

Polk Citizens Promote 12 School Merger

MONMOUTH, Oct. 16.—Citizens of Monmouth and Independence, meeting here Wednesday voted to promote the idea of consolidation of school districts 13 and 29—Monmouth and Independence—on recommendation of Dr. C. L. Huffaker, University of Oregon. Members of the board of directors of each district were present.

"In the light of present conditions and current trends, it is recommended that a consolidated district, including 12 districts of the Monmouth-Independence area, be formed." This is the recommendation of Dr. C. L. Huffaker, who has just completed an extensive survey of existing conditions in the schools of this area. In his survey Huffaker points out that with the increased enrollment which already exists, and the trend that shows it may be even more increased, the present system is inadequate to meet the requirements. The buildings are overcrowded, the high school buildings at Monmouth and Independence are not adequately equipped and show excessive wear, but could be renovated to house a part of the elementary school.

Huffaker recommends consolidation of the districts rather than the forming of a union high school, because "the union high school does not conform to the fundamental principle underlying standards for school units. The union high school organization, in practice, all too often results in neglect of the elementary schools in favor of the high school. At times there have been open quarrels between the two units, a situation which leads, not to the development of a continuous educational process, but rather to the opposite."

The plan set up by Huffaker would provide for a consolidation of the districts of Monmouth and Independence with Valley View, Arlie, Mistletoe, Sover, Parker, Highland, Hopville, Oak Point, Antioch and Buena Vista. "The general plan of attendance areas would include a senior high school, depending on Monmouth and Independence, junior high schools at both Monmouth and Independence, and three attendance centers, one at Monmouth, one at Independence, and a third, which could serve the Parker, Highland, Hopville, and Buena Vista districts, to serve the first six grades. The location of the third center cannot be definitely determined from data not available. The cost of such a project, Huffaker admits, would result in a larger financial support of schools. The report shows that this area, in the year 1944-45, spent only \$54.14 per pupil, as compared with \$68.87 per pupil spent by a like district composed of schools of the same size in other sections of Oregon. The ability of a district to maintain good schools depends upon the desire of the people in the district to have the best in the way of educational facilities for all students, from kindergarten through grade twelve.

Plan New Buildings
The building program resulting from adoption of the above plan would include the erection of two new buildings and extensive renovation of two which do exist. The new buildings would be the senior high school building, and an elementary building serving the southeastern part of the area. The present school plants can be reconstructed at a cost equal to 35 to 50 per cent of new buildings to house grades seven, eight, and nine in junior high schools. The removal of grades seven and eight from the present elementary schools will relieve the overcrowding of those buildings for some time to come.

"The Monmouth-Independence area," states Huffaker, "is faced with the following: first, a growing school population; second, a fair amount of inadequate school buildings; and third, a low ability to use the wealth of the community for school buildings. The question of cost is often the vital one in consideration for reorganization. Any reorganization should result in an improvement of the educational program of the community. Any improvement that is made in the educational program must be paid for by the district. Any form of organization that is worthwhile, will increase school costs."

School districts in the area around Monmouth and Independence will be given an opportunity to join in the consolidation move if they desire. A meeting of school boards of the entire area is planned for the near future.

Mt. Angel Vacationists Favor Southwest Area

MT. ANGEL — California and Mexico is the destination of delayed Mt. Angel vacationists. Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Ebner are on a motor trip to these places and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Crowder have just returned from there. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Weisenfels left Wednesday by automobile for California to visit with relatives and friends and were accompanied by his brother, Leonard Weisenfels, who had been visiting here. Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Welton are home from a two-weeks trip to Yellowstone park and Canada.

Mid-Willamette Valley News

From The Statesman's Community Correspondents

Swegle—The names of Adam Hofstetter and George Standley should be included in the list of those hunting in eastern Oregon.

Brush College—Mr. and Mrs. Glen Martin are being congratulated on the birth of a son, Glen K. Martin, September 26. Mrs. Martin has just returned home.

Mehama—Mr. and Mrs. Ercil Wilson were surprised by a group of friends Tuesday on the occasion of their tenth wedding anniversary. Cards were played. Honoring the couple were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Giles Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sletto, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Phillips, and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson.

Brush College—Gray Diggers Motorcycle club of Salem met Sunday at the E. J. Burtons on Lancaster Drive, started Monday. The crop appears to be a quite heavy one. The Earl Wood orchard was started last week and those on Flister Road and Holly-wood Drive a few days before.

Swegle—Harvesting of filberts in one of the largest East Salem orchards, that of George orchard on Lancaster Drive, started Monday. The crop appears to be a quite heavy one. The Earl Wood orchard was started last week and those on Flister Road and Holly-wood Drive a few days before.

Brush College—The Community Club will meet at the schoolhouse Friday, October 11 at 7:30 p.m. for a basket social. Harry Johnson will speak for the basic school support bill. Discussion of the hot lunch program will also be held.

Jefferson—Mr. and Mrs. Clint Hampton are on a three weeks vacation trip which will take them to Mexico City and Sun Valley, Idaho. They will visit Stevenville, Tex. and will stop in Riverside, Calif.; and in Oakland, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wallace and two children accompanied them on the trip. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schweinfurth of Woodburn will stay with Leon Hampton while the family is away.

Brush College—Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beckett and small grandson Jonathan Zuir from Colorado Springs have been visiting her mother, Mrs. O. E. Norwood. Mrs. Willis Batey and Mrs. K. W. Harritt are sisters.

Jefferson—Mrs. Sherman Hofstetter and sons Dwayne and Dale of Pratum visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. Karl Kihns. Hofstetter is on a hunting trip. Jeanette Schulz visited her grandmother Mrs. George Vail last week while en route to Oregon State college.

Pringle School District to Send Class to Leslie

PRINGLE — Pringle school opened with a record enrollment of 87 pupils and due to this overload the schoolboard voted to send the eighth grade to Leslie junior high on a tuition basis.

Sixteen first grade pupils make an all time record for beginners, and include Carolyn Adams, Janet Ashcraft, Richard Barrett, Robert Barrett, Dale Ellison, Leona Elser, Judith Foster, Patricia Gray, David Johnson, Joan Johnson, Robert Kimble, Judith Lynch, Winona Lynch, Gary McCallister, Bobby North and Harlan Woodridge.

Other new pupils are second grade, Eugene Busch, Bruce Buzzell, James Mather and William Sharp. Third grade, Gene Andral, Sally Jones and Shirley Zimmerman. Fourth grade, Romona Haley and Hoskins Foster. Fifth grade, George Springer, Robert Grant and Gwen Zimmerman. Sixth grade, Joan Foster, Bob Brownell, Dale Haley, and Wilford Haley. Seventh grade, Robert Heckman and Karolina Kampetra.

The sixth and seventh grade pupils organized a 4-H Health club and named officers as follows: president, Gay Bennett; vice president, Irene Fensley; secretary-treasurer, Gaynell Helstrom; news reporter, Jimmy Ellison; and sergeant-at-arms, Harry Arthur.

The Nature study class in the upper grade room organized an Audubon Junior club and winter birds will be studied first.

Four Corners Bus Route Changed

FOUR CORNERS, Oct. 9. — Dwight Wyatt, owner and operator of the Four Corners bus has changed the routing of the bus

162 at Mt. Angel Academy Reunion Held on Sunday

MT. ANGEL, Oct. 9.—One hundred and sixty-two former students of Mt. Angel Academy and Normal school attended the homecoming banquet in the school auditorium Sunday. Very Rev. James Koessler, prior of St. Benedict's abbey, gave the address of welcome, and Rev. Father Alcum, through whose efforts "both the normal school in the valley and the college on the hilltop" became accredited with the Northwest association of colleges, was the guest speaker.

Eustelle Bauman of Mt. Angel was toastmistress and speaking were Sister M. Beatrice and Dorothy Schwab-Schmitt, who acted for the president of the alumnae association.

Officers will hold over; they are Evelyn Pickens Kirby, president; Dorothy Schwab-Schmitt, 1st vice-president; Eustelle Bauman, second vice-president; Mary Silver-Typton, third vice-president; Frances Schmidt, fourth vice-president; Sister M. Beatrice, OSB, secretary-treasurer; Sister M. Alice, OSB, historian.

The Sisters held open house all day for all former students, many of whom came from considerable distance to attend the annual reunion.

In an effort to give better service to residents, the bus now comes out State street as before but instead of turning at Lancaster drive continues on out State street to Elma avenue, then south on Elma to Beck, west on Beck to Lancaster and north on Lancaster to Center street, then west and continues into town.

This new route accommodates the many patrons of the new additions recently opened just south of Four Corners, now rapidly building up.

Many Visitors At Marion Forks

MARION FORKS—Mrs. William Harlan of Foes, Mrs. Lee Smith and baby Londa of Roseburg and Mrs. Max Harlan of Detroit visited the George Stieffs and Bob Jones of Marion Forks Saturday.

E. R. Clark of Stayton spent several days cutting posts for use in this vicinity and some time fishing.

Mildred Chastain and party of Salem stopped en route from an eastern Oregon hunting trip. Chastain was residents of Detroit for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dille of Portland visited the Youngs Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Young, nephew of Scott Young spent the weekend visiting here. Lo La Young worked here at Marion Forks while he was in the army.

Orval Greer of Mehama visited here Sunday. He is temporarily

located at Breitenbush River fish tracks where he is taking care of the young trout.

Bert Walker of Salem visited here on his way home from the hunting area where he has been directing state police.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Westerberg of Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. F. Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Parker, Detroit, visited here recently.

In 110 recordings it was discovered that mosquitoes have a language all their own—a song for danger, another for mating, a cry to express anger. None of these sounds is audible to the human ear. The buzzing that can be heard is made by the beating of mosquito wings.

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