

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at a Sentinel story from 60 years ago

Sept. 6, 1956

Pacific Telephone building planned for completion in November

Pacific Telephone will spend a record total of \$558,000 on new construction projects in its Cottage Grove exchange this year, according to Bill Hawkins, local telephone manager.

The figure brings to \$773,000 the amount spent on construction projects here the past three years.

"Throughout the state," Hawkins reported, "Pacific Telephone is taking its biggest expansion and improvement program in history. The 1956 Oregon Construction plans call for an expenditure of an estimated \$30,000,000.

Hawkins said that about \$120,000 of the total to be spent here this year is going toward construction of the new combined business and dial office on S. Seventh St. It is scheduled

for completion in November.

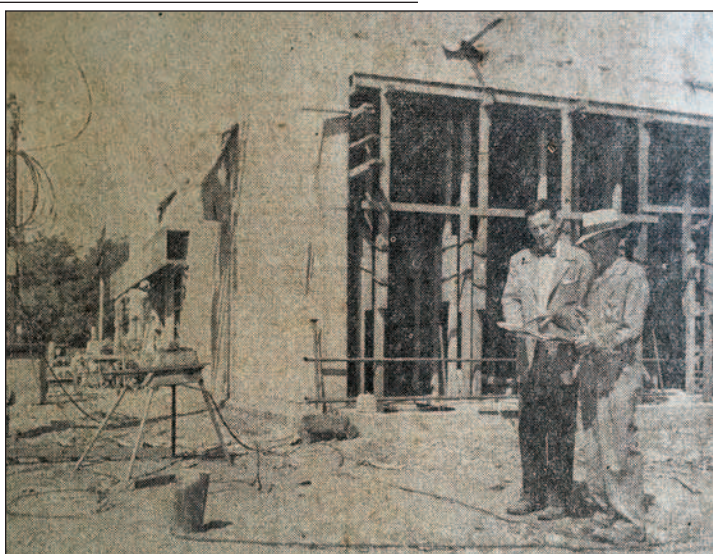
Nearing completion is a new building to headquarter the company's construction department here.

One of the biggest expenditures will be for installation of the largest type of switching equipment in the new dial office. The work is part of an overall project to introduce dial telephones and seven-digit numbering to Cottage Grove next spring.

Also included in the dial conversion work is a cable project, costing an estimated \$28,000.

Hawkins pointed out that Pacific Telephone's steady growth is making a substantial contribution to the economy of Lane County.

At the first of the year, the company had a plant investment



Well planned is Pacific Telephone's combined business and dial office being built on S. Seventh Street. Looking over blueprints for the \$12,000 structure are Bill Hawkins (left), and local manager G. Huffman. The building is slated for completion in November.

of \$18,839,000 in the county, and in property taxes to the county.

The company's annual payroll in Lane County amounts to about \$2,408,000.

Hawkins stated that at the first of the year there were 3,225 telephones in Cottage Grove, and that on an average business day, 11,509 calls were being made.

CITY BEAT *From the City's Friday Update*

Youth Advisory Council recruitment

One of the signs of fall is the annual recruitment for the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council. Applications are available now, and any youth from eighth grade through high-school age is invited to participate.

The YAC was created in 2004 by the City of Cottage Grove to provide an opportunity for the youth of the community to participate and voice their concerns regarding local issues and challenges. The City looks to the Youth Advisory Council as

the primary communication link between local government and youth on a variety of subjects and opportunities. In addition members of the YAC serve as a Youth Representative at City Council meetings. Applications for the YAC are available online and at City Hall. The application deadline is Monday, Oct. 3.

Testing for comm. specialist/dispatcher

On Monday, Aug. 29, the Police Department conducted testing for Communications

Specialist/Dispatcher, and 12 candidates took the National Dispatcher's Selection Test. The candidates with the highest scores will be invited to an Oral Board interview on Sept. 15.

Street sweeper piles hauled to Short Mountain landfill

Last week, Public Works hauled 48 10-yard dump truck loads of street sweeper leavings to Short Mountain Landfill for disposal. Because street sweeper leavings contain plastics, oils, fuels, antifreeze and other materials that can only be disposed of at Short Mountain, The City said there is no other disposal option. The City temporarily stockpiles the material near the wastewater plant, and it is then hauled to Short Mountain on an annual basis. In this case, the 48 loads that were

hauled this week represent about two-year's accumulation of material. The cost to dispose of this material was \$20,842.27; which does not include fuel and labor. Lane County Solid Waste Management charges \$76.77 per ton to dispose of material at the Short Mountain Landfill.

Communications Specialist Erbes retires

The Police Department bid a fond farewell to Communications Specialist Ken Erbes at a retirement luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 30. Fellow department retirees, city personnel and police department co-workers celebrated his nearly 26-year career at the department. Erbes was honored with a plaque from the City as well as a shadow box that encased one of his first uniform shirts complete with dispatcher badge.

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

purred that he'd allocated \$250,000 to study the site, and if the results were favorable he'd for sure approve the dam, Martin had him.

"Why, Mr. President," he exclaimed with well-faked surprise, pulling a folded document out of his pocket, "all that work has been done."

Roosevelt, after a moment of consternation, threw his arms up in the air and roared with laughter. He had been outplayed, and he knew it. The dam, he told the two, was a go, and congratulations.

By the time the dam was finished in 1938, it was clear that Ickes' concerns about overproduction were no longer valid. The answer for using all the surplus power, as it turned out, was aluminum. Aluminum production requires huge amounts of electricity to extract it from bauxite ore. And an America tooling up for a war that everyone knew was coming wanted all the aluminum it could get.

As you likely know, as the war went on America's output of war equipment — especially airplanes — got bigger each year until the hapless Axis powers were completely overwhelmed

with hostile (to them) tanks, planes and artillery. By 1945, the output was staggering, and it was topped off with a pair of war-ending nuclear bombings in Japan. The two Columbia River dams played a key role — an irreplaceable role.

The role of the aluminum plants is fairly obvious. But equally important to the outcome of the war, if not more so, was the Manhattan Project. It's no coincidence that Hanford, where the fissile matter for the bombs used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki was made, is situated on the Columbia River near the dams — nuclear weapons research and production requires enormous amounts of electricity.

Now, perhaps these needs would have been sated without McNary and Martin's "unnecessary and superfluous" Bonneville Dam.

But also, perhaps — just perhaps — our production abilities would have fallen short of the challenge that was before us, and we would have lost the race to build nuclear weapons. The

Germans were chillingly close to developing a working nuclear bomb when they were forced to surrender in 1945. Without all those aluminum airplanes flying over Germany and dropping bombs on factories and ore refineries, they might very well have gotten there first.

So, does that mean that the one man in Oregon politics who most resembles a cartoon supervillain actually saved the world from an early nuclear holocaust? We'll never know for sure, but ... there's a pretty good chance he did.

(Sources: Murrell, Gary. Iron Pants. Pullman, WA: WSU Press, 2000; Gulick, Bill. Roadside History of Oregon. Missoula: Mountain Press, 1991; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Publication EP870-1-42)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finn-john.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

Aug. 29

Criminal Mischief, Lincoln Middle School

Onsite staff reported to police that the door to the storage shed at the location had been kicked in sometime over the weekend. Officers contacted other staff and determined that no property was missing. The estimated damage was \$350.

Juvenile Problem, Gateway Blvd.

A complainant reported that juveniles had been shooting a C-02 pistol toward the apartment building and was damaging her air conditioning unit. Officers contacted the juveniles who said they received the BB gun as a gift from his father and was given permission by the apartment manager to shoot it from the yard without shooting any buildings. No parents or guardians were on the scene.

Disorderly Subject, Bohemia Park

A reporting person advised that two females were smoking by a play structure at the location and he advised them of the city ordinance against smoking in the area. The subjects told the complainant that they wouldn't be putting out their cigarettes. Officers were initially dispatched to the wrong park, but once arrived on the scene, they were unable to determine the correct subjects.

Suspicious Subject, Main St.

A reporting person advised that a male subject was laying in the grass and appeared to be attempting to stab the grass and then attempting to light it. Officers contacted the subject but determined no crime had been committed.

Sept. 1

Disturbance, N. 11th St.

A caller advised that he had a dispute with a friend who had been staying with him for

a while and was yelling at an unknown subject named Danny. All parties were contacted and counseled.

Theft, S. 6th St.

A complainant advised that one of his marijuana plants had been stolen from his residence. The case was logged for information.

Railroad Xing Blockage, HWY 99/S. 6th St.

C.O.R.P. requested a dispatch and advised that they are receiving a signal that crossing arms are either down or going up and down while there is no train anywhere near the location. Officers responded and conducted traffic control until railroad maintenance arrived on the scene.

Sept. 2

Animal Info, Row River Rd.

A caller advised that a dog was locked in a vehicle and was panting. An officer on the scene advised that the dog is in distress and it was approximately 85 degrees inside when the complainant first arrived. The officer made entry into the vehicle with the help of a towing company and was able to get the dog out of the vehicle. It was approximately 90 degrees inside.

Fire, North Regional Park

Multiple callers advised seeing smoke coming up from the disc golf course. Callers were transferred to 911. A man was found camping near the park and was advised to remove his camp by the next day.

Sept. 3

Juvenile Problem, Columbia Ct.

A 14 year-old dialed 911 upset that his mother was being rude and was telling him what to do. Officers on the scene counseled the juvenile.

CLIP N' CARRY GARAGE SALES

HUGE 2 FAMILY SALE

209 Pond Turtle Way
Fri-Sat 8am-4pm
Tons of Baby/Kids clothes - newborn to size 16, adult clothes, coats, blankets, plug-in fireplace, table/chairs, household misc. Also selling pumpkin cookies.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE

North Delight Valley School Road, Saginaw
Fri-Sat 9am-4pm
Misc., Western wear, ballroom attire, vintage books, wedding dress, tools.

GARAGE SALE

1440 Anthony Ave.
Fri-Sat 9am-4pm
Whole household must go. Chainsaws to Beanie Babies.

HUGE YARD SALE

309 N. Lane St.
Fri-Sat 9am-7pm
Recliner, Coke & other collectibles, tires, boat, car magazines, invalid care products, household items, nice clothing, too much to list. Reasonable prices.

PARK-WIDE YARD SALE

Riverstone MHP
Fri-Sat-Sun 8am-4pm
Antiques, Electronics, Tools, Furniture, Collectables, Clothes, and Lots More!
77500 S. 6th St.
Don't Miss Out!

YARD SALE

Halderman Road
Fri-Sat-Sun 9am-5pm
Weather permitting.

TREAT YO SELF EVENT!

Saturday only, Sept. 10
1 PM - 5 PM
Stacy's Covered Bridge
Grab lunch and then come shop with us!
10 different vendors to choose from!

UPCOMING: CRESWELL ARTS, CRAFTS and FOOD FAIRE

Saturday, Sept. 17
9am-4pm in downtown Creswell. Over 65 vendors at four locations, all within four blocks. Head west off freeway and watch for signs! Facebook "Creswell Arts, Crafts and Food Faire Event" for details.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY:

PUBLIC NOTICE DRAIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MEETING ROOM – DRAIN CIVIC CENTER
205 WEST 'A' AVENUE
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 7:00 P.M.
The regular meeting of the Drain City Council is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the Meeting Room of the Drain Civic Center, 205 West 'A' Avenue.
COUNCIL BUSINESS
1. Public Hearing closing sewer plant design & environmental project.
2. Bonneville Power mutual aid agreement.
3. Paving project for utility cuts &

roadway repairs.
4. Dyer agreement for engineering services on construction of new wastewater treatment plant.
5. CCD agreement for administrative services on construction of new wastewater treatment plant.
6. Executive Session 192.660(1)(a) to consider employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent (lineman). Please contact the office of the City of Drain, 129 West C Avenue, Drain, Oregon, 97435; phone (541)836-2417, at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. TDD users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900.
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6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY Sept. 8 51° 78° Sunny	FRIDAY Sept. 9 52° 81° Sunny
SATURDAY Sept. 10 54° 85° Sunny	SUNDAY Sept. 11 54° 79° Partly Cloudy
MONDAY Sept. 12 50° 82° Sunny	TUESDAY Sept. 13 53° 86° Sunny

COAST FORK FARM STAND

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