walker. There were, of course, several others but these are all the names that come to mind.

The bridge blanking was of white cedar. The late John R. "Jack" Hill hauled the logs and then the lumber from which they were sawed at a mill operated by George W. Smith. These planks were dismantled when the bridge was removed and, although they may not have been the originals, they were for the most part, sound, and have been salvaged for re-use.

Although the old bridge was relieved of much of its traffic when the then "Roosevelt" Highway was located, out nearer the mouth of the river, in the early 1900's, it continued to serve the several ranchers who lived on the south side of the stream. Now, with modern equipment, a road has been punched through on the south bank to serve this area, and the old bridge became a poor investment besides being dangerous.

It is impossible to write the many stories which have had their setting on or about the old Pistol River bridge but there are some which will be recalled for many, many years to come. There are young folks, these days, who will be handing down traditions of the years to come and many of these will center about the picnics which used to be held on the little flat upstream from the north end of the bridge. This little alcove seemed always to be ideal for picnics, even when the winds or fogs closer to the coast looked like the planned doin's would have to be called off—a grassy glade, a cool spring, a pebbled beach and a warm pool for the kids, miles of good fishing water for trout, steelhead or salmon and plenty of good dry drift with which to make cooking fires.

Those were the days of the horse and wagon buggies weren't sufficiently reliable to navigate in Curry County.

When Pete was nuzzling the old bridge footings with his bulldozer, some fifteen or twenty feet down in the surrounding sand and rubble, he turned up a quite sound heavy wagon tire.

Brookings Visits City of Brookings

Red Hat Day Set For Curry

County sportsmen, announced Ken Priest, Curry County's Red Hat Day Chairman, will be asked in coming weeks to sign the Red Hat Day pledge.

The pledge promises cars with fire and firearms, observance of the laws and respect for the rights and property of others.

Red Hat Day, September 23, is the climax of a month-long educational campaign among Oregon hunters. It is sponsored by a 26 state-wide organizations concerned with landowner-sportsman relations.

Ken Priest added, that free pledge cards and buttons will be available at all licensing agencies. The pledge cards were donated by Keep Oregon Green, Inc. They may be kept or mailed to the Red Hat Day Committee, headquarters P. O. Box 4136, Portland, Oregon.

DANISH VISITORS RETURN TO HOME

Mrs. Chas. Bickner and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aage Klingsoer flew to San Francisco, Monday, where the Klingsoers took a plane for New York. Their son, Leo Ottosen, will fly there from Chicago to show them the city, then they will take the boat for Copenhagen, Denmark.

They have spent four months in the U.S.A. Mr. Klingsoer has written about his impression of our country, which may be printed soon in this paper.

DOG CATCHER TO GO ON PROWL SOON

If you see a man with a net in his hand chasing a dog Saturday—don't call a cop. He'll likely be Jim Nichols, who has volunteered to help out as city dog catcher.

The pound has been set up in what was Mitchell's Wood Yard, and Nichols will be throwing the stray dogs in the cooler come Saturday. Licenses for dogs are available at the Brookings Police Station.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stotenburg drove to Shelley, Idaho to pick up Mrs. Stotenburg's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Montague. They all returned to Brookings Friday. The Montagues plan to visit here another week.

STATE LIBRARIAN VISITS

Miss Agnes Shields, supervisor of the young folks' department of the State Library, Salem, visited in Brookings primarily to help with problems at the school library, met briefly with a few of the local Community Library board. Miss Shields was a great help in advising, both for securing of a greater collection of books in this most popular department and also in their handling, once they are on the shelves.

WINS TRIP IN CONTEST

Val and Mary Mendenhall are busy these days, planning what they'll do in New York. Val, and his "Ed and Mendy's" partner, Ed Thorton, are still reaping the fruits of their having won first place in a competition set up for Standard Oil dealers.

They topped the field of 165 stations in their area and have already received a wrist watch as part of the plunder. Now Val and Mary are figuring on another reward—an all-expense air round trip to the great metropolis. The trip is costing them something—they had to buy off Ed and Neva

BOWLING TO START SOON

Bowling will get underway in Brookings on September 8th, when the Women's leagues will start. The men's leagues at the Azalea Lanes will start the week of September, 12th.

Most leagues are pretty well set, but some still have openings left, for both bowlers and teams.

The formation of the inter-city league is still the big news at the alleys, according to Glenn Rogers, proprietor. Rogers said that three Brookings teams, the Cliff Home, Littrell Parts, and the Azalea Lane will bowl in the league, and that six teams from Crescent City have already indicated they will.

The league will be formed not as a city against city, but as team against team. It will offer a wide variety of competition, and a chance to bowl on different alleys.

Former Resident Hurt In Accident Last Week

Joseph Scherer, a former Brookings resident, now living in Gold Beach, sustained a badly broken leg in a woods accident last week and was transferred to Kessler Hospital in North Bend, where he will be for the next three weeks. He will then be in a cast for six months.

MAYOR RETURNS

Mayor Roy Brimm returned Wednesday from a bus trip to Portland on city business. Brimm had a lengthy meeting with Bond Attorney Schuler, discussing the sewer bond question, and the possibility of having an early election to decide the question.

Expect High Enrollment As School Opens Sept. 6

BUILDING HERE ADD \$48,000 TO

Building is continuing at a record clip in Brookings. Three more new home permits were issued this week by city work superintendent Ralph Reed, to bring the total of construction work thus far this year to an amazing \$1,114,947 figure.

The new homes, along with some remodeling jobs, brought the total of \$48,160 in a single week, Reed said.

Currently being constructed is the Morton Building, the Union Oil Station in North Brookings, renovation of the Dimmick building and work on high school classrooms.

Work is progressing on the 49 new homes being built by the Beresa Corporation, whose schedule calls for completion dates in September.

The three new home permits were issued to Bob Dimmick, for a home on Fir St.; Art Crook, and England, for a home on Hazel St.

New Operator For 101 Cafe

Mrs. Era McGilvery will be the new operator of the 101 Cafe, a few miles south of Brookings. The former owner was Mary Allenby.

Mrs. McGilvery has been in the restaurant business most of her life, operating restaurants in Lakeside and the north Bend area.

The cafe will open Friday, and be operated on a two-shift basis, from three a.m. to 11 p.m.

Ground Observers Need Volunteers

The Ground Observer Post in Brookings needs volunteer help. Observers say that many people aren't responding to the air watch, as they should. They pointed out that a town in Wisconsin, Osseo, with a population of only 1130, has maintained a 24-hour post since last January.

Brookings has a population far in excess of that, and should be able to support the post. One observer, Russell Jenkins, has put in more than 90 hours on duty during the past week because people were not available to take a shift. All volunteers are asked to get in touch with the local observers group.

Mr. and Mrs. Virg Goldberry and son Douglas have returned from their two week vacation, spent in Portland. They visited many friends and relatives there.

Upper Chetco School To Start

Parents of children who are entering the Upper Chetco School for the first time this year, are asked by Herschel Chaney, the principal, to have their children registered Tuesday morning, Sept. 5, before the pupil's physical check-up certificate and birth certificate.

All students new to the district must bring old report cards or other school records that can be used in registration.

School will begin at 9 a.m., and probably will be dismissed around noon, on the first day. Grades 1 to 4 will be taught by Mrs. Esther Waldien with Mr. Chaney handling the upper grades. Considerable increase in registration is looked for due to many new families having moved into the district.

Mrs. Ralph Gallier, president of the PTA, wishes to remind all parents their first meeting this year will be held at the school, Sept. 15th. This will be a potluck affair and notices will be sent out on what to bring.

Ross Criticises Curry County Right Of Ways

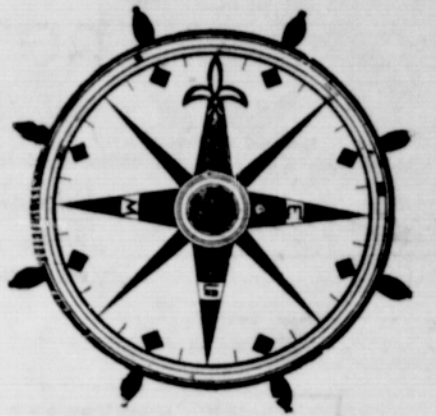
A letter from Charles A. Ross, chairman of the Oregon Coast Association's highway department takes to task the Curry county highway demands.

The letter appeared in the monthly bulletin of the Association. It said in part:

... however, when situations arise such as have taken place in Curry County which seriously affect travel on Highway 101, it ceases to be politics and in my humble opinion I think you (Verne Ayers) has to be commended for the action you have taken. We both know that the costs of right of ways in Curry County have been so far in excess of state average as to set a precedent which could easily cost the taxpayers of Oregon tremendous sums of money.

"In fact the situation is so bad that members of the highway commission are unanimous in their opinions that they will spend no more money on this bottleneck until rights of way can be bought at a reasonable price."

Jen Kerr received a four day pass to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kerr recently, while his parents visited in Castro Valley, California.



Next Tuesday morning is the day that the school children have been awaiting so anxiously. The elementary school students will report to the following rooms according to grade level. Grades one through four will report to the elementary building.

Grade one will meet in room two. Grade two will meet in room four. Grade three will meet in room six, and grade four will meet in room eight.

Grades five and six will meet at the new high school, using the Easy St. entrance, with grade five reporting to room 11, and grade six reporting to room 10.

All seventh and eighth graders will report to the old high school building.

High school students will report Tuesday at the new high school for a full days session.

Registration is far from complete, although indications are that this year will be a record year by far. Eighty five new first graders have already enrolled, and more are expected. Sixty-one new elementary students, those who didn't attend here last year, have already enrolled.

Thirty-five seniors, and forty-four juniors had enrolled up until Tuesday in the high school.

Work is progressing on the cafeteria, which is being converted into three additional classrooms. The music room is also nearing completion. The work is under direction of Roy Weideman.

A special school board meeting was held Monday night to get the policies of the coming year ironed out. A tentative plan was set up which would give the public a chance to view the new high school with an open house, and dedicatory exercise sometime in October.

Rosy Forecast Said For City

Two or three folks are trying to run down a past copy of the Wall Street JOURNAL in which it is reported there was a very interesting forecast as to the future of Brookings—specifying the town by name.

There is also a similar story out, quite rosey tinted, resulting from a survey made by one of the leading credit houses plus the reported preparations being considered by the West Coast Telephone Co., to take care of the tremendous expansion they can visualize from their survey.

DURDENS VISIT

The tables were full in the basement of the Baptist Community Church when the partitioners and guests sat down to a welcoming dinner for Dr. and Mrs. Durden, last Sunday evening. The Durdens, who formerly had the pastorate here, came back for a visit and to fill the pulpit while Rev. Sadler and family are vacationing. It was nice to see Mrs. Durden so much improved after a very serious illness. They will return, briefly, to their home at Tidewater, before they start their travels again, in church work.

IMPROVE SECTION OF HIGHWAY 101

A 4.62 mile section of the Oregon Coast Highway, U.S. Route 101, around Otter Crest between Depoe Bay and Miner Creek will be open for traffic Sept. 2—providing the weather is satisfactory between now and then, the Oregon State Highway Commission announced this week.

Work on this section started on Sept. 22, 1952, part of the Highway Commission's continued improvement for the Oregon Coast Route. The relocation and grading project amounts to a total of \$1,622,000 in contracts. The new section provides three lanes of travelway on both sides of the ascending grade.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Rogers moved into their new home, this week. Perched on a concrete foundation, they wish it respectfully referred to as the first penthouse residence of downtown Brookings.

Rev. Nick Neufelt strolled down the street past this office, Tuesday afternoon. Nick used to be the pastor of the Baptist Community Church and left here for a pastorate in Stayton, some years ago.

Sheep Are Big Industry On Curry County Farms

Fat wool sacks are starting to market from Curry County. Some 3000 sheep are being made more comfortable, this summer weather by having their overcoats removed of around 200,000 pounds of wool they won't have to tote around the ranges.

Curry County sheep are of a very special breed, yielding very specialized type of wool for a very specialized use. Any old sheep or any other special woolly just won't do along Curry's coast. They can't take the weather. They are a cross between the Romneys and Lincolns. This cross has a minimum of grease in their pelts so, during the wet weather, water does not mix with a surplus of grease to form molds, and patches of or the whole fleece slough off. Nobody loves a bald sheep.

Where the fleeces of others of this family of ruminants are best utilized in fabrics ranging from between the finest of baby flannels to the coarsest of carpets and what-not, the fleeces from a comparatively small area of the Pacific coast rain belt have been found to answer the paper makers' dreams. Because of its peculiar low grease content, it stays put after it has been processed and does not shrink as other wools may.

Wool from the mature sheep—not the delicate lamb's wool—goes into the manufacture of the wide, thick felts which, when installed in paper making machinery, outlast any other known material. Chewed up and digested wood chips are floated off onto felts of this special coastal wool. The wooly pudding sustained by this felt, drains through its interstices before passing over a series of tremendous, revolving hot drums, gradually squeezed to wring more water out of the mush, the pulp eventually becoming, through the heating and squeezing, sufficiently matted to be scraped off the felt and continue on its way as paper.

No other material known to man can withstand this water-logging-cooking-squeezing process for so long a time as the felts made from this specially grown wool.

With each one of those sheep you see beside the highway or entral mite in almost every bit of paper we use. Between sheep and the ultimate destination of their wool lies a whole chain of dollars, many of which are circulated right here—could be in a subscription to the paper in which you have read this.

The greater part of the clip is marketed through a pool into which many of the growers lump all their clip and this is bid for rather than the buyers dealing with individuals. The price usually ranges some 7 cents a pound

higher than clips made over in the valley of Oregon. Sheep fleeces average about 55 pounds each, for long wool and a little less for lambs.

A sideline with the sheep men is the sale of lambs. Curry County lambs usually top the market in San Francisco and add very materially to the ranch income. They are trucked to market, a very specialized trade, in itself, as it is necessary for the truckers to load as many lambs as they can wad in and yet have them arrive at market with as little shrinkage as possible. Truckers have to watch the weather, and if temperatures are high along the highway, they make most of the trip at night. Besides market is held mostly during the morning and the permissible weight for a market lamb is within a quite narrow margin. The rancher doesn't like to lose, maybe a ton of meat between his ranges and the butcher shops.

It also irks him to lose several pounds of meat to trigger happy agents, sheep killing dogs, or predatory animals.

Although lumber seems to be mostly thought of as yielding wealth to our county, our sheep not only pay their bit but they also contribute, through their unique jackets, a fundamental portion of another great industry—paper.