

# BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

BUSINESS OFFICE AND PLANT  
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—PAYABLE IN ADVANCE	
In Washington and Multnomah Counties	OUTSIDE TERRITORIES
One Year	One Year
Three Years	Three Years
Six Months	SIX MONTHS

## SLOTH AND TRAGEDY

With every disaster comes the aftermath of hindsight, tending to determine the blame and the responsibilities. Vanport's destruction, of course, is no exception.

There are blameful thoughts cast at the engineers who, blithely and positively repeated there could be no danger of a serious flood and pointed out with authoritative certainty that, even if the dike did loosen somewhat, the amount of water would in no way jeopardize the dwelling units—beyond a few feet of water.

Anger and indignation is also directed against housing authorities who circulated a mimeographed fiction release declaring there would be ample time to leave one's home when the warning siren sounded and that the departure would only be of short duration.

The tension that was so thick in Vanport the day of catastrophe belied the official assurances. The people, instinctively, knew there was a great danger hovering close by. Though some left early and avoided much of the hysteria that accompanied flood waters, there were some who allowed instinct to be lulled by the declarations of authority.

If there is any blameworthiness of those who tried to quiet fears of the project residents, it was only in the assumption of certainty and lack of investigation into the real degree of danger. But, this human failing does not loom large in the Vanport tragedy. The real culprit is the sloth and indifference which condemned almost 20 thousand people to such a precarious neighborhood.

Not all of Vanport's residents were veterans, of course. But it's a safe assertion that the majority of them, veterans or not, would have much rather lived elsewhere.

At best, Vanport was an out-of-the-way address, most difficult to search through some 5,000 housing units to find a specific dwelling. Houses were quite crowded and transportation to market definitely a burden. Not unlike so many, residents in Vanport often expressed a vigorous wish for homes of their own when there were no homes to be had.

Almost three years after the end of World War II hostilities, when promises of housing relief for those who had successfully prosecuted a war were generously publicized, veterans and others could find haven only in an out-of-the-way community like Vanport. Those vigorous dreams of owning a house had run head-on into a situation of \$4000 homes bearing a price tag of from \$9,000 to \$13,000.

The whims of Congress and the national administration have been accused, with justification, of wilting before the pressure of a tireless real-estate lobby which did not want cheap, public housing. Witness to that charge, the Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill has been in committee so long it seems more of a memory than an actual promise of housing relief.

Perhaps it is wrong for the people to look toward the federal government for relief of such a major dislocation as lack of a home. Perhaps the government in power just didn't consider the awful scope of a largely ill-housed populace. Possibly a conservative trend toward economy is government expenditures influenced a total lack of interest among national leaders.

But with the federal government taking its wholesale bite out of every dollar of a paycheck—even before the paycheck is received—it is unnatural for a taxpayer to look to his leaders for a way by which this basic natural desire of proper housing might be accomplished?

No excuse will stand up to the claim that Congress and the national administration has been unaware of housing dislocations. Many an appeal, organized and unorganized, has gone to Washington depicting this pitiable condition. And even though the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have not prosecuted an effective publicity campaign in regard to lack of housing, more vigorous veterans organizations have.

Economy, too, is a bum excuse. United States has millions for England, Greece, Italy, Turkey, China, and all the other wanting nations of the world. Enough money has been perhaps wasted in this futile enactment of dollar diplomacy to make great inroads on a serious condition at home.

It's too late to lament the slothfulness of the federal government in dealing with housing in the past. Some greater effort must be made to channel the indignation of the homeless to demand governmental attention to this primary national problem.

Sloth and indifference bear bitter fruit. The fruit is tragedy.

## ELSEWHERE IN OREGON

### FORD UNVEILING

Taking a cue from the campaign which preceded distribution of the Model A cars, Ford Motor company has kept a startlingly different '49 model of their product under the wraps, awaiting an official unveiling. But the Columbia would not be denied!

In the warehouses at Troutdale a large number of the completely different Ford automobiles had been hid away, according to the Gresham OUTLOOK, and Northwest dealers were advised that the nation-wide date of display would find them all well supplied with the great automotive surprise.

Now, maybe the Columbia and Sandy rivers were more curious than expected or else they looked with disfavor upon such shenanigans. Whatever the case, as flood waters reached closer to the cars in warehouses, the Ford company expressed concern and hauled their latest product into a Gresham berry field.

The word traveled fast. Soon the fields along Hensley road between Troutdale and Gresham were

crowded with sightseers who flocked out to get their first glimpses at a Ford to succeed all Fords.

Company representatives who were watching over the new models made no effort to point out the revolutionary features. Far from such a feeling, they expressed great unhappiness that their fancy unveiling, like the homes and happiness of other flood victims, had fallen stark victims of a raging menace.

### HOPS IN DANGER

Many sorts of damage have been done by the still-raging Northwest rivers, amounting to an initial estimate of over \$100 million by pure guess work.

The Clackamas river, conforming to the disaster pattern, has wrought much havoc and one of the results of its overflowing may be a ruined hop crop, so reports the BANNER-COURIER.

Extent of damage to hop crops will not be determined until after the withdrawal of floodwaters. But one of the big questions among growers is whether the flood will kill the completely covered vines or damage them by mildew attacks.

### INDUSTRY STOPPAGE

Except for one plant, not an industrial wheel turned in St. Helens on the day of the disastrous Vanport flood. For this Columbia river city, says the SENTINEL-MIST, suffered flood conditions in five of its major plants and suffered an estimated loss of better than \$1 million.

A new fish dock has been completely covered by the flooding Columbia and has boom sticks strung along its outer edges, to protect from driftwood.

Recovery of some 400,000 feet A-1 peeler logs, which bring a price of from \$75 to \$90 per thousand and feet, brightened one gloomy corner of the community. It took two launches, employing a sort of round-up technique to again corral the logs and move them to quieter moorage.

### McKay - Whitford

#### FROM THE DALLES

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Bredemeyer last week were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wilson of The Dalles, Oregon.

#### SON PATRICK LEE

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kuhn of Bradley Corners are the parents of a son, Patrick Lee, born Saturday, June 5, in St. Vincent's hospital.

#### WEDDING ANNIV.

Mr. and Mrs. V. M. Pilip of Scholls road celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary on Sunday, June 6. In honor of the occasion 16 friends gathered at the Pilip home for a picnic dinner and social evening. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Schmidt of Los Angeles, who were in Portland to attend the Northwest convention of the Polish National Alliance last week.

#### WEEK AT TILLAMOOK

Patricia Schlaht has returned from Tillamook, where she visited for a week at the home of her grandmother.

#### HOME IN COLORADO

Mr. and Mrs. Avis Matney left last week for Colorado, where they will make their home.

#### RAISES \$200

The Progressive club of Progress conducted a highly successful fund raising campaign for the benefit of the McKay school cafeteria, in which approximately \$200 was turned over to the cafeteria chairman this week. The club was organized this year for the purpose of promoting the Progress area. McKay district is fortunate in having the interest and generous support of the club.

#### HONORS IN FRENCH

Miss Beverly Rohrer, a freshman attending the University of Oregon was recently elected to Pi Delta Phi, national French honorary, and at the initiation banquet held at the Faculty club, was presented with an award for being one of two of the most outstanding students in the School of Language.

Miss Rohrer was also recently elected president of French club, "Les Thelemites" for the ensuing year.

Beverly is the daughter of Mrs. Thelma A. Rohrer, formerly of Westdale addition, and is a graduate of the 1947 class of Beaverton high school.

## Vet. Adm. Sets 3 Conditions For GI Farm Training

Although farm management training under the G. I. bill ordinarily is limited to one veteran on a single farm, the veterans administration has announced three conditions under which two veterans may take training on the same farm.

To qualify for the farm management instruction, a veteran must own his own farm or have economic control of a farm. Veterans who do not own their own farm may take institutional on-farm training as employee-trainees of a successful farmer approved by the farm training institution.

The conditions which will qualify management training on the same farm are:

(1) The approved training institution and the VA must find that conditions on the farm will assure successful training and subsequent self-employment on the farm for both veterans.

(2) The training of both veterans must meet all requirements specified in Public Law 377 which established the institutional on-

### farm training program.

(3) The two veterans must furnish documentary evidence that they have formed a bona fide partnership, with equal authority in the management and operation of the farm.

Almost 87 per cent of the 203,000 World War II veterans enrolled for institutional on-farm training under the G. I. bill are training on farms under their control. The remainder are training as employee-trainees on farms approved by the training institution.

## ARTHRITIS

Mr. Casey:

I suffered months with arthritis in my hip, and tried many treatments with no help. Casey's Compound was recommended to me, after using several bottles was able to go back to work. I am sure if it had not been for this compound I would have become a cripple. I have recommended it to many people.

L. A. KRUGER,  
4344 S. E. 29th, Portland, Or. SU 5566  
Pd. Adv.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

### Who is this Man?

Now and then, in the pages of the *Clarion*, I run a biographical quiz, under the heading of "Who is This Man?" For instance...

"He was one of the earliest lovers in American history..."

"And yet he was too shy to court a woman outright..."

"He came to the New World on the *Mayflower*..."

"A cooper to repair the beer barrels accompanying the Pilgrims..."

"Who is this man?"

I thought that everybody was

stumped. But not Ma Hoskins, who returned the clipping to me with "John Alden" on it. She recognized all the clues—including that reference to "beer" and "cooper."

For Ma—who's read her history, knows that beer as the beverage of moderation, is as old in this land of ours as the never-ending American search for tolerance which brought the Pilgrims over to this country in the first place.

Joe Marsh

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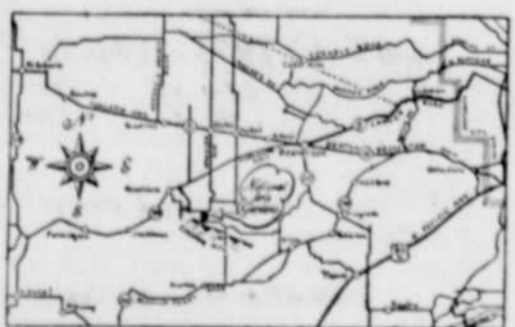
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