

### Senior 4-H Club Unit To Be Formed

A county-wide senior 4-H group will be organized Saturday, Jan. 26, at Woodrow Wilson Junior high school, Club Agent E. A. Danielson has revealed.

Opportunity to meet old 4-H friends and make new acquaintances by founding the new branch is a nationwide 4-H movement. It is set forth in December at the Chicago national 4-H congress the following preamble is suggested: "The older youth in their organization:

"Only a great people make a great nation, and truly tomorrow's world will need not only great leaders, but great followers as well. Great in being equipped to farm our lands properly — work our mines — strengthen our homes — use our money — conserve our resources wisely. And great, too, in living with others — planning and sharing with others — building communities — grading our policies toward higher achievements and social betterment for all mankind — and taking part in its fulfillment."

The Saturday session will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be followed by a dance to last until 4. All eighth grade graduates who are now enrolled in 4-H work or who formerly were 4-H members are eligible to attend, Danielson said, but only those enrolled in club work by that time will be eligible to vote or to be elected in office.

### Agnes Leach Dunston

Agnes Leach Dunston, 87, of Santa Clara, died Monday. She was born Oct. 25, 1858, at Indianola, Iowa. Surviving is her daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Dunston Kerr, Santa Clara, and with whom she has made her home for the past seven years; a grandson, Lt. Comdr. Raymond Kerr, Jr., serving with the navy, and a granddaughter, Mrs. Jean Stevenson, of New London, Conn.

Private funeral services will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Veatch-Hollingsworth mortuary. Cremation will follow. The family has requested that no flowers be sent.

### Flood Control—

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have a solution. It is not one which is in the nebulous stage, but one which has been studied and approved. Plans are almost entirely in the blueprint stage, ready to go ahead when funds are available."

Had the Willamette basin project's seven dams been completed and in operation, he continued, army engineers are confident that damage in the recent flood would have been negligible. If the Detroit, Meridian and Dorena dams had been in operation, they say, damage would have been \$3,100,000 less. As it was, engineers estimated that the Cottage Grove and Fern Ridge reservoirs prevented \$1,200,000 additional damage in the 1945 disaster. Total damage by preliminary estimate stands at \$6,000,000, covering 360,000 acres.

**Progress Outlined**  
Col. Zimmerman outlined the following progress on dams included in the basin project:

**Dorena:** Started in prewar days; funds now available for continuing construction. Relocation of roads, railroads, utility lines, etc., under way with present funds. Hope for more funds in 1947.

**Detroit dam:** Funds available for this fiscal year, probably sufficient for relocation of roads and other preliminary work, but actual construction not likely to start until more funds forthcoming, possibly in 1947.

**Meridian dam:** Plans almost completed, but no funds available for construction.

**Sweet Home:** This community is under re-study because of its large growth since original plans were drawn up.

**McKenzie:** This dam is the main point of controversy. The McKenzie also is undergoing re-study, and engineers are hunting possible locations for dams on tributaries, in order to overcome some objections to placing a dam on the main river.

**Other Uses Discussed**  
Other uses of dams, as outlined by Zimmerman:

**Power:** Though the dams are primarily for flood control, the engineers are proposing that certain preliminary work be done so power can be obtained from them should the economics of the valley warrant it. Open-floor questioning of Engineer MacGibbon later elicited the information that the engineers are authorized to install penstocks in any dam which they think might be used at some future time for power.

**Irrigation:** All the dams with the exception of the one at Cottage Grove provide for irrigation, with certain waters allocated for this purpose. If and when the farmers need it, it will be there.

**Navigation:** Low-water summer flows of the river will be increased by use of the reservoirs, which will permit storage in times of high water and release whenever needed, said Zimmerman.

**Stream pollution:** Will be alleviated somewhat by release of the water, he asserted.

**Douglas McKay** of Salem, former state senator recently returned from the armed forces, urged the meeting to take immediate action in notifying congressional representatives of its wishes in order to speed appropriations.

**Testimony on Need**  
Testimony on the need for flood control came from the lips of residents in the devastated areas, who were introduced by Fred Knox, agriculture chairman of the Eugene chamber of commerce.

**Max Nelsen** of the Lancaster district, Junction City, declared that some 50 per cent of his soil was eroded two to six inches in the 1945 flood, and the recurrence of such damage soon would put an end to farming on bottom land.

**Dave Calvert**, whose farm is five miles west of Coburg on the Wilson band, told the group that he could not continue to take such losses as \$2500 and \$3000 per flood. "My land was hit by the 'controversial' McKenzie," he said. "We're pretty anxious to see a dam on the McKenzie."

**C. B. Swango**, Coburg, said, "The quicker you get the work done, the better." Swango's main interest was irrigation, and he cited an instance indicating its efficacy on land in his area.

**Gilbert Rear** reported damage to his fruit trees on his Santa

Clara place as 100 per cent in some instances, when the river washed through a draw on his land, throwing gravel on the trees.

**William James** declared that the Goodpasture Island district was hit 50 per cent harder than three years ago because the "McKenzie came over this time and put water through in another direction."

**Fear of worse floods** to come was expressed by Cecil Davis, formerly of Springfield and now regional disaster director, American Red Cross, out of San Francisco. Davis spoke briefly on the human suffering occasioned by the floods here.

**High Dams Opposed**  
A communication from W. William Puustinen, public relations representative for the Columbia River Protective association and a farmer in the Mohawk area, averred that despite the fact he had taken heavy losses in the last two floods, "I emphatically do not want the present army engineer's schedule of high dams for the Willamette. . . . We want no Canal Oil nor Nicaraguan highway type of projects." His solution would include deepening, straightening and widening of present river channels to provide for increased volume and speed of flow, on the premise that doubling the velocity of a river increases its silt-carrying capacity 64 times.

**Clarence Belknap**, a member of the McKenzie Protective and Development association, headed up the anti-dam section of the meeting. Belknap expressed strongly his desire to make clear that his organization was responsible for no publications other than those appearing over the signature of its president, Dayton Thompson.

**Want Flood Control**  
"We want flood control, we know we must have it," he said emphatically. "But we want to know what these dams are for. . . . We've got to live together and we want to live together, but we want to know the facts so we will know whether we are for or against the program."

**MacGibbon**, answering Belknap's questions on the power phase of the dams, explained that a minimum pool will be maintained in the reservoirs for silt control and to care for fish. This pool, he said, would be sufficient to furnish a minimum head for power at any future time, but that for development of great power, in his opinion, additional storage would have to be provided.

**H. E. Maxey**, Springfield, county basin project committee chairman, interposed with the statement that house document 544 which provides for the basin project has no provision for power and that the project commission is not concerned with power.

**MacGibbon** assured Belknap that the dams would be multipurpose and that the 1938 flood control act authorized a comprehensive plan of development of the Willamette valley flood control project.

**Estimate by Robins**  
If all the dams were completed and there was a flood the size of those in 1881 or 1890, all but the top eight feet of water would be taken care of, according to an estimate by Gen. (then Col.) Thomas M. Robins, who was division engineer of the Pacific northwest division at the time the Willamette project was laid out.

**Chairman Oberg** said in answer to another question by Belknap, Dayton Thompson, president of the McKenzie Protective and Development association, expressed his conviction that the various groups could get together on a mutually satisfactory solution to the flood control problem. His group, he said, was willing to talk over the situation at any time.

**Belknap** asked that another meeting be held at which the recreation, power and irrigation facets might be discussed. That, said Maxey, is the present plan.

**Recreation Stressed**  
**Hap Taylor** of the McKenzie river area declared that upper McKenzie residents, too, had suffered in the flood but that they were trying to save their recreation area.

**Mert Fols**, representative of the Eugene Sportsmen's club, cited his contention that the dams would kill three businesses, salmon-fishing, recreation and service (to tourist trade). He backed the reversion plan.

**Walter Buse** of Oregon City, member of the project committee, contended that dams would in the long run be more beneficial to fish life by providing summer flow.

**MacGibbon** denied Fols' statement that water in the Cottage Grove reservoir, because storage water changes from alkalinity to acidity, kills fish. Only suckers were found dead at that reservoir, he said.

**Professor Warren D. Smith**,

### Freighter Allays Fears For Safety

**BOSTON, Jan. 22.—(AP)—**The first naval district received a radio message from the liberty freighter Frederick C. Hicks today which said that she was not in need of assistance and was proceeding to this port "at good speed."

Earlier the eastern sea frontier at New York had reported that the Hicks was in trouble 280 miles southeast of Halifax, N. S. The former German cruiser Prinz Eugen, en route to Boston from Portsmouth, England, was dispatched to the vessel's aid.

The latest message reported by the first naval district gave no explanation for the distress call. The Hicks, carrying 20 home-bound bound soldiers, was originally scheduled to dock at Boston Saturday.

### Troop Arrivals

Twenty-one ships were scheduled to arrive at east and west coast ports Monday with 19,946 returning servicemen.

**DUE AT NEW YORK:**  
Santa Rosa from Karachi—3,900 undesignated troops.  
Hagerstown Victory from Antwerp—1,602 troops, including headquarters and headquarters company, 51st motor port; 339th harbor craft company; 37th quartermaster railroad company; 960th quartermaster service company; and 196th, 349th, 380th quartermaster truck companies.

**Borinquen from Le Havre—1,200 troops,** including 2nd battalion of the 334th infantry regiment; and 784th ordnance light maintenance company.

**DUE AT SAN FRANCISCO:**  
New Orleans from Leyte—619 undesignated troops.

**Benevolence from Pearl Harbor—505 undesignated troops.**  
**DUE AT LOS ANGELES:**  
Charles A. Stafford from Manila—810 patients.

**Windham Bay from Pearl Harbor—1,198 undesignated troops.**  
Crittendon from Samar—1,102 undesignated troops.

**LST 788 from Pearl Harbor—102 undesignated personnel.**  
**DUE AT SEATTLE, WASH.:**  
Ticonderoga from Okinawa—141 undesignated troops.

**Hawaii Skipper from Karachi—1,977 undesignated troops.**  
Marine Falcon from Jinsen—2,238 undesignated troops.

head of the department of geology and geography at the University of Oregon asserted that "We are dealing with a terrible engine of destruction," which, he warned, will grow worse as more timber is stripped off. Because of the peculiarities of the river, Dr. Smith said, revetments alone are impractical and the river must be controlled at its head.

**Assurance Sought**  
Fols requested assurance from the engineers that the dams would be safe, suggesting that some form of government insurance should be provided.

**Al Clements**, representing the Western Association of Lumbermen and Loggers, indicated suspicion that lumber interests to the north are seeking river navigation in order to transport logs from the Eugene area.

**Do we want action now or ten years from now?** demanded Ivan E. Oakes, Salem, engineer-analyst for the commission and the committee.

**E. G. Boehnke**, Eugene, urged that building of the project be started as quickly as possible so this area may move on to other things.

**Other army engineers** at the session included W. O. Silverthorne, in charge of public relations, Portland district; and W. A. Schwarz, resident engineer here.

**Douglas McKay**, Salem, is chairman of the Willamette river basin project committee. Elmo Chase of Eugene, vice chairman, was ill and unable to attend the meeting.

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