



Brookings-Harbor Pilot

Nowhere A Finer Climate - Nowhere A Finer Community

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pipe dreams



by
joe murphy

This little mis-understanding between Wickes Shaw and ourselves over which of us can get under whose skin the quickest is developing into feudal proportions. Last week she devoted a half a galley into raking poor little old Bud and Joe over the coals. Personally I think I can settle her hash for the week in about a paragraph.

She accuses us of not reading the Reporter. Definitely not true Wickes, my friend. We wait its arrival anxiously. Last week, I noticed, for example, that picture you carried on the front page of Wedderburn sliding into the Rogue. Tell me, Wickes, is Gold Beach about to go, TOO?

It's getting easier to sit at the council meetings from eight until one a.m. Now about 11:30 they serve coffee to the council, press and visitors. Just think of the crowd they could get at the meetings if they start serving hot dogs, too.

The Lions Club were out selling bulbs last week and, I understand, disposed bags and bags of them. All the time I thought they were talking about Lily bulbs, seeing this is the Lily Capital of the country.

And down at Palmer's, where the little stream runs across the sidewalk, somebody put up a sign, "No Fishing." Possibly the Chamber of Commerce will be affronted by this. It seems that every stream in the area should have some fish.

We have been reading with interest all about the exploits of a man named Dawes, from Brookings, who sent the shirt off his back, and a raft of graphite-coated pennies to the state tax department. He received publicity galore in the city papers. However, I don't know the man here, and nobody else seems to. However, I won't say that there isn't such a person in Brookings, but I would like him to prove it by sending a similar sack of pennies, addressed to the Pilot, Box 338, Brookings, Ore.

Christmas Lights Begin To Shine

Outside Christmas decorations which is one of the most attractive features of Christmas in Brookings, are starting to take shape again this year.

Last year and the year before, the entire area from the State Line to Harris Beach State Park was decorated by individuals and business firms.

Lighting especially brightens up the area. A number of large Christmas trees have sprung up during the past week and more are promised. The Cliff House has installed a large lighted tree, and the North Brookings Shopping Area has just put up a large tree, and are in the process of decorating it.

The fireman aren't planning on putting up a tree downtown but Murray Palmer, of Palmers Department Store said that he would do it.

Many of the windows of the business places got a going over this year, too.

COUNCIL HOLDS UP BOND ELECTION DATE

The Brookings Council got held up Tuesday night in their efforts to set a date for the sewer bond election. They had an ordinance all set to go, which presumably would have put the election date in February, but were unable to pass it because of a legal question on an earlier ordinance.

Two ordinances related to the sewer system were passed, while two were held up, probably until next Thursday night until certain parts of it could be checked on.

They did pass Ordinance 81, which in effect, set forth the declarations of intentions of the city in regards to plans, specifications and methods of having a sewer system.

They also passed Ordinance 82, which established their intentions to make a sewage disposal plant and system, and the imposition of charges are previously reported, with 50 per cent going into the sinking fund for exclusive use in the treatment plant, and the other 50 percent for administration, the pumping stations, etc. on the basic charge of \$2.00 sur-charge and 70 cents service charge, with the levy to begin after the first of the year.

The council also passed another ordinance which would change the existing ordinance on licensing businesses in the city. Most of the existing licenses would be raised, many to a maximum of \$45, with some exceptions which would be higher.

An application, heard before, for a liquor license on a nite spot in Brookings were dismissed after a letter from the property owner, Elmer Bankus, was read saying that the property wouldn't be sold for a night club.

The council acted on several

planning commission recommendations. They changed the sewer district numbers. They requested the state highway to provide for a passing truck lane on the north side of the Chetco bridge to Oak Street.

But they tabled a recommendation from the commission asking that Fern Avenue be changed back to a two-way street. The council said that they wanted to try it out on the one-way basis for a longer period.

The council accepted Joe Schumaker's resignation from the Police force.

They denied a franchise application from the Nichols-Fretz Woodyard for Brookings, for sole distributor, They O.K.ed a request by Darrell Bell of the Outlet to have auctions in his building on Sunday afternoon, although the ordinance pertaining to auctions would have to be revised.

Jochens Is Master Of Sidney Croft

Harold Jochens was elected and installed Master of the Sidney Croft Lodge here in a meeting held last Friday night.

Other officers elected were John Molino, Senior Warden; and Fred Blunt, Junior Warden; Charles Spence, Senior Deacon; Merwyn Palmer, Junior Deacon; Virgil Goldsberry, Senior Steward; Gordon S. LaBrook, Junior Steward; Charles Bickner, Marshal; Charles Christensen, as Chaplain; and Lester Floney, Tyler.

The stated meeting of the Lodge, Number 206, was held with past master, Ralph Rowley, as installing officer, and Charles Bickner, as Marshal.

WINDOWS WAIT LOCAL ARTISTS

Artists, would-be artists, amateurs, and those that are handy painting up the house have a chance to come into some money for their efforts in the Dunning Art Contest, being held again this year.

The firm plans to award a total of \$350 in prizes, just for the simple expedient of painting up their showroom windows in a Christmas scene, or designing an original Christmas card.

The judges have been picked for the shows, and will be on hand at 8 p.m., December 20, next Tuesday night, for the naming of the winners.

The judges are Mayor Wilbur Cartwright of Gold Beach, Ray Blankenheim, city judge of that city; Mayor Roy Brimm, Arnold Peabody, Jim Yelton and Richard A. Yates.

It is important, Dunning said, that the deadline for entries be remembered. Contestants must have the cards in by December 17th. Also those painting are asked to complete their work by Sunday night, December 18th.

The first prize on the window display is to be \$75.00; with the second prize \$50; and the third prize \$15.00.

A correction in last week's paper is as follows: In the honorable mention division of the Window Decoration Division, three honorable mentions of \$5 will be awarded instead of \$3 as reported.

ASKS THAT METERS BE WATCHED MORE

Chief of Police Bud Cross has asked that parking meters be watched a little more closely. He said that they were never installed for revenue, but only to control traffic and to help the parking conditions.

He reported that there is an ordinance against cars being left two hours at one meter, and any such car will be towed away and impounded, with the tow bill and storage charged against the auto plus the fine.

Plywood Buys Timber

CUB SCOUTS TO REGISTER

Boys between the ages of 8 and 11, wishing to join the Cub Scout Pack 332, should register as soon as possible at the following places. North Bank Chetco, with Mrs. Nellie Jagers, Benham Lane, and Pedrol Drive, with Mrs. Ernie C. Wheeler; Harbor area, Mrs. Henry Kerr, or Mrs. Vernon Hanscam; Easy Street area, Mrs. Evelyn Hodges; Brookings area, Mrs. Rod Herman or Mrs. Ray Shannon.

All Den Mothers, committee members and leaders will meet December 16th at the VFW Hall for additional registration and organization for the coming year.

CANDY TO BE GIVEN AWAY

About 800 bags of candy will be given away next Wednesday night, December 21st, at the North Brookings Shopping Area by the merchants in that area. Santa Claus has promised to put in an appearance, although it is getting into his busy season.

The candy will be given away rain or shine, the merchants report as a canopy will be erected. The time set for Santa's appearance is 7:00 p.m. The place will be by the huge Christmas Tree erected in front of the Campbell Building.

BRUINS WIN TWO MORE

The Brookings Bruins, continuing where they left off last week, won two out of three in recent encounters, bringing their season record to a natty 5-2.

Friday night they travelled to Illinois Valley, and dumped them rather easily with a big last quarter, winning 47-39, with Jerry Anderson hitting 13, and Rod Rush and Stan Gribble each netting 12.

Saturday night, playing before the home crowd and on the big new gym, the Bruins managed to make even less of a game out of it, charging off to a 12-6 first quarter lead, out-scoring their rivals 18-4 in the third period, and beating Illinois Valley 54-36. Gary Coates, big Brookings center, was top gunner with 13 points, while Jerry Anderson hit 8 as did Rod Rush.

At Crescent City Wednesday night the shoe was on the other foot, Brookings just couldn't get going against the Del Norters, losing 46-32. The Bruins stayed with them for the first quarter, trailing only 11-10, on the basis of three buckets by Anderson.

The game was a clean one with only nine fouls called on Crescent City and six on Brookings.

This week the squad will travel to another California city, Arcata, Friday night, and will play Arcata here on Saturday. The Junior Varsity boys did the same thing as their elders, winning from Illinois Valley 53-34, and 67-33 at home. Del Norte dumped the local juniors by a 49-27 count.

BUILDING SOLD

The Main Street building known for the past few years as "Young's Motel," was sold this week to G. H. Moore, formerly of Lafayette, California.

Mr. Moore plans to open "Gery's Shoe Repair," in the east side of the building, to live downstairs with his wife and 16 and 3 year old sons, and to continue the letting of rooms upstairs. Mr. Moore plans to open his shop about the 15th, of this month, as soon as he can install his equipment, which he is bringing up from Lafayette.

HENRY KERR WINS HONORS

Henry Kerr, Brookings, received two honors at a district Boy Scout Council meeting, held Sunday, December 11th, at the Erb Memorial Union, at the University of Oregon. He was presented a Silver Beaver award, for his long and faithful service to the Scouts. He became one of the few in the state to receive such an award.

Kerr was also elected to serve on the National Council of Boy Scouts, which also is a great honor. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr attended the conference, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Clark who was recently appointed new district commissioner.

Harbor Post Office Is Second-Class

The Harbor Post Office will advance to Second Class, effective with January 1, 1956, according to information received by Postmaster Harriet E. Payne. While the change will take effect January 1st, it is retroactive to July 1, 1955 when it would have ordinarily taken place. This year the Post Office Department started a new system of counting the gross receipts of Post Offices which determines the class of the office. When the differences were straightened out, the gross receipts of the Harbor Post Office were enough to raise it to the Second Class.

There will be few changes made, with the Post Office remaining open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 without closing for noon, and there will probably be no window service Saturday afternoons.

Postmaster at Harbor, April 18, 1917, during the first World War when the office was a small fourth-class one. It was then located across the highway from where it is now, as was also the big general store. When the highway was built in 1925, the store and Post Office moved to the North side of the road, but the Post Office was in an old building which has since been torn down.

It became a Third-Class office July 1, 1944 and has gained steadily every year since the growth of the area. The residents of the community fought an attempt to merge it with Brookings last Spring, as they wanted their own Post Office in the community.

Vernon and Junior Hanscam are now planning on a new building to house the Post Office, to be constructed probably this coming year.

MRS. HOWARD IN HOSPITAL
Mrs. Jack Howard of Pine Street, entered Seaside Hospital in Crescent City, Thursday, for a check-up.

Word received from the Brookings Plywood Corporation was that they have concluded a successful, and huge timber purchase which cost them in excess of "one half million dollars."

The Plywood firm announced that they have purchased the De Gross holdings in the Smith River area, for a figure that went past the half million mark.

All of the timber is in California, in the Smith River drainage. It included several hundred acres of land, with "several million feet" of timber.

Officials of the firm said that they plan on doing some logging on the property in late spring, and early summer.

Annual Concert

The High School Music Department will present a concert of Christmas Music, under the direction of C. M. Dial, High School Music Director, in the High School Auditorium, Tuesday evening, December 20, at 8:00 p.m. Members of the High School Band, Girl's Chorus, the Boy's Chorus, and Mixed Chorus will participate in the varied musical program. Starting about 7:30, Mrs. Ruth Meadors of Harbor will present an organ prelude to the concert. There will be no admission charge for the concert. The public is invited to attend.

Crew Of 15 Men Work On Forest

A crew of 15 men are working in this area now for the Government under the auspices of the Chetco District Ranger Station, under the supervision of district Ranger.

Primarily the crew is planting trees, and doing road survey work. Eight men are camped up the North Bank of the Chetco, just above Lees Park, doing the survey work, with the possibility of access road funds coming during the next year.

They have installed a cable car across the river, and are doing most of the survey work up the South Bank. An old survey had already been taken up the North Bank.

A total of 100,000 trees, Douglas Firs, are being planted this year, Bagland said. Four men are planting now on the South Bank, and will plant later in the snag areas around Prairie Creek.

Two men are laying lines for new logging roads for new federal forest timber sales in the area. Three smoke jumpers, normally stationed in Cave Junction, are among the men working.

The firs being planted are two years old, from the Wind River Nursery. They are about a foot high.

Daff Growers Meet

At a meeting of representatives of the daffodil growers in the area between Arcata, Calif., and Astoria, Oregon, definite plans were made getting together on their various problems. They agreed to form The West Coast Daffodil Cultiower Growers Association, electing Ted Kirsch, of Myrtle Point, as the Temporary Chairman and Harold Surridge, of Arcata, secretary-treasurer with the following temporary board of directors named: Mrs. Alfred Reimann, Arcata; Lionel Boroughs, Crescent City; Birger Dahlstrom, Brookings; Norman A. ...

This group was asked to draw up a set of by-laws to present at a meeting proposed to be held in January. A membership fee of \$5.00 was voted.

The group which met here represents an industry supplying some 70 million cutflower daffodils to the market and their aim is toward better market conditions, both for the grower and the buyer, with a standardization of grades and an orderly marketing throughout the season, which extends from January to mid-April.

Last Tuesday's meeting was held in the V.F.W. Hall, Brookings, where the January meeting is also slated.

The Birth of LURRY county

December 18, 1855
— by M. S. BRAINARD

Curry County was officially set off as a civil unit of Oregon on December 18th, 1855. The area had been under more or less loose jurisdiction of the Territorial Government up until that time. The subdivision called Umpqua County consisted of all Southwestern Oregon between the Cascades and the ocean and south of the Umpqua River to the California line. Outside the travel north and south across the central part of this district, there was very little in the way of habitation and almost nothing on the extreme coast excepting the aborigines and their warring had made settlement a discouraging project. Murders, burnings, and general marauding was the order of the times although a few hardy prospectors were percolating, more and more, among them, and an occasional settler squatted here and there. Names among the earliest of records mean nothing, today, with the exception of a very few who found they could dwell in peace and go about their ways and records and traditions show they befriended the Indians and the Indians respected their friendship.

The first portion of southwestern Oregon to be set aside by territorial act was Jackson county. It became an entity not only because of the north-south travelers but because of the discovery of gold, the cultivation of the rich bottom lands bordering the Rogue River, and the intercourse, definitely on the upswing with the coastal town of Crescent City. Jackson county was legalized on October 28, 1852.

In '53, on December 22nd, Coos County was carved from eastern Jackson and Eastern Umpqua county, this making what is now Curry a portion of Coos and, for a few years, the county seat was at Empire City—now Empire, which was also headquarters for much of the territorial government.

Many of the older documents of what is now Curry County are headed with the name of the town—either Port Orford, Gold Beach, or Union City (which was applied to the settlement at the mouth of the Chetco) "Coose County, Oregon Territory" up until the time we are now observing.

Curry County was named in honor of the late Hon. George L. Curry, who was the territorial governor, one hundred years ago. Mr. Curry came to Oregon, and started the newspaper, THE FREE PRESS, in Oregon City, in 1848, and served the territory for three terms at its governor.

The act which set Curry County off, and which, for the most part, has been unchanged, is quite indefinite, in many places, as to just where the lines come. The boundaries, as set forth in the statutes, and as outlined in various private and government maps might be controversial.

been quite a few Indians and Chinese within the area, on both censuses, and early county treasurers' reports indicate a few hundred dollars collected in "China Taxes" but omits how many Chinese paid how much.

Under the territorial government there were two precincts in the county before it was set aside. One was at Whaleshead, and although its original Justice Court record does not pinpoint its location, from the context it was certainly at the mouth of the Rogue and was apparently established after the Justice Court at Port Orford. The original journal of the Whaleshead Justice Court is in the archives of the Oregon Historical Society.

Although the county was born the 18th of December, 1855, it took some years to wean and divorce it from Coose. The records of this transaction have not, as yet, come to this writer's notice so we can leave that and look in on the group assembled at Port Orford, July 7, 1856 and see what they left us in their journal of the first meeting of The Curry County Court.

Meeting at the home of Frederick M. Smith were: Nelson Stephenson, Seth B. Blake, and Aaron Dyer, as commissioners. N. Stephenson appears to have been the assessor and census taker; W. H. Farrar, Attorney; M. Riley, Sheriff; and Aaron Dyer also serving as treasurer; R. H. Smith, Peter Ruffner and James Flanagan must have also been there as they put in bills, as noted below.

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