

Rufus News

ROAD — WEATHER REPORT

The slide on the Columbia river highway about three miles west of Rufus still is keeping the road closed to through traffic, Saturday, Jan. 26, was the date the first dirt piled on the highway at that point. It took the road crew six hours to clear away the debris. The first slide was just a warning for the huge one which fell the following Monday night. The road crews have been working with all their power, but the mountainside has greater power, that will spill down more dirt faster than the crews can haul it away, so the road still is closed the first of this week. The heavier traffic goes over Maryhill Ferry, and the lighter traffic is routed to Wasco, thence back to Biggs once more.

The Rufus school bus which normally goes as far west as Miller, has been unable to pick up the children west of the slide. This includes the O'Brien children of which there are three in school who live at Biggs, where their Daddy works on the railroad. The children were out last week and it looks like it may be some time yet before they can use the highway to get to school. Snow and rain fell last week. Snow lay all over the hills Thursday morning, and the highway was slippery in spots. Even some of the gravel roads had a coating of ice. Snow, falling Saturday, turned to a hard rain. Ditches were all running water in Sunday morning. However, the rain let up in the afternoon. Monday the sun was shining but there was a cold wind that took away its warmth.

P.P.A.L. APPLIES FOR LICENSE FOR DAM

forming a nine-mile reservoir.

The Yale plant will have an initial installation of two 50,000-kilowatt generators but will be built for eventual capacity of four such power units, which will bring total cost of the project to \$33,000,000. Installation of the third and fourth generators at Yale and also at the Merwin plant will follow further up stream development of the river to increase water storage.

SEAL SALE REPORT

The Christmas Seal Sale report for 1950 totalling \$792.50 for Sherman county, was announced this week by Mrs. A. H. McIntyre.

Of this total amount of Christmas Seal sales, 74 percent is retained in this county for health work and 26 percent goes to the state office of which 6 percent is sent to the National Tuberculosis and Health association.

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HEEL AND TOW STUFF . . . Here's a trick anyone can do—after five years' practice. The performer is Jane Strickland, who is speeding over the waters of Cypress Gardens, Fla., at a 30 m.p.h. clip with just a heel hooked in the tow rope.

Smutty Wheat

Proves Costly To NW Growers

Presence of smut, the Pacific northwest's number one wheat disease headache, cost growers cash discounts on 30.6 percent of their entire crop in 1950, it was revealed Thursday in Portland.

Speaking to members of the Pacific Northwest Smut Control committee, R. E. White, USDA production and marketing administration grain supervisor, of Portland, said the smut total was 50 percent higher than a year ago. In 1949, the seventh successive year of smut increase in Oregon, Washington, and northern Idaho, 20.3 percent of the crop graded smutty.

In trade channels, smutty wheat suffers weight and price discounts. Yield reductions are also accounted for by the spore borne disease.

In the three-state Columbia basin area, more than one-half of the white club wheat graded, 51.2 percent, was smutty, White said. The white club classification includes the popular Elgin variety which is susceptible to both common and dwarf smut, the latter a spreading smut strain. In 1949, 26.4 percent of white club wheat graded smutty.

Figures revealed by White were based in 20,660 inspection samples taken from farmer owned lots of wheat. The inspection total is considered a good cross section of the area's entire crop, he added.

In the Portland inspection area which includes the Columbia river counties, smut dockage in the 1950 crop was up more than 100 percent as compared with 1949. For the 1950 crop, 14.7 per cent of the crop graded smutty; 6.3 per cent for the preceding year.

Wheat grown in Umatilla, Union and Baker counties which comprise the Pendleton inspection area was graded 29.9 per cent smutty, a 13 point increase over a year ago. In this sector, 49.5 per cent of the white club wheat graded smutty. A year ago the white clubs were 27.7 percent smutted.

TRAFFIC DEATHS UP

Late death reports have boosted Oregon's 1950 traffic fatality toll to 421, up 65 from the number killed in 1949 and the highest figure since 1947, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry reported today.

The neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Martin surprised them on Monday evening with a house warming party in their new home. About twenty-four persons attended and the evening was spent in playing pinocle, canasta and solo. Late in the evening refreshments of cake, sandwiches and coffee were served by the self-invited guests.

Scout Activities Scheduled For Near Future

Leaders from cub packs of The Dalles and Hood River districts will participate in an afternoon and evening of training activities at The Dalles Civic Auditorium Sunday, February 11th. Allan Laine of The Dalles is general chairman for the event and has announced the following chairmanships for the Pow Wow: Cub ceremonies section, Robert Bertrand; Cub pack administration, Jack Tidyman; Cub handicrafts, Mrs. Floyd Root; Cubbing games, Merwin Clark of White Salmon; Cub den meeting demonstration, Mrs. Jim Galley, and refreshments, Mrs. Fred Hill.

The Pow Wow will be held in four sections starting at 2:30 in the afternoon and all cub packs are urged to have representatives from among their pack committee and den mothers attend each of the four sections. The evening session will feature a dramatized cub den meeting put on by den mothers under the direction of Mrs. Jim Galley and field executive Ben Graham.

Leaders from all the 25 cub packs of the two districts are being asked to bring displays of outstanding cub work done by boys in their packs. These will be displayed for the purpose of exchange of ideas.

The Pow Wow is one in a series of scouting and cubbing activities scheduled by The Dalles district committee for this winter and spring. Other outstanding district events include: January 27, a Boy Scout Court of Honor to be held in the Grass Valley high school, 8:00 p.m.; February 17-18, Explorer Scout Conference to be held at the Wyeth Youth Camp for 14, 15, 16 and 17 year old explorers of The Dalles and Hood River Districts. Highlights of this event will be films and discussions relating to the work of the U. S. Forest Service. The trip to and from Wyeth will be on the ship Francis by way of the Columbia river, weather permitting; February 23, First Aid Meet for scouts and explorers to be held in The Dalles; March 24, Scout Patrol Leaders Conference for The Dalles and Hood River districts to be held in The Dalles and climaxed in the evening by a district Court of Honor; March 31, waste paper drive for the city of The Dalles; May 19, annual Cub Scout Circus and Scout Whiz zeroo; June 1, 2 and 3, Scout and Explorer Camp-O-Ree.

BLUE FLARES INDICATE SNOW PLOWS WORKING

Mr. Motorist: When the highway is covered with snow, or the pavement is coated with ice and you see a flashing blue light flaring up ahead, that is the time, and the signal, for you to slow up and lookout. That blue light means a snow plow is ahead of you through the drifting snow or it means that highway sanding equipment is working to make the pavement safe for the traveler.

From now on through the winter season the highway commission will have a fleet of more than 832 snow plows and other snow battling equipment standing ready with crews alerted to keep the main highways open to traffic. And following the plows wherever needed a small army of sanding trucks will be on duty to keep the pavements safe for traffic.

So to make winter driving safer the commission has put the big flashing blue flares on their snow and ice removing equipment and has posted notices throughout the state asking motorists to give the blue light



EXTRA PRECAUTION . . . To avoid identification and possible assassination by gangsters, Charles di Umberto and his wife hide their faces as they arrive in Chicago by plane from Trenton, N. J. The couple was questioned in connection with the slaying of William Drury, ex-police lieutenant and foe of gangland. Di Umberto named a pal, Charles Rotundo, as saying he was "hot" in the slaying case.

the right of way. The commission asks the motorist: Do not pass in flying snow. Give plows the right of way. Do not follow too closely. Reduce speed for reduced vision.

KNAPP SHOE MAN

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JAN. 29 THRU FEB. 12
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Sherman County Journal
Moro, Oregon

WEATHER MAKERS MEET

Ralph Crum, Ione, and George Wilson, Kent, stopped in Moro a short time Wednesday evening after attending the Weather Improvement association meeting in Arlington. Crum is president of the Tri-County Weather Research Association and recently returned from Fort Collins, Colo., where a National Weather Improvement association was formed.

VISITING AWAY

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Busse and daughter Vee left Friday to be gone a week. Mr. Busse is going to Gearheart to attend a state P.M.A. meeting. Mrs. Busse and Vee will visit in Portland with Mrs. Howard Knudsen, formerly Gene Zeverly of Moro.

News of our home county each week in The Journal.

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U.S. FORCES ENTER FRANCE . . . Part of a motorized convoy of approximately 1,000 United States troops rolls into France from Germany enroute to establish a highly important port supply base at Bordeaux to receive American arms shipments for Europe. This crossing of the frontier was made between Kaiserlautern and Homburg, near Saarbrücken. The entry of the American troops into France implemented a military agreement with France.

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