

Sherman County Journal

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FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1931.

THE NEW RAIL RATES.

The railroad has instituted a service that has been asked for by the patrons for several years and on the face of it it looks like they were going to offer some real competition to the truck lines that travel the highways. When the plan is examined closely, however, it becomes just another will-o-the-wisp that leads the shipper no where.

It provides that freight shipped from Portland shall be delivered to the consignee by local truck, but it carefully excludes freight shipped from other towns even those other towns that have delivery and pick-up service instituted by the railroads themselves. Thus a grocer's fresh fruits and produce will not be delivered while his canned goods will be. The class of freight that should be handled quickly must be called for by the consignee while the railroad delivers the other.

This is another example of the railroad's attitude toward the public. Take the freight rate matter that has been worrying the wheat grower for the last year or more, the railroads stall and postpone as long as possible then makes a ruling that does just as little as they have to do to keep their part of the business.

Perhaps, like other gigantic concerns, they are too big and the real powers that be are too far removed from the users of their service. It may be that the solution of our transportation problem will come from smaller concerns that are able to make their rates conform to the public need with less red tape, from businesses too small to suffer the restrictions imposed on the railroads by the government. The present plan is too slow, too hidebound, too stilted to meet the modern business conditions.

THESE DAYS ARE NOW UPON US

It is hard for one who is not a fisherman to appreciate the suppressed excitement and the longing with which the disciple of that sport watches the fifteenth of April approach. At that time of year when the wheat is still too short to wave in the wind, when the chill of winter is still hovering at the ends of the day, when golf scores are still above a hundred for the year, when the leaves are out along the streams but not on the uplands, then the fisherman's hand begins to itch for the feel of a fly in swift water and his eye can see in his dreams the glint of spring time sun on a shimmering pool.

Like his red brother the white man feels the urge to be up and away far from the scene of winter's troubles, tramping down some canyon where the sun is warm before its time, or fighting the brush along some stream where fish jump from the water. Unlike the red man the white man must have an excuse, a reason for wandering away from his daily task, so he fishes for his health, to strengthen his legs and to regain his appetite. Fishing probably does these, but it also renews his kinship with nature and puts him in touch with the infinite which is just as important as physical well being.

Business cares and worries are forgotten when the veteran fisherman fishes. He may have a note due at the bank, but the deep pool where the redsides play banishes the thought of it; his business may be bad and getting worse, but the roar of the riffle drowns his memory of it. Thus the mind rests while the body exercises and the fisherman's day is well spent for his faith in the bounty of nature, in the kindness of his fellowman and in himself has been restored.

GAS

It has long been a matter of comment that Sherman county farmers seldom, if ever, derived any benefit from the numerous gas wars of the past few years. For some reason, unknown to us, the companies from whom we buy our gasoline have obtained the contract price from the farmers without hindrance from the gasoline bootleggers who make life so exciting for the gas vendors in the cities.

The sickening drop in the price of wheat has made the tractor operator look around for cheaper fuel with the result that the local agents are finding competition from all sides. And why not?

The farmers of this county who farm with tractors probably use as much gasoline per capita as any group of men in the state. They pay for it on the terms set by the companies. If any people are to receive special price consideration from the gasoline dealer it should be the farmer who uses lots of it. Instead of that gasoline has sold in the cities for as little as nine and ten cents while the farmers with contracts paid five cents more. Now the tractor men show an inclination to get their fingers in the pie along with his city brother.

If gas wars are a bad thing for the industry, and we suspect they are, the quicker they become general over the territory served by the fighting companies the sooner they will be brought to a close. Any way while the farmer is suffering from an overproduction of wheat he may partially recoupe his losses by taking advantage of an overproduction of gasoline.

The surprising thing is that the Spaniards have put up with a man named Alphonso as long as they have.

Who said civil service would stop the spoils system?

Ho Hum! I wonder if the fish are biting.

Grass Valley

Henry Roth and family were in The Dalles Wednesday.

Art Bibby moved his household goods to his new home in Hesper Tuesday.

Dr. Clarke, Eye Specialist, in Grass Valley Saturday, Apr. 18, at Valley Inn.

E. E. Gervais is flying about town in a new car and is giving the famous flyer a rest.

L. R. French and John Home-wood drove to Portland Tuesday for a few days trip to the city.

Maurice Feely is under the weather again with a recurrence of the pains in his legs that both-ered him two years ago.

Mrs. E. M. Alley entertained the members of the bridge club last Wednesday afternoon at her country home.

Jim Woods is back again after a winter spent in Klamath Falls and Bend. He reports work as very scarce in the lumber towns south of us.

R. J. Baker left early Wednesday morning for Portland on a short business trip. Mrs. W. W. Knighten and Annjean accompanied him.

Theodore von Borstel, Matt Simon, W. S. Holmes and Joe Gregg were among those farmers who were in The Dalles after some of the cheap gasoline this week.

Friends of Miss Ethel Kee will be interested to know that she is being transferred to Oakland, California, by Montgomery Ward and Co. with whom she has been employed for some in Portland.

Henry Tetz drove to Eugene after school last Friday and returned Sunday with Mrs. Tetz and their small daughter, who have been visiting Harold Hughes and wife.

Mrs. Lucy Ruggles spent the week end in Portland visiting Miss Elizabeth Martin, who taught three years in Grass Valley a number of years ago. Mrs. Ruggles made the trip with J. N. Laundry and family. Mrs. Bart Burrell and Miss Laura Ruggles also accompanied them.

The golfers have made the plans to convert their course into a nine hole course instead of the five that has served for the past year. An arrangement has been made with A. L. Russell which allows them to use some of his land adjacent to the present grounds.

One of the improvements to the town this week was the planting of some trees between the Field's garage and the Dillinger building. These trees were presented to the Woman's Club and were set out and enclosed in neatly painted fences by Dr. Pol-ey and Tom Garrett. It is expected that there will be a general tree planting along the entire length of the main street.

Eye Doctor Coming.

Dr. Clarke of the Clarke Optical Co., Portland, Ore., Eye Sight Specialist will be in Grass Valley all day and evening Saturday April 18th, at the Valley Inn. See Him About Your Eyes.

Grass Valley High School

BARBARA WALPOLE, Editor

The students have decided to publish their own paper for the remainder of this school year and named it "The Crimson Daze." The paper will be eight pages and will sell for two cents. The money will be used to buy phonograph record. Several records have already been purchased.

A number of students are working on the Senior Play "Fresh from California" and on orations.

Several of the alumni visited school last week.

KENT ITEMS

The Louis Sather family spent Sunday at the Fred Cox home in Grass Valley.

Mrs. A. A. Dunlap who has been suffering from lumbago for the past week is reported as be-

ing better.

Mr. Tulle of Wasco was a Kent visitor Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Knighten and daughter Anjean were visitors in Portland over the week end.

A number of people from Kent went to Rufus to the the Rufus-Kent baseball game last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wilson and daughter Martha, and Mrs. Ida Davis and daughter Pauline were visitors at the home of W. O. Smith last Sunday.

The Hornets of the Kent Grange, headed by E. M. Helyer, will give a program, card party, and dance next Saturday evening, April 18, at the Grange hall.

Mr. Jack Russel, who is attending the Baptist Seminary in Portland, spoke at the Kent Christian Church last Sunday morning. There were fifty-eight present at Sunday School.

Miss Loraine Darby had high score for the ladies and Jim Mathes for the men, while Karl Pleumke and Mrs. Jim Mathes received consolation prizes at the Auxiliary card party last Saturday night.

Mr. Larry O'Brien has been busy remodeling the J. E. Norton building. The space which was formerly used as a barbershop is now being utilized as an ice cream parlor, while the barbershop is now located in its new quarters adjacent to its former location.

Kent School Notes

Practice on the May Day-Child Health Day pageant, "The Magic Door" began last week. Leading parts will be taken by Phyllis Haynes, Luther Davis, Evelyn Davis, Clarice Wilson, Alta Norton, Donald MacInnes, and Harley McKay.

Miss Loraine Darby was a week end visitor in Wasco.

Maxine Pleumke while out playing last Thursday evening fell and painfully bruised and cut her face so that it was necessary for the doctor to place a couple of stitches in her upper lip.

The appearance of the typing room and the laboratory has been greatly improved by the application of a new coat of kalsomine.

The Kent baseball team will play the Maupin team Friday afternoon at Maupin, and will play the return game with Rufus on the local diamond next Sunday.

Earl Lyons was absent from school this week on account of illness, also Edith Gregg on account of having tonsillitis.

Miss Bernice Howell and Juanita Mitchell visited school Monday.

Clarence Gregg, president of the seventh and eighth grade student body was impeached last Tuesday for assault and battery. Myrtle Helyer was the plaintiff, so Clarence was found guilty by the judge. He was forced to forfeit his office and stay in all the recesses of that week.

Harley McKay has been absent for two days suffering with boils.

The Kent High won a game from Rufus Sunday by the score of 15-8. The Rufus pitchers struck out 8, walked 2 and allowed 17 hits which the Kent boys turned into 15 runs. The Kent pitchers struck out 8, walked 5 while Rufus hit nine safties for 8 runs. Deyohit a 3 bagger and Wilson a home run for Rufus. Rufus comes to Kent this Sunday to get revenge.

Closed Season Proposed to Protect Whales

Washington.—The wholesale slaughter of whales for commercial purposes which is killing off this huge animal will cease if a bill presented to the League of Nations is passed, according to a report from the United States Department of State. It is hoped that by instituting a partially "closed" season on whales, similar to that instituted by the United States on seals, the number of the former will greatly increase in the next few years.

A plan to consolidate the elementary schools in Douglas county in the district from Green to Rice creek and from Tenmile to Glangary is being considered. High schools would not be affected. The area contains 230 pupils.



TYPICAL AMERICAN.

Here is the smile of the American Legion junior baseball player. In 1929 there were 300,000 boys under 17 years of age engaged in this competition. In 1930 there were 400,000 boys. The teams played under strict supervision, and rigid rules, all sponsored by American Legion posts of their communities. Championship teams meet champions, until finally state teams enter regional tournaments. From regional contests the champion teams go to the sectional, one east of the Mississippi river and one west. Then comes the world series. The major leagues of organized baseball sponsor this program to the extent of \$50,000 a year. The Legion sponsors it because it teaches boys fair play, obedience to rules, democracy and clean living, principles of good citizenship in later life.

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

George Anderson of Mulino believes he's exceptionally lucky. Just as his auto containing all members of his family drove down the approach after crossing the Milk creek bridge, a 40-foot section washed out of the center.

Trout egg-taking operations at Crane Prairie, considered one of the best stations in the state, was started on April 1. It was necessary for the hatchery crew to haul the spawn out of the Upper Deschutes country, or sleds over four miles of snow.

Surfacing of the Mitchell-Dayville cut-off of the Ocho highway has started in full blast. The Puckett Construction company, with three small crushers, is laying the first coat of gravel over the Willow creek-Dayville section.

A. A. Rogers, president of the First National bank of Eugene, has been declared best hog-caller in the local Rotary club. At a recent contest in the art of luring pigs to the feed trough, Mr. Rogers was a group of 12.

The sawmill of the Gustina Bros. Lumber company in the Lost creek valley above Dexter resumed operations recently. This plant has been idle since May, 1930.

Two early residents of Pendleton passed 50 years of wedded life together recently when Mr. and Mrs. Ben Marlin celebrated their golden wedding anniversary there.

The executive committee of the Baker County Rod & Gun club has initiated a movement to organize a statewide sportsmen's association in the interest of game conservation.

Residents of the Bethel district south of Amity are in the midst of a natural gas boom. Leases were obtained by a company the past week, and test wells will be drilled immediately.

Amity is to hold a special election to provide a more adequate water system and to amend the city charter to provide for a bond issue. The present pipe line has been pronounced weak and unsafe.

A large gain in membership, financial obligations met in full and an optimistic outlook for the future were features of reports submitted at the annual meeting of the Roseburg Presbyterian church.

A lookout tower 70 feet high is to be built on top of Wolf mountain on the divide between Salt creek and Hills creek in the Cascades above Oakridge, according to C. C. Olsen, construction chief of the Cascade national forest.

While transferring gasoline through a siphon hose from his auto tank into a jug, Jerry Niren of Medford sustained painful burns. He was holding a match to throw light upon the process and the gas flamed, igniting Niren's trousers.

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