

"Wimpy" Lange's railroad

Grand Central Station is second floor of home

"I've always liked trains."

If a man's hobby tells anything about the man, that statement from Erving "Wimpy" Lange is unnecessary. Wimpy collects and builds trains for a hobby.

Grand Central Station for Wimpy is located on the second floor of his home in Valley Junction where his trains sit on numerous sidings and the locomotives wait for their call to pull one of the many trains around the track that circle his entire upstairs hobby room.

Starting his hobby back in 1945 with the purchase of one of the first Lionel trains on the market for his son, Wimpy has since broadened his hobby into the actual construction of the engines.

Building the engines straight from the blueprints of the big train to a 1/4 inch scale by making patterns of the steps, doors, windows, water pumps and other accessories on the train. He then send the patterns to Florida where brass castings are made.

The engines themselves are mostly made of brass. According to Wimpy, if he is lucky he can get one engine a year done by working at it on evenings and weekends.

He said that if someone were to work at it day in and day out and all the parts were available they could get it done in one and a half to two months.

While building trains is still just a hobby with Wimpy he is going commercial, especially after he retires to "help keep the wolf away from the door."

The first engine Wimpy built back in 1946 still runs. Since that first engine Wimpy has built numerous more, just how many he isn't sure.

Everything he builds for the trains is custom made by him. Probably the worst experience he has ever had is when he loaned a working crane he had built to a man in California who then sent it to Japan where it was copied. When the crane was finally returned to him it was badly in need of a paint job. He is still pursuing legal action concerning this.

Wimpy used to exhibit his trains, but he finally gave up on this because of an accident that almost cost him the loss of one engine.

While only a hobbyist Wimpy is nationally known for his trains. When building the trains he likes to travel around and examine the train that he is building in addition to taking pictures of it and learning the history of that particular model.

All of the trains are powered by electricity on a 12 volt system. Concentrating on the transition era between steam and diesel Wimpy's collection features many late model steam and early model diesel locomotives.

Great Northern is Wimpy's favorite line because they have always been very friendly towards him. As long as he had the correct passes they never denied him access to anything and cooperated to the best of their ability according to Wimpy.

As for the eastern railways Wimpy would rather not say anything about them; the western lines he says have always been

quite cooperative with the exception of Southern Pacific who often leave quite a bit to be desired.

Wimpy is not by any means through with his collection, he is constantly building new models,

working on old ones or helping others with their trains. Right now he is preparing to rework his tracks, add scenery and finish putting automatic couplers on his trains, in addition to finishing the interiors

of his passenger coaches by adding seats and other interior appointments, not to mention passengers to make it all even more life-like.

For someone who has only briefly worked on the railroad

Wimpy's knowledge and enthusiasm about the railroad is unbelievable. In fact when he takes control of his trains and begins to run them around the track, even Casey Jones must take a back seat.



Wimpy Lange engineers his trains around the track encircling his upstairs hobby room in his Valley Junction home.

Sheramina planning for future

Sitting back to see what is going to happen before venturing out again is the way Cliff Bride Sheridan Post Master and Chairman of the Sheramina Industrial Group describes the activities of that group now.

Organized to bring industry into the Sheridan-Willamina area the group has been buying property for future industrial sites so that when an industry has been lured into the area the land will be available.

"We want to give the area a chance to adjust to Liberty Homes before going out for more."

"We have more property, but we are now waiting to see what the impact will be on the community."

"Before we can really get more industry into the area an increased amount of water must be secured," Bride said.

The city councils of both communities are currently working on this according to Bride who stressed that water is the main ingredient.

"Increased supplies of water must be available before we can hope to get any more industry. We were lucky with Liberty Homes, they did not need great amounts of water."

According to Bride studies are currently being conducted by the city councils of both towns on the feasibility of damming up the creeks in the area.

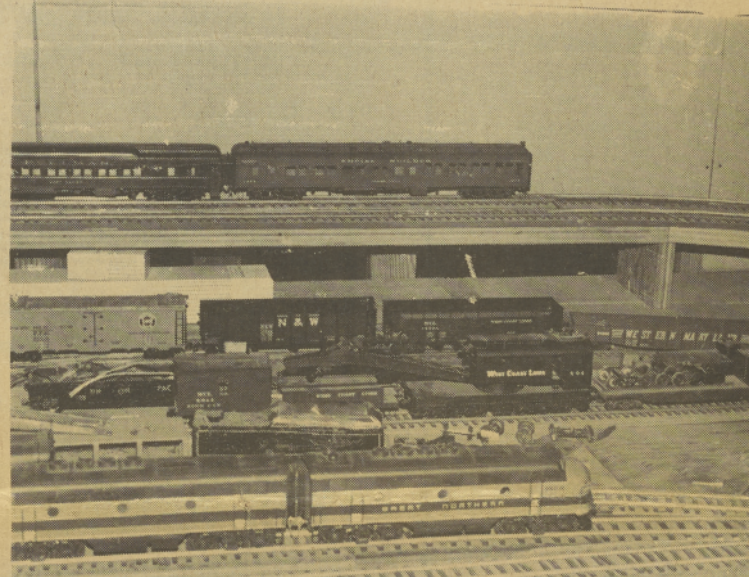
The water from these dams would have many uses including irrigation, recreation, flood control and municipal.

As to when the Sheramina group will be active again Bride said "I wouldn't hazard a guess. There are just too many factors involved."

Notice to local dog owners

The Willamina Police are asking all dog owners to keep their dogs tied and this applies at night also. Dogs have been allowed to run, causing lawn damage and up-setting garbage cans.

The police have tried, for the past year to work on a warning basis for dog offenses and it has proved unsatisfactory. Hereafter there will be no warnings issued and all owners disregarding the law will be cited into municipal court.



The engines sit in the roundhouse as they await the call of duty. Wimpy has built his own engines for his hobby.



Tony Staley New mild reporter

Is it a bird? ... Is it a plane? No, it's the Time's new mild-mannered reporter Tony Staley. Tony is a native small-town Oregonian, being born in Prineville and moving here from Stayton. His wife, Andrea, from Waipahu, Hawaii, is, like Tony, a graduate of the University of Portland.

Besides working as a reporter, Tony enjoys fishing, camping and listening to old-time radio on tapes. He and his wife will be moving from Stayton to McMinnville as there is no place available to live in Willamina.

United telephone eliminates charges

Effective January 1, 1973, many Oregon customers of United Telephone Company of the Northwest will enjoy a reduction in their telephone bills.

H. D. Terry, General Commercial Manager for the Hood River based Company, said that approval had been received from the Oregon Public Utilities Commission to discontinue color charges for standard dial desk telephones and for standard dial wall telephones. "Customers having such telephones have previously paid thirty cents per month per color telephone," Terry said, "and effective January 1, their telephone bills will be reduced by a proportionate amount."

The company's announcement

emphasized that the rate reduction applies only to standard telephones. Premium and specialty telephones such as the dial-in-handset and princess-type telephones do not have a color charge and will have no change in rates.

HI-WAY THEATRE

Sheridan 843-3211

FRI. & SAT. at 7 p.m.
SUN. - 1 p.m.

FILMED AT NEWPORT

Paul Newman - Henry Fonda

"Sometimes a Great Notion"

plus George Peppard

"ONE MORE TRAIN TO ROB"

G.P. A UNIVERSAL PICTURE-TECHNICOLOR

Listen to KPDQ 9 a.m. weekdays

'69 Ford Gal. 500 2 door hardtop - Sharp! **\$1495**

'65 Chevrolet Impala 4 door hardtop, V-8 automatic, air cond., 62,000 actual miles. **\$495**

'58 Ford Wagon 6 cyl. with 3 speed **\$150**

Roger's Car Corral

333 S. Main Willamina 876-6503

POLLY'S FLOWERS

247 S. Bridge Sheridan

Open 9:30 - 5:30

Several members of VFW Post and Auxilliary reported on sick list

V.F.W. Post 4211 and Auxiliary met Monday night for their monthly business transactions. Five Auxiliary officers were present, but several members were reported on the sick list.

Among these are:

Delores Nickerson of Sheridan who is in the hospital at Corvallis with pneumonia;

Gertrude Humfleet has returned to her home in Sheridan after spending two weeks in the McMinnville hospital suffering from a heart attack;

Commander Shirley Rogers is in the Veterans' Hospital in Portland recovering from his second hip socket surgery in the last

three months;

Lester Reed, the husband of past president Ruth Reed is in Salem Memorial Hospital undergoing a series of tests.

Their friends would like to offer them their best wishes for a speedy and lasting recovery.

Last Saturday night at the V.F.W. Hall the Auxiliary held a bake sale. In charge of the sale were Mrs. Florence Lux of Sheridan and Frances Johnson of Willamina.

The sale was held in connection with the "smoker" boxing matches being put on by the V.F.W. Boxing Club.

Life Insurance Policy

Willamina Insurance

Insured's Signature

Agent's Name

Tom Allen

A LONG JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP

The same can be said when it comes to a successful insurance program. Once you've taken out an insurance policy you're one step closer to insuring that your family's future will be a sound one, even if you aren't there. Insurance broker Tom Allen can help you chart that future. As a broker he handles policies for insurance companies from across the United States. He finds the policy to fit your needs and pocketbook. Stop in and see him today. It may be the first step to insure your family's journey through life.

Willamina Insurance

102 E. Main 876-2123