



pipe dreams  
by  
joe murphy

Nice to hear that the county's population has gone over the 10,000 mark. We are really getting ahead in the world by leaps and bounds. My old home town in Wisconsin had 10,000 people in it too, and I always figured I lived in a small town.

We were asked to supply some statistics on the population of the area (immediate trade area) to another party. We asked Mayor Roy Brimm and he said 5,000. He was pretty close we think. We checked with the post office. Bill Thompson said that they have 1,000 boxes, Harbor has 300, and there are 150 on the rural route. So, that makes 1,450 addresses, figured at about 3.5 per address, or 5,055.

We checked another angle too. Ricky Haggerty of the Coos-Curry Co-op said that there are about 1,575 meters from Pistol River to the State Line, figured at 3 persons per meter. That brings the total to 4,725. Both figures are low, we believe. But then, we could be looking at the population in a different light. What with all the kids running around my house.

I talked to my daughter the other day about the importance of securing county aid, or some funds so that additional classrooms could be built to relieve the double shifting in school. Eh, she said, she likes to go to school only half a day.

I was surprised at the informality with which the County Court meetings are run. I like an informal meeting where a guy can let his hair down, and maybe cuss once in a while. But the Court doesn't have a recorder, or secretary to take down the minutes of the meetings. Guess their memories must be pretty good.

Incidentally, we got a request from Sheldon Sackett, prominent publisher of the Coos Bay Times, that we are to send his copy of the PILOT airmail, special delivery in the future. Apparently he wants to know what goes on in town right now.

**G.O.C. BACK IN BUSINESS**

The Lookout Station of the Ground Observer Corps is back in business, the road having been repaired and communications restored. The station has been sort of isolated with the washed out road and the telephones being in and out.

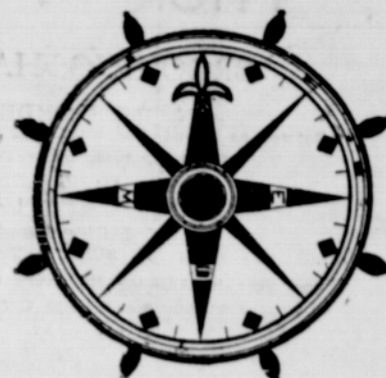


# Brookings-Harbor Pilot

Nowhere A Finer Climate - Nowhere A Finer Community

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## COUNTY OVER 10,000

### City Council Holds Regular Session

The Brookings Council held their regular meeting Tuesday night. The meeting was quieter and shorter than any during the past six months, mainly because the sewer problem has been resolved to the point where an election will be held.

A lengthy discussion was held of the questions and answers concerning the sewer, as they appear in this week's Pilot. Some changes were made in the original list, prepared by city work superintendent, Ralph Reed.

The council also discussed lights for North Brookings, and Mayor Brimm said money didn't allow them to put up lights at present, although it was understood that the state highway might go along for some of the cost. City Engineer Dot Martin said that he would check with them on the matter.

Reed made a report on street funds, and reported that over \$8,000 remained in the fund, which put the city in much better shape than last year. They have spent \$11,080 to date in that department.

Logging trucks ripping up city streets, especially on 5th street was discussed, and an ordinance reviewed which covered it.

A letter was read from the Fish and Game Service asking about the city's application for water rights on the Chetco.

It was reported that through Wednesday, 164 sewer bills have been paid, many of them for months ahead.

**Fifty Suits Arrive For Football Team**  
Fifty football suits have arrived, according to the Quarterback club, who held their regular meeting Monday night. Two more contributions were recorded. They were Charles Ames and Fred Anderson, each giving \$300.

A board of directors was set up, so that incorporation papers could be filed. Included on the board of directors were the three officers, Warren McNeely, president; Dr. Sam Gibson, and Tom Dent.

Others were Gene Allison, Chuck Hoffman, treasurer; and George Dunning and Bill Thompson.

The next meeting will be held on January 23rd, at 8 p.m. in the faculty room at the high school.

Curry County now has over 10,000 people, according to Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer. Estimates are made by the state board of health and are based on vital statistics.

Curry County led the state in percentage in increase, jumping 76.7 percent from 6048 in 1950 to 10,960 last July.

Oregon's population increased 11.7 per cent to an all-time high of 1,690,840. Census in 1950 gave Oregon 1,521,341.

Estimates of the health department are slightly higher than those of the census bureau.

Coos county was among the top in percentage increase, up 26.4 from 42,265 to 53,440. Douglas county was up 31.7 percent from 54,549 to 71,830.

Eight counties of the 36 in Oregon lost population since the 1950 census. The year: Polk, Wallowa, Deschutes, Yamhill, Baker, Columbia, Union and Clatsop. All of the others gained. Multnomah gained 22.4 percent, of which Portland gained 7.8 percent.

### Burglary Case Is Broken Open

A burglary case, covering a number of city homes, was solved last week when the Crescent City Police arrested Lyle Charles Chickloski there. He was arrested on two counts of burglary there and under questioning, admitted six charges of burglary in the Brookings area.

Chickloski, 19, has a wife and child. He was a Brookings resident. He is now under \$2,000 bond in Crescent City, and, according to Police Chief, Bud Cross, he will be charged with the Brookings burglaries also.

Chief Cross said that he has admitted taking wheels and tires from a pick-up owned by Carl Berger; two batteries from the city equipment, the water truck and the tractor; looting a house owned by Mrs. Flossie Buchanan and taking a purse, and \$14; a house owned by Mrs. Renhard, where he took a purse, which was found later; a house owned by Mrs. Lydia Crigler, also taking a purse, and some valuable papers which were hid.

Guy Way also reported having his house entered, and some tools stolen out of a pick-up, owned by Tony Christensen, parked at the bowling alley, were returned by Chief Cross, who recovered them in Crescent City.

### Thompson Resigns As Defense Chief

A meeting of the Civil Defense was held Sunday afternoon, with representatives of most of the Civic groups in the area present. Those represented at the meeting were the Shrine, Police, the Chamber of Commerce, Lions Auxiliary, Legion, Star of the Sea Church, Chetco Grange, the V.F.W., Rotary, P.T.A., Rebekahs, Emblem Club, Sattelite Social Club, Citizens Committee, City Council, Baptist Church, Lion's Club and Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Bill Thompson, civil defense director, resigned from that post because the Post Office Department urged him to do so. It was decided that each organization would discuss a candidate for defense director and those names sent in, and a director picked.

Mr. W. W. Smith made a motion to keep what was left from funds raised in the recent flood for the community. The money's possible use was discussed by the group. They talked about an auxiliary power plant and a good short wave radio, but no action was taken.

About \$1,200 was raised here, and about half that amount was spent on flood victims.

It was also decided that each organization should think about maintaining some sort of a supply for emergency purposes.

### HALL TO MEET WITH BALDOCK

Sam Hall, district attorney, will represent Curry County at a meeting in Saam Baldock's office of the State Highway Engineer.

Hall left Wednesday afternoon by air to attend the session. The meeting was called by Judge Effendenger, chairman of the County Courts committee of the Oregon Coast association.

The discussion planned is aimed at coming to an understanding with Baldock on what the plans are of the highway department, for highway 101 during the coming year.

Judges from most of the other counties will attend the meeting, which is being held in Salem.

### NO LICENSES YET

Chief of Police Bud Cross reports that because of transportation difficulties the new dog licenses haven't arrived from the County Recorder as yet. He said that they will be here shortly, and asked that the people watch the Pilot, for an ad-

## Yahr New C of C Head

Brookings Building Hits \$1,244,395 For 1955

City Works Superintendent, Ralph Reed, reported that building permits have been issued for \$1,244,395 during 1955, a new record by far. The breakdown in the permits haven't been made as yet, but Reed said that this figure included 101 new houses.

### Pomona Grange Installs Ben Jones

Benjamin Jones was installed as Master of the Curry County Grange at its regular meeting held at the Ophir Grange Hall last Saturday. William G. Howes the Overseer of the Oregon State Grange was the installing deputy, and he was assisted by Kathryn Foster as Marshal, Mabel Adams, Emblem Bearer; Vivian Johnston, Regalia Bearer; Joe Zumpfe, installing Master; Lillian Zumpfe, Chaplain; Elsa Ravekes, Custodian, and Edna Weigel, Musician.

The other officers of the Pomona Grange are as follows: Overseer, Albert Britton; Lecturer, Bea Phipp; Steward, R. K. Phipps; Assistant Steward, R. K. Erwin; Chaplain, Docia Sweet; Treasurer, Ellen Jaggars; Secretary, A. P. Sweet; Gatekeeper, D. C. Jaggars; Cens, Sylvia Lee; Pomona, Toria Gustafson; Florist, Ollie Britton; Lady Assistant Steward, Clark Erwin; Executive committee members, Fred Adams, Clarence Brooks, and Fred Gustafson; Home Economics Committee Chairman, Edith Ackley and Musician Edna Weigel, Clarence Brooks is the retiring Master.

The meeting opened at 11:00 with a potluck dinner served at noon. During the Lecturer's Hour, Mrs. Sylvia Lee showed color slides and fold about her trip to Mexico and Guatemala. She also displayed the clothing and articles she had brought back from the trip.

The next meeting will be held at Harbor with Chetco Grange on Saturday, April 7th. Those who attended the meeting from the Chetco Grange were: Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Weigel, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gustafson, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Zumpfe, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Foster, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Jaggars, Mrs. Elsa Ravekes, Mrs. Edith Ackley, Mrs. Maude Longacre and Benjamin Jones.

### Brookings Branch Reports Deposits At \$4,735,595

The United States National Bank has increased deposits more than 33 million dollars in the last 12 months according to the bank's year-end report.

The growth in U.S. National deposits during 1955 brought the new total to \$781,492,594. Last year at this time the deposit total stood at \$748,300,328.

The Brookings branch reported deposits in the amount of \$4,735,594.81, according to E. L. Morton, manager.

Growing with the state it serves, the U. S. National also showed a move ahead in total resources which rose from \$847,711,491 as of December 31, 1955.

Loans and discounts for the rapidly expanding, state-wide banking system increased more than 38 million dollars. The 12-month gain gives the U. S. National a loans and discount total of \$309,103,253.

Loans and discounts for the Brookings branch now total \$3,028,939.91.

"The continuing growth in strength and service of our home owned bank reflects this area's progress and the confidence of the people in this bank and in the economy of this region and the nation," commented E. C. Sammons, U. S. National president.

Since the end of 1954, the U.S. National has added two new branches in Salem, one at Mill City and one at Ashland, bringing to 62 the number of its banking offices throughout Oregon.

### MORE NAMES NEEDED NOW

Two names were submitted as nominations for "Man and Woman" of the year this week. Other names are requested for the nominations and pick a "Man and Woman" of the year for the community. The two names sent in were for women active in civic functions.

### Planning Meeting Is Held

A county planning meeting for an economic and social survey was held Tuesday in Gold Beach. Attending from Brookings were Ed Dempsey, D. D. Williams, Cecil Watts, and Joe Tobin. A complete report will follow in next week's Pilot.

Carl Yahr, Brookings businessman, is the new president of the Brookings-Harbor Chamber of Commerce. Yahr was elected at the first meeting of the newly elected officers of the Chamber last Thursday night at the City Hall.

Virgil Clark, Timber buyer for the Brookings Plywood was elected vice-president, and Joe Murphy, treasurer.

Yahr, who operates the Brookings Feed and Seed, replaces outgoing president Charles Gray-shel.

The first order of business by the new group was to set a meeting date, and place for the annual dinner, which will be held on Thursday, January 26, at the Grange Hall. Arrangements were made to attempt to secure the services of a speaker.

Yahr, in his first official action asked the directors to form a list of projects they would like the Chamber of Commerce to undertake during the coming year. He called for a special meeting to be held on January 19th, to discuss the projects.

It was suggested by Clark that the Chamber secure information relative to meetings and other functions, to be printed each week in the Pilot. All those having meetings, or other important events are asked to call Mrs. Bailey, at the Chamber of Commerce information center on Tuesday afternoons.

### FIRE LOSSES LOW IN BROOKINGS

Fire Chief Val Mendenhall reported to the City Council Tuesday night that the fire situation in Brookings has been good, and thanked the public for their co-operation.

Chief Mendenhall said that since May 1st, they have had 11 alarms, 8 of which required extinguishing. Only 135 dollars in property damage resulted from the fires.

### Aunt Sue Benham Is Honored By Party

Mrs. Walter Hale, and Mrs. Emil Edverson were co-hostesses for a birthday party held for Aunt Sue Benham, who was 93 years of age. This party was held at Mrs. Hale's home on Benham Lane, Sunday, January 8th, with 32 guests present.

Many gifts and flowers were presented to Aunt Sue, who was happy to visit with her friends.

# BROOKINGS CITY OFFICIALS EXPLAIN QUESTIONS ON SEWERS

The views expressed in the article below are those of the city officials of Brookings, and don't necessarily reflect those of the Pilot. Those who have divergent opinions are also welcome to express their views to this paper.

The officials of the City of Brookings have been asked to clarify many questions pertaining to the proposed sewer system that is now being planned for the City of Brookings. The questions have pertained for the most part to the \$2.00 assessment now being levied and the proposed \$50,000 bond issue. The following questions have been selected from many that have been asked and the answers have been given to the best of our ability:

Q. What is to be done with the money collected on the assessment now being levied?

A. Fifty percent of the monies collected will be put into a reserve sewer account to be used ONLY for the construction of a sewage disposal plant which must be installed within five years to comply with the State

law. The other fifty percent of the money collected will be used for the construction of the facilities necessary to transmit the sewage from the laterals in the various improvement districts to the disposal plant. This includes all mains over 8 inches in size, pumping plants and pressure mains.

Q. What is going to be done with the \$50,000 bond issue?

A. If this bond issue is approved in the coming election of January 20, 1956, \$29,044.66 as appraised by the engineering firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield will be put in escrow for the purchase of the present sewer system now installed in the City. No money will be paid for this system unless clear title can be given to the City, and if clear title cannot be furnished, then the money will be used to by-pass the present system. The balance of the \$50,000 will be used to finance the construction that must be done this year, in order to take care of the sewage from the improvement areas as they are in-

stalled.  
Q. How is this \$50,000 to be repaid?

A. If the City purchases the present system, then those being served by the present sewer system, which is designated in our plans as Area N. 1, will be assessed on the same basis as other areas where new sewers will be constructed. The monies received from this assessment will be used to retire that portion of the bonds, the balance to be retired from the \$2.00 assessment and from sewage disposal charges that will be charged after various areas are completed.

Q. Why should I pay sewer charge when it appears impossible to connect my house to the sewer?

A. It is possible to connect any house in the City to the proposed sewer line. The sewer system and the disposal plant is necessary to the health of the community and each and every person must help to pay for that part of the sewer system which would become an overall obli-

gation to all property owners in the City.

Q. Why doesn't the owner of the vacant lot next to me have to pay the sewer surcharge?

A. It is unlawful to assess vacant property for such a charge. Therefore, the City has set up in Ordinance No. 83, a fair and operable plan whereby the owner of vacant property will pay an equal amount to that paid by the owner of improved property when he elects to build on his property and connect onto the sewer.

Q. What will I be charged from my property line to the sewer when it is installed in my district?

A. Your property will be assessed to cover the cost of sewer laterals in your district. That will be on a square foot basis which is not worked out completely at this writing. The cost of the sewer service lateral from the line in the street to your property line has been fixed at a cost of \$75.00, providing this service lateral is in-

stalled at the time the sewer is being constructed. If the lateral is not installed at the time the sewer is constructed, then the cost of the service lateral will be time and material expended, which might run over \$75.00 in some cases.

Q. Why not collect this money as the sewers are installed?

A. That would be impossible to do because it is necessary to have some capital to contract for the construction for any type of work. If we do not have the cash on hand then we would be at the mercy of contractors because they might have to wait for their money. The plan is worked out on a five-year basis and all the sewers in the City, including the disposal plant, are anticipated to be completed within that period.

The City is divided into nine improvement districts and each district will be assessed for their improvement as the work progresses to that district. District No. 2 and District No. 3 are now being planned for this assessment and work will start there as soon as weather permits

With good luck and proper cooperation from all citizens, it would be possible to have this entire system completed within three years.

Q. What would it cost to replace the present sewer system if it could not be purchased?

A. It is estimated by the firm of consulting engineers that the cost of replacement of the present sewer system would be \$59,881.17. In addition to the above cost, there would, of course, be the legal and continuing expenses which might well run this cost up as high as \$65,000. You can readily see that by purchasing the present system, either by amicable agreement or by condemnation proceedings the taxpayers of Brookings save from \$33,000 to \$40,000.

Q. If the present plan were not used and a general obligation bond issue would be proposed to construct the system in the City of Brookings, what would the bond issue be?

A. The engineering firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield of Corvallis, Oregon, has estimated that the cost of

the system as has been outlined to you would require a bond issue of not less than \$367,600. As you can readily see, the City of Brookings cannot afford to have such a large bond issue at this time for various reasons. One reason is that the interest would be exorbitant, the other reason is that we are planning to have a water system for the City that would give the people adequate service and a reduction in insurance rates, as well as a sufficient supply of water that would not be curtailed in a dry season.

Your City Council wishes to keep the amount of bonds within limits that would not put the City into such a position that its credit would be impaired.

Q. Why do I have to pay this surcharge when I live outside of any of the proposed improvement districts?

A. The disposal plant and apertures are engineered to take care of the entire city. Additional districts will be set up as needed. If you do not pay this surcharge, you would be using facilities paid for by others when your district is formed.