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Dike to Lake Near Gaston Breaks, Eases Flood Condition



Flood waters covered Wapato lake as of old Tuesday night after raging floods had torn a 60-foot hole through the \$75,000 dike, intended to keep the lake bed dry. Gaston in the foreground is the swollen moat outside the dike and the break in the wall. Flooded area in the background was an onion field a few days ago. This also eased the flood condition further along the Tualatin river valley. Cut courtesy Oregonian.

Week-end Storm Rages Over County; Floods Wreak Havoc

Damage Set at \$20,000 Figure in Estimates

One of the worst year-end rain storms on record, which has battered the county and entire north-west since Friday night, has resulted in an estimated damage of \$20,000 to county roads and property.

Late Tuesday the Hillsboro-Newberg secondary highway across Jackson bottom was closed to traffic as additional floodwaters poured into the rambling Tualatin, covering all the lowlands. About a foot of water was running over one section of the highway fill, and wind-driven waves ate at both sides of the embankment, cutting away large losses and covered the entire lowlands and strong south winds whirled the surface to a muddy foam. Water was flowing over sections of the highway there at a depth of nearly a foot Tuesday, with large sections of the side of the fill being eaten away by the wind-driven waves.

Wapato Dike Breaks
Sixty feet of dike on the Tualatin river in the Wapato lake section tore out with a terrific roar at midnight Monday, as a 17-foot head of water backed up against the dikes. The entire Wapato lake section was under deep water, as a result of the dike break, with \$10,000 worth of recently-applied fertilizer on the lake bottom at least partially lost.

It will require three weeks to pump the water out of the old lake bed again, it was stated, but operations for this will not begin until (Continued on page 7, column 3)

Second Power Line in Use

Portland General Electric's new 25,000-volt line between Hillsboro and Beaverton along the Oregon Electric railroad right-of-way was placed in service for the first time Friday, according to R. H. Easter, district manager.

Cost of bringing the new line through and installing new equipment in the Hillsboro substation will amount to \$30,000, he said. The station has been supplemented with the latest equipment and new type automatic switches. Addition of the new line assures Hillsboro of a constant supply of power, with very little danger of both lines ever going out at the same time. It guarantees continuity of service and has been made necessary also by the growing power demand in this section.

Interference or breakdown on either line between here and Beaverton automatically causes switches to be thrown at both Hillsboro and Beaverton, thus making the injured line dead and transferring the entire load to the other line. In the past few years the original line along the Tualatin Valley highway has become the target of reckless drivers, who have mowed down nearly a dozen poles during the last year. Easter said, causing power cutoffs several times.

10,117 Children Counted in School Census for 1937

Completed Washington county 1937 school census figures, finished this week, show a total of 10,117 children of school age, according to figures released here yesterday by O. B. Kraus, county school superintendent. This represents an increase of 109 over figures announced last week, when one school district's report had not been received.

Addition of the Lyda district reports brought the figures up to the present mark, which is the largest in county history. Kraus said. It marks the first time the total has gone over 10,000. The 10,117 children are divided into 5290 boys and 4827 girls, giving a total of 463 more boys than girls in the county between the ages of 4 and 20.

The largest age groups with regard to number are 17 years, 749; 14-17, 15-17, 717, while the smallest age divisions are found in the youngest divisions, with 456 in the four-year old class, 312 five-year olds, and 576 at the six year mark. Physically and mentally handicapped children of the county number only 50, the report showed, with 20 of them able to attend some of the schools.

January 15 is Report Date

Closing date for filing work sheets under the 1938 agricultural conservation program in Oregon was decided upon by the state AAA committee at its recent meeting at Oregon State college, according to N. E. Dodd of Haines, chairman.

January 15 will be the deadline for receiving additional work sheets, the committee decided. County committees have been receiving them for the past month from those who have not participated in either of the previous programs. All who have turned in these work sheets previously are automatically included for next year, it was stated.

Filing does not bind the grower to take the program next year, but it makes it possible for him to do so. All growers who are changing their acreages, whether adding or subtracting, should fill out one of the reports, it was stated.

Developments under the 1938 agricultural conservation act are still clouded by the uncertainty of the provisions of the new farm acts left when congress adjourned for Christmas holidays, but there have been some definite moves in Oregon during the past week. Continuation of the 1938 program is not dependent upon the fate of the bills in congress, but those in charge of the program know that passage of a bill including some form of acreage control and a normal granary plan will affect the program next year. Hence there is a general disposition to hold up fixing of crop goals and similar action until the new legislation is disposed of in one way or another.

Christmas Talk Given
H. A. Deck delivered a Christmas address at the Rotary club luncheon Thursday. Members brought toys and these were turned over to the relief office for needy children.

Unemployment Registrations Are Scheduled

Registration of unemployed persons entitled to file claims for unemployment compensation benefits will begin in Hillsboro next Monday morning, according to an official notice of the Oregon State Employment Service.

Arrangements have been made for registration work to be carried on in the council chamber of the Hillsboro city hall, beginning at 8 a. m. Monday and continuing until 5 p. m. it was announced by A. G. Johnson, district manager of the state employment service. Registration will continue on Wednesday, January 5, and Friday, January 7, at the same hours in the city hall.

Those living in the Forest Grove area will register at the chamber of commerce building there between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of next week. Claimants residing in Washington county will be saved considerable time and travel if they arrange to file their claims either at Hillsboro or Forest Grove under the program given above.

The registration will be carried on by the state employment service, which is affiliated with the United States Employment Service, with headquarters in Portland. Filing of claims for unemployment compensation benefits is a part of the social security act provisions.

One Fire Call In

An overheated fire caused a chimney fire in the Webb home at 147 West Washington street Christmas night, which was cared for by the city fire department, with no resultant damage, S. W. Melhuish, fire chief, reported. No calls were received for Christmas tree fires this year, he said.

Snow Also Recorded

Included in precipitation figures was the light snowfall of the week-end, including flurries on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Total of two and a quarter inches of snow was reported as having been recorded, with some of the lighter falls, which melted almost on hitting the ground, not listed. Moore said. For a time late Christmas eve the snow threatened to become a menace, causing much driving difficulty and traffic hazards on main highways and cutting the road use to a minimum. A number of accidents late Friday kept sheriff's deputies and state policemen busy. Speeds of more than 20 miles an hour were dangerous throughout the county. Start of heavy rains late Christmas day washed traces of snow away.

Lowest temperature of the week was listed last Wednesday night and Thursday morning, when the 23-degree mark was reached. Warmest thermometer reading was Tuesday's 55 degrees.

Big New Year's Eve Dance Planned

"Ringing out the old and ringing in the new" will be part of the festivities planned for the Veterans of Foreign Wars annual New Year's eve dance at Shute park auditorium. The event is being sponsored by the Washington county post of the V. F. W., commanded by Fred Corn of Hillsboro. Tickets to the dance are now being sold by members of the V. F. W. and its auxiliary.

Dance committee includes E. W. Plapp, Lee Clark and Fred Corn.

Advance in 1938 Business Predicted

Substantial Revival Seen; Labor Influence, Strikes Expected to Show Decline

BABSON PARK, Mass.—We are not entering a major depression; 1938 will see a resumption of the upward trend which began in 1933. The first quarter may be poor—much worse than the early months of 1937, but later in the year I look for a substantial revival. Do not confuse this current sharp recession with a major depression. Payrolls, prices, stocks, real estate and jobs should all be on their way to new highs by the end of 1938.

This December presents a tremendous contrast with a year ago. Then, the old year was riding into the history books on a great wave of optimism and hope. "Good times" lay over the horizon of 1937. The dark years of 1929-1935 were drowned out in a hurricane of wage boosts, dividend extras, and gigantic Christmas trade. My forecast at that time was: "1937 will be the first year of real prosperity since 1929. The entire year's gain should average seven to eight per cent above 1936."

1937 Year of Prosperity
Prosperity did come. Business did average 7 per cent above 1936. This past August the Babsonchart stood at 8 per cent above normal, higher than it had been for the year. But after Labor day the squall, which had been brewing all year, suddenly struck. High taxes, political muddling, labor agitation, and thin stock markets created a torrid maelstrom of distrust and fear. The result has been one of the sharpest declines on record. The Babsonchart is now 19 per cent below normal.

The current gloom will continue to hurt business during the early months of 1938. But while activity will average at least 15 per cent below the first quarter of 1937, it should not fall much below current levels. During this discouraging period the base for a resumption of the upward trend will be laid. The spring rally in 1938 will be much stronger than seasonal.

Good 1938 Trend
By next Fourth of July, business should have recovered from a third to a half of its late 1937 loss. The upward trend will pick up momentum during the second half. How far it will go, no one can say.

Thief Pulls Santa Claus Act with Reverse English

Christmas spirit evidently didn't mean anything to a thief who broke Lewis Altman's car on Baseline street, because he took most of the things Altman had been planning to use for gifts.

Altman reported that a man's jacket, pair of bouffant slippers, one woman's green print apron, two pair of men's shoes, two men's handkerchiefs and a two-pound sack of brazil nuts were taken from his car about 7:30 p. m. Friday while it was parked in front of 326 East Baseline street.

"It is to be hoped," someone commented, "that the thief had a merry Christmas."

Christmas Celebrated in Varied Fashion Throughout County

Santa Claus arrived officially in Washington county for his annual Christmas visit amid flurries of snow and great gusts of wind, but managed to spread a great deal of his usual Yuletide cheer despite the opening onslaught of the year's worst storm.

The half-dozen "guests" of the county jail celebrated Christmas with the traditional turkey dinner, according to Jailer Fred Ennis. The dinner, with all the trimmings, was served up by Mrs. Ennis, who assists the county jailer in his work by handling the food department.

Half a hundred ancient grand jury indictments, some dates as far back as 1910, were dismissed by District Attorney G. Russell Morgan as Christmas presents to those indicted over the long period of years. Liquor law violations of the prohibition era constituted most of the discarded indictments, it was reported.

Several who took advantage of the holidays and celebrated beyond their capacity were arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated over the week-end, sheriff's office reports said.

J. E. Sutherland Dies at Scholls

SCHOLLS—John E. Sutherland, well known resident of this community, died at his home here Saturday and funeral services were held from the local Methodist church Tuesday. Interment was at Mountaineer cemetery.

Deceased is survived by the widow, Ina Sutherland, two sisters, Mrs. F. E. Rowell of Scholls and Mrs. H. J. Fisher of Portland, a brother, E. J. Sutherland of Portland, and a half-sister, Mrs. Carrie Hitchcock of Scholls.

Headlines of 1937 Pass in Argus' News Review

Cold Wave, Many Deaths, Union Troubles Included in Highlights of Past Year

With but one more day left until 1937 marches into history, a check of the year's 52 issues of the Argus reveals news of great importance, items of permanent interest and features of passing fancy in the swift-moving panorama of another year.

Unusually heavy was the toll of death in the ranks of prominent Washington county citizens and prominent figures during the year. Numbered among those who passed on during 1937 are E. I. Kuratli and Ed Schulerich, bankers; J. C. Hare, first Hillsboro mayor, and Dr. A. B. Bailey, one of his successors; Nathan Weil, pioneer Hillsboro merchant; C. H. Nosler, educator; Robert H. Mitchell, a founder of The Argus; Melissa A. Dodds, oldest native daughter of Washington county; Julius L. Meier, ex-governor, and James U. Campbell, state supreme court justice; Neil Stangel, promising young Hillsboro lawyer; Joseph Connelly, old-time resident, and Dr. Charles A. Lamkin, prominent citizen.

Packed House at Opening of Hill Theatre

Hillsboro's newest entertainment center, the Hill Theatre, opened its doors for the first time Christmas day, playing to packed houses for both of its opening presentations.

Mayor J. H. Garrett, representing the people of Hillsboro, and Leon S. Davis, chamber of commerce secretary, made short talks when introduced by A. J. Foelker, manager of the new showhouse, at the short dedication ceremony at 6:30 o'clock.

Garrett paid tribute to Orange Phelps, pioneer Hillsboro theatre man, who is handling his seventh theatre here with the opening of the Hill, in his short message. Davis welcomed the new theatre on behalf of the city's business men.

"The people of Hillsboro can be proud to have such a progressive citizen with the foresight to provide this city with such an excellent new theatre," Garrett said.

Hill Pleased with Theatre
Harry C. Hill of Seattle, Phelps' partner, for whom the new theatre was named, arrived from his home in Seattle in time for the opening and expressed himself as being "more than pleased" with the beauty of the new building. It was the first time he had seen the theatre since early in the first weeks of construction. He received acquaintances with a large number of his friends at the theatre between shows in the evening.

Work on theatre equipment installation, which came as the climax to several weeks of rush construction work, was completed 15 minutes prior to the opening of the theatre, it was revealed afterwards. Theatre equipment house crews worked Christmas eve night and Christmas day to have seats, drapes and carpets in place for the Christmas night opening.

Orange Phelps, theatre owner, worked until the last minute on the preparations, disappearing just long enough to change clothes and return for the opening night's program. He accompanied his back to Seattle Sunday evening, and will take a week's vacation before returning to Hillsboro.

Crowds are Pleased
Numerous floral decorations presented by friends and business firms were spread throughout the lobby and lounges of the new theatre for the opening festivities. Patrons the opening night expressed themselves as delighted with the showhouse, and the comfortable, beautiful appearance of the new type theatre seats. Women were especially pleased with the ladies' lounge, one of the outstanding features of which is the large round inset mirror, which is illuminated by a new type of indirect lighting.

"The Firefly", opening picture of the theatre, drew enthusiastic comment of the crowds. The second picture presented at the new theatre, "Ebb Tide", will finish its run tonight, according to Manager A. J. Foelker, and will be followed Friday by a double bill presenting "Second Honeymoon" and "The Barrier." "Damsel in Distress," featuring Fred Astaire, will open a three-day run Sunday, with the extremely popular "The Awful Truth" starting a four-night showing next Wednesday.

There is seating room for exactly 507 people in the new theatre, with an even 100 seats provided in the balcony and the remainder on the main floor. Seats are equipped with rust-colored plush backs and deep green bottoms and are of the over-stuffed type.

Two stairways, equipped with chromium-plated modernistic railings, lead to the balcony and lounge rooms. The ladies' lounge is finished in blue and furnished with modernistic tapestry and chrome chairs and davenport, while the men's lounge has new type leather chairs.

Tube lights are used throughout the theatre, with two large frosted tube fixtures flanking the stage mirror in the lobby. Tan panels are used in the main body of the theatre, with the ceiling finished in tan, orchid, blue-green and buff, arranged in ascending tiers.

Latest model RCA Photophone simple projectors are used in the projection room, which the installation man declared was one of the finest of its type he had ever seen. A Vallen curtain control and silent-tracker are used, with a Walker silver screen.

City Building Hits New High for Past Year

Permit Figures for 1937 Reach \$734; Twenty-five New Homes Erected Here

Building during the past year in the city of Hillsboro has hit a new high mark, according to figures released this week by Edwin Bowman, city recorder.

Building permit figures for the year show that \$734 had been taken in last week, with several days yet to go, as compared to a 1936 total permit income of \$250. A large portion of the increased amount, however, was received from permits for connection of houses with the new Hillsboro sewer system, Bowman said.

Opening of the new Hill theatre here last week marked the largest building job of the year. Permit figures for the new theatre gave the cost at \$12,000, which does not include extra costs added later. Remodeling of the Hillsboro Commercial National bank, which has been estimated as a \$14,000 project, will be brought to completion during the first week of the new year.

Industrial Building Up
Other industrial and business buildings of the past year have included the Royal Soda Works new building on East Main street, listed on the permit as a \$5000 structure; the new Gold Leaf Dairy Products building, 160 East Main, \$2500; a \$600 addition to the Hillsboro Concrete Brick & Tile company plant; the new service station of the Halvorsen Motor company; \$1700 remodeling project of the Hillsboro armory in Shute park; and a \$1000 restaurant being built by John Madsen on West Washington street near First avenue.

Homeowners also were stressed by builders in the past year, with a total of 25 permits taken out during the year for erection of new homes, and 16 home remodeling projects. The new home of Morris West at 434 East Lincoln street, a \$10,000 building, is among the outstanding new additions to Hillsboro during the past year, as is the recently-completed home of J. M. Person, which was obtained at a contract price of \$7800, without subsequent additions and incidentals. Other large homes included those of L. C. Kramien, 567 East Jackson, \$5000, and M. M. Romig, on East Lincoln, \$3500.

Mail Turnover Up 20% Over Figures for '36

Largest Christmas mail turnover in the history of Hillsboro passed through the local post office during the holiday season, according to L. T. McPheeters, postmaster.

"It marked the peak year for holiday mail experienced here," the postmaster said. "We were greatly surprised by the increased volume of mail, since a falling off over the previous year had really been anticipated."

Instead of decreasing, however, outgoing mail increased by about 100 sacks over 1936, representing a percentage raise of nearly 20 per cent, it was reported.

Monday, December 20, was peak day for outgoing mail, with 158 sacks being sent out from the local office, as compared with 141 for the highest day previously recorded, which was during the 1936 rush. A few less than 75,000 pieces of mail were cancelled during the ten-day period from December 15 to 25, post office workers reported, while stamp sales raised more than \$300 over 1936.

A tremendous increase in greeting cards was also reported, with 45,000 cent-and-a-half stamps being sold, as against only 30,000 for the previous year, evidently representing a gain of about 15,000 greeting cards. Mail from Hillsboro was directed to practically every nation for the globe, with the Hawaiian Islands, Oriental countries, Australia, South Africa and Palestine on the receiving end of packages.

"I doubt if there is a single nation in Europe which wasn't included in our outgoing Christmas mail," McPheeters said. Gift sales of valentines proved more popular this year than ever before, he added.

Juvenile Criminals Increasing G-Man Tells Chamber Members

America's criminals are growing younger day by day, with 18 per cent of the country's major crimes for the first nine months of 1937 having been committed by youths under 21 years of age.

That was the rather startling message conveyed Hillsboro chamber of commerce members by C. C. Spears, special officer in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the department of Oregon, at its noon-day meeting Monday.

"One of the major problems of the United States is that of youthful crime," he said, "and its solution lies to a great extent with the individual home and the community influence on youth."

700,000 Juvenile Delinquents
If all the juvenile delinquents in this country could be gathered for a convention, the 750,000 at the Boy Scout national jamboree last summer would be dwarfed. There would be more than 700,000 in attendance, and this would include only those guilty of minor violations against society. In the field of more important crimes, 13 per cent of all murders, 18 per cent of all larceny, 40 per cent of burglaries and 50 per cent of auto thefts are committed by youths not yet old enough to vote.

"Sob sisters are all wrong," the G-man declared, "in seeking to minimize the crime damage attributable to youth. Look in the 'mug' book of any law-enforcement office and you will be shocked by the great proportion of boys and young men pictured there. Twenty years ago they were the great exception in such records, and today we find these criminal photographs crammed with youngsters."

"Crimes are committed by those who are permitted to grow up in an atmosphere of crime," Spears asserted. "If a child has the wrong mental diet, he will be just as mentally warped as he would be physically if fed the wrong kind of food. Those raised in a careless home, where gambling or ridiculing of law enforcement sometimes play a part, or where children are allowed to seek their own amusements and associate with questionable characters, will almost certainly reach adulthood with a wrong mental slant."

"We are often tempted to wonder whether the proper emphasis on (Continued on page 7, column 2)

