

Guests at Moose Burger Dinner



—Bishop-Moderne Photo

A view of the high school auditorium on the evening of December 20, when the Willamina Lumber Co. entertained their employees and guests at a Christmas dinner party. The entree consisted of baked moose, the result of a Canadian hunting trip which L. M. Hampton, president of the company enjoyed last fall. Covers were laid for 450 people at the dinner.

Year Just Past One of Growth and Progress

As we look thru the files of 1947, it appears to be an eventful year altho it follows the usual pattern of small cities. There were the usual number of births, weddings and deaths which are really the most vital news items in a weekly paper. There were stories of accidents and tragedy that are sad to remember and there were stories of many happy occasions, too. But as we glance back thru the pages, we find a thread of progress, of building up and community improvement that is encouraging. It is impossible to give a complete resume in our limited space and we have intentionally devoted more space to the happenings of the early months of the year since later events are still fresh in the memory of our readers. This is not by any means an attempt to pick out the most important news items for some of them have been omitted and others perhaps less significant included. It is merely picking at random a sampling of the news items that go to make up a weekly paper. The exception is in omission of weddings, births and except for one or two instances, deaths. There were more each month than we would have space to list in this issue.

JANUARY: A. D. Newby, ending a long term of service as mayor of Willamina, turned the affairs of the city over to H. A. Parrett, whose term began the first of the year. Three new councilmen also took office, C. C. Robertson, Millard Ellis and E. A. Spencer.

The first snowfall of the winter came January 11, leaving the ground white for a few hours. Lowest temperature of the winter was reported Jan. 4, by C. E. Sawtelle, weather observer, when the temperature fell to 20 degrees, 12 below freezing.

Two hundred persons attended the charter presentation dinner when the Willamina Kiwanis Club took its official membership in Kiwanis International, with the charter presented by Judge Arlie G. Walker of McMinnville to A. D. Newby, president of the Willamina club. Mr. Newby was also presented with a wrist watch, the gift of fellow townspeople as a token of appreciation for his fine record of civic service.

A planning grant to the city of Willamina was approved by the federal government, allocating \$6,000 for sewer system planning and \$5900 for planning an adequate water system.

FEBRUARY: The Willamina March of Dimes drive under the aggressive direction of Martin Myers amounted to over \$1500.

Sunday mail was discontinued thru a change in the postal rules, but a morning dispatch was added to the daily service, March 17.

Attendance at the Church of Christ Sunday school reached a record of 201, Feb. 9.

The city called for bids on street paving, a project later postponed when the cost seemed prohibitive.

Truman Shortridge was killed in a plane crash, Feb. 21, near Port Angeles, Wash.

MARCH: Work was begun the first week in March on the Green Mountain Lumber Company's new planing mill.

The grade school presented its spring variety show on March 14.

The city council levied an occupational tax on business and professional offices for the purpose of providing police protection for the city.

Fred Bunn announced the opening of a new subdivision of the city, Valley View addition.

H. J. Ullrich was named chief of police.

Harold L. Mendenhall was re-elected president of the Community Co-operative Association, retail grocery co-op.

D. H. Hiatt announced he was retiring as principal of the Willamina Union High school after 14 years service in the local schools.

Harvey Case Brown was killed in logging accident at Oakland, March 21.

The high school's spring carnival netted \$500 from gross receipts of \$849. Yvonne Hubbard chosen carnival queen.

APRIL: In spite of the rain, a large crowd of Willaminians climbed to the top of the reservoir hill for the Easter sunrise services at 5:40 a. m. Sunday morning, April 6, where an inspiring community song and prayer service was conducted at the lighted cross which had been erected the previous week.

Lt. Wallace Simms was killed in a plane crash in Virginia, April 3. He was Mrs. A. E. Burdick's son.

The city's new \$7,000 fire truck arrived and some time later, two-way radio equipment was installed in the fire department's three trucks.

The city filed a water right on the Willamina river, 8 miles from the city, assuring an ample supply for the future.

Lloyd C. Parsons of Yoncalla was elected principal of the Willamina high school. The Willamina Lumber Company's new planer went into operation April 22.

Betty Talbott Lindsay of Grand Ronde was killed in an automobile accident, April 9, just east of Sheridan.

Ladona Lentz was awarded a D.A.R. scholarship as an outstanding high school senior.

Two new sawmills, the Barrett mill and the Lundeen & Stone mill, were built during the spring.

MAY: Commencement exercises for 48 high school graduates were held May 28, with Ruby Pelky chosen as valedictorian and Dick Hofrichter, salutatorian. Prof. R. W. Bertrand of Willamette University made the commencement address.

The Willamina Union High school budget was submitted with an estimate of \$65,000 total and a special levy of \$19,000.

Kenneth Ramey of Portland was elected principal of the grade school to succeed Harvey Harris, who resigned to move to Beaverton. There were 27 graduates in the eighth grade class.

The Associated Plywood Mills new

hot press arrived and began operation after extensive preparations were made for its installation. The first piece of equipment to arrive weighed over 20 tons.

Bob Bowen, well known electrician from Sheridan, was killed while engaged in an electrical installation in Willamina, May 23.

JUNE: Several weeks of dry weather that threatened local grain crops with possible failure, came to an end June 1, when a welcome rain fell.

The V.F.W. Auxiliary's June musicale was a prominent social event with Miss Amy Lee, pianist of Linfield college faculty, and Mrs. Floyd Edmiston vocalist in the leading roles.

Mrs. Earl Richardson was chosen to represent Willamina in the Phil Sheridan Days court.

Dr. Victor Johnson of the Willamina Clinic announced the increase in his staff which numbered eight nurses.

Rocky Stone continued to bring home handsome trophies from outboard motor races including Portland and Salt Lake City meets. He later won the Hearst cup at Long Beach, Calif. Another outstanding sportsman was Bob Denney who earlier in the spring won the northwest championship in amateur wrestling for the ninth consecutive year.

Mrs. Rurik Hendrickson was elected president of the Civic Club, Mrs. J. M. Olson, Noble Grand of the Rebekah lodge and Mrs. E. A. Spencer, president of the Parent-Teacher Association.

JULY: The city began installation of water meters and signed the contract for the new city hall to provide quarters for police and water departments as well as housing for the fire trucks.

The Rev. Wesley Graves was signally honored when he was returned to his pastorate here thru a suspension of rules by the Free Methodist church which has a four year tenure ruling, when townspeople and civic organizations joined in a plea that he be returned here.

AUGUST: The hot press at the Plywood Mills went into full production of exterior type plywood, the second week in August.

SEPTEMBER: Car shortage continued to hamper local mills with stacks of lumber in evidence everywhere one looked.

School started Sept. 15 with increases in enrollment noted both in high school and the grade school.

B. E. Archer and L. E. Palmer sold the I. G. A. store to E. H. Moehlmann, Lowell B. Baird and Pearl Short who changed its name to the Willamina Department Store and subsequently remodeled and enlarged it. Other store changes noted during the year were the sale of the Willamina Mercantile Company to W. O. Ayars and the appointment of Edw. Johnson to succeed Mrs. Marie Matocha as manager of the Community Co-op.

OCTOBER: The sales tax was defeated in Willamina as elsewhere by a large majority.

The high school opened its new cafeteria, Oct. 13.

E. L. Williams opened a meat market associated with the Willamina Mercantile Company.

B. F. Bryant was named police chief to succeed H. J. Ullrich who resigned.

A. D. Newby was re-elected president of the Kiwanis club.

The V. F. W. put on "Cornzapoplin", home talent play, Oct. 31, for the benefit of their building fund.

Most disastrous news of the month was that of the death of Governor Snell, Secretary Robt. Farrell and Senate President Cornett in a plane crash, Oct. 28.

NOVEMBER: Johnnie Belle Haenry was awarded a silver cup for county championship in 4-H club work.

The community was shocked by the sudden death of Mrs. Lucy Huddleston, who collapsed while on duty at the grade school where she was a teacher.

The Civic Club cleared over \$100 from its Smorgasbord dinner, Nov. 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Woodruff, formerly with the local church here, returned from Japan where they have been missionaries.

Donna Browning was elected queen of the high school's fall carnival, Nov. 21, and proceeds from the carnival amounted to \$924 to be used for the student body fund.

DECEMBER: Winfred Beck resigned as city treasurer and R. E. Shipley was appointed to serve out the balance of the term. Mr. Beck had been treasurer, for eleven years. C. N. Custer of Portland bought the Dew Drop Inn.

The Willamina Lumber Company entertained employees at a mooseburger dinner for 450 persons.

The high school music department and the Willamina Civic club presented a Christmas musicale, Dec. 19.

The city hall was completed and the water department and city recorder moved into their new quarters on the last day of the year.

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