

## Frozen Fire Siren Confuses Wasco Residents

Monday Wasco folks waited for the noon whistle which shortly before one o'clock responded three times and folks thought it was a fire signal. The firemen found the motor siren frozen.

Students returning to college after the holidays were La Villa Gosson and Gordon Boice to the College of Education in Ashland, James and Philip O'Meara to Linfield, and Hazel Marie Watkins to St. Helens Hall in Portland.

Douglas Dunn is a new student in the Wasco schools. He is in the third grade.

Members of the Tuesday Study club met with Mrs. Vashti Strigilis. In the absence of the president and treasurer Mrs. Maud Alets and Wilma Wilde acted as the officers. A program of poems was given after the business meeting and the hostess served refreshments.

Holiday season guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Reid were Mr. and Mrs. Duane Amens of Brookings, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thompson of Prairie City.

Mr. and Mrs. David Reid spent the Christmas holidays in Portland visiting their son and daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hughes and children and Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Reid were New Year's Day guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Reid. Mr. Hughes is general manager of the Diamond Mill in The Dalles.

Mrs. Leo Watkins returned home Wednesday from a weeks stay in a Dalles hospital. She is much improved.

Miss Betty Ann Ford of The Dalles returned to her home Tuesday after a ten days visit at the home of Louise Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Yocum and daughter Patricia while motoring home from The Dalles Sunday slipped and tipped over. The family was not hurt, although unable to open the car door a passing motorist soon assisted them.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Crum and his Bonnie left Saturday for the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Strahm at Arlington, to leave Bonnie while in Portland. Ralph and Eldon Neasham attended caterpillar school there.

Week end basket ball teams met at Rufus Friday evening with Wasco school team losing 21 to 10. At Dufus Saturday evening Wasco was rewarded, scoring 27 to 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Diebert Johnson were Saturday callers in The Dalles on business.

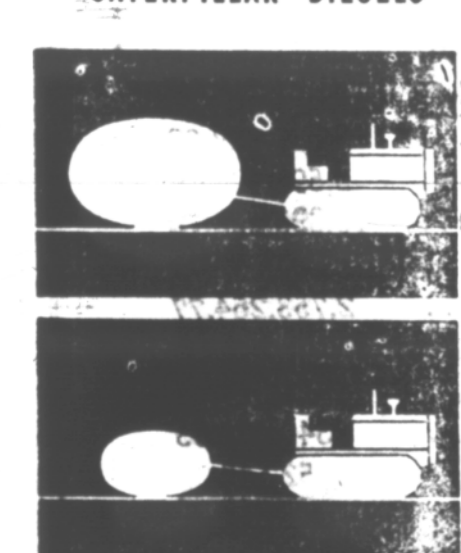
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Root and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Root visited in The Dalles Sunday.

Mrs. George Wilde entertained recently at four tables of contract bridge with dessert luncheon. Mrs. Haufelt held high score and Mrs. Ormand Hilderbrand second high. Word was received that Danny Kaseberg is on the ship, Savannah, near San Diego and his companion, Jack Hines, is in the North Island Aviation school.

Grant Boice signed for entrance into the navy before Christmas, and plans to go to Portland Thursday for a physical test.

A surprise birthday party was given in honor of Mrs. Elva Hines Thursday evening. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Nisbet, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Funk and Lee

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Dehler. Mrs. Funk brought birthday cake which was served after pinocle. The honor guest was presented with gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Lester Johnson spent New Years eve and day relatives in Yakima, where they attended the Elks dance.

Dances were scarce around Sherman county New Years eve, a number of Wasco people desiring an amusement of this kind deciding Baylock was too far away, were informed of one at Kent where they spent the evening happily.

The Christian Endeavor has been omitted the past two Sundays. Rev. Stephens being ill, church services were not held recently, although last Sunday he was able to deliver a sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hilderbrand were dinner hosts Thursday evening at their home. Following a seven o'clock dinner guests were entertained at pinocle. High score honors were won by Miss Olive and John Robinson while James Maddox received the consolation prize.

The Auxiliary of the American Legion members met with Mrs. O. G. Hilderbrand for a regular business meeting.

Harold Dutton spent several days in Portland. He returned for a visit with his parents and Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. Harley Dutton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harriman and daughter Betty, of The Dalles and Mrs. Grant Armsworthy met for a no host dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Ed Moon New Years day.

John Royce spent several days in Portland receiving medical treatment.

Mrs. Stanley was in town one day from Colton where she is staying with her sister, Mrs. Wordworth.

Marvin Thomas returned home Saturday from Lebanon where he motored home from the Vern Dutton home.

H. H. Brackett of Rufus visited in The Dalles Saturday.

## SIX TRAFFIC DEATHS

The first ten days of December, ordinarily one of the most dangerous periods of the year for traffic accidents, saw only six fatalities this year, it was disclosed today in a report from the traffic safety division of the state department. This is a decrease of 62 percent from the same period last year which brought 16 deaths. In December of 1938, the same period resulted in 15 deaths and in 1937 there were 12 fatalities in that period.

"Traffic checks show that travel during the third week of December is 15 percent above the normal volume for this time of year while during the fourth week, it is 31 percent above normal. This means, of course, that exposure to accident is greater and therefore, it is important that drivers and pedestrians exercise additional care during these periods."

## HI-WAYS TO HEALTH by ADA R. MAYNE OREGON DAIRY COUNCIL

With the holidays past if you budget your time for house hold tasks and food preparation you will have the time for the many things you long to do during these after days. Have in mind dishes that are quickly put together, dishes that can be prepared ahead of time without loss of looks or flavor. Molded salads, hot cream soups, pressed chicken or veal and pork molds, quick hot breads with a favorite preserve, home canned fruits as desserts and a well filled cookie jar are all time saving and yet filling and appetizing too.

The main thing to remember is the emphasis that must be placed on the protective foods, no matter what the season, if families are to thrive. The daily quart of milk, the generous use of fruits, vegetables, eggs and whole grain cereals are as important to the individual during the busy holidays as they are every other day in the year.

Piping hot quick breads served with a lot of good butter will help to make your holiday entertaining more festive. Here is a favorite prune bread recipe that you will

## Kent Grange To Have Initiation, Potluck Dinner

Kent Grange, No. 688, will hold its next regular meeting all day Saturday, January 11. Potluck dinner at noon, and initiation of new members in the afternoon.

Mr. and J. J. Decker were hosts to the following guests for dinner New Years eve: Mr. and Mrs. William Mitchell of Hermiston, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis, R. Abell, G. W. Howell and Wilbur Haggerty.

R. P. Barnet motored to Portland Wednesday when he took his daughter Levina back to resume her training at Pacific Beauty school. Luther Warren Davis accompanied them to Portland enroute to Corvallis to resume his studies at OSC.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bothwell of Maupin and Mr. and Mrs. Bothwell of Eugene were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilson for New Years dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Koepke left for Condon Saturday where they will be employed on the E. J. Barnet ranch. Barnet formerly resided at Kent.

Kenneth Walker of Moro was a business visitor at Kent Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis, Mrs. J. C. Wilson and daughter Nellie and R. Abell were business visitors in The Dalles Friday.

Cliff Ullmann of Redmond called briefly at the W. C. Helyer home Tuesday morning.

Nellie Wilson was an overnight guest at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilson and son Richard motored to The Dalles Wednesday evening accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bothwell who were enroute to Eugene where Mr. Bothwell is a student at U. of O.

Miss Velma Matthes who spent the holiday vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Matthes, left Thursday for North Bend to resume her duties as instructor in the schools at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Helyer went to Redmond Saturday where they were overnight guests of their daughter, Mrs. Clifford Ullmann and family. The occasion being the birthday anniversary of their granddaughter, Judith Ullmann.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Helyer and Mrs. Robert Helyer transacted business in The Dalles Saturday.

Mrs. Floye von Borstel and J. L. Davis were at Grass Valley Tuesday evening when they installed officers for Sherman Chapter, No. 132 O.E.S. and the Masonic order jointly. Mrs. J. E. Norton went as guest and organist.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schadevitz

and son John attended a show at Grass Valley Sunday.

The PTA of Kent will hold its next regular meeting Monday evening, January 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schilling and daughter Paulette of Goldendale, Wn., was in Kent Friday when they returned the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Schilling, to their home here, after spending several days visiting in Goldendale.

The Kent Rebekahs held a card party Saturday evening, January 4 one of a series, but due to inclement weather, only 14 were in attendance. Mr. and Mrs. Verne Dous of Antelope were the only cut of town guests.

Kent American Legion held its annual New Years dance Tuesday evening, December 31. Music was furnished by Mobley's orchestra and refreshments were served at midnight.

## Wheat Picture Complicated

The wheat picture as a whole is very complicated and promises no bright outlook until the war is over, and even then all surplus producing countries will want to dispose of their accumulated surpluses. C. W. Wright, chief of the state department of agriculture grain inspection division with headquarters in Portland, told the state board of agriculture at its recent meeting.

Large surpluses, virtual cessation of the flow of flour to China, slowing up of flour to the East coast due to lack of space, smaller volume to California and no broad outlet for flour are all factors in the present situation. The only export flour business going on is with the Philippines and that is small.

But an optimistic note is in his assertion that Shanghai could provide a good market for local wheat, and may do so yet. It is estimated that Shanghai will import a total of 20 full cargoes of wheat during the next six months, and exporters naturally would like to get a share of the business were it possible.

"As the situation now exists, there is a sizeable surplus in the Pacific Northwest, with markets drawing very narrow. Millers do not provide much of an outlet, exporters none at all. It is estimated that at the end of the season, there will be a surplus of 35 million bushels in the Pacific Northwest, with an excellent crop coming up. This will strain storage facilities beyond capacity. With so much wheat now stored in bulk, the problem would become more acute than in other years."

He pointed out also that current rumors persist in saying that wheat may be provided Spain and that credits may be arranged for disposing of wheat to Spain under the American Red Cross. This, if it materializes, has promise of disposing of some of the surplus wheat.

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## NEW PLAN FOR ELK AND DEER HIDES

A new plan for handling unclaimed deer and elk hides held by cold storage and locker plants of the state has been announced by the Oregon State Game Commission.

Instead of destroying the hides, the various plants will ship hides to the Portland office for sale to the highest bidder. One half of the net proceeds will be returned to the plants to reimburse them for handling the skins. Before shipment is made, the plants will first notify their Commission office of the number of hides on hand and state police officers will then check and tag the hides before shipping.

In announcing the new plan, the Game Commission makes it clear that any individual has the right to claim the hide of a deer or elk he has killed legally and if properly tagged, he may have it tanned and made up into articles of clothing. No individual has the right, however, to sell or barter such hides.

"How did you happen to quit teaching school to join the chorus?"

"Because there's more money in showing figures to the big boys."

And as one girl put it, "Everything I want to do is either illegal, immoral, or fattening."

## Statehouse Gossip

(Continued from page one) sell them at the lower price and the state found it necessary to meet this competition in order to dispose of its surplus supply amounting to approximately 400 sets over and above those required to supply the members of the legislature for the next ten years and such other state officials as are entitled to receive them without cost.

Governor Sprague will ask the state legislature for authority to organize a state guard. Not that he expects to create such an organization, but just in case it might become necessary in an emergency that might arise during the absence of the national guard troops now undergoing training at Camp Murray and Camp Clatsop.

Oregon and its political subdivisions—counties, cities, school dis-

tricts, etc.—have reduced their outstanding indebtedness by \$71,548,780 in the past 10 years according to a survey by Walter E. Pearson, state treasurer.

On July 1, 1930, the state and its political subdivisions owed a total of \$185,643,457. By July 1, 1940, this debt load had been whittled down to \$114,094,677, a reduction of nearly 40 per cent.

The net debt of the state in 1930 according to Pearson's survey, was \$31,308,132. That figure is now down to \$13,681,578—a reduction of \$17,626,554.

The cities cut \$29,202,673 off their debt load in the 10 year period—from \$76,681,848 in 1930 to \$47,479,175 in 1940.

School districts whittled \$9,168,068 off their debt load in the period from 1930 to 1940—from \$22,539,320 to \$13,371,252.

The net debt of the 36 counties was reduced from \$24,460,729 to \$15,551,451—down \$8,909,278.

The progress of other political subdivisions in their efforts at debt reduction are shown in Pearson's survey as follows: Port districts—from \$9,556,117 to \$4,998,258—down \$4,557,859; irrigation districts from \$17,637,947 to \$16,308,061—down \$1,239,886; drainage districts from \$2,097,150 to \$1,237,554—down \$759,605; fire protection; highway improvement and other districts from \$214,071 to \$99,183—down \$114,891. The only subdivision group to show an increase in the debt load were the water districts whose net debt increased from \$1,148,131 to \$1,178,163—up \$30,033.

The State Land Board has employed Marvin Klomme to supervise the "blocking" of the state's

700,000 acres of school lands. This is the first definite step in a program that has been under consideration for more than five years. The program involves the exchange of school sections scattered throughout the public domain to the federal government for an equal acreage grouped in larger tracts and more conveniently accessible to stockmen to whom it is proposed to lease the "blocks" for grazing purposes.

Klemme was formerly with the grazing interests, in Oregon and is thoroughly acquainted with the problem presented by the blocking program. It is expected that the "blocking" will require the better part of two years. The first blocks will be made on an exchange-of-use basis. If the experiment proves satisfactory exchange of title will be later.

Temporarily unemployed workers in Oregon drew an aggregate of \$4,099,925 in jobless insurance during 1940 compared to \$4,052,888 in 1939 and \$5,916,399 in 1938 according to a report by the state unemployment compensation commission. Claimants for jobless insurance in 1940 drew an average of \$71.07 compared to an average of \$88.29 in 1939, indicating a shorter period of unemployment during the past year. Employers contributed a total of \$6,138,978 in payroll taxes last year compared to \$5,816,830 in 1939 and \$6,878,482 in 1938. The reserve in the commission's trust fund was up to slightly more than \$10,000,000 on January 1, compared to \$7,809,955 a year ago. It is expected to hit \$12,000,000 within the next two months, members of the commission said.

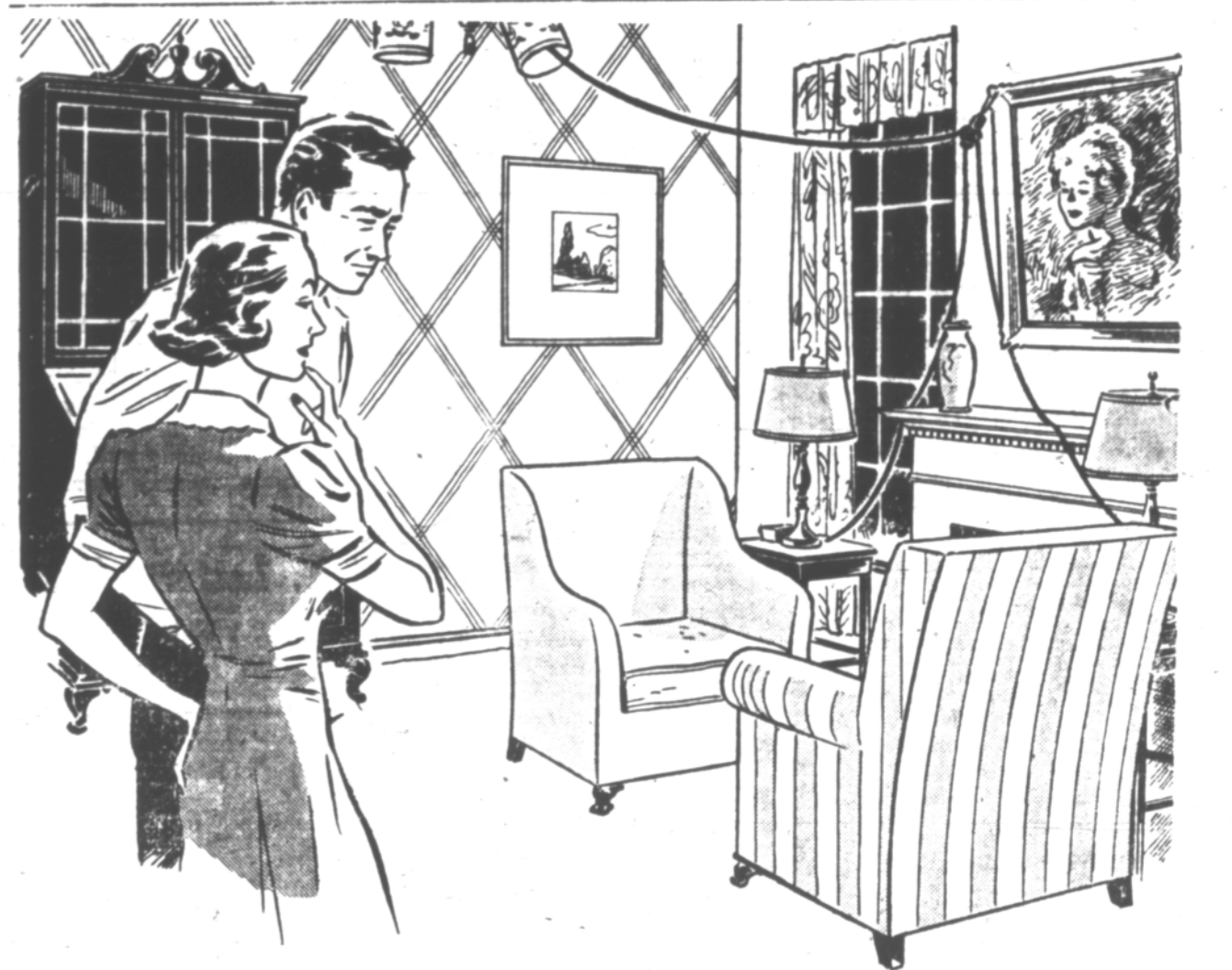
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