

School at Falls City Gives Pupils a Free Lunch

District Pays Cost of Food For 130 Pupils

By JAN OVERHOLSER
Valley Correspondent

FALLS CITY — "A well fed student is a good student," said J. H. Bond, principal of the Falls City Grammar School, proudly. "At least he's better than a hungry one," he added as we watched the last of 130 students getting a large steaming hot bowl of spaghetti and hamburger and a portion of cheddar cheese off the counter.

As the Oregon Statesman's Falls City correspondent, I visited the school to see just how the well thought-of program is carried out. I found facts that may help other schools that would like to have an effective yet inexpensive hot lunch program.

Provided By District

The Falls City Grammar School serves a hot dish each day to each of its students at no charge whatever. This is provided by the school district which has a special budget voted annually to cover the meals.

This year a sum of \$900 was voted and will provide a salary of \$75 a month for a cook as well as the food for the four-to-five month period when hot meals are served.

Provided in Winter

Hot lunches are only provided during the coldest winter months when it is difficult for the students to go home for lunch. This year the program started about Nov. 1 and will continue until April 15. Broken down into individual meals it means that meals are served for less than 7 cents each if the wage of the cook is included, or a little more than 4 cents each meal for the food alone.

Students are expected to bring a sandwich and also a dessert if they want it but they certainly would not go hungry if they only had the hot dish served at the school.

Milk Four Cents

This year for the first time a commercial milk company is selling milk by the 1/2-pint at the school for four cents a bottle but this is kept entirely separate from the hot lunch program. Over half of the students pay for and receive the milk. Others bring their own milk from home along with their sandwiches.

Meals are served in the attractive green and brown basement dining room of the school. They have been prepared in the immaculate white kitchen, which is at one end of the dining room.

Sh With Teachers

Serving the 130 students takes only 35 minutes, not counting time for second helpings. Each class sits together with its teacher at some of the 10 large tables of the dining room.

If anything is spilled on the tables the children quickly clean up after themselves with a large sponge that is provided for that purpose. The children enjoy their lunches and a very happy atmosphere appears to prevail.

Like Potatoes Best

Although most of the students like everything that is served, they do have their favorites. The number-one favorite is mashed potatoes and gravy (for this 50 pounds of potatoes are used and the rich gravy contains six pounds of hamburger with meat broth and potato water). Spaghetti and hamburger is also a favorite.

On other days vegetable soup, potato soup, bean soup, beef and noodles, macaroni and hamburger, or chili beans may be served.

Food By Donation

The PTA talked the school board and the district into paying the salary of a cook and food was obtained by donation. Members of the PTA canned some things, those who had cows provided milk for the days soup was served. At Christmas each year a program was given and the admission ticket was a pound of food for the hot lunch program.

Cooks Scarce

For a short time in the last few



FALLS CITY—It's always a moment of anticipation for Falls City Grammar School pupils when Mrs. August Boese (left), school cook, serves up the day's free lunch. Unlike most valley schools, this one serves substantial hot dish free each school day to all pupils. School district pays the cost which averages seven cents per meal. (Statesman Photo by John Ericksen.)

years hot meals were not served because a cook could not be secured, but even then "out of hand" food was served to all, such as apples, oranges, and cheese.

Everyone in the community is proud of the hot lunch program. Just seeing the well-behaved, happy children being served convinced this correspondent that Principal Bond is right when he says, "The program is well worth the money."

Dayton Farm Bureau Elects Cecil Will

Dayton — Cecil Will has been elected president of the Dayton Farm Bureau. Other new officers are Russell Coburn, vice president, and Zetta Murphy, secretary-treasurer.

The group will meet Feb. 13 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Coburn.

RED AIR ROUTE OPENS

BERLIN — Communist East Germany's new Lufthansa Airline opened its first scheduled international route Saturday with a flight to Warsaw, the official East German news agency ADN said.

Rod and Gun Club Elects Toepfer

WOODBURN—Gus Toepfer was elected president of the Woodburn Rod and Gun Club at the meeting held Thursday night in the city hall. Other officers are Roy Glick, vice president; Bill Miller, secretary-treasurer; Herbert Hull and Tom Ostrom, executive committee.

Two pictures, "Fishing for Fun," and "Man and Dog," were shown by Ostrom. Next meeting will be March 1 and all persons interested are invited.

Former Dayton Farmer Passes

DAYTON — Services were held in Redmond for George Burnside, 70, former Dayton resident, last week. He farmed here for many years before moving to Maupin 13 years ago.

Survivors are his widow, Beulah, Maupin; one son, Cloyce, Maupin; three daughters, Mrs. Irene Neyhirt, Redmond; Mrs. Jeanette Philomath, and Mrs. Dorcas Richardson, Rhode Island; and one brother, Cal, The Dalles.

Fluoridation On Stayton Agenda

STAYTON—Fluoridation of city water will be discussed at the Stayton City Council meeting Monday night.

David M. Witter, state director of dental health, will confer with the council and will present opinions on the use of fluoridation as a dental health aid.

Nearby Sublimity recently fluoridated its water supply.

Benson Raps Demo Critics

MOSES LAKE, Wash. — Secretary of Agriculture Benson went after his Democratic critics Friday and said they have never been able to work out a peacetime program for agriculture.

"Only through war have they been able to show any accomplishments for the farmers," he said. "No political party can take credit for high prices during war unless they want to take responsibility for the bloodshed and inflation of war."

Salem Hts. Cubs Receive Awards

SALEM HEIGHTS — Three boys received Bear badges Friday night at the meeting of Cub Scout Pack 19 which about 80 persons attended.

The Bear badges went to Scott Armstrong, John Knapp and Dickie Voght. Wolf awards were presented to Douglas Rector, John Horton and Alan Blanchard.

Mrs. Charles Kaapp's den won the attendance award. The annual Blue and Gold banquet here will be held Friday, Feb. 24.

Eastern Star Honors 7 Charter Members

GERVAIS — Charter members were honored at the meeting Friday night of Gervais Chapter 118, Order of Eastern Star. The chapter was instituted Feb. 9, 1915 and there are seven charter members remaining in the membership.

Mrs. George A. Ramp, worthy matron, and Fred McClaughry, worthy patron, presided over the meeting. Refreshments were in charge of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Ramp and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Andresen.

Honeymoon to Wait 25 Years

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Charles Edison Gill's honeymoon will have to wait 25 years.

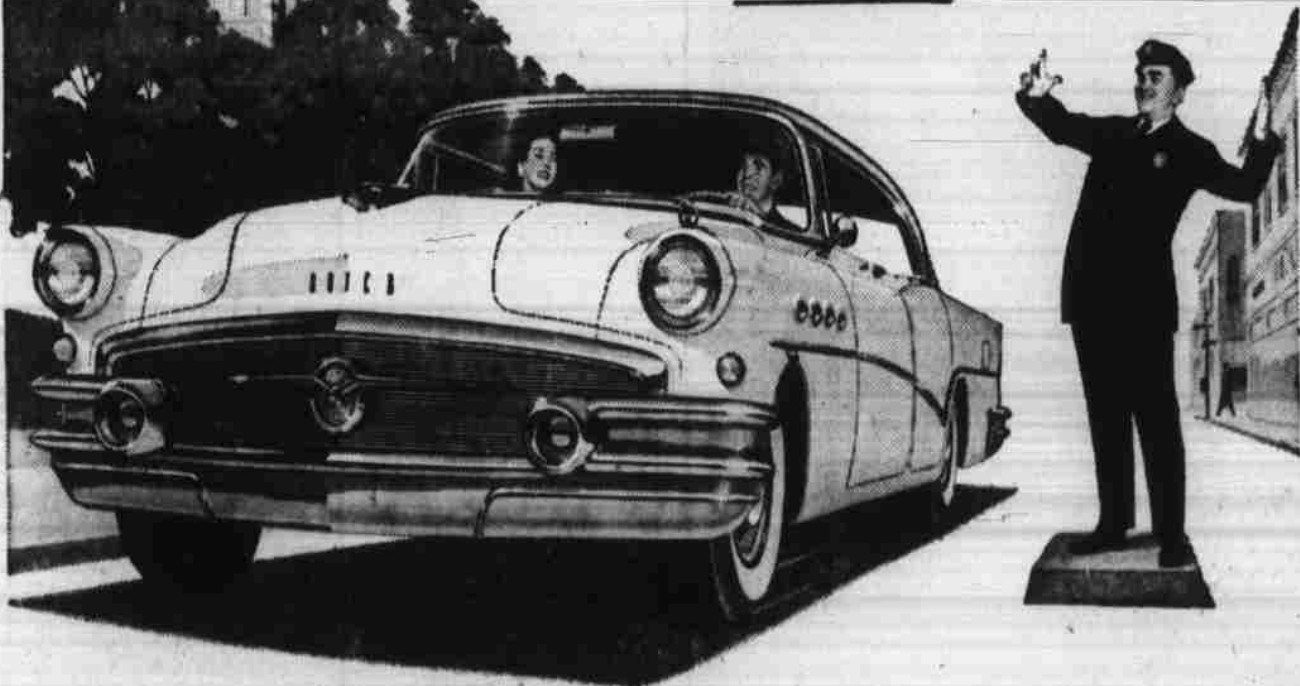
He obtained a license Friday to wed Miss Dorothy Ruth Cartmill, 27, of Maysville, Ky., but Gill was sentenced Jan. 11 to serve 25 years in prison for the \$10,049 robbery of the bank of Germantown, Ky., last Nov. 26.

Group Named to Study Alcoholism Among Indians

WASHINGTON — Indian Commissioner Glenn L. Emmons Thursday announced appointment of a 3-man commission to study alcoholism among Indians.

Emmons said the group will begin in the near future a 3-month study of the Navajo reservation in Arizona, Utah and New Mexico and on other reservations in New Mexico and Colorado.

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